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# Earth First!

Litha

June-July 2001

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Daddy, what did YOU do in the Eco-Wars?



Late in the 20th century, the *Monsanto Corporation* advanced plant evolution into the *novel* GMO phase—a being virtually identical to a plant—known as a *Replicant* or genetically modified organism (GMO). The *novel Replicants* were superior in strength and pesticides, and at least equal in intelligence, to the genetic engineers who created them. *Replicants* were grown on American soil as industrial food and *farmaceuticals* in the hazardous conditions caused by global climate change.



After these *novel* organisms were found to create genetic pollution, killing off species like the monarch butterfly, *Replicant* GMO's were declared illegal on Earth—except in America where they are still grown.

Special Earth First! activists—*Blade Runner Units*—rose up from the *pharms* and cities, and destroyed, upon detection, invader GMO crops.

This was not called sabotage.

It was called product recall.

—Red Gate Earth First!

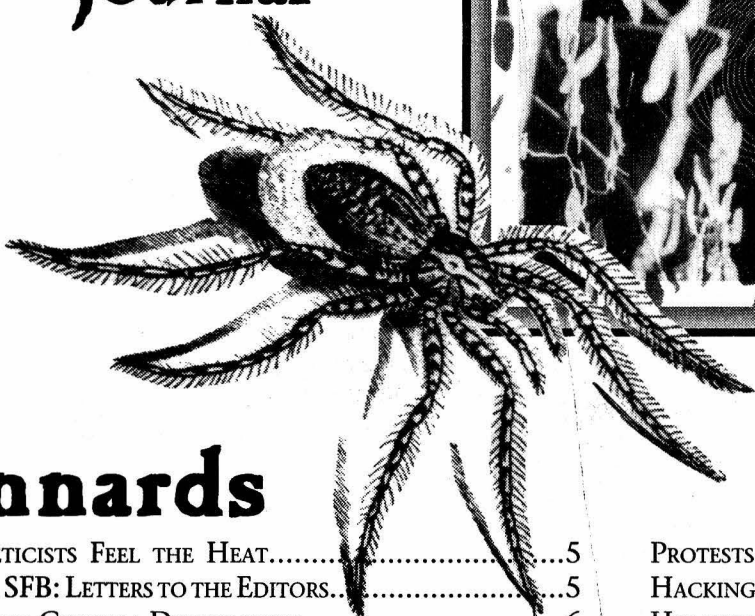
Chicago, November 2003



# Earth First!

Litha, June-July 2001

## The *Radical* Environmental Journal



### Innards

GENETICISTS FEEL THE HEAT.....	5	PROTESTS AT HLS INVESTORS, STEPHENS, INC.....	26
DEAR SFB: LETTERS TO THE EDITORS.....	5	HACKING AWAY AT CITIGROUP.....	27
MOUNT GRAHAM DESECRATION.....	6	HUMANE NATURE: BIOTECHNOLOGY & IDENTITY.....	30
SABOTEURS HIT POWERLINE CONSTRUCTION SITE.....	7	DEAR NED LUDD.....	32
NEW YORK RENDEZVOUS: IN THE BELLY OF THE BEAST.....	8	BLANK WALL: WISE UP TO BIOTECH!.....	33
INDIANA'S FIRST TREESIT IN THIRD MONTH.....	10	INVESTIGATION OF PHOENIX ARSONS HEATS UP.....	41
AMBROSE'S HEARING POSTPONED AGAIN.....	10	BLAST FROM THE PAST: HEY, WHAT'S THAT SOUND?.....	42
BLOOMINGTON CELEBRATES WEEK OF RESISTANCE.....	11	ARMED WITH VISIONS.....	44
THE BATTLE CONTINUED AT BIG MOUNTAIN.....	12	ANARCHO-HERBALISM: THOUGHTS ON HEALING.....	46
THREE YEARS OF RESISTANCE AT FALL CREEK.....	13	COLORADO INVADED BY ENRON'S LOU PAI.....	52
WILD ROCKIES EF!: TARGETED BY THE LEGAL SYSTEM.....	14	NO STAR WARS! ACTIVISTS INVADE VANDENBERG.....	53
WOLVES & POODLES.....	16	POLITICOS PELTED, PIED AND SPLATTERED.....	58
NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT PURSUES WOLF GENOCIDE.....	17	ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS OF THE WEIRD.....	59
CRACKS IN THE DAM.....	18	VIDEO REVIEW: WATCH.....	60
DISPELLING THE COWBOY MYTH: AN INTERVIEW.....	19	THE BATTLE IN SEATTLE: BEHIND & BEYOND THE WTO.....	61
VIEQUES: ECOLOGY UNDER SIEGE.....	20	SUBSCRIPTION INFO.....	66
HAWAII MOBILIZES AGAINST THE ADB.....	21	PRISONER SUPPORT.....	68
GLOBALIZATION & RESISTANCE IN COLOMBIA.....	22	EF! DIRECTORY.....	69
BORN TO DIE AT HUNTINGDON LIFE SCIENCES.....	24	THE ROAD TO THE UNDERGROUND... AND BEYOND.....	72

If you read this issue of the *Journal* from cover to cover, maybe the same thing will jump out at you as what hit me. You're going to have to look real close to find much good news.

The threats are grave, and dismal headlines (even in the mainstream press) predicting what is in store for our planet's future are becoming commonplace. The stories contained in the *Journal* never hide just how drastic and pervasive the destruction is of our surroundings. Every page, campaign and author in these articles pack our bags and take us directly to the place of concern, then pound into our heads the importance of protecting it.

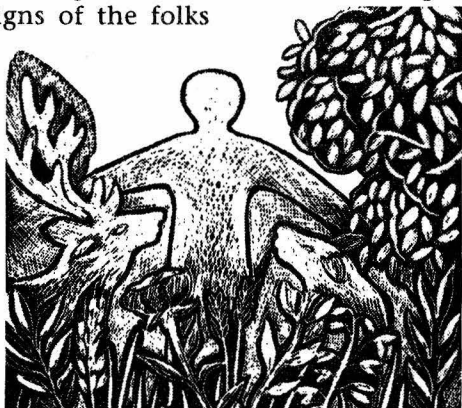
Granted, you can also read about how activists, often facing unfathomable odds, are responding. Take the innovative campaigns of the folks determined to close down Huntingdon Life Sciences (page 24). They have my uttermost respect. Or, if you read the story on New York City's EF! Rendezvous (page 8), you can get a glimpse of what is possible with some true community organizing and enthusiasm. There are a plentiful number of night actions sprinkled among these pages, and perhaps the brave work of those merry elves will make some of us examine what we're each doing for the Earth. Though I question whether those successful actions are ever victories—we should have never even let it get to the point where it is necessary. But it is. At least these stories are fresh and new.

What we need is an infusion of creativity, and a bit of strategy. From my seat here and through my own experience, I perceive that so many of us are just going through the motions of being an activist. Always on the defensive, the same stories repeated again and again. The routine can get boring and eventually, we don't notice that

we're not really winning much. We'll just flip through a magazine, read the headlines and know all the stories. Same struggle, different place, same end result.

What will it take to reach a point where folks can read the *Journal* and be filled with rage, enough to be inspired to go out and do something different? When, as a movement, are we going to buckle down, and get serious and remember why we are Earth First!ers and not members of the Nature Conspiracy?

I think of these things when I get overwhelmed wading through a stack of submissions eight inches thick where folks are being forced to fight back in every corner of the globe. With mounting frustration, I ponder



what we are really doing to counter these forces. I hear so much posturing and grumbling in my community that I question whether we, as a movement, are serious—or rather, *radical* enough. With loads of gossip and infighting, how can we have any energy left to be focused?

Then I imagine this summer's Round River Rendezvous, and how I hope it will be unlike others I've attended. I hope we are able to come together as this diverse band of radicals and really be able to share stories and ideas. That new people coming to this gathering aren't left isolated on the ofringe and silently told to take their enthusiasm and visions elsewhere. That we are able to humble ourselves, expand our horizons outside our normal circles and learn something new. And, that in coming together, we will be refreshed and eager to return to our bioregions, ready to liven things up.

—TURTLE

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Submissions are welcomed and should be typed or clearly printed. Send a SASE if you would like them returned. If you want confirmation of receipt for a submission, please request it. We encourage submissions on Macintosh disks or via email. Art or photographs are desirable to illustrate articles and essays. Prints are best, negatives are good, slides are fair. They will be returned if requested.

All submissions are edited for length and clarity. If an article is significantly edited, we will make a reasonable effort to contact the author prior to publication.

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# CAN THE SYSTEM BE ABOLISHED?

As a new century unfolds, the activist movement is faced with a most important and crucial revolution—the self-revolution. This revolution is critical in the fight against the abolishment of the mega-machine. For our fight to be successful in changing the system in which we live, we must understand ourselves. Why is it that we (activists) have a common struggle, yet we don't have a common solidarity? If solidarity within our movement is not present, then we must not continue to move forward until we address why it's absent. Our movement is so stuck in specific ideas and is not willing to see the importance of other movements which have different tactics. How are we to change anything if we can't even change ourselves?

It's crucial that we share our visions with one another to break down some of the barriers caused by misunderstanding and splinterism. For example, take the movement around biocentrism: Even though this movement is important, it excludes the social and cultural movements. The

cultural and social movements care about biocentrism issues, but they don't have the luxury to work on ecological problems, their main worry is surviving the system. Due to the different ways we view our struggle, we have developed barriers to working together. If we start analyzing movements, we can clearly see how interrelated they are. Ecological, social and cultural movements need to work together not because the fight is too big for one group to take on, but because the fight is related.

Recently a massacre occurred in the desert near Yuma, Arizona, where more than 20 human beings died of thirst while trying to cross the US border. Yet many activists view this as an overpopulation or immigration issue and not an ecological one. In reality it is a broader global problem. People are crossing the border simply because their homes—ecological and social—have been destroyed for corporate gain. Finding it impossible to survive, their only solution is to move elsewhere. And *still* the movement is split on this



issue. How can this be? If we continue to split our work like this, then our goals will never be met.

We all have an obligation—a sacred responsibility—to act in a manner that reflects our common needs and not our uncommon differences. We need to develop, through education at all levels of society, a global consciousness that will govern our actions as responsible planet stewards and future ancestors. Acrimony among potential allies leads only to further disagreement, not solutions. Just as the purveyor of globalization diversifies the tactics of globalization, the environmental movement needs to replace strident rhetoric with direct actions. The future—or the lack thereof—belongs to everyone.

—GEORGETTE



Fauna. *n.* animal life.

Cabala. *n.* an esoteric, secret matter or mysterious art.

Honeybees (*Apis mellifera*) give precise directions while they sing and dance for a trembling crowd in the dark. After finding a particularly inspiring food source, a nectar-laden bee flies back to the hive where, on the vertical surface of the comb, she dances. Usually this is in the shape of a figure eight and is called the waggle dance.

The angle that the figure eight departs from the vertical conveys which direction the food is from the hive. It's the same angle as between the sun and the food, from the hive. For instance, if she dances straight upward, the food is directly toward the sun, straight downward, it's directly away from the sun and 45 degrees to the right means it is 45 degrees to the right of the sun.

She communicates distance in addition to direction by speed. The faster she dances, the closer the food source.

As she waggles, a gaggle of her nestmates observes, but because it's dark in the hive they do this via sound. Her song enables bees to first find her amongst the masses and then to interpret the angle of her dance. They can do this because their hearing organs, in antennae, can be moved to and fro to decipher her coming and going in relation to their position and gravity.

Meanwhile, her audience members employ a signal that does not compete with hers: They vibrate the comb with their thoraxes. When there's a whole lot of shaking going on, she stops to pass out tidbits from the food source. Those who are suitably im-

## BY FAITH WALKER

pressed make a beeline for the food. If these nectar collectors remain impressed they will join in the dance, so that over time many bees in the hive will be singing the same song and dancing the same dance and the food source will be heavily used.

Potential pitfalls to this system are not problems for these bees. Because they are sensitive to the plane of polarized light, they can determine sun position even on overcast days, and if inclement weather or nightfall delays return to a food source, dances later compensate for the change in sun position. The refined communicative prowess of honeybees, their ability to convert gravitational information in the dark hive into visual information in the world, is unrivaled among all living beings.

Superiority is an annoying concept put forth by the human species to justify wanton destruction of other species and habitats. If this concept is applied here, then the rudimentary development of the human organism is illuminated yet again. Honeybees are clearly superior to humans.

# If you like what you see inside these pages... then we need your support!



For many of us, the *Earth First! Journal* is the best source of information available on the global struggles to defend the earth. The articles herein are often written in treetops, smuggled out of jail or composed from the frontlines by people passionately fighting for the survival of the wild.

Well, the *Journal* is fighting for survival as well. We work for peanuts to keep costs low, live off dumpstered food and put ourselves on the line because we love this paper. Yet, after an expensive move and a format change, we are in serious need of funding to keep our vision for the *EF!J* alive.

And judging from the responses to our first issue from Tucson, we know that you love it too:

"The new *Journal* rocks! Y'all rock! I was inspired! Please pass on my gratitude, awe and congratulations to the rest of the *Journalistas!*"

"The new issue looks FABULOUS. We love the content and style, the new format, the way the underground news is spliced in with the other news and the letters. All awesome."

"I thought the new *Journal* was great. Most of the articles were right on, they were so fresh for the *Journal*. I want to share a friend's comment with you all, she said, "I read the new *Journal*, and I actually feel inspired!" It is a great feat being able to inspire someone who's burnt-out and crusty on the ends. Congratulations. I like the new format, too."

We have the goal of putting the *EF!J* back on solid financial ground like it was in Tucson a little more than a decade ago. Rebuilding our subscriber list is also a priority. From a high of close to 10,000 in the eighties, to the current list of 2,100 subscribers out of a 10,000 copy print run, we have a lot of lost ground to make up.

The best way to keep the *Earth First! Journal* coming out is to:

## **1. SUBSCRIBE**

You know who you are. A contact for the *Journal* that never sends any money for the *Journals* you sell; a regular reader of someone else's subscription; a volunteer in the local infoshop. We want you to keep enjoying the *Journal*, so we are asking for your support. If you can't subscribe, or don't want to, then give a gift subscription. Currently, if you buy the *EF!J* off a newsstand, we actually lose money.

## **2. DONATE**

Unlike other alternative publications, we send out massive amounts of free copies to *EF!* groups and prisoners, and the demand is increasing. In order to continue this service, we need to also increase the support of the grassroots ecology movement for this publishing project. We enclosed a convenient donation/subscription form inside this issue.

## **3. DO WHAT YOU CAN TO DEFEND THE EARTH!**

With love and respect, the Tucson *Earth First! Journal* Collective

# GENETICISTS FEEL THE HEAT

The Earth Liberation Front (ELF) has claimed responsibility for two separate actions on May 21 targeting the genetic manipulation of trees. According to a communiqué released on June 1, one ELF group burned down the office of Toby Bradshaw, head of the Poplar Molecular Genetics Cooperative (PMGC) at the University of Washington (UW) in Seattle. Simultaneously, another group burned an office and a fleet of 13 trucks at Jefferson Poplar Farms in Clatskanie, Oregon.

The combined estimated total in damages has soared to more than \$3 million, Bradshaw lost 20 years of research articles, slides, memorabilia, a computer, the server for the PMGC website and a personal library. This incident marks the first time in North America that the ELF has targeted two separate locations in differing states on the same night.

Bradshaw claims that he doesn't personally engineer mutant genes into trees and that his research on poplars used at industrial tree farms is good for the environment. However, the ELF asserts that "hybrid poplars are an ecological nightmare threatening native biodiversity in the ecosystem. Our forests are being liquidated and replaced with monocultured tree farms so greedy, Earth-raping corporations can make more money."



Drawing by Jon Armstrong

According to an article published by the PMGC, "As intensive culture of *Populus* and its hybrids becomes increasingly important as a source of fiber and fuel, breeding strategies must be developed and implemented to measure, capture, recombine and fully exploit the abundant genetic variation still found in natural populations of poplars and cottonwoods. Domestication of poplars and their hybrids, to better adapt them to the specialized needs of industry, is still in its earliest stages and must take advantage of the best genetic methods available if rapid, sustained genetic improvement is to be made."

Furthermore, Bradshaw's research program includes transgenic poplar trees grown indoors at a greenhouse next to the torched office building at UW, as well as outdoor sites. The core of this "genome" program involves conducting baseline research into the genetic mapping of the poplars and improving the trees' "hardiness and productivity." This is an essential, preliminary step in the process of genetic engineering: A species must have its genome mapped before it can be effectively manipulated and exploited for corporate profit.

Members of PMGC include Alberta Pacific Forest Industries, British Columbia Ministry of Forests, Boise Cascade, Champion, Fort James, Georgia Pacific, Inland Empire Paper Company, Electric Power Research Institute, MacMillan Bloedel, Potlatch, Scott Paper Ltd., Union Camp, US Department of Energy, Westvaco and Weyerhaeuser. In addition, the PMGC is a member of and works closely with the Tree Genetic Engineering Research Program, whose members include the above entities as well as Monsanto, Shell, International Paper, Broadacres Nursery, Canadian Forest Service, Mt. Jefferson Farms, Mycogen, US Forest Service and Washington State University.

*continued on page 28*

## Dear Shit fer Brains...

Dear EF! Journal,

After listening to Derrick Jensen, author of *A Language Older Than Words* on *Democracy Now* today, and reading Judi Bari's *Revolutionary Ecology*, I understood that we can no longer allow corporate/govt. America to define words like terrorism and sabotage.

I was very disappointed in Alicia Littletree's criticism of Earth Liberation Front and Animal Libera-

tion Front. We must begin to challenge global corporate interpretation of our language. If we don't our Earth and ourselves will continue to decline as we piss away time from what really needs to happen.

Break the chains and decolonize our minds.

—MR. WERNER HERTZ

*Editors' Note: Democracy Now! was launched by Pacifica Radio in 1996 to open the airwaves on a daily basis to*

*alternative voices traditionally excluded from the political process. For more info, check [www.democracynow.org](http://www.democracynow.org)*

*continued on page 48*





# Mount Graham Desecration Continues

## JUDGE RULES AGAINST APACHES

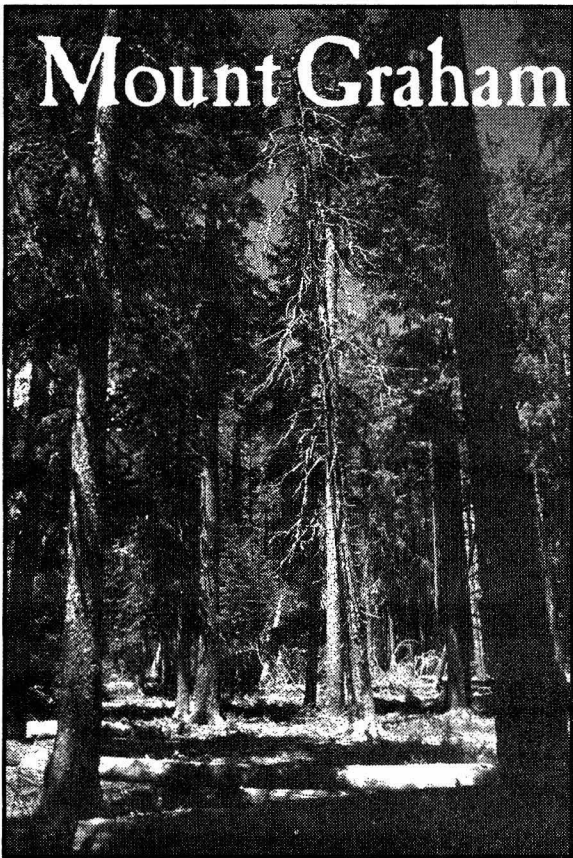


Photo by Robin Silver

Mount Graham is an island of forest in a sea of desert.

BY EVELYN HORNE AND ROGER BEATTY

For 15 years the University of Arizona (UA) has been an outlaw. Bumbling along while trashing environmental laws and trampling human rights, it has been able to accomplish its environmental and cultural jihad only with the help of congressional crooks and dim-witted judges.

Recently, the UA decided that it needed a powerline to fuel the Columbus Project, a massive telescope built on the formerly pristine Emerald Peak of Mount Graham. This corporation, posing as a university, chose to scrape a powerline corridor through the second largest national forest roadless area in Arizona, across land held sacred by traditional Western Apaches. The Mount Graham Coalition, Apaches for Cultural Preservation and Apache Survival Coalition filed a lawsuit in the District Court of Arizona to stop this project.

Originally assigned to be heard before Judge Zapata, the plaintiffs expected a fair hearing. Unfortunately, Judge Alfredo Marquez had retained jurisdiction over this case and came out of retirement. Marquez, long a friend of the UA (he has free tickets to UA football games),

Page 6 Earth First! Litha 2001

was there to make sure the university's interests were protected. Once again, Marquez ruled in favor of corporate interest.

If nothing else, the recent Mount Graham federal district court decision that allows a 23-mile powerline to rip through irreplaceable sacred land and critical habitat brings us ever closer to properly pronouncing the antiquated legal term *res judicata*. It rhymes with "raced you to ca-ca." Fitting, since that's exactly what the district judge, the UA and the Forest Service did in this case. In an ongoing frantic scramble around cultural, religious and environmen-

tal protection laws, the so-called interpreter and guardian of these laws shirked his duties to apply a judge-made law and avoid judging the case on its merits.

The doctrine of *res judicata* is misapplied in this case. When correctly applied, it is a fabulous judicial resource-saving device that bars repeat litigation. More commonly known as "claim preclusion," *res*

*judicata* is the "one bite at the apple" rule. A claimant only gets to sue on the same claim once and must ask for all the rights to relief properly encompassed in that claim. Otherwise, when the claimant brings a second claim, the judgment in the first case may stop that claimant from litigating the second case. To satisfy *res judicata*, the same plaintiff must sue the same defendant, and the claims must be identical. Neither element is met in this case.

First, the judge neglected to consider that the Apaches for Cultural Preservation were not plaintiffs in the earlier case. So, applying *res judicata* violates their constitutional right of due process. Also, Marquez used enormous discretion in deciding that the earlier claim encompassed the powerline controversy. The UA prevailed on that claim only after spending millions of dollars convincing Congress that they needed an exemption from environmental laws to disturb 8.6 acres for three telescopes supported by a generator. The exemption, granted in 1988, said nothing about a powerline that would make its own distinctive mark across the mountain, well outside the 8.6-acre congressionally approved limit. More-



The telescope site before the desecration...

over, the '88 exemption was only an exemption from environmental protection laws. For these reasons and because of another judge-made legal doctrine called "justiciability," the issues regarding the powerline and the National Historic Preservation Act were never litigated. Justiciability requires that a controversy be "ripe" for resolution. A lawyer may not litigate a dispute based on mere speculation. Judges need to see the actual blood and guts of a matter before correctly ruling on it. So it is no wonder that, during the earlier lawsuit to stop three telescopes, environmental lawyers never litigated a powerline issue. According to the UA administrator's list of operational support requirements, there was no powerline issue because there was no powerline.

Just in case the judge's most recent bias was lost on any of us or on the Apache elders who made the long, hot road trip from the reservation to the federal building that day, he further flexed his insensitive discretionary muscle to hold that *laches*—a legal term indicating that plaintiffs waited too long to bring a complaint to court—applied to the claim. Now, there is no bright-line rule for when a claimant has excessively delayed in bringing a claim. But in his second deferential gesture to his cronies, the judge declared that six months was just too long to wait to bring a case. It matters not that Mount Graham's legal defenders work without the cushy



photo courtesy Arizona EPI

Men and machines cut a 23-mile long trench through desert habitat to lay the powerline.

resources that the federal government and UA enjoy when preparing a case. What matters, apparently, is this judge's sick desire to leave the Apache elders feeling that their only recourse is to sit down in front of the powerline construction and play a nice long game of cards.

Though that sounds fun and effective, they will also appeal this terrible legal decision. Hopefully this time we'll catch the UA with its pants down, though the Apache elders may not want to see it. After all, they're subject to the university's ongoing public exposure,

as the telescopic erections protrude from the side of the mountain that faces their reservation. It's not a pretty sight.

### Saboteurs Hit Powerline Construction Site

An unknown person or persons attacked the construction site of the 23-mile powerline to the University of Arizona's Mount Graham International Observatory (MGIO) late on the night of April 21. Using sledgehammers and crowbars, the saboteurs caused \$200,000 in damages to the powerline, construction vehicles and equipment. MGIO talking head Joe Carter said that "vandals" cut the exposed powerline in several places and put abrasives into the oil and gasoline tanks of several pieces of excavation machinery. "Most of the damage is to the vehicles," he said.

"I think this is an example of eco-terrorism," Carter said. "It's most unfortunate that folks don't use the courts to resolve problems but take things into their own hands"—an ironic statement, considering Judge Marquez's subsequent ruling in favor of the powerline project.



photo by Robin Silver

...and after

## BARE BONES

### Klamath River Showdown

In a precedent-setting decision, a federal judge ruled that "the Endangered Species Act clearly gives threatened and endangered fish the highest priority during this drought." The judge refused to grant an injunction that would have allowed the limited available water to be used for crop irrigation. But the battle continues as the Bureau of Reclamation drags its feet on releasing water to the Lower Klamath National Wildlife Refuge. The drought, greedy farmers and lackey bureaucrats are putting at risk nearly 1,000 bald eagles that winter in the refuge. The Upper and Lower Klamath National Wildlife Refuges support three-fourths of the Pacific Flyway's waterfowl and marshes in the refuges will have little or no water by this fall.

For more information, visit [www.onrc.org](http://www.onrc.org).

### Maine Fears Ecoterrorism

"This bill establishes the crime of environmental terrorizing, which is the destruction of property or the interference with a place of business' normal course of business by individuals or groups for the primary purpose of protesting a natural resource or environmental issue," so reads the summary of a bill sponsored by a forest industry stooge, Rep. Joe Clark (D-Millinocket). Apparently the fear of protests is so great in Maine that the First, Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the US Constitution are no longer relevant. Under this new law people staging a sit-in at any business could be charged with a Class C felony. Convictions of Class C crimes often receive more than nine-month sentences which must be served in state prisons, not county jails.

"I think the bill is ridiculous," said Jim Freeman, who has been arrested many times for non-violent actions. "It's a corporate bill to prevent people from protesting." Others believe that the bill will encourage people to go underground since First Amendment protests could now result in felonies.

## NEW YORK REGIONAL RENDEZVOUS

In the belly of the beast, New York City (NYC), a handful of folks organized the first ever Earth First! regional rendezvous in an urban center to focus on radical ecology and urban living. Though many don't admit it, they spend a great deal of time outside of the forest and in large cities. This gathering was an attempt to highlight rampant environmental racism, failures of urban planning and to bring disparate communities together, bioregionally, to further radicalize both young white activists and people of color in the communities that feel the brunt of the urban environmental blight. The gathering

was organized to take people around the city to see its green spaces, hold workshops and celebrate public space.

The gathering began in the Green Dome Garden, a community garden in Brooklyn. Just a block away, a demolished paint factory has deposited lead content in the soil 10 times the legal limit. Luckily for this predominately Puerto Rican community, the gardeners were not slow in taking action. They chose plants that help to trap lead and other toxins. After a composting workshop, the EF! crew moved to the East Riverfront where a row of abandoned warehouses and derelict piers have rewilded into a stretch of free space. A do-it-yourself rubble-constructed skate park is amid the husks of torched cars and covert shanties. A snapping turtle slowly cruised by without altercation. During the evening in Brooklyn, we went to Eco Books for workshops on the animal liberation campaign against

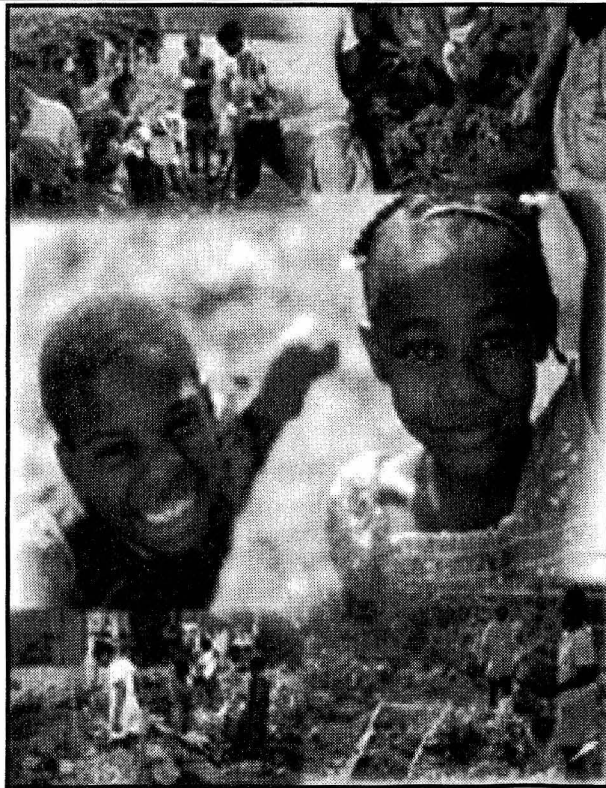


photo by Mario Mazzoni

Huntingdon Life Sciences, Car Busters' call for a car-free city and Rainforest Relief's direct action campaign to stop the use of tropical rainforest hardwoods in the city's benches, boardwalks and bridges. Late that night, we cruised through the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge by the subway, emerging on Far Rockaway beach for a bonfire and camping out on the edge of the city, unmolested.

Next was a day in the Project Harmony garden in Harlem, as well as a tour of green spaces and creeping gentrification. In a short walk we saw 11 empty buildings on the same streets as four bulldozed gardens. When the bulldozers came for Project Harmony, a brave soul climbed a tall tree and stopped the destruction for the day. Now a court order protects the remaining 500 gardens, but the stay of execution could be lifted at any time.



## IN THE BELLY OF THE BEAST

These gardens are living proof of a community empowering itself to take back its land from landlord arson, drug dealing, refuse and city neglect to create safe green spaces for children, elderly people and those who can't afford summer homes nor vacations outside the city smog.

We held a workshop on environmental racism in the prison industrial complex. The issues of prisons and the environment don't often come up together, but increased prison construction and privatization is uniting these struggles. Some people have tried to use environmental laws as a way to fight prison building. The impacts of instantly transplanting 2,000-plus people, with increased sewage and waste disposal, are disastrous. The prisons are often built over smaller productive farmlands or wildlands, destroying food, habitat and watersheds.

Who is in jail? Predominately people of color. Almost everyone in the neighborhood was impacted in some way by the prison industrial complex. Haja, co-founder of Project Harmony, spent some time in prison and was politicized inside: "A prison is a microcosm of the larger society." Later in the evening we breached the fence surrounding the half

of Project Harmony that was destroyed and began replanting it with donated plants and seeds. After this, we joined a moonlight critical mass through Central Park to end a beautiful day uptown.

On our agenda for the next day was the Lower East Side of Manhattan, mecca for the gardening movement as well as tenant and anarchist organizing in NYC. We began the morning in the Stannard Diggs, a threatened community garden, with a history of the More Gardens! Coalition and their direct action campaigns to protect and actively create new community gardens. A workshop was organized on how to deal with grand juries, due to the intense and scattershot repression in Long Island following a series of Earth Liberation Front actions.

Bob Lederer, an anti-racist and ACT-UP activist, led the discussion charting the history of activist resistance to the grand jury, beginning with the Puerto Rican liberation struggle in the 1930s through the dark days of Nixon, to his own sentencing of two and a half months during investigations into the Black Liberation Army. He argued that cooperating with the police on any level is dangerous.

*continued on page 51*

## BARE BONES

### Canada Wages Chemical Warfare

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police admit using more than 3,000 canisters of tear gas and more than 500 plastic bullets in their attempt to keep protesters away from the Summit of the Americas Conference in April. Quebec provincial police have already reported their use of 1,700 tear gas canisters and 320 rubber bullets. Police used so much tear gas that they had to order more from the US.

A Quebec government-appointed panel stated in early May that police used "abusive" amounts of tear gas and placed protesters at serious risk by shooting them with rubber bullets. At the peak of the protest the Canadian Broadcast Corporation reports that as many as 30 canisters of tear gas were fired each minute. More than 400 protesters were arrested at the summit and scores were injured.

### Utah's Government Fights Crickets and Environmentalists

"Sooner or later we've got to decide whether we are going to live here or give in to the environmentalists," said Representative Jim Gowans (D-Tooele). Officials hope to start spreading pesticide-tainted grain on more than 3,000-acres of the Uinta National Forest to combat the summer invasion of Mormon crickets that damage crops. The Utah Environmental Congress is threatening to sue the Forest Service to stop the program. The group says that the insecticide carbaryl is a documented carcinogen that could harm threatened bald eagles and other sensitive wildlife species, such as sage grouse and wild turkey.

The Forest Service claims they have studied the chemicals and that there is no problem, but US Fish and Wildlife officials stated in a letter to the District Ranger William Ott, "We have concerns that the practices developed using the science of 14-years ago may not be in accordance with present-day knowledge."

# INDIANA'S FIRST TREESIT IN ITS THIRD MONTH

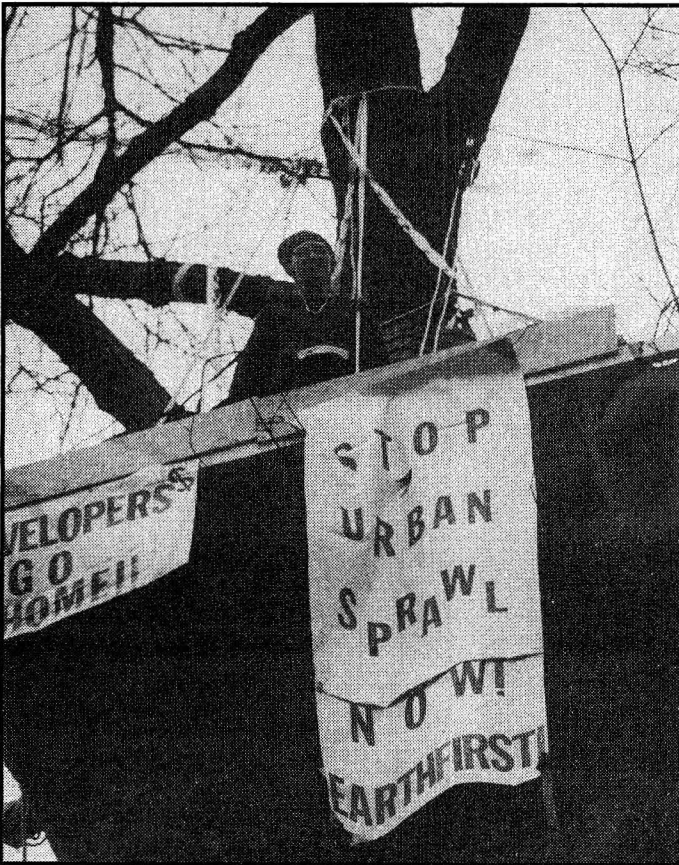


photo courtesy Buffalo Trace EFi

*Dolphin on her urban treesit perch*

BY WILDFIRE

"Bluebird," Indiana's first treesit is going into its third month. On March 22, Tracy "Dolphin" McNeely ascended 50 feet to a platform in a 70-year-old red oak in an area slated for destruction by a non-local developer for housing units. This 54-acre wooded site is one of Bloomington's last greenspaces left on the west side of town. With the adjoining properties the total woodlot is 180 acres—which when preserved will be a jewel for the residents of Bloomington who have seen woodlot after woodlot and field after field developed into strip malls, industrial parks and those oh-so-needed fast food outlets. Bloomington residents, progressive by midwestern standards, have been extraordinarily supportive in the efforts to stop this development and permanently protect the area. This is the goal of Buffalo Trace Earth First!

The woods where the development is proposed are in a very fragile karst (porous limestone) area of rolling hills and steep terrain that is dotted with sinkholes, natural springs and caves. This area is home to several endangered plants and a host of wildflowers, wildlife, important underground caves and waterways that provide habitat for environmentally sensitive cave-dwelling species such as the blind crayfish and cave salamander.

Herman Associates, an Indianapolis development corporation, received \$10 million in tax-exempt bonds and \$4.2 million in tax credits to build in this sensitive area. Clearly, this is another case of corporate welfare.

Unlike many treesits, Bluebird is located in town just behind two large housing developments. As a result of the close proximity to Bloomington, the support from the community and the large number of visitors has been tremendous. Local

musicians have serenaded the treesitter with trumpets, fiddles and guitars. Nearby schools have brought classes out to visit, and a group of grade school students even helped with the banner. Tim Ream stopped to chat while in town with the *Pickaxe* roadshow. This Buffalo Trace Earth First! action took on a very different feel than what we had expected.

Media attention has waned and the number of visitors has dropped but that allows us to prepare for the upcoming fight to save this unique area. Thanks to Karen Pickett and the EFi Direct Action Fund, we are able to continue this campaign.

On June 12, there will be one last opportunity for the Bloomington Council to deny the release of the bonds to Herman Associates. We invite all activists to join us to defend this beautiful place. Just ask anyone in town where the treesit is, as "treesit" is now a household phrase in Bloomington. In fact you may get the question returned, "which one?" Indiana's second treesit happened just eight days after the first and continues to be successful in stopping a timber sale in Yellowwood State Forest.

If you are traveling through the area or are just looking for a Midwest action to help with, we always need more ground support. For more information, contact Buffalo Trace Earth First!, POB 3503; Bloomington, IN 47403; bluebirdlives@yahoo.com.

## Ambrose's Hearing Postponed Again

In January, Frank Ambrose was arrested and charged with felony tree spiking in an Earth Liberation Front (ELF) action in the Morgan-Monroe State Forest. His pre-trial hearing was originally set for April 5, but was moved to May 15 due to "security concerns" stemming from the planned week of resistance and the ELF press office's call for a day of action. One day before Frank's May 15 pre-trial hearing, his lawyer Rick Kammen was granted a continuance, as the prosecution still had not turned over any evidence from the FBI. The rationale for moving the date is that the pre-trial hearing is where the "evidence" is talked about, and it is hard to debate that point when you have not seen what the other side is planning to use against you. While this drags the process out for Frank, it does indicate some good things. Namely, the FBI and state should have had all their evidence together when they pressed charges because they may have had to show it to a judge before he would sign a warrant. If that was the case, they should have been able to immediately comply with the discovery motion filed days after Frank's arrest. Either they are intentionally holding out to drag the case on and increase the expenses and time involved in dealing with it, or they do not have any worthwhile evidence and they do not want that revealed at this time. It seems that the latter is the case, considering what the FBI has said they have.

We are asking people to call the courthouse and tell them to drop the charges against Frank. It is time they stop dancing around pretending they caught the ELF. Please be polite, as anything you say will likely come up in his trial if it gets to that point. The number for the courthouse is (812) 349-2670.

# BLOOMINGTON ACTIVISTS CELEBRATE WEEK OF RESISTANCE

BY THE BLOOMINGTON DEFENSE COMMITTEE

March 30 to April 5 was a week that Bloomington, Indiana, will not quickly forget. It was planned by the Bloomington Defense Committee (BDC), Buffalo Trace Earth First! and Bloomington Anarchist Black Cross as a week of resistance to government harassment of activists. It was a response to the government's attempt to frame activist Frank Ambrose on felony tree-spiking charges. We intended to show the *federales* that we would not be scared into silence and submission by arrests, accusations and frequent visits under the guise of solving the "crimes" committed by the Earth Liberation Front (ELF).

It started with a critical mass bike ride on March 30. The local police had been hyped up by the media and the FBI that a bunch of "elves" were coming to southern Indiana to "protest the arrest of one of their own," so they attacked the 80-plus riders and arrested seven of them. Two riders face felony charges of battery on a police officer for getting beat up and pepper sprayed. The other five face resisting arrest, obstructing traffic and disorderly conduct charges.

People attending the critical mass did not plan to get arrested, as we typically have a ride at the end of every month and there are never any problems. The police were obviously planning arrests as there was a very large contingent of police present from the beginning of the ride. Arrests and violence were the tactic police used to try to scare people away from attending the rest of the week's events.

People immediately moved into prisoner solidarity mode and organized a protest at the jail. More than 100 people came out to support the assaulted bike riders. At the protest, an undercover FBI agent was spotted talking to people and was chased off with a chorus of "NaNaNaNa, Hey hey hey, goodbye." David Rovics was in town and moved his concert to the jail to provide entertainment to the crowd and to show his solidarity with the riders. The vigil was kept all night as the two charged with felonies were not released immediately on their own recognizance.

On March 31, the media carried photos of our fellow activists being beaten in the streets. We worried that these pictures would scare people away, as the police actions were clearly intended to

do, but more than 100 people were not afraid and came out to march in the streets against free-trade. The police were no where to be found even though the group blocked the street with the march. We think it was the pictures on the front page of the paper and the threats of civil rights lawsuits that dissuaded the police from any further violent action.

To kick up the intensity of the week, Buffalo Trace Earth First! activists Marie Mason and Cogi Haggerty locked their necks to a junk car blocking the entrance to a brand new Old Navy store. Soon after the lockdown was deployed,



Stony Springs, Bloomington, Indiana

a support rally of around 50 showed up and started to get the word out (read: bullhorn in store along with lots of fliers) on why these people were blocking the front doors. People were very receptive to the idea of boycotting Old Navy for their use of sweatshop labor and logging of Redwood forests. After a few tense moments when the owner of the shopping center threatened to tow the car away with protesters attached, the police and fire department arrived and proceeded to cut the two out. After they were removed, the police decided not to arrest them. Later, a friendly person who had lingered around after the protest observed the police make the store owner pay \$60 to tow the junked car away.

The announcement of a new treesit in Yellowwood State Forest was made

on April 1. This was the second treesit to go airborne in the Bloomington area in less than a month. The tract has such extremely steep slopes that almost every tree in the sale is on a grade too steep to log according the Department of Natural Resources guidelines.

On April 2-5, the focus was on working to educate the public about why people are concerned with what is happening to our planet and to its inhabitants. Some of the highlights included an anti-corporate march, a protest against privatization of water services, a rally in support of the Yellowwood treesit and against logging on our public lands and a protest against government harassment. When we went to protest against logging on public lands, we found the target office closed for the day and the timber sale bid scheduled for the following day canceled. Every evening included a forum on issues affecting our community and the Earth. These included: global forest issues, patriarchy and government harassment. The forum about patriarchy in the movement was the most attended and most sorely needed forum, as it is an issue that is too often overlooked.

All in all, the week was a great success. People started to work together again after months of infighting and disagreement about what role to take in the government's investigation of the ELF. A new treesit was set up and supplied, the existing Bluebird treesit was reinforced with more people and supplies, people showed a willingness to take their actions to a new level and that they would not be intimidated by the cops. This week will hopefully springboard a successful summer of direct action against those who profit from the destruction of the Earth and human race in Bloomington.

The Bloomington Defense Committee will continue with support for the critical mass riders and Frank Ambrose. These folks will need all the support they can get to beat the charges the state has leveled against them. If you would like to help with legal expenses for either Frank or the critical mass riders, please send checks or money orders to Bloomington Defense Committee, POB 3503, Bloomington, IN 47402. Be sure to put on the memo line who you want the money to go toward as the BDC now supports a few different cases and trying to sort checks can be confusing.

# THE BATTLE CONTINUED AT BIG MOUNTAIN

When the US Supreme Court refused to hear an appeal on the case of Jenny Manybeads vs. United States, Navajos facing forced eviction from their traditional lands appealed to the United Nations in April.

Kee Watchman of the Cactus Valley community, told the UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva that Navajos in Arizona have suffered for 30 years, enduring constant harassment and threats because the energy industry seeks Navajo coal. As a representative of the International Indian Treaty Council, Watchman requested an international tribunal to hold the US and its officials accountable for their actions.

"The United States government, for reasons of its own policy, is actively and knowingly destroying our families, our livelihood and our sacred places," for the "rich and low-sulfur coal that lies beneath our feet." Peabody Coal, the world's largest energy consortium, has been trying to mine North America's largest reserve of low sulfur coal on reservation land for years.

Additionally, in his address on religious intolerance, Watchman said deep injury will result if the Hopi proceed with a plan to construct a cellular tower on a peak over Big Mountain without consultation with Navajos living there.

Cedric Kuwaninvaya, chairman of the Hopi Land Team, said the US Supreme Court decision means time has run out for Navajos who refused to sign 75-year lease accommodation agreements with the tribe. "Denial of the Manybeads appeal makes imminent the eviction of Navajo individuals on the Hopi Partitioned Land (HPL) without a lease agreement with the Hopi tribe," stated Kuwaninvaya.

After the US Supreme Court refused to hear the appeal, Navajo President Kelsey Begaye extended his sympathy to Navajo families living on HPL. Begaye said the decision was hard to accept, but families have fought valiantly to preserve Diné (Navajo) sacred ways.

Meanwhile, at Big Mountain, Bahe Katenay said, "The people's way of life is constantly under attack. The feeling is that the American government doesn't want to hear about our culture, history and why we want to stay on the land to protect it."

US District Judge Earl Carroll lifted a 1977 injunction, which now authorizes the Hopi tribe to enforce its grazing laws—livestock permits and impoundments—on Navajos living on HPL.

Katenay and other Diné believe both court decisions are a direct result of international outcry about the coal industry's efforts to remove Navajos in order to mine the Black Mesa coal beds.

In nearby Kykotsmovi, the Hopi celebrated both court decisions as victories. After more than two decades, the Hopi regained full control and jurisdiction over grazing on HPL when Judge Carroll lifted the 1977 injunction. "It is an indisputable fact that we have been second-class citizens on our own

*The American government doesn't want to hear about our culture, history and why we want to stay on the land to protect it.*

lands for too long," said Hopi Chairman Wayne Taylor.

Taylor congratulated the US Supreme Court for refusing to overturn the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruling in Jenny Manybeads vs. US. The lawsuit was filed in 1998 by Navajos and is based on their right to practice traditional religion on sacred land. They also challenged the 1974 Navajo-Hopi Settlement Act that resulted in Navajo and Hopi partitioned lands.

"Their action threatened to undermine Hopi sovereign authority to use and control its own lands and threatened the implementation of a settle-

ment that took years of compromise between the Hopi and Navajo," Taylor said. "We want our children to put the Navajo-Hopi land dispute behind them and chart a different history of peace between both tribes."

On Black Mesa, Glenna C. Begay, who lives less than two miles from the Peabody Coal mine, said the dust in the air, water, soil and plants has made the people sick with respiratory diseases. Ancestral burial sites have been destroyed and precious water is used to "flush coal to the Mohave Generating Station in Nevada" by way of coal slurry



photo by Malcolm Benally

leaving the people with scarce supplies of water. She said it is time to close Peabody's two coal mines on Black Mesa.

The Navajo Nation defended mining leases as a means of employment and revenues, with the majority of the tribe's \$100-million annual income derived from coal, oil and gas royalties and taxes.

Eviction of Navajo families who refused to sign 75-year-leases by February 1, 2000, will proceed by court action said the US Attorney's Office in Arizona and the Hopi tribe. Navajos are to be relocated to the "New Lands" near Chambers, Arizona. This is the site of the largest nuclear waste spill in US history. Navajos who have resettled in the New Lands have experienced higher rates of cancer and birth defects than the general population.

Back at Big Mountain, Norman Benally said, "We have exhausted our strengths to protect our homelands," and he is calling for continuing international support in the three-decade long battle.

For more info, contact Black Mesa Indigenous Support, POB 23501, Flagstaff, AZ 86002; (520) 773-8086; [www.blackmesais.org](http://www.blackmesais.org).

## Three Years of Resistance at Fall Creek



photos by Kurt Jensen

April 20 marked the three-year anniversary of direct action at the Fall Creek treesit in Oregon's Willamette National Forest. In 1998, the occupation began with a treesit named Happy and soon became a tree-village with traverse lines connecting seven treesits. Hundreds of activists have lived in the forest canopy as high as 200 feet above the forest floor. Activists have endured three winters of rain, bitter cold, cop harassment, threats, sieges, closures, raids, arrests... and still they remain. A federal court ruled that the Forest Service had failed to survey for red tree voles, an indicator species and prey for the endangered Northern spotted owl. Treesitters have worked with surveyors to find vole nests, hoping to have the sale canceled. To all of you who came out to visit, sat in a tree, delivered food or donated money, supplies and good wishes, we send thanks! The struggle is not yet over. Summer is heating up in Cascadia, take your summer school in the trees! Ground-up training available! No experience necessary. All you need is a strong will, an open heart, a cooperative spirit and a desire to end patriarchal control of Mama Earth.

Contact Cascadia Forest Defenders, POB 11122, Eugene, OR 97440;  
(541) 684-8977; cforestd@efn.org; www.ecoecho.org.



## Frontlines

### Eagle Creek Blockaded, Trucks Torched

The Eagle Creek timber sale near Mt. Hood in northern Oregon was sold to Vanport Manufacturing in 1996. When logging of critical habitat began in 1988, dozens of protesters from Portland blocked logging access and took to living in treesits and pods suspended over the logging roads. This area supplies drinking water for much of northern Oregon, has numerous rare plants and animals and has a history of serious tree blowdowns. Fears that increased logging would result in catastrophic blowdown led US Senator Wyden (D-OR) to extract a promise from the Forest Service to have an independent panel study the area.

The same week that scientists met to study the area, the Forest Service decided to send in the logging trucks. Once again the Eagle Creek Free-Staters and Cascadia Forest Alliance were there blocking access to the chainsaws. Tree pods and web structures blocked the logging road, and the initial confrontation between law enforcement and protesters became heated as the Forest Service threatened to dismantle the structures. One activist's hand was cut by a Forest Service officer.

The Clackamas County sheriffs prepared for the usual

round of summertime forest protests until they received a call at 2:40 a.m. on June 1. In Estacada, just down the mountain from the Eagle Creek blockade three logging trucks were set on fire. One truck was severely damaged with a price tag of about \$50,000. Only one of six gasoline-filled plastic milk jugs ignited or the damages would have been much more severe. The owner of the trucks, Ray Schoppert, commented that, "We've had problems with people for 20 years." Cascadia Forest Alliance says that they are not involved in property destruction. No one has claimed responsibility as the *EF!* goes to print.

### Concrete Tree Spikes Baffle BC Loggers

On May 22, a dozen concrete tree spikes were found in downed and standing timber near Trozzo Creek in the Slocan Valley of interior British Columbia. Loggers have found metal spikes before, but nothing like these plugs made of concrete inside sections of plastic pipe. They were well concealed with patches of bark stuck over the holes. These spikes cannot be found with metal detectors. Logging protests have occurred in the area for many years and residents feel that logging should not take place in community watersheds. One conservationist in the area said, "I understand that there is a level of frustration and the situation is going to get worse."



# Wild Rockies EF!

## Targeted by a legal system that locks everyone up

The Cove/Mallard (C/M) Coalition crew got together in January and decided to put the C/M name to bed for a good rest. The name has served us well since 1992. No logging has occurred and none of the remaining sales have been sold since the intense 1997 season. C/M is still actively pursuing a lawsuit relating to incidents in 1998, and the coalition will be revived if the remaining sales ever rise up from the dead. So for now, the C/M Coalition is in a much needed and deserved state of hibernation.

Having made this monumental decision, our meeting continued without a name. It quickly became confusing, and we realized we needed a temporary name until a new one was accepted. BOB became our short lived name to rally behind. In fact, BOB was so well received that a small determined group pushed for it to be our permanent name. Finally, in all of our creative brainstorming, we decided to revive a sleeping giant rather than come up with a name we could all argue about for years.

Wild Rockies EF! will not be imitating that tired old group bent on blocking and harassing Freddie's in one

location the whole year. We will be messing with Freddie's all over the northern Rockies this year.

Here in Idaho, justice and the Constitution are still foreign concepts. Continuing in our defense of the Wing Creek 20-mile roadless area, many of the organizers as well as new volunteers have been faced with ever-increasing repression in the courts.

Our lawsuit against the Feds, Idaho County Sheriff's Department, Shearer Lumber and Highland Enterprise for the attack on our support camp in 1998 has entered a critical phase. This legal action is about protecting all activists from attacks, how the cops idly stand by, hoping the workers will remove our blockades and treesits, then do nothing about it after it happens. We need funds for the lawsuit in a very desperate way. If you can help please make checks payable to the Cove/Mallard Coalition, POB 8968, Moscow, ID 83843.

Last year was a struggle to remain free and still be in the field stopping the logging of this pristine ecosystem. Even with our small numbers, we presented a constant vigil in the forest, raging against the whine of two stroke engines. It is important to let other activists see

the result of what happens when your group is targeted by a legal system that locks everyone up while the logging season is active.

We kicked off the summer 2000 logging season with a blockade on the 1875 bridge leading to the Otter Wing and Mackey Day sales. Andrea Rightsell was cited and released after the three-day blockade. A few of us, including Locust and Pebbles, were cited for maintaining an unauthorized

## Frontlines

### EF! and Southeast RAGE Visit Syngenta

On May 14, Uwharrie Earth First! and Southeast RAGE (Resistance Against Genetic Engineering) joined together to take direct action against the agricultural biotechnology industry in North Carolina. The targeted company, Syngenta, is one of a handful of multinational biotech firms hiding their profit-driven motives behind an environmental and humanitarian image. More than 50 people descended upon this global corporation to quarantine the biohazardous products they are unleashing on society and the natural world. Dressed in white biohazard suits, EF! and RAGE activists exposed Syngenta as a threat to the integrity of local and sustainable food production.

Protesters spray-painted anti-biotechnology messages on the Syngenta building and outside signs. After 30 minutes the Greensboro Police swarmed the lawn and aggressively attacked the activists. Eight participants were hit with pepper spray as they planted organic corn, bean and wildflower seeds in Syngenta's front lawn. Three people were arrested for vandalism

and resisting arrest. Syngenta estimated the damages at \$10,000.

After the arrests, police donned riot gear in an attempt to intimidate protesters with threats of violence. Activists stayed on the lawn for 15 more minutes and then marched away, only to be followed and harassed by the police for the remainder of the morning.

Syngenta is the world's largest agrochemical corporation, created last year with the merger of Novartis and AstraZeneca. Syngenta won its newest Terminator seed patent in November 2000.

### Blue Ridge EF! Sends Staples a Message

Newly-formed Blue Ridge EF! (BREF!) staged its first action at a suburban Richmond, Virginia, Staples store on March 28. A giant banner redecorated the logo on top of the store so that it read: "STUMPS—we've got that." Amid chants of "three percent recycled, 97 percent stumps," BREF! activists and allies delivered a pile of real stumps to Staples' doorstep.

Most shoppers agreed with the call for more recycled paper, but a group of counter-protesters in lawn chairs, who called themselves the "Tree Keepers," urged Staples to continue to sell more unrecycled paper in the name

structure, a picnic table fashioned from a culvert top and stumps. We decided then that we did not have the legal situation in which any of us could participate in open blockading when the courts are more than willing to lock us up for extensive amounts of time. Tactics in the sale turned to relentless cat & mouse, as well as video documentation. This seemed to frustrate the Feds, who were doing 24-hour security but were still too out of shape to apprehend any of the masked lil' warriors—though sometimes they did put forth a commendable effort.

Ultimately, the pine pigs, knowing they would have complicity in the courts, charged two activists with two counts each of interfering with logging and one received a closure violation. The following week Locust pied Helen Chenoweth, and Pebbles was serving time for her probation violation. Hours later, two other activists, including Drea, were leaving the timber sale to do jail support. Dragged out of their vehicle, they were both tackled, charged with resisting arrest, held in jail and bailed out a week later. With all the main organizers dealing with their legal situations, resistance in the field was low.

While in jail Locust, Pebbles and one other activist were charged with two counts each of aiding and abetting Drea in her blockade four months prior to their indictment.

Their trials, which entailed the usual lies and denial of justice, had some positive rulings but ended predominately as unjust as to be expected in the federal courts in Idaho. Drea plead guilty to one of her three charges to maintaining an unauthorized structure. She received four



months in jail with two suspended over two years probation, and in an even more drastic violation of rights she is banned from all national forests for that time. Locust, Pebbles and one other activist were found not guilty of all three charges stemming from the original blockade, though the federal ruling issued said we "probably, more likely than not" did it and the government did not fulfill their burden of proof.

During Drea's incarceration there was trial in Idaho federal court on the interfering with logging and violating

*continued on page 52*

## Frontlines

of the free-market economy, landowner rights and "the American way of life."

One highlight of the action occurred when an inquisitive customer asked where the paper to make the signs came from. To this, BREF! responded, "We rescued it from Staples dumpster. Staples was throwing it out."

### Mattole Logging Continues

Operating on two separate logging plans, Columbia Helicopter and Lewis Logging fallers have leveled a majority of the 68 acres slated for clearcutting in Northern California's Mattole forest. The Humboldt County Sheriff's Department has barreled into the area with logging crews in tow at 4 a.m. every morning.

On several occasions, the Mattole Forest Defenders have mobilized up to 80 activist and community members to block the outside gates, yet with up to seven separate entrances, stopping this convoy of more than 20 logging vehicles has proved almost impossible.

Resistance has been strong with more than 35 arrests

since May 9. Most of those arrested have been in the backwoods at the point of destruction. These brave activists have shut down logging for periods of time in different areas by climbing trees, talking with falling crews and just being in the way. Two women were arrested May 11 who had locked down to a 55-gallon drum filled with concrete. Their blockade, supported by five other blockades, slowed several Maxxam operations all morning, including the fleet of haul trucks used to transport downed ancient trees out of the Mattole.

Logging crews have committed violence against activists in the woods and at the gates. Several backwoods activists reported being beaten with sticks by loggers as sheriff's deputies looked the other way. Loggers then chased these activists up trees and piled wood debris at the base while one logger waved a can of gasoline and threatened to burn them out. At several outer gates, truck drivers punched, spit on, bumped with their trucks and threw hot coffee in the faces of activists.

A 19-year-old has been charged with eight felonies for leading a group of 17 underage students into the Mattole on May 11. Eight of the youth were arrested, and all of them had parental permission to participate. None of the parents are pressing charges.

# Wolves and Poodles

A genetic engineering research-destroying wolf to all the "vandals" who've caused genetic-engineering researchers to fear that their work will be destroyed. According to a March 13 *Fresno Bee* article, with every act of vandalism aimed at genetically-engineered (GE) crops, central San Joaquin Valley, California, agricultural researchers wonder whether they will be the target of the next attack.

The article also stated that some scientists are concerned that the vandalism could have a chilling effect on genetic research "possibly causing some scientists to not plant GE crops for fear they would be trampled."

Sounds like time to find a new line of work...

A big, bad wolf that scared the capitalists away to the more militant wing of the anti-globalization movement for the mere threat of disruption which caused the World Bank to cancel its upcoming June conference on ending poverty in Barcelona, Spain. A World Bank statement issued to the press said, "Despite our efforts to approach some of the groups that plan to demonstrate and include them in the conference, the intention of many of these groups... is to interrupt it... A conference on reducing poverty should take place in an atmosphere of peace, without provocation, violence or intimidation."

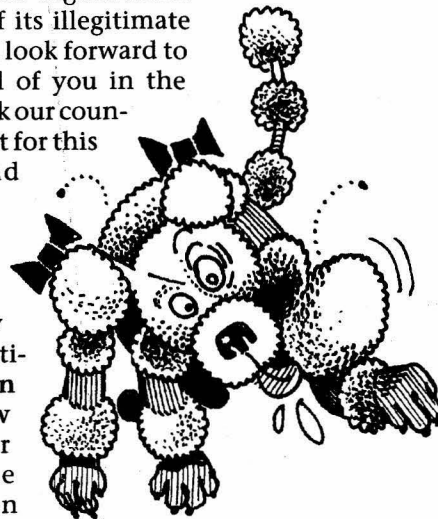
At this rate, protesters can just stay home and issue threatening statements from time to time, and the capitalists will run away!

A power of the rank and file, alliance-building wolf to Walt Creekmore of Teamsters Local 174 in Seattle, Washington, for slamming Teamster boss Jimmy Hoffa Jr.'s support of oil drilling in Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR).



Creekmore told an *EF!* Journal correspondent, "I was very angry to learn of Jr. Hoffa's ANWR position, for this seems to be a deliberate attempt on his part to destroy the excellent working relationships and mutual aid and support on many levels that we have built here in the Pacific Northwest... between rank and file Teamsters and our good friends in the environmental community... I hope that you will not judge the membership of the organization by the actions of its illegitimate figurehead, and I look forward to working with all of you in the future to take back our country and our planet for this generation and those to come."

A we beat Aryan Nation so now we need a new enemy poodle to the anti-racist Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) for declaring the Earth Liberation Front (ELF) a



"hate" group, saying that the ELF has aligned itself on the same side as the "racist far right." The SPLC's quarterly *Intelligence Report*, while acknowledging that the ELF advocates "equality, social justice and... compassion for all life," states that its leaderless structure resembles that of the "Ku Klux Klan" and that its opposition to the federal government makes it a "hate" group.

A plastic-coated Frankenpoodle to researchers at the Agricultural Research Service Citrus and Subtropical Products Laboratory in Winter Haven, Florida, who applied for a patent for a new edible coating made of food grade polyvinyl acetate to prevent fruit decay after harvest without discoloring the fruit.

Polyvinyl acetate is a synthetic polymer that can be applied to fruits and vegetables by dipping, spraying or brushing. In addition to the polyvinyl acetate, the coating for fresh produce can include plasticizers, surfactants that aid coverage, gloss enhancing additives and other ingredients.

A lapdog of the cattle industry poodle to Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks and US Fish and Wildlife Service bureaucrats for sentencing a 22-year-old grizzly to death by lethal injection. The 540-pound bear, known as the Falls Creek Male, had taken down cattle grazing on Forest Service allotments for the last 12 years by snapping the necks and crushing the skulls of 900-pound yearlings.

After successfully eluding attempts to relocate him for years, the griz was darted and executed April 18 for preying on newborn calves on private land and "displaying an uncharacteristic boldness around humans."

# NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT PURSUES WOLF GENOCIDE



photo courtesy ALPHA-Struppen

BY PER INGE OESTMOEN

The Norwegian government accomplished their short-term goal of killing an entire wolf pack in Oesterdalen. The last two wolves in the Atndal pack were shot from a helicopter at the end of March. While being unfavorable in itself, the loss of nine wolves of an already precariously small population will accelerate the decline in genetic variation. The brutality of this action is bound to backfire on those responsible, as there are strong indications that the Norwegian public is becoming increasingly aware of the issue.

The cornerstone of the Norwegian government's management strategy is the zoning out of wolves from most of the country's land mass, most of which is excellent wolf habitat. The ramifications of this strategy are well known among wolf biologists. The establishment of new packs as a result of dispersed individuals migrating far away from their original home range is an important element in their utilizing the existing genetic variability and its natural protection against inbreeding. It is not easy to determine the precise time frame for when the detrimental effects of the

zoning will become noticeable. Suffice to say that the very principle disrupts the normal dynamics of wolf societies and undeniably contributes negatively to the Scandinavian wolf's predicament, hence it is unacceptable from a biological viewpoint. To deny the wolf its rightful place in nature is very evil. The positive effects of predation pressure upon the prey populations were established long ago. Alertness, fleetness, strength, endurance and superior senses of wild animals are a direct result of the presence of powerful environmental pressures, especially natural predation. In addition, the ungulate population will naturally be less healthy unless wolves are present to constantly select the strongest animals for survival. The Norwegian zoning policy hinders these mechanisms by effectively preventing the wolves from filling their role in the ecosystem, since they are not allowed to establish packs in the country save for within a ridiculously small area located in the extreme southeast of Norway.

The most serious effect of the Norwegian zoning principle may be its psychological influence on people.

*continued on page 53*

## BARE BONES

### Cellular Phones Killing Gorillas and Elephants in the Congo

Struggling to survive the forces of globalization, miners in the Congo region are killing elephants and gorillas for food to support their coltan mining operations. Coltan is an ore used to coat many electronic devices including components of cell phones. The increase in global sales of electronic devices has resulted in the price of coltan skyrocketing from \$30 per pound to \$400 per pound. Profits have lured miners into Kahuzi-Biega National Park where the elephant population plummeted from 3,000 individuals five years ago to less than 350 today. The United Nations has issued a report that calls for an embargo on all coltan shipments in the region until safeguards are established.

### Mexican Anti-logging Activists Granted Appeal

A winner of last year's Goldman Environmental Prize, Rodolfo Montiel Flores and another member of *Campesinos Ecologistas de La Sierra de Petalan*, Teodoro Cabera, have been granted an appeal of their rigged conviction on drug and weapons charges. The two activists have been in solitary confinement for nearly two years following confessions that were extracted after days of torture. Amnesty International says the real reason they were jailed was their success in organizing peasant farmers to resist rampant logging by Boise Cascade in Mexico's southern state of Guerrero. Mexican President Vicente Fox ordered a review of their case shortly after taking office, and the use of torture by Mexican police was made illegal this year. At the time of their arrest, the Mexican army killed one of Montiel's friends. Since then, four more members of Montiel's group have been assassinated and many others have fled their homes because of death threats.

## BARE BONES

### "Eco-terrorist" Hysteria Sweeps Several States

As activists increasingly turn to more drastic forms of direct action, a wave of "eco-terrorist" hysteria is sweeping state legislatures.

The Oregon Legislature recently passed a bill to protect Starbucks from people opposed to capitalism. In an Orwellian twist, the bill would classify actions taken against corporate property as hate crimes—a designation usually reserved for those attacking oppressed minorities based on religion, race or sexual preference.

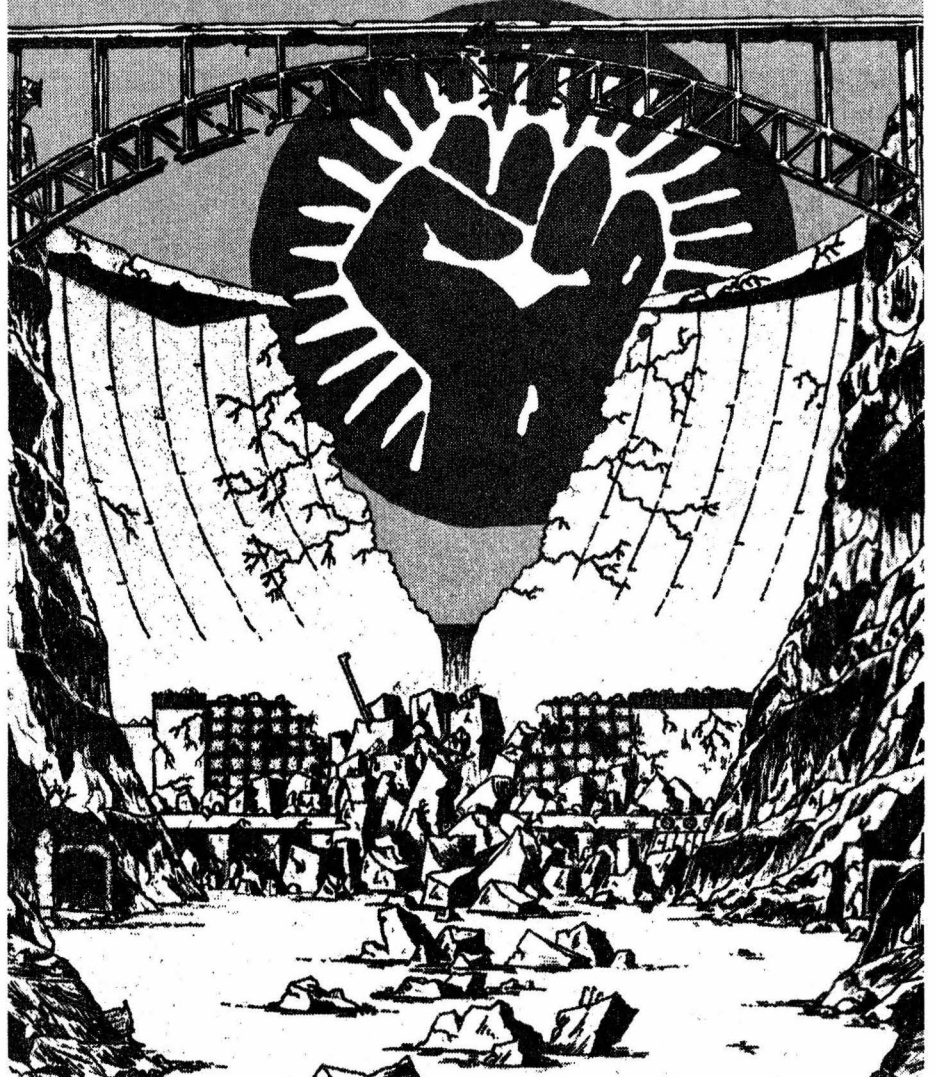
Washington's version of the eco-terror hysteria makes no distinction between graffiti artists and child molesters, as even the slightest damage to a business could be considered a terrorist act.

While drought and a windblown Texas fungus threaten the Kansas wheat crop, Governor Bill Graves has found the time to chase after the possibility of anti-genetic crop protesters. With help from the Kansas Fertilizer and Chemical Association (KFCA) and the American Crop Protection Association, a state law was "impartially" amended to impose stiffer penalties on people who decontaminate genetically altered crop sites. The chairman of KFCA said, "This legislation is a pre-emptive strike and will help deter the growing number of eco-terrorist attacks against crop production."

There have been no known attacks of this kind in the state. The governor's action may just encourage Kansas citizens to investigate the threat of genetically modified crops, as well as the influence of corporate farm chemical lobbyists.

In a similar rush to save transgenic crops, the Arizona Legislature passed a law aimed at environmental groups that claim credit for destroying genetically engineered crop experiments. Republican Governor Jane Hull lauded the measure as she signed it into law, proclaiming that "those who destroy crops or agricultural research will be liable for double damages." The law takes effect 90 days after the Legislature adjourns this year.

## CRACKS IN THE DAM



**A quarter-century after the most spectacular dam failure in BuRec history, the agency is at a crossroads.**

BY DAVID ORR

One of the darkest days for the US Bureau of Reclamation (BuRec) dawned brightly on June 5, 1976, near the town of Wilford, Idaho. There, across the Teton River, lay BuRec's newly constructed Teton Dam, rapidly filling with runoff from snowmelt high in the Grand Teton Mountains. Some observers became concerned that the reservoir behind the Earthen dam was being filled too rapidly. According to some accounts, BuRec allowed water to rise in the new reservoir twice as fast as engineering standards permit.

The 305-foot Teton Dam, completed in November 1975, was built to store, divert and deliver virtually all of the

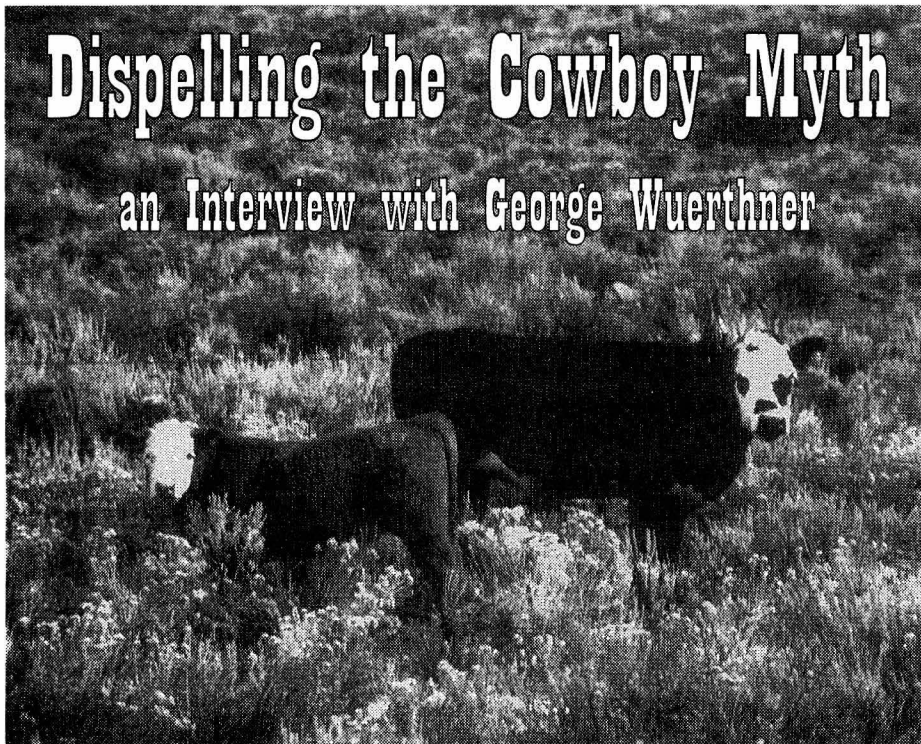
river's flow for irrigation. Despite evidence from geological investigations that suggested the site was unsuitable for a dam, Congress appropriated money and BuRec willingly complied. Just another taxpayer-subsidized pork barrel project, but this time the river didn't cooperate.

At 9:30 a.m., several leaks sprang from the face of the dam. Ominously, the trickle soon became a gusher and earth began sliding down the dam face. Bulldozers, still onsite for finishing minor grading work on the newly completed dam construction project, were hastily brought out to repair the gaping holes that were growing into craters faster than the machines could work.

*continued on page 54*

# Dispelling the Cowboy Myth

an Interview with George Wuerthner



EPI Journal file photo

BY TIM LENGERICH

*There is a tremendous irony in public lands ranching. On one hand, ranchers and cowboys are canonized in the Cowboy Myth as icons of stalwartness, hard work and an aw-shucks, salt of the earth mentality. In reality, ranchers are the most pervasively destructive force on our public land, with logging placed a distant second. Via outlandish subsidies, you, I and Uncle Sam support the cattle industry with drought and fire relief, fencing, water tanks, windmills and bargain basement grazing fees. Our government kills hundreds of thousands of wild creatures each year to protect ranchers' cows against predators such as wolves, mountain lions and coyotes.*

*In return we get erosion, endangered species, habitat destruction, flash-flooding, exotic weeds, desertification and some of the most degraded landscape on Earth. Much of it will never recover.*

*George Wuerthner of Eugene, Oregon, is one of the most outspoken leaders against public lands ranching. George dispels the Cowboy Myth and forecasts the demise of public lands ranching—one of the biggest farces in American history.*

**Tim:** When did you begin working to dispel the Cowboy Myth?

**George:** I evolved gradually into a grazing activist. In high school, I worked in a hamburger fast food place. I thought the best part of the job was

the free hamburgers. I even worked on a couple of ranches in college. I mended fences, rode through the sagebrush chasing steers and bucked bales of hay. I have some firsthand experience with ranching and its lifestyle. It has its attractions—especially if you ignore the environmental costs.

I began to re-assess my views on ranching as a result of my college experiences. As an undergraduate, I studied wildlife biology and botany. Then I went to graduate school in range science hoping to get a job as a range conservationist with the government. In other words, I was not inherently hostile to livestock production or ranching. But as I looked more and more at the ultimate causes of many western environmental issues, I kept coming back to one industry—the livestock industry. I came to conclude that the cumulative environmental effects of this industry easily outstrip all others, hence my conversion to a grazing activist.

**Tim:** George, what is the problem with public lands ranching?

**George:** It affects more public land than any other activity. Some 90 percent of all Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands, 70 percent of Forest Service lands, dozens of national parks, wildlife refuges, state lands and even county lands are affected by livestock production.

*continued on page 56*

## BARE BONES

### Tumbleweed Free—Rogue Cops Still On the Loose

Legal battles from a July 2000, protest against a meeting of the International Society for Animal Genetics (ISAG) continue in Minnesota. Twin Cities Mutual Aid Defense Committee (TCMADC) was formed in August 2000, to help in the defense of Robert "Tumbleweed" Czernik, a Minneapolis man charged with felony possession of illegal mushrooms following an illegal and politically motivated raid by heavily armed local police, FBI, and DEA agents. Tumbleweed ended up in the hospital with facial injuries suffered from police brutality. Fourteen others were arrested and police seized a large amount of personal property.

On May 18, 2001, Tumbleweed appeared in court and took a deferment offer that includes one-year probation period with three months of urine testing. In May 2002, the felony charge will be dropped. The deferment agreement was accepted by Tumbleweed because the judge refused to allow testimony concerning the ISAG, police surveillance or details of the protest in the trial. TCMADC's efforts helped direct pressure on Hennepin County from around the world.

Also on May 18, Rory Scoles was found not guilty of a gross misdemeanor of violent resistance of arrest stemming from the ISAG protest. The jury wisely disbelieved the lies of several police officers, yet still found Scoles guilty of unlawful assembly and simple resisting arrest. The remaining charges against ISAG arrestees are tied up in legal appeals relating to police undercover operations and abuse. *The Pulse*, a Minnesota weekly, recently posted a picture of the undercover cop who beat Tumbleweed in July and jumped "Agent Pecan" at a demonstration on May Day, 2000.

# Vieques: Ecology Under Siege

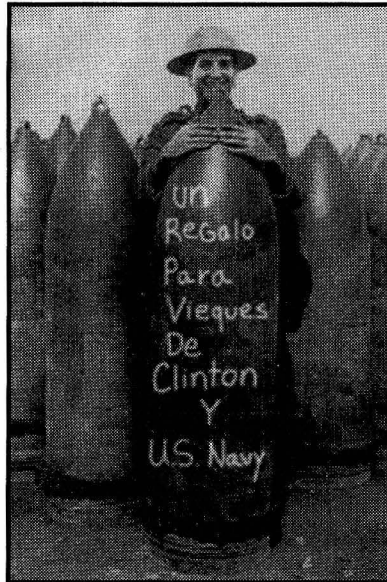
BY ROBERT RABIN

The most alarming contamination factor in Vieques, Puerto Rico, is the US Navy. The 50 years that the Navy has been operating in Vieques can be classified as "a half century of environmental disaster." The Puerto Rican environmentalist Dr. Neftalí García, in his work *Historical and Natural Consequences of the US Navy Presence in Vieques*, affirms that the military practices have produced serious destruction of the natural resources. "The Navy destroyed the coco groves of Bahía Tapón, Bahía de la Chiva, Pint Brigadier, Puerto Negro and has begun the destruction in other areas like Bahía Salinas del Sur."

Professor José Seguinot Barbosa, director of the geography department of the University of Puerto Rico at Río Piedras, in his study *Vieques, the Ecology of an Island Under Siege*, maintains that, "The eastern tip of the island (where the Navy carries out its bombing practice) constitutes a region with more craters per kilometer than the moon." In the same work, Seguinot states, "The destruction of the natural and human resources of Vieques violates the basic norms of international law and human rights. At the state and federal level the laws pertaining to the coastal zone, water and noise quality, underwater resources, archaeological resources and land use, among others are violated."

The Viequense chemical engineer, Rafael Cruz Pérez, in *Contamination Produced by Explosives and Residuals of Explosives in Vieques, Puerto Rico*, describes three sources of contamination that result from the Navy's activities in Vieques: the chemical composition of the missiles' charge and the composition of the reaction, the particles of dust and rock that are thrown into the atmosphere as a result of the impact of the explosions and metallic residues left by the projectiles when they fragment, as well as the scrap iron used as targets in the bombing area.

Cruz was an artillery officer in the US Army and worked in Vieques studying the environmental effects of the artillery practices that are conducted. He describes the situation of Cerro Matías and other adjacent sectors (the



A gift to Vieques from Clinton and the US Army.

Navy's bombing zone) like a "battlefield during World War I, where the ground and a great part of the vegetation has been reduced. Cerro Matías can be considered in its fundamental characteristics as a giant deposit of solid waste."

The Viequense engineer adds "according to the information provided by the US Navy, this material is never removed, instead it is detonated or simply covered over with dirt. As a result of the effects of the explosions, the sea breezes and natural atmosphericization, the metals are oxidized or decomposed changing in an accelerated form into products that contaminate the environment. In the same study, we find that the concentration of the contaminants (TNT, NO<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>, RDX and Tetryl) in the sources of drinking water in the towns of Isabel Segunda and La Esperanza are the same or similar to those found in the ponds and lagoons in the bombing area in Cerro Matías. The study does not explain how these substances reach the water sources, located more than 14 kilometers from the bombing area."

The author points out "that components resulting from the explosions in the bombing area in the east of Vieques are transported by diverse mechanisms toward the civilian area in the center

of the island. In the case of the explosion of pieces of artillery, missiles and bombs, there exist various factors, which increase the facility of movement of these contaminants. The effects of the prevailing winds in the explosion area disperse the cloud of contaminants generated by an explosion. The fine particles become part of the atmosphere and are transported through the air over great distances. We find that the effective concentration of particles over the civil area of Vieques exceeds 197 micrograms per cubic meter and therefore exceeds the legal federal criteria for clean air."

In May 1999, the US Navy admitted it fired depleted uranium projectiles (DU) on Vieques. The information was offered in response to a Freedom of Information Act request by the Military Toxics Project. According to Navy officials, a pilot accidentally loaded his aircraft with DU rounds and fired them on Vieques. The same documentation explains that of 363 rounds fired, only 52 were recovered. US forces practiced extensively in Vieques for the Gulf War and the military interventions in the Balkans. In both areas DU weapons were used heavily. Several NATO countries are currently investigating a possible relationship between the recent cancer deaths of soldiers who were deployed to areas where large amounts of DU projectiles were fired.

Recent scientific studies indicate high levels of heavy metals are present in the environment. The University of Puerto Rico's Graduate School of Public Health recently reported results of a study that indicate Vieques has a 27 percent higher cancer case rate compared to the rest of Puerto Rico.

These scientific studies confirm that the activities of the US Navy result in an environmental crisis with serious consequences for the human and physical geographic health. An obvious solution is to end the overwhelming source of contamination in Vieques: US Navy out of Vieques!

For more information, contact the Committee for the Rescue and Development of Vieques, POB 1424, Vieques, Puerto Rico 00765; (787) 741-0716.

# HAWAII MOBILIZES AGAINST THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

BY AASHA OHANA

The week of May 9, activists in Hawaii mobilized for their first mass demonstrations against the institutions of corporate globalization, as the Asian Development Bank (ADB) held its annual meeting in Honolulu. The week of resistance included speakers, panels, debates, films, an indigenous peoples' forum, puppet-making workshops, a critical mass bike ride and a march and rally with 1,000 people in front of the convention center.

Weeks before the meetings, the Honolulu police worked with the mainstream media to create an aura of fear around the demonstrations. Almost daily, local newspapers and TV predicted "unruly," "crazy" and "raucous" "troublemakers... from the mainland" provoking "riots," while describing in detail the tear-gas, extra security, national guard and hospital preparations that \$7 million of tax money was to pay for. Their strategy was simple: marginalize the demonstrators and scare people into staying home.

But demonstrators wouldn't be marginalized and citizens didn't stay home. Auditoriums and churches were filled as speakers explained how the ADB mandates the dismantling of local economies, the destruction of ecosystems and indigenous lifestyles and the elimination of social services. People who have been directly affected by ADB programs in Asia told of the privatization of state enterprises, minimum wage caps, reductions of agricultural subsidies, user fees for water and other injustices that have been imposed by this for-profit bank's "restructuring" of their communities. Public debates were held where ADB officials could

not adequately defend implementing projects that tear entire communities without any democratic process, line the pockets of development companies and in the end are often unsustainable.

More than 1,000 people gathered in downtown Honolulu armed with brightly colored puppets, artwork, drums, chants, dances and music. Kanaka maoli, indigenous Hawaiians, led a festive march to the convention. Once there, ADB President Tadeo Chino came out of the fortress to face the demonstrators as they presented



Cops protect the bank district as the demonstration passes by.

each of their demands for change, followed by the question: "Do you understand?" He answered each time that yes, he understood. But not surprisingly, Chino declined to make any promises for change. After an hour, demonstrators continued the march through the Waikiki Beach area and ended at Kapiolani Park with an afternoon of music, speakers and food, compliments of Food Not Bombs.

Police tried to divert attention from their egregious numbers by standing behind bicycles instead of barricades, carrying hidden guns and dressing in safari hats and brown print vests over white t-shirts, making them look more like tour guides than enforcers of oppression. Score one for the Honolulu

Police Department's new public relations firm, though nothing could hide the island's largest security build-up since World War II.

Before May, not many people in Hawaii had ever heard of the ADB. Now few in Honolulu haven't heard about its controversial projects. The meetings spurred a flurry of community networking and organizing, the formation of indymedia, medical and legal teams, a series of nonviolence trainings and the radicalizing of folks who had never been part of a mass action before. The police state was brought to view for all to see,

with its pervasive presence, chemical weapons, helicopters, crowd-listening devices and a bill for the taxpayers that sparked public outcry.

The protests didn't shut the meetings down, as many would have liked, but as one demonstrator said, "On a small island in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, for the first Hawaiian meeting of a little-known institution, it would have been tough to gather the numbers to do that. So we followed a different strategy. We brought public awareness to ADB practices while exposing

the extent of the police state and showing ourselves to be intelligent, peaceful citizens that couldn't be silenced. All the people who thought about coming out to the rally but didn't because of media-induced fears of riots and tear-gas will be with us next time. And the state will have a hard time getting \$7 million for security again.

"We can look at this week and see what worked well and what could be improved upon. We will learn from every action. We were not organizing for a one-time event. This is an ongoing struggle, and just one part of a strong, worldwide movement."

For more information, visit [www.infoshop.org/inews](http://www.infoshop.org/inews).



# Globalization and Resistance in Colombia

“You spray us like we are cockroaches.”

BY RANDY SERRAGLIO

“Plan Colombia = plan de muerte” (*Plan Colombia = plan of death*)

—FIRST LINE OF SOME GRAFFITI ON THE WALL OF A BANK IN DOWNTOWN BOGOTÁ

I saw this graffiti during a Witness for Peace human rights delegation to Colombia in March. One hundred of us were there to assess the impacts of US policy in Colombia. The message is bleak and depressingly accurate.

Plan Colombia refers to the \$1.6-billion US aid package funneled into Colombia over the last two years. The vast majority of it (more than 85 percent) is military aid, ostensibly to fight the drug war. Originally military aid was to be a small part of a much broader multilateral aid package to address the underlying social causes of Colombia's 35-year civil war, as well as for the eradication of illicit crops.

Unfortunately, the promised social investment has shriveled up like a fumigated field. What is left is a war plan, focused on one major military operation: the push into southern Colombia, where the majority of the world's *coca* is now grown.

Thousands of small farmers have migrated to southern Colombia in recent years, forced from their homes by decades of violence and policies that were specifically intended to push them off their land.

The area is generally controlled by the *Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia* (FARC), Colombia's largest guerrilla group. The FARC now makes millions of dollars a year by taxing the booming *coca* production.

That illicit revenue is the true target of Plan Colombia. The plan centers on a massive campaign of aerial fumigation of *coca* fields in guerrilla-controlled areas. It includes dozens of helicopters and large-scale counterinsurgency training of elite Colombian units to provide ground support for spray planes that will inevitably come under guerrilla attack. It is a tried and true counterinsurgency strategy of attacking civilian support networks to isolate and defeat the guerrillas.

Despite the “bail out” propaganda that US war-makers have used to sell this plan to taxpayers, Plan Colombia

serves mostly the narrow interests of the US military and its corporate partners. They appear to be willing to sacrifice the civilian population to gain control of southern Colombia, an area laden with oil, among other riches.

Defeating the FARC means removing a major obstacle to unbridled exploitation of Colombia's markets and resources. It also provides the context for repression of Colombian civil society, much like every other cold war in Latin America. Those who would oppose the global economic paradigm are lumped in with guerrillas and targeted for arrest, torture and assassination.

Heavy lobbying and large campaign contributions by the helicopter companies Sikorsky and Bell ensured that they will reap millions of dollars from Plan Colombia. Monsanto, responsible for Agent Orange in Vietnam, hauls in millions from the herbicides, while private military contractors make millions more providing pilots and logistics.

The biggest losers, of course, are the people who live in southern Colombia. As one *campesino* put it, “You spray us like we are cockroaches.”

Supporters of Plan Colombia claim the fumigation is harmless, that the herbicide in question is just Roundup, the common household brand.

The truth is that the herbicide being sprayed over thousands of acres of Colombian countryside is a highly concentrated form, dubbed Roundup Ultra, which also contains other chemicals to make it more effective against the resilient *coca*. This toxic brew has

not been safety tested, and an independent researcher's requests for samples have been denied.

The spray campaign is nothing short of a crime against nature and humanity. Food crops, drinking wells, alternative crop projects and biodiverse rainforest are sprayed with little to spare. Respiratory illnesses and skin rashes are rampant in the fumigation zones, especially in children.

The fumigation campaign draws no distinction between farmers growing *coca* for the drug trade and indigenous people who have been growing *coca* for thousands of years as a fundamental part of their culture. For them, even a crop substitution program is an assault on their identity and their continued existence as native people. Fumigation is a death knell, destroying the forest and the land they rely on for survival.



Bananas from a crop destroyed by fumigation.

photo by Linda Penetta

No asesinaran la esperanza  
(They will not assassinate hope)

—SECOND LINE OF THE GRAFFITI

The group I traveled with visited Cauca, which is scheduled for Phase II of Plan Colombia next year. A few years ago, thousands of *campesinos*, Afro-Colombians, unionists and others blockaded the Pan-American Highway to protest the economic policies and neglect of the government.

Hundreds of thousands have hit the streets and been met with violent repression. Many have died in street battles that make Seattle look tame.

For millions of people in Latin America, matters of free trade and the IMF and World Bank are matters of life and death. When water rates quadruple overnight because of privatization, when cuts in basic services threaten health and when coffee prices plummet in the global marketplace "race to the bottom," millions suffer.

We met with Cauca's governor, Floro Tunuvalá, the first indigenous governor in Colombia's history. He was elected by a broad coalition that grew out of the Pan-American Highway blockade. Floro is one of six governors of departments in southern Colombia who oppose the fumigation and military aid of Plan Colombia. They are working on a proposal for an alternative plan based on manual eradication and social investment.

We visited a small village that had been targeted for several massacres in the preceding months. Indigenous and peasant communities have been hit hardest by the civil war, suffering violence and extortion by left-wing guerrillas and right-wing paramilitary death squads. In contested areas, civilians are the targets for assassination and massacre, by whichever armed actor accuses them of helping the other side.

I slept in the house of a man who never sleeps in his own house. He had been threatened for attempting to bring paramilitary assassins to justice, but he refused to back down. He explained that resistance was the only answer to the oppression his people faced and that if he were killed others would take his place. "A man who lives fully never dies," he said.

After hearing his emotional testi-



Photo by Linda Parrella

mony, I stood outside his house in the dark while he went off to sleep in the fields. I listened to the sounds of the lush *campo* and pondered the surreal evil that lurked out there amidst the overwhelming natural beauty.

In those moments, I realized that the well-armed assassins were not the biggest threat; they were merely a symptom of the greater global disease. The true evil is global capitalism embodied in the spreading cancers of IMF, FTAA and World Bank.

Resistance in the US continues to grow. On April 2, six young women from Oberlin College locked down in Washington, DC, disrupting a conference of Sikorsky executives. Other actions have taken place at the Sikorsky plant in Connecticut and at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, home of US Army Special Forces units that are training the Colombian military. A Monsanto boycott is already underway.

The threats are clear, but the solutions are complex. Activists in industrialized countries must sharpen their critiques of the global economic disease by seeing it from the nuanced perspective of those who are impacted the most. Only then can we build the alliances necessary to resist globally.

As for Plan Colombia, US public opinion is turning away from the hysteria of the drug war, which may open the space to discredit this *plan de muerte* and expose it for what it really is: the *final conquest* of the hemisphere.

## SOA KILLS IN LATIN AMERICA

### Activists Maintain Pressure to Close the School of the Americas

On May 24, 26 human rights advocates were found guilty of criminal trespassing during last November's protest against the continued existence of the School of the Americas (SOA) in Fort Benning, Georgia. Their sentences range from three years on probation to one year in federal prison, with 20 of the protesters receiving six months in federal prison. Fines of up to \$3,000 were doled out based on the individual's ability to pay.

More than 10,000 soldiers from Colombia have been trained at the SOA. Reports issued in the last year by the US State Department and Human Rights Watch document the involvement of Colombian SOA graduates in kidnapping, murder, massacres and setting up of paramilitary groups. Soldiers trained by the SOA consistently use their tactics against labor organizers, religious leaders, student activists and others working for just wages, decent housing, basic living needs and other fundamental human rights.

One of the 26 charged in November was Earth Firster Josh Raisler Cohn, who was arrested twice doing climbing actions inside Fort Benning. Several days before the mass action, he symbolically hung himself in front of a banner reading "SOA Kills in Latin America." Two weeks later, he and another climber, Sprout, hung a 40 by 50 foot banner off a water tower next to the barracks that house the SOA troops. The red, white and blue banner read "North and South the People Say, Close the School of the Americas." Cohn was sentenced to six months in federal prison and immediately taken into custody.

Despite attempts by the government to quash dissent by imprisoning people, the movement to challenge and close this flagship of US paramilitarism is growing. For more information or to support these prisoners of conscience, contact the School of the Americas Watch at (202) 234-3440; [www.soaw.org](http://www.soaw.org).

# Born to Die at Huntingdon

**1951** HLS formed by Professor Alistair Worden.

**Early 1990s** In response to industry concerns, US Congress passed legislation making it a federal crime to break into a research facility and cause more than \$10,000 in damages.

**1981** Sarah Kite, from the British Union Against Vivisection, worked inside the HLS lab in Huntingdon for six months. Her investigation gave the first glimpse inside the laboratory.

**1997** Two undercover investigators infiltrated HLS. After the Royal Bank of Scotland gave a 22.5-million pound loan to keep HLS afloat, demonstrations took place across the UK. The ALF disabled dozens of the bank's ATMs by inserting cards covered in superglue into the machines.

*"A series of numbers instantly makes me recall a primate's tattoo. I see the finely textured skin of the macaques. I see their human-like fingernails and their little navels. I see them using their seldom supplied "enrichment" mirrors, not to look at their own reflection, but to examine parts of a barren concrete room they have no chance to see. "Each one has their own individual fingerprints," someone once told me. I don't know if this is true, but I do know that each of them look uniquely different. I know that if the fur and skin are torn off in a violent cage injury, the healed skin looks no different than a human beings'."*

—REFLECTION FROM AN UNDERCOVER INVESTIGATOR AT  
HLS' LAB IN EAST MILLSTONE, NEW JERSEY

Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS) has been the subject of five undercover investigations exposing tremendous cruelty to animals. Internationally, activists have committed themselves to shutting down HLS after investigators' video footage, photos and diaries have shown workers punching beagle puppies in the face, dissecting a conscious monkey, transplanting a frozen pig's heart into a baboon and falsifying scientific data and procedures. As recent as September 2000, leaked documents from HLS exposed more than 520 errors and omissions due to botched organ transplant experiments where hundreds of monkeys and wild-caught baboons died after genetically manipulated piglet heart and kidney transplants.

As Europe's largest and most notorious contract animal testing company, and with a laboratory in East Millstone, New Jersey, HLS conducts chemical tests commissioned by the top names in the pharmaceutical, biotech and agrochemical industries. Annually in HLS' labs, roughly 180,000 animals are forced to ingest, inhale and endure all sorts of toxic chemicals, including toxic doses of pharmaceuticals, pesticides and chemicals such as weed killers and disinfectants. HLS has 70,000 animals waiting to die at any one time—dogs, cats, monkeys, guinea pigs, rabbits, rats, mice and birds. These animals are described as "quiet, huddled, shivering, unsteady and in spasm."

The campaign to close HLS started in England several years ago and is heating up here in the US. According to a Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty (SHAC) spokesperson, "For every 500 animals HLS brutally murders everyday, there are 500 strategies that activists will employ to destroy their vile business." If the campaign to close HLS continues with the level of tenacity and ferocity shown in recent months, the laboratory will soon become a distant memory.

Since a national protest in the US in April, public support, media attention and energy in the campaign have been unprecedented. During the week following the protest, Huntingdon's stock price fell

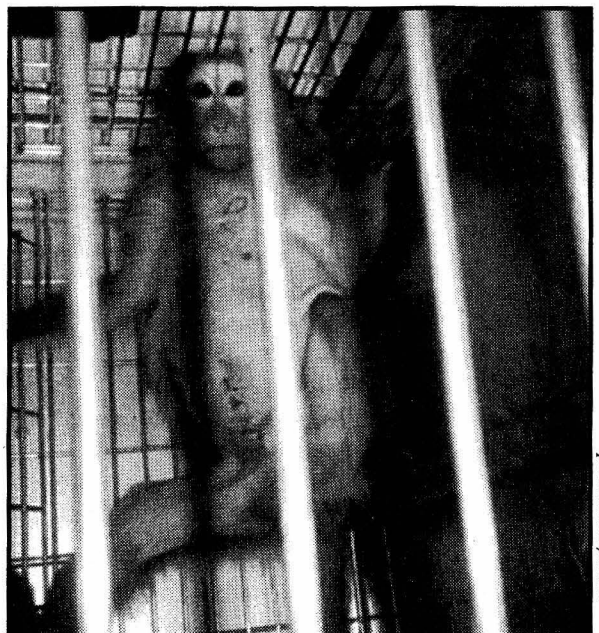


photo courtesy SHAC

*"Most of the monkeys in 3314 will be killed this week. They're scheduled for all kinds of bloodwork as the study winds up. I told him I may not be able to see him again. When I told him this he came to the center of the door and pressed his whole face against the cage staring at me. I stroked his cheek and whispered goodbye, and as I stood up and he moved back to his fetal position, it occurred to me, too late, that he was pressing his face forward for a kiss."*

—From HLS undercover investigator's diary

from \$1.82 to a low of \$1.25. Attention will now be centered on Huntingdon's main financial backers: Stephens, Inc. and Bank of New York.

HLS may close a year from now, or tomorrow. But one thing is certain—they will close. Fourteen beagles living free tell us so. A flipped car and smashed windows tell us so. Dozens of activists, eyes burning from pepper-spray, refusing to back down from the front lines tell us so. For the 70,000 animals still imprisoned in their laboratories—we will not lose.

—GINA LYNN AND DARIUS FULLMER CONTRIBUTED  
BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON HLS

# Life Sciences

**1998** The USDA fined HLS \$50,000 for 23 violations of the Animal Welfare Act. These same violations have continued as recently as March 2000.

**December 2000** HLS removed from the New York Stock Exchange. A growing list of investment companies pull out of HLS, including Citibank, Merrill Lynch and Charles Schwab.

- Fifth HLS undercover investigation released by SHAC with shocking video footage, including of a monkey escaping from an HLS lab.

**September 2000** HLS exposed in UK for substandard research practices after documents leaked to animal activists showed the suffering from botched cross-species transplant experiments.

## December 2000

- Stephens, Inc. sued SHAC USA, Voices for Animals and website administrator Kevin Mudrick for constructing a website ([www.stephenskills.com](http://www.stephenskills.com)). Stephens lost the lawsuit when the judge ruled that the use of the Stephens logo and website design was not for commercial use and was protected by the First Amendment.

**January 2001** US investor, Stephens, Inc., saved HLS from closing its doors by extending a \$33-million loan.

**February 2001** HLS Managing Director Brian Cass was beaten with baseball bats outside his home in England.

- The Animal Liberation-Tactical Internet Response Network (AL-TIRN) held an electronic civil disobedience action against HLS. According to AL-TIRN, "The campaign against HLS is now being intensified to include a new area of protest aimed at blocking the information highway of the company." The announcement by AL-TIRN comes on the heels of an action-filled week that saw more than 1,500 UK activists lay siege to several of HLS' biggest clients causing severe disruption, while US activists flooded the phone lines, email systems and offices of Stephens, Inc.

**March 2001** Fourteen beagles liberated from Huntingdon's laboratory in New Jersey. This marked the first time activists on either side of the Atlantic liberated animals from HLS.

- HLS and Stephens, Inc. file a Civil Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization (RICO) lawsuit in an attempt to pin allegations of physical attacks, bomb threats, property destruction, burglary and harassment on the Animal Defense League, In Defense of Animals and Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty (SHAC). According to a SHAC spokesperson, "This SLAPP-suit is completely baseless, and we are looking forward to dragging this through the legal system as HLS will have to spend what little money they have left in a legal fight."

**April 2001** National protest against HLS: Approximately 150 activists converged on the New Jersey laboratory. Four arrests were made as police formed together and charged into the crowd.

- Henning Jonassen, Director of the Necropsy Laboratory, had the windows of his car and house shattered and his car flipped over. Frankie Trull, president of the Foundation for Biomedical Research told the *Courier News* that "such terrorist campaigns intimidate researchers and undermine research. For those who don't support animal research to take these matters into their own hands... has a chilling effect on people who conduct animal research."
- Boisterous protests held at several Stephens' offices, including Atlanta, Chicago and Boston. In San Francisco, 12 demonstrators blockaded themselves inside the conference room of Stephens' office, they were removed after two dozen police officers forced their way inside by axing through a plexi-glass window.

**May 2001** Week of action against HLS in New Jersey. HLS had been granted a temporary restraining order placing restrictions on protests at the homes of HLS employees. Not deterred, activists proceeded to the home of Thomas Perna, Senior Vice President of the Bank of New York to protest.

- The Animal Liberation Front claimed responsibility for hacking into the website of Primate Products, a company that supplies the primates used in the product-testing research at HLS. The "improved" website contained several graphic photos of primates butchered in research laboratories and even contained photos of actual primates from inside HLS that were taken during undercover investigations.

**June 2001** Protests at the annual HLS shareholders' meeting in New York City on June 14.

- Campaign kick-off against another financial backer of HLS, the Bank of New York.

**Ongoing in the UK** Every weekday, a crowd of protesters gather outside the gates of HLS' main lab in Huntingdon. As workers come and go, they meet screaming protesters. Every eight weeks, SHAC UK holds national demonstrations where more than 1,000 protesters target the lab or a company affiliated with HLS.

- Large demonstrations are followed up with demonstrations at the homes of workers. The Animal Liberation Front has waged a series of car bombings and attacks on workers' homes. The HLS employee turnover rate is high.

# Following Them Wherever They Go...

## Protests Against HLS Investors, Stephens, Inc.

BY GINA LYNN AND DARIUS FULLMER

Following several undercover exposés, investors and customers began leaving Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS) in droves. Over the past year, Stop Huntingdon's Animal Cruelty in the United Kingdom (SHAC UK) has targeted individual financial supporters with intense protests. The campaign in the UK has made Huntingdon financially untouchable and few institutions are willing to contend with being targeted for supporting HLS.

HLS was on its last leg in January 2001, and within hours of declaring bankruptcy, Stephens, Inc. stepped in. Ever since, Stephens, an investment banking firm headquartered in Little Rock, Arkansas, has come under fire for extending a \$33-million loan to save HLS. Without Stephens, HLS' largest shareholder, the laboratory doors would have closed.

Activists have since presented a clear message: If you're involved with HLS, you'll have to deal with an angry animal rights movement everywhere you go. Stephens' loan runs out in January 2002, and activists are working to insure that they do not renew it.

When SHAC activists learned that president Warren Stephens was a member of the exclusive Augusta Golf Club in Georgia, a protest was organized for the National Golf Tournament on March 16. Five people were arrested for disorderly conduct while bringing attention to Warren Stephens and his staunch support of animal torture.

A spokesperson for SHAC USA stated, "Stephens, Inc. is responsible for the deaths of more than 500 animals daily. Everywhere Warren Stephens goes, we will make sure the name HLS goes with him, a name synonymous with animal cruelty. This is only the beginning of the headache



Photo by Kevin R. Weiler

Somerset County New Jersey Emergency Response Team Officers are shown in riot gear as animal rights protesters leave HLS lab.

the animal rights movement will cause Stephens and all others connected to that vile laboratory."

This protest came on the heels of several phone blockades against Stephens, Inc., demonstrations outside their offices across the country and an Internet sit-in that several times brought the company's website to a halt.

About 50 protesters gathered on March 21-23, for the next target: Stephens' investment conference in Las Vegas. Police, outnumbering activists by at least two to one, grossly overreacted to the peaceful demonstration.

Jake Conroy from Seattle raised his hand to block the view of a police video camera upon him. He was subsequently tackled by police and charged with obstructing police business and resisting arrest. A medical doctor who had rented a room at a casino was followed to his room, placed in a choke hold by security, then charged with battery.

Other arrests included five demonstrators who drove into a golf course parking lot. They were not asked to leave and were all arrested for trespassing. While in custody, some of the arrestees were interrogated by the FBI about the Animal and Earth Liberation Fronts who, it turns out, local police expected to be at these protests.

Contact Warren Stephens, president of Stephens, Inc., 111 Center St., Little Rock, AR 72201-4402; (501) 374-4361; (800) 643-9691; (501) 377-2666 (fax); (501) 377-2379 (Warren's direct fax); [www.stephens.com](http://www.stephens.com).

For more information, visit [www.stephenskills.com](http://www.stephenskills.com).

*Editors' Note: In October, there will be a national demonstration against Stephens, Inc. at its headquarters in Little Rock, Arkansas. Contact SHAC USA for details.*

### Help Close HLS: What You Can Do

After contacting Warren Stephens, there is the Bank of New York and other companies that invest in HLS.

**Bank of New York (BNY):** BNY controls the American Depository Receipts program which allows American firms to invest in HLS, since they are traded and based in the United Kingdom. Without them, HLS would not be able to sell shares in the US. BNY's withdrawing support would be a fatal blow to HLS! For more information, visit [www.bankofnykills.com](http://www.bankofnykills.com).

Thomas Renyi, BNY President. One Wall St., New York, NY 10286; (212) 495-1784; (800) 432-0140; (888) LINK-BNY (24-hour); (212) 809-9528 (fax); [trenyi@bankofny.com](mailto:trenyi@bankofny.com).

Although our focus should be on the

investors, we should not forget those who are actually performing these horrific experiments on the monkeys, beagles, rabbits, mice and fish.

**Huntingdon Life Sciences, POB 2360, Mettlers Rd., East Millstone, NJ 08875-2360; (732) 873-2550; (732) 873-8513 (fax).** Activists in the UK have faxed black pieces of paper to HLS fax machines to tie up the line.

Demand that they release *all* the animals to sanctuaries. Dial 0 for the operator or type in the first four letters of an employee's last name.

For more information, contact Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty USA, POB 22398, Philadelphia, PA 19110; (888) 354-2435; [shacusa@envirolink.org](mailto:shacusa@envirolink.org); [www.shacusa.net](http://www.shacusa.net).

# Hacking at the Roots of the Tree of Evil

## A Campaign to Transform the Global Financial System

### Citigroup Met with Protests Around the World

BY PATRICK REINSBOROUGH

To paraphrase Thoreau, for every 1,000 activists hacking at the branches of the tree of evil only one is hacking at the roots. It is in this spirit of effective radicalism that people around the world have been uniting to confront Citigroup, one of the world's largest financial institutions. Made up of Citibank, Wall Street investment giant Salomon Smith Barney, Citifinancial and Traveler's Insurance, Citigroup is a \$720-billion corporation and a cornerstone of the global economy.

Behind the WTO, World Bank and multinational corporations is a fundamentally flawed financial system. This system, aptly described by Ed Abbey as embodying "the ideology of the cancer cell," is pathological in its very nature. It is a system defined by colonial genocide, blind consumerism and economic growth that puts the interests of corporate elites ahead of the well-being of all other life. To stop this assault on the natural world, it is essential that we unmask the real power brokers of the global economy and leverage our power against giant financial corporations like Citigroup.

Citigroup profits off projects that destroy fragile ecosystems, violate human rights and displace indigenous communities. From underwriting Maxxam Corporation's liquidation of the California Redwoods, genetically engineering trees for Chilean pulp mills and converting primary rainforest to palm plantations in Indonesia, Citigroup knows how to make a profit from killing a forest. Close your eyes and point to a place on the globe—Citigroup is sure to be there.

On April 11, 2001, as part of an international day of action, activists in 80 cities on five continents rose in unison to challenge the Citigroup

stranglehold over communities and ecosystems around the globe. In a colorful display of demonstrations, educational events and creative actions, activists exposed Citigroup's involvement in fueling destruction. Unwilling to be complicit, people cut up their Citigroup credit cards by the hundreds and signed pledges saying they will never do business with "the world's most destructive bank." Citigroup offices were picketed, their phone lines clogged and many potential customers turned away.



photo courtesy RAN

The next week, Citigroup's annual shareholders' meeting was rocked by a demonstration put on by several organizations, including Rainforest Action Network, United for a Fair Economy, National Organization for Women, Inner City Press/Community on the Move and Student Environmental Action Coalition. Because Citigroup is a global player, the campaign is a vehicle to tangibly confront the system in a way that makes actual gains while educating people about how the global financial system creates social, economic and environmental injustice.

Individuals and institutions are re-examining our narrow definition of "profit" to move beyond a bottomline

that ignores environmental and social justice. More people are recognizing that the true wealth of the planet rests not in stock options and cash flow projections but rather in the Earth's natural cycles, biological and cultural diversity, the strength of our communities, the depths of our imagination and the creativity of our actions. There are realistic models for non-destructive economics like the European Triodos bank and even Oregon's Shore Pacific who have incorporated the mission of funding

ecological and community-based alternatives. Step by step people are beginning to dismantle corporate control of the financial system and demand economics that reflect their values.

Still, biological reality insists that while building alternatives, we transform existing institutions to stop the destruction before it's too late. To address the ecological crisis, it is imperative that Citigroup immediately ban any further investments in old-growth forest destruction and prioritize lending for renewable energy, tree-free lumber and paper alternatives. Citigroup must

make a firm commitment to equitable, community-based development and to address the concerns of impacted communities.

We hold the power to demand that Citigroup go *beyond the bottomline* to stop investing in the destruction of the environment and communities around the world. Now, more than ever, the situationist slogan from the 1968 Paris uprising is appropriate, "Be reasonable, demand the impossible!"

For more information about the Citigroup campaign, contact Rainforest Action Network, 221 Pine St. Ste. 500, San Francisco, CA 94014; (800) 989-RAIN; (415) 398-4404; [organize@ran.org](mailto:organize@ran.org); [www.ran.org](http://www.ran.org).

# Anti-Genetix Actions in the Northwest

continued from page 5

## Communiqué Sent by the Earth Liberation Front

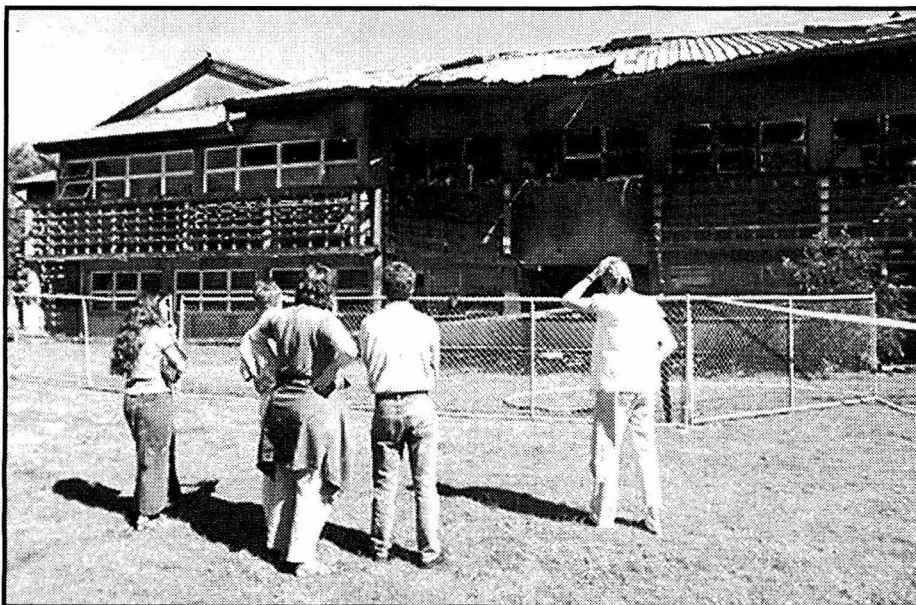
### Part I

At 3:15 a.m. on Monday, May 21, the research of Toby Bradshaw was reduced to smoke and ashes. We attacked his office at the University of Washington while at the same time another group set fire to a related target in Clatskanie, Oregon, 150 miles away.

Bradshaw, the driving force in GE tree research, continues to unleash mutant genes into the environment that are certain to cause irreversible harm to forest ecosystems. After breaking into Bradshaw's office at the Center for Urban Horticulture, we inspected the building for occupants and set up incendiary devices with a modest amount of accelerant. Although we placed these devices specifically to tar-

get his office, a large portion of the building was damaged. This extensive damage was due to a surprisingly slow and poorly coordinated response from the fire department, which was evident by their radio transmissions. As long as universities continue to pursue this reckless "science," they run the risk of suffering severe losses. Our message remains clear: We are determined to stop genetic engineering.

From the torching of Catherine Ives' office at Michigan State University to the total incineration of the D and PL warehouse in Visalia, California, the Earth Liberation Front is growing and spreading. As the culture of domination forces itself into our very genes, wild fires of outrage will continue to blaze.



Researchers contemplate the ELF's input on the debate over the genetic manipulation of forests at the University of Washington, Seattle.

### Part II

Early Monday morning, May 21, we dealt a blow to one of the many institutions responsible for massive hybrid tree farming in the Northwest. Incendiary devices at Jefferson Poplar in Clatskanie, Oregon, burned an office and a fleet of 13 trucks. Unfortunately, due to a design flaw, one targeted structure was left standing. We torched Jefferson Poplar because hybrid poplars are an ecological nightmare threatening native biodiversity

in the ecosystem. Our forests are being liquidated and replaced with monocultured tree farms so greedy, Earth-raping corporations can make more money.

Pending legislation in Oregon and Washington further criminalizing direct action in defense of the wild will not stop us and only highlights the fragility of the ecocidal empire.

As we wrote in Clatskanie, "You cannot control what is wild."

—ELF "EARTH LIBERATION FRONT"

## Song for the Earth Liberation Front

BY DAVID ROVICS

<sup>G</sup>  
Civil disobedience  
<sup>C</sup> <sup>G</sup>  
Has many permutations  
  
You can block the streets in front of  
<sup>D</sup> <sup>G</sup>  
The United Nations  
  
You can lay down on the tracks  
<sup>C</sup> <sup>G</sup>  
Keep the nuke trains out of town  
<sup>C</sup>  
Or you can pour gas on the condo  
<sup>D</sup>  
And you can burn it down

### CHORUS

<sup>Em</sup>  
So here's a toast to the night  
<sup>C</sup> <sup>G</sup>  
Three cheers and a grunt  
<sup>C</sup> <sup>D</sup> <sup>Em</sup>  
To the Earth Liberation Front  
<sup>C</sup> <sup>D</sup> <sup>G</sup>  
The Earth Liberation Front

You can go to Senate hearings  
Wait 'til they call your name  
My hat is off to anyone  
With the will to play that game  
But if you want to know the truth  
What warms my aching heart  
Is to see the masked avengers  
Come to tear the road apart

### CHORUS

There are so many things of beauty  
In this world to see  
A wild, running river  
Or an old-growth redwood tree  
But in such an ugly situation  
So sinister and dire  
There's nothing quite so lovely  
As a Wal-Mart on fire

### CHORUS

They'll tell you that it's violent  
To destroy a logging truck  
These are the very people  
Who'd kill the planet for a buck  
Talk to the governor  
Be reasonable, they say  
Maybe we can talk tomorrow  
But we can pull the crops today

### CHORUS

**genetic engineering research  
facilities  
don't just  
burn  
down by  
themselves...**



*Poplar Molecular Genetics Cooperative, University of Washington, May 21, 2001. \$3 million.*

**they need  
help from  
you.**

*learn to burn.*



*International Institute of Agriculture,  
Michigan State University,  
December 31, 1999. \$900,000.*



*Delta & Pine Land Co. Research Cotton Gin, Visalia, California, February 20, 2001. \$700,000.*



# HUMAN NATURE:

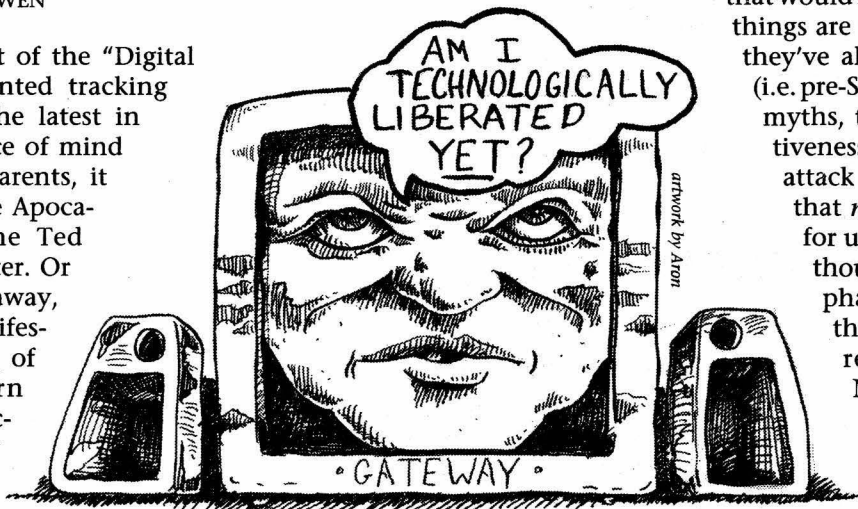
## Biotechnology and Identity

BY JEREMIAH R. BOWEN

With the advent of the "Digital Angel," an implanted tracking device billed as the latest in technological peace of mind for pathological parents, it seems St. John the Apocalyptic has become Ted Coppel's copywriter. Or maybe Donna Haraway, whose cyborg manifestoes are the toast of the postmodern world and have succeeded in doing what Internet and virtual reality impresarios have been attempting for years: making technology appear liberated.

But high-tech liberation is of course liberation *from* the body, while what revolutionaries are after is liberation *of* the body, of and in the physical world. Ironically, one of the favorite postures of postmodern thinkers is that of anti-Platonism: rebellion against the abstract, eternal and absolute ideal in favor of "the real, existing world."

In hyper-civilized society, artificial life is perceived as the only real life, so when one applies the old Platonic duality to monoculture, one is faced with a merely nominal opposition: The world of insensible, ever-changing manufactured novelty designed for an existence of unceasing consumption without fulfillment. Real life is left out of the picture entirely. So when postmodernists come to terms with the necessity of a rejection of essentialist idealism (Christianity, Enlightenment ideology, etc.), they find it necessary to embrace, as its only alternative, the commodified shallow vapidness of pop culture (hence Haraway's "deep appreciation" of the



Terminator and the vampire fad). Plato's mistake was to call real life "mere appearance;" the postmodern mistake is to call mere appearance "real life."

Rejection of philosophical idealism entered postmodern discourse in large part through Marx's early writings, rediscovered and published in the 1920s and '30s. With his "ruthless criticism of everything existing," his attacks on Feuerbach and the German ideologists of the early 19th century, he rejects the idea of static/eternal human nature stating that "the human essence... is in social relations." His is a view of human identity and behavior existing in reciprocal relationship with prevailing social and economic conditions: "Circumstances make men just as much as men make circumstances." In variously modified forms, Althusser, Barthes and Foucault, among others, took up this historical-materialist view, and it remains central to much of postmodern thought.

So Haraway's cyborg is part of a larger project, attacking the idea of an abstract human essence, and "nature" as used by ruling-class intellectuals

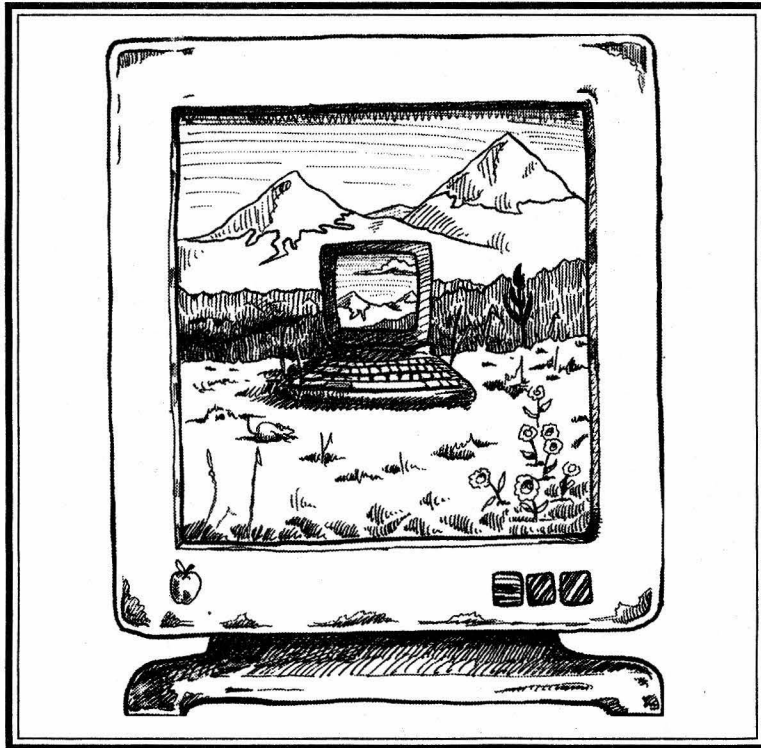
that would have us forget that the way things are is not necessarily the way they've always been or have to be (i.e. pre-Sahllins paleoanthropologic myths, the lie of innate competitiveness, Social Darwinism). Her attack consists of the assertion that *nothing* is natural. "Nature for us is *made*," she writes, and though I would change the emphasis (nature *for* us is made), this is certainly a perceptual reality in contemporary North America. The nature she refers to is not that ineffable reality I assume we have all experienced at some point, but rather the simplistic

caricature one sees in Sport Utility Vehicle advertisements or through one's car window at Yellowstone.

Eternal human essence can certainly be a counter-productive notion from a revolutionary standpoint. If humans are, for instance, inevitably and "naturally" competitive, what's the use fighting capitalism? If humans are inherently separate from the natural world or if there is no natural, meta-human world, what's the use of defending Mother Earth? The only possible outcome to such a view would be a radical misanthropy, which if taken to its logical conclusion, becomes genocidal.

On the other hand, if humans are essentially cooperative, gentle, kind and deeply connected with *mama* Earth, how the hell did things get the way they are? Belief in an essentially "good" humanity is simply not corroborated by observation of the world as it is.

The apparent solution is that humans are, at least in part, products of their external situations. *What humans are* is very different in "primitive" communal groups than on slave planta-



Artwork by Aron

tions, different in feudal estates than in modern cities. What a person is in response to enslavement is certainly different than what s/he is in response to autonomy. This is not to suggest that a person ever *is* a slave. It rather points to a methodology of social transformation involving a change in the *situation* rather than a "will power"-centered attempt to convert individuals. The Situationists talked about this as psychogeography.

It seems unnecessarily extreme to reject all naturalness on the basis of the artificiality, the constructedness of human behavior. The obvious anthropocentricity of asserting that nature is made "as both fiction and fact" opens the door wide for the

unlimited manipulation of nature, because after all there is no unmanipulated nature: "Nature is a figure, construction, artifact... Organisms are not born; they are made in world-changing techno-scientific practices." If Haraway means this in fact, these words express a profound ignorance of the physical, biological realities of which she is speaking.

Haraway seems to value the image of the cyborg as a transgressor of traditional limitations on what humans

are/can be. However, the cyborg does not transgress, but rather ultimately fulfills the aim of subjugating and objectifying humanity. It marries philosophical idealism and mere-appearance pop culture by producing an abstract inhuman ideal that reduces the ultimate mysteries of humanity and the natural world to something knowable and *designable*, that remakes flesh and heart/mind into hardware and software, subjecting human life to the same cycle of obsolescence and market dependency as any other commodity.

*If humans are, for instance, inevitably and naturally competitive, what's the use of fighting capitalism? If humans are inherently separate from the natural world, what's the use of defending Mother Earth? The only possible outcome to such a view would be a radical misanthropy, which if taken to its logical conclusion, becomes genocidal.*

Cyborgism is a logical concomitant and yet another conclusion of technological civilization as a whole, Newton's universe-as-clockwork, human-as-object: another link in another chain.

Real transgression of oppressive limitations requires more than merely images or myths. As Marx put it; "*Forms and products of consciousness cannot be dissolved by mental criticism... but only by the practical overthrow of the actual social relations.*"

Precisely here lies the instructive value of the cyborg. The objectification of the natural world cannot be complete unless and until the objectification of the self, and more specifically the *body*, is complete. The body is our constant reminder of an uncontrollable, undomesticated natural reality. It is an *actual social relation* that, because of its proximity and inescapability, continues despite all other conditioning to produce the impulse of wildness in each one of us. *Complete* subjection to market forces and the economy of domination will be impossible and even unthinkable as long as the body remains. Until it is made just another technology, until the scientific economies of control are applied to it in fundamental ways (such as those provided by genetic research and cloning), the body will remain a central symbol and physical exemplar of the physical.

This is the true nightmare posed by biotechnics: that it will forever change our definition of what it is to be human, that it will bring even the origination and development of the body under the manipulative gaze of the dispassionate specialist. That it will forever sever the last universal connection we share with harmonious disorder, spontaneous playful generation and elimination: life itself.

But just as transgression of the limitations *on* the exercise of power is dependent on material changes, so is

transgression of the limits *imposed* by the exercise of power. In other words, if we wish to remember to liberate the body

and return to Earth, we too must concentrate our efforts on the material world. We must undo their landscaping; change our physical lives and the setting thereof so that life is redefined as an intimate circle of spontaneous providence, intimate connection with provenance.

*Editors' note: Jeremiah Bowen is currently serving a two-year sentence for the attempted arson of a townhouse under construction in Boulder, Colorado (see our prisoner listing on page 68 for his contact information).*

# Dear Ned Ludd,

I've been reading about people taking direct action against agricultural biotechnology, and I must confess that I'm intrigued. How does one go about "crop-pulling?"

—SANDRA

Dear Sandra,

It just so happens that there is a wonderful publication called *The Nighttime Gardener: A Guide for the Shy Gardener in North America* which can answer all your questions. You can find it online via the Bioengineering Action Network (BAN) at [www.tao.ca/~ban](http://www.tao.ca/~ban) or write to [ban@tao.ca](mailto:ban@tao.ca) and order copies.

Sections include: Evening Attire for the Nighttime Gardener, the Nighttime Gardener's Toolbox, the Best Time to Go, How to Spot Your Crop, What to Do When You Get There, and Appendices. Wow, what a read!

I also want to share a few snippets about this very subject from a recent conversation I had with a brave cropper lass, who said, "It's really amazing how *easy* it is to sabotage a genetic engineering research crop. The test sites can be found through Internet research without much difficulty; the locations are usually remote or at least afford good access; and the actual "decontamination" process, though at times physically grueling, is straightforward, empowering and just good clean fun!"

She added that there are two critical elements to success: forethought and boldness. By the first she meant that people need to carefully consider every aspect of an action before carrying it out, from acquisition of tools to target selection to the entry/exit of a site. Regarding the second element, she said, "We think like guerrillas and strike where and when we are not expected... because of that, we own the night!" And so can you and your friends, Sandra.

—NED



The life of a GE crop-puller can be rough, but it does have its rewards.

I'm pretty upset about this whole genetic engineering business. It seems that these crazy scientists are hell-bent on twisting and manipulating Mother Nature no matter what the cost. I'm at the point where I'm ready to put a bit of heat on those jerks, if you know what I mean. How would I learn to do such a thing?

—FRANKLIN P.

Dear Franklin P.,

I think I know what you mean. It's pretty upsetting to read about how these fascist doctors are creating glow-in-the-dark monkeys and super-trees that can withstand massive doses of Monsanto's Roundup.

As you know, arson was a favorite tactic of mine along with equipment sabotage when our merry band struggled against the Industrial Revolution in England. At about the same time on this continent, Native Americans often used fire against US Army forts and outposts because it helped to level an uneven playing field. However, today, even in the Earth First! movement, setting inanimate objects aflame remains a controversial tactic. After the Earth Liberation Front (ELF) torched Vail, many folks were upset that the *EFJ* printed instructions on how to make incendiary devices. There is no consensus among EFLers on whether fire is an appropriate tool to use or not, much less where or when.

But Franklin, you are in luck because a publication has just appeared which seems to suit your needs. It's called, *Setting Fires with Electrical Timers—An ELF Guide*. The ELF website ([www.earthliberationfront.com](http://www.earthliberationfront.com)) claims that it covers "the politics and practicalities of arson. Down-to-earth advice and comprehensive how-to's about devices, fuel requirements, timers, security and more." Also on the same website you can find the old stand-by, "Arson-Around with Auntie ALF."

Incidentally, I recognize the irony of recommending that readers acquire materials on how to fight industrial society through the use of advanced technologies such as the Internet. I never thought that I, of all people, would be in that position. This should not be construed as an endorsement of industrial society, but rather a reflection on the technological trap we find ourselves in today.

Remember Franklin, arson is a very serious tactic to use. You may consider it an appropriate response to the destruction of our great, green Earth, and that's your call. But please consider carefully the strategy involved with its use, the validity of a target, the timing of a strike, the best way to communicate your message, the way an action may affect other activists/groups and definitely take every precaution to avoid causing physical harm to yourself or others.

Lastly, try and get your communiqué out by the *EFJ*'s print deadline so that we have something to cover!

—NED

*Dear Ned Ludd* has been an irregular column in the *EFJ* since the early '80s, and a compilation of entries became the notorious book *Ecodefense*. It serves as a forum for the discussion of creative and diverse means to effectively defend the Earth. Neither the EF! movement nor the *Earth First! Journal*, nor any of our friends, family, neighbors, lovers or pets necessarily encourage anyone to do the things discussed on this page, and the contents should not be legally construed as anything other than mindless entertainment. Please write to Ned via the *EFJ* with your top tips on ecodefense.



# WISE UP!

## to biotech!



### **GeneWise's first successful action**

was the disruption of a major agricultural biotechnology conference in Chicago. GeneWise activists nearly succeeded in setting up shop in a suite across the hall before biotech executives discovered their identity and pressured the sponsoring hotel to have them illegally thrown onto the street.

Not to be deterred, the well-organized upstarts staged a spirited and noisy protest in front of the Wyndham Hotel, while anxious members of the National Agricultural Biotechnology Council (NABC) peered nervously from the windows above.

*complete story inside*

Late in the summer of 1992 I was running with a company of Earth First!ers all up and down California's lost coast defending the last of the ancient Redwoods. On one particular foggy morning I got separated from my affinity group. I spent the better part of the day attempting to locate them. When dusk came I spotted a light deep under the old forest's canopy.

I approached the little wood home. I could hear singing coming from inside. Through the doorway a stocky man with yellow boots and a blue coat came to greet me, he soon invited me inside. We were in a long low room, filled with the light of amps swinging from beams of the roof; and on the table of dark polished wood stood many candles, tall and yellow, burning brightly.

I told him my tale and he laughed while offering me food and drink. We talked into the night about first the fate of the

forest and then the fate of the Earth. His name was Tom, Tom Bombadil. I asked Tom what he felt the biggest threat to the world was and he said in a word — biotechnology. It was the first time I had heard the term.

Tom began to explain not just the history of biotechnology and genetic engineering but the ancient history of how such technologies came to be in the world. I remember his tale well, "In a breath, humans, with their various techniques, gradually took the place of time: the labors of mortals replaced the work of time. Long ago in the symbols and rites accompanying metallurgical operations there came into being this idea of an active collaboration of man

and nature, and some followed the dark belief that man, by his work, was capable of superseding the process of nature. It was then only a matter of time before mineral substances, the bones of the Earth, had been emptied of their spiritual virtues and were made into inanimate objects — this was the moment that chemical science became possible."

I began to understand that the pursuit of 'science' had once been 'alchemical' and tied to social and deeply spiritual beliefs that tempered many harmful tendencies while still allowing for discovery. Tom went on to explain, as if he had witnessed it first hand, how mechanical, then chemical agriculture and then biotechnology came into existence, "You see it is the scale of values in our society which creates scientific phenomena. Biotechnology came into it's own only when life had shed its sacredness."

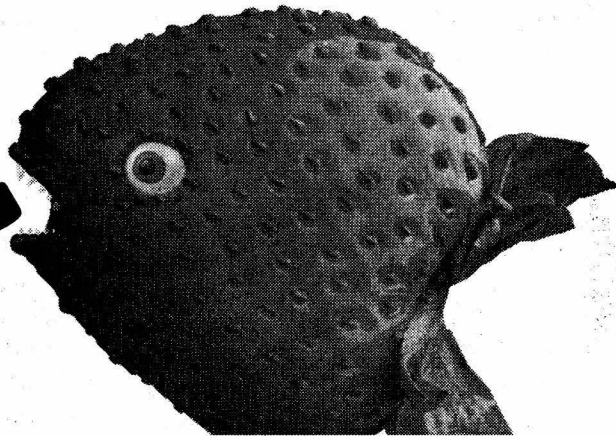
"I wish it need not have happened in my time," I said.

Tom's response stuck with me — "Nature", he said, "is sacred". Biotechnology will be resisted heavily wherever a culture still respects and understands the natural world. Remember that genetics has done far less to improve health than many people think. Not long ago, medical students learned almost no genetics. Today it is still irrelevant to treating the majority of diseases. The chance of using biotechnology to 'improve' nature and the human race has receded with every discovery made. Biotechnology is less like the exact science of physics and more like geography — a map that aids navigation of the terrain, but it doesn't explain how the mountains got there. This 'war of the genes' will be won with the destruction of the 'gene' concept, and it will come from people like you showing the world that life is more than just an odd assortment of genes, and it will also come from scientists who rediscover the connection between spirit and matter."

*by Samwise (Founding member of GeneWise)*

# In The House [of Tom Bombadil]

# [What is] Genetic Engineering



-Genetic Engineering is the agriculture industry's latest solution to the problems it has created with its previous solutions, namely pesticides. It is an expensive process in which certain genes or strands of DNA from one organism are inserted into the DNA sequence of another organism.

Genetic engineering works on an outdated understanding of the mechanics of DNA. Until recently it was believed that one gene had the instructions for one protein which produced the expression of a clearly isolatable phenotypic feature in the organism. Now we know that DNA is much more complex. The many various proteins that one gene codes for have everything to do with the chemistry of the cellular environment around it, the genes next to it, and the timing in the organism's life span. Moving one gene into a very different nucleic environment could make it behave in unpredictable ways.

Nonetheless, this has been done to all the major monocrop species — corn, wheat, soy, cotton and oilseed, and all of these except wheat have been planted extensively in the US since 1995. This is NOT traditional breeding, although the industry says it is no different, and US regulatory agencies like the FDA and the USDA have accepted this claim of "substantial equivalence." At the same time, the transnational corporations funding this enterprise do claim that their genetic creations are different enough to deserve patents and the US patent office has agreed with them.

Genetically modified foods are not labeled in the U.S., so even if someone has a bad reaction, there is no way to trace the cause. The effects on the environment are already becoming clear as uncontrollable GMO crops designed to resist herbicide are spreading and cross-pollinating to produce superweeds. Because of the centralized corporate food transport system, GMO seeds have contaminated every other crop supply, including organic, only five years after their introduction. No one has any idea who should be liable for health problems and genetic pollution caused by GMOs.

In addition to new crop varieties genetic engineering is being used to create new medicines, biological weapons, new bio-based industrial materials and animals with improved commercial features.

## [www.GEaction.org](http://www.GEaction.org)

GEAN — The Genetic Engineering Action Network — USA is a national network of grassroots activists, non-profits, academics, scientists, farmers and farm organizations all working on different aspects of the genetic engineering debate. GEAN seeks to support and further the work of those organizations and individuals working to address the dangers posed to the environment, biodiversity and human health, as well as the socioeconomic and ethical consequences of genetic engineering.

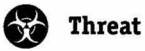
Please contact GEAN if you need support in your organizing efforts, are looking for resources or specific information, or if you want to affiliate with the network. — **617.661.6626**

## [www.GeneWise.org](http://www.GeneWise.org) —Healthy, Happy & Wise!

GeneWise is a Chicago-based grassroots organization of citizens and activists brought together out of concern for our health and environment and the detrimental affects of genetic engineering. Our immediate-term goals include public outreach, education, and coalition building. Direct action and media events are also included in our tactical toolbox. Our ultimate goal is to see a worldwide moratorium on all genetic engineering; this call for a moratorium is similar to the successful anti-nuclear movements of decades past. Like the anti-nuclear activists we believe dangerous technologies can be stopped and ultimately cleaned up.

by *Sweet-n-Wise*

# The Global Food Revolution



**Threat**



**Regulation**



**Action**

## NORTH AMERICA

### US

**Threat** | Researchers claim to have created, nearly 30 genetically engineered human children by taking genetic material from three different parents; these children could suffer the likelihood of rare genetic diseases

**Action** | The Center for Science in the Public Interest has posted on the Internet a database of over 1,100 professors and scientists who consult for or have other affiliations with chemical, gas, oil, food, drug, and other companies

**Threat** | Farm Verified Organic asserts that all organic grain is now contaminated with at least a trace of GE crops

**Action** | Activists Destroy GE Crops at Research Facility in Brentwood, CA

### State Level Regulations

**Maryland** – bans genetically engineered fish

**California** – legislators introduce a bill for mandatory labeling

**Vermont** – legislators introduce a bill for 1-yr moratorium on GE crops

**Minnesota** – legislators introduce 5-yr moratorium on GE crops, liability for corporations and mandatory labeling

**Michigan** – legislators introduce mandatory labeling bill

**West Virginia** – legislators introduce bill to ban GE foods from schools

**New York** – legislators introduce 5-yr moratorium on GE crops

### MEXICO

**Threat** | US government and commercial partners fund bioprospecting programing Chiapas over objections of local Mayans

**Regulations** | Largest tortilla producer, Maseca, bans GE corn

**Threat** | Government's official refusal of GE imports is not enforced

### CANADA

**Action** | Citizens destroy GE trees in British Columbia

## SOUTH AMERICA

### BRAZIL

**Regulations** | Several states ban GE crops. Now a major exporter of GE-free soy to Europe

**Action** | French farmer Jose Bove leads a group of 1300 in Landless Worker Movement to destroy Monsanto test site

### ARGENTINA

**Threat** | One of world's largest producers of GE foods

### ECUADOR

**Action** | The Ecuadorian government suspended a program that serves donated illegal GE soy products to children

## EUROPE

**Regulations** | European Patent Office grants patents to human stem cells

**Regulations** | EU bans all GE cotton

### UK

**Threat** | Royal Society reports that GE meat could be marketed in 10 years

**Regulations** | A 3-yr moratorium on the commercial planting of GM crops has just expired

**Action** | ActionAid launches a campaign to halt the development of a GM coffee

**Action** | 500 protesters destroy one of UK's largest GE crop field sites

**Regulations** | Ban on field tests of GM corn

### AUSTRIA

**Regulations** | Ban on GM corn. Supermarkets remove all GM products.

### FRANCE

**Regulations** | Ban on import and sale of GM oil seed products; Meat and poultry industry bans GM animal feed

### GERMANY

**Regulations** | Ban on cultivation of GM corn; Major food manufacturers and retailers ban GM products

**Action** | Greenpeace helps farmer destroy 5 hectares of illegal GE oil seed

### GREECE

**Regulations** | Ban on cultivation and experimentation with 7 GM food crops

**Action** | Government destroys cotton fields after Greenpeace reveals widespread contamination by illegal GE variety

### ITALY

**Regulations** | Ban on 7 GM crops

### CZECHOSLOVAKIA

**Regulations** | All GM products must be labeled as safe before entering country

### SWITZERLAND

**Regulations** | First country in Europe to set a tolerance standard for GE contamination of food — at 1%; Field trials forbidden

### NORWAY

**Regulations** | Ban on all GE foods and crops

### SPAIN

**Regulations** | Largest supermarket chain bans GE foods

## AFRICA

### MALAWI

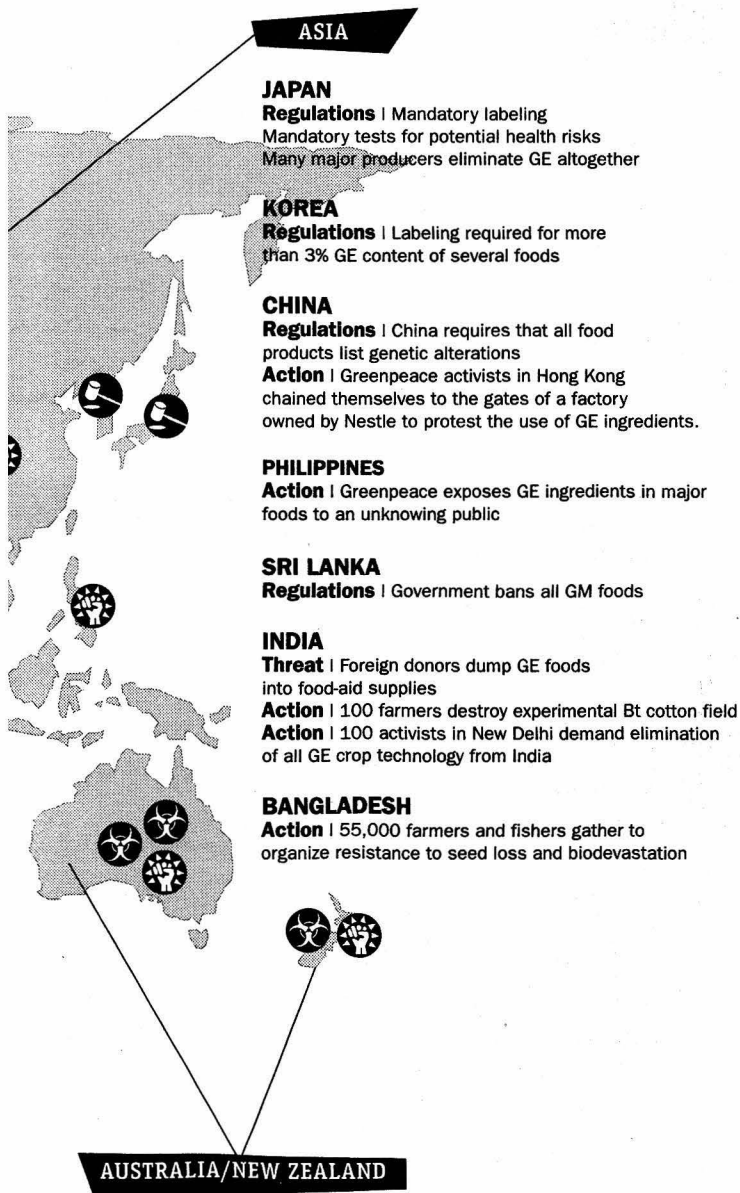
**Threat** | Seed dumping jeopardizes food security and agricultural biodiversity

### SOUTH AFRICA

**Threat** | Government sells rights to genetic resources of many unique plants to US-based Ball Horticultural Company

### NIGERIA

**Regulations** | Government pleads with UN Codex Alimentarius to require labeling on GM foods



## ASIA

### JAPAN

**Regulations** | Mandatory labeling  
Mandatory tests for potential health risks  
Many major producers eliminate GE altogether

### KOREA

**Regulations** | Labeling required for more than 3% GE content of several foods

### CHINA

**Regulations** | China requires that all food products list genetic alterations  
**Action** | Greenpeace activists in Hong Kong chained themselves to the gates of a factory owned by Nestle to protest the use of GE ingredients.

### PHILIPPINES

**Action** | Greenpeace exposes GE ingredients in major foods to an unknowing public

### SRI LANKA

**Regulations** | Government bans all GM foods

### INDIA

**Threat** | Foreign donors dump GE foods into food-aid supplies  
**Action** | 100 farmers destroy experimental Bt cotton field  
**Action** | 100 activists in New Delhi demand elimination of all GE crop technology from India

### BANGLADESH

**Action** | 55,000 farmers and fishers gather to organize resistance to seed loss and biodevastation

## AUSTRALIA/NEW ZEALAND

**Threat** | New Zealand's Forest Research Agency working with Monsanto and Shell on Terminator trees  
**Threat** | First pigs to be cloned in program to create pigs suitable as organ donors to humans  
**Threat** | Human genes are inserted into cattle to produce GE milk  
**Regulations** | Food Standards Council calling for mandatory labeling  
**Threat** | Grain Pool announces that GE-free grain supply is impossible  
**Action** | "Mothers Against GE" uproot experimental GE crops  
**Action** | "Wild Greens" group uproot potatoes engineered with frog genes

## What is the Bioengineering Action Network (BAN)?

BAN is an up-to-date international online resource providing individuals and organizations with how-to information, research assistance, action reports and materials related to the direct action struggle against genetic engineering (GE).

BAN is unequivocally opposed to the commodification of life, the genetic manipulation of plants and animals and capitalist greed which fuels the bioengineering industry. BAN supports non-violent direct action aimed at stopping the industry from moving forward.

BAN provides information online at [www.tao.ca/~ban](http://www.tao.ca/~ban); runs an email list for activists to share information and news (subscribe to the BAN list by going to <http://lists.tao.ca>); and offers a distribution service for literature on GE issues, including a "Nighttime Gardeners Guide." Contact [ban@tao.ca](mailto:ban@tao.ca) for more info.

## BAN also works with the Genetix Alert Press Office (GAPO)

GAPO is the voice for anti-GE direct action in the mainstream media. Anonymous communiqués received by the press office are communicated to the media by spokespeople for GAPO—thus protecting the identity of those direct action heroes who risk arrest for their actions. GAPO supports all non-violent direct action which can include (but is not limited to) crop destruction and property damage.

BAN and GAPO are always looking for activists willing to do direct action support and media speaking. Contact GAPO at: [genetixalert@tao.ca](mailto:genetixalert@tao.ca) or phone (901) 438-9907.

## Recent actions that have received support from BAN and GAPO include:

*May 16, 2001* - Brentwood, California: Anti-biotech direct actionists destroy transgenic strawberry, tomato, and onion plants at the DNA Plant Technology research facility.

*March 23, 2001* - Oregon State University (OSU), Corvallis: Three GE test sites where poplar and cottonwood trees are being grown by Steve Strauss, a forestry professor and founder of the Tree Genetic Engineering research cooperative, were targeted. In all, over 1200 GE research trees were destroyed.

*October 9, 2000* - University of California, Berkeley: Activists calling themselves **Green Streets** destroy a 1/2 acre test plot of GE corn. This was the fifth action in three years which destroyed corn at UC-Berkeley.

*August 26, 2000* - University of California, San Diego: Activists calling themselves the **Ninos del Maiz** decontaminated one acre of GE maize and the contents of four greenhouses containing rice, maize, arabidopsis, tomatoes, and tobacco.

**Practice Active  
Security Culture!**  
<http://security.tao.ca>





# WISE UP to biotech!

[continued]

The crowd of around one hundred listened to impassioned speeches from Canadian canola farmer Percy Schmeiser, as well as other angry farmers from Illinois and Wisconsin, and a scientist from Consumer's Union. GeneWise activists, aided by artists from the radical puppetmaking group Art and Revolution also performed a passionate street theatre drama featuring a retelling of Percy Schmeiser's story using more than a dozen elaborate puppets including a ten-foot tall Schmeiser and a 15-foot tall demon known as the Dark Lord of Monsanto.

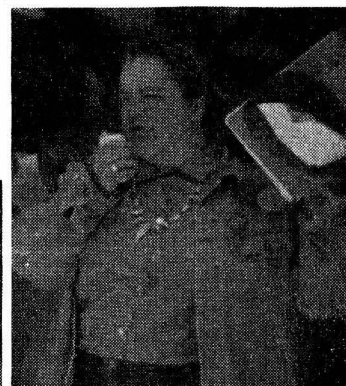
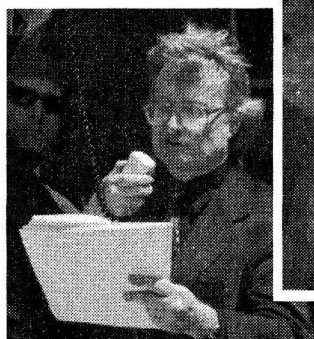
GeneWise had signed a contract with the Wyndham Hotel to use a large room right in the middle of the NABC confab. The hotel staff had been working closely with members of GeneWise until less than 24 hours before they were to occupy the room, when a hotel clerk hastily stammered an unlikely story about having rented the room out to another tenant, Novartis, months before. The lie was

all the more apparent after spies from GeneWise who had infiltrated the conference remarked that the room was only minimally used as an impromptu lounge for conventioners.

News of the protest was broadcast on farm reports over dozens of radio and TV stations across North America, and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) even picked up the protest.

An attendee of the NABC conference, speaking anonymously, admitted that the protesters raised issues that the biotech industry has failed to address. "The industry has relied on the mantras, "this food is safe" and "this food will feed the world." There are no answers coming out of [this conference] to charges of genetic drift, crop contamination, super pests, and the liabilities over personal damages to farmers."

by Counter-Clockwise



**RESISTANCE  
GROWS WITH  
FARMERS' HELP**  
FROM TOP  
TO BOTTOM:

**EDITH GALLOWAY**, ILLINOIS CONVENTIONAL FARMER;  
**MICHAEL HANSEN PhD**, CONSUMER POLICY  
INSTITUTE; **SOPHIA SUHU**, GENEWISE ORGANIZER;  
**TOM ULLICK**, WISCONSIN ORGANIC FARMER.

# Monsanto Bullies Small Farmers

With Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) agricultural supply giants like Monsanto promised farmers high yields with low inputs (industrial fertilizer, pesticide and herbicide — all expensive). On top of the cost of purchasing the seed, farmers had to pay a technology fee — \$7 to \$15 per acre, signifying that they were only leasing the technology from Monsanto, and they had to agree to use only Monsanto chemicals on the crops. They also had to sign a contract promising NOT to save the seed for next year's planting, and not to share, trade or sell any of the seed, all things farmers have done since the dawn of agriculture. They also had to agree to let Monsanto's thugs inspect their land and test their crop for years after the purchase (to see if they had saved seeds) and to inspect their books.

But Monsanto has not just inspected the land and harvest of farmers who purchase their seeds and signed their extortion agreement. They have inspected the fields of farmers who never bought Monsanto seed. If their tests showed positive for GMOs, they sent the farmer a letter threatening to sue them over patent infringement unless the farmer paid them a large fee — \$28,000 is an average — AND agreed never to disclose the terms of the settlement to anyone!

Joe Mendelson an attorney at the Center for Food Safety recently confirmed that Monsanto currently has over 475 cases outstanding against farmers concerning non-payment for usage of genetically engineered seed. What we have to understand about farmers today is that they are desperate and running scared. It's very hard for the average conventional farmer to refuse the promises of these firms or to stand up to their extortion — farmers need your help! [www.farmaid.org](http://www.farmaid.org)

by *Otherwise*

## RESOURCES

### ACTION INFORMATION

[www.bio-integrity.org](http://www.bio-integrity.org)  
[www.infoshop.org/biotechwatch.html](http://www.infoshop.org/biotechwatch.html)  
[www.thecampaign.org](http://www.thecampaign.org)  
[www.keepnatural.org](http://www.keepnatural.org)  
[www.edmonds-institute.org/](http://www.edmonds-institute.org/)  
[www.biotechcentury.org](http://www.biotechcentury.org)  
[www.safe-food.org](http://www.safe-food.org)  
[www.peopesearth.org](http://www.peopesearth.org)  
[www.worldwatch.org/biotech/](http://www.worldwatch.org/biotech/)  
[www.corpwatch.org](http://www.corpwatch.org)  
[www.GeneWise.org](http://www.GeneWise.org)  
[www.GEaction.org](http://www.GEaction.org)

### TAKE ACTION!

[www.biodev.org](http://www.biodev.org)  
[www.tao.ca/~ban](http://www.tao.ca/~ban)

[www.tao.ca/~ban/grainrage.htm](http://www.tao.ca/~ban/grainrage.htm)  
[www.nwrags.org](http://www.nwrags.org)  
[www.primalseeds.org](http://www.primalseeds.org)  
[www.foe.co.uk/camps/foodblo/](http://www.foe.co.uk/camps/foodblo/)  
[www.grain.org](http://www.grain.org)  
[www.greenpeace.org/~ganeng/](http://www.greenpeace.org/~ganeng/)  
[www.resistancelfertile.com](http://www.resistancelfertile.com)  
[www.iatp.com](http://www.iatp.com)  
[www.foodfirst.org](http://www.foodfirst.org)  
[www.twinside.org.sg/](http://www.twinside.org.sg/)

### SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

[www.gks.com](http://www.gks.com)  
[www.csa-efc.org](http://www.csa-efc.org)  
[www.sustainableagriculture.net](http://www.sustainableagriculture.net)  
[www.ota.com](http://www.ota.com)

# Percy "Wise" Schmeiser

Percy Schmeiser is a canola farmer in Bruno, Saskatchewan; Canada. He has been farming canola for over 40 years. He has employed techniques of natural cross breeding to develop a herbicide resistant canola, and he saves his seeds year after year, a tradition practiced by farmers all over the world. In 1997 Monsanto sued him for having their seed on his property. The judge since then has ruled against Schmeiser for patent infringement and he is forced to pay \$105,000 to Monsanto. He has already spent his retirement funds, \$200,000 on his lawsuit. The next day, Schmeiser launched a \$10 million lawsuit against Monsanto, accusing the company of a variety of wrongs, including libel, trespass and contamination of his fields with Roundup Ready. He has since become a folk hero in North America and his mythic resistance is spreading across the American corn belt. [www.PercySchmeiser.com](http://www.PercySchmeiser.com)

by *Sweet-n-Wise* *Earth First! Journal* BLANK WALL—SPECIAL INSERT  
[WWW.EARTHFIRSTJOURNAL.ORG](http://WWW.EARTHFIRSTJOURNAL.ORG)

# death of a thousand cuts

## strategies of resistance

"You will hear today all that you need in order to understand the purposes of the Enemy. There is naught that you can do, other than to resist, with hope or without it. But you do not stand alone."

We all sat at a very long table. The purpose of our council was to discuss recent discoveries made about biotech's strategy to counter the world's rising safe food movements. The mood was intoxicated by reports that we had infiltrated their ranks. Listen now, and pull what you can for your purposes, the time for action is at hand.

Biotech has been busy of late securing defenses for a new campaign that will target the consumer. Part of their plan has been to build a base of support within the chains of supermarkets by making "biotech's problem" the food industry's problem. Gene Grabowski, VP, Communications, Grocery Manufacturers of America put it to supermarkets recently this way, "Up to 70% of the processed food that's now in the supermarket may contain biotech ingredients." He took the room by surprise and shock - these were national retail food outlets and they were concerned. "Every day when we see more news stories on the issue and people speaking out against biotechnology, we have to consider our involvement with biotech foods and whether it's possible to turn back on biotech...we clearly have a stake

in biotechnology."

People at our table quickly put forth ideas for action. "Supermarkets have customer service counters with postcards that are already postmarked. People should be encouraged to fill these out with phone book accuracy demanding that biotech foods not be carried or at least labeled. It gives the public an outlet for action," suggested Pennywise.

Biotech has also been busy securing the ranks of the FDA with their minions. Monsanto and other biotech giants harvest employees from within the FDA. It is also no surprise that the FDA has ex-biotech executives working for them. The industry is well aware that what has saved them from a US revolt on biotech is the strength of the public's belief in the FDA. "Frankenfood and Death Administration," was the common cry around our table - erode the public's trust in the FDA.

The biotech industry is troubled by the public's perception of them: Grabowski, "One of the problems has been that the advantages of biotech are perceived as going to the farmers and NOT the consumers. That message needs to change." David Stark, VP, Industry Affairs, Monsanto added, "in terms of consumer benefits from biotechnology, we found that there are three main messages that resonate with consumers in the United States. One is the use of less pesticide, the second is the fact that it can help feed the world, and the third that more and better nutrition is better for people."

Gary Breissinger, VP, global customer business development, Procter & Gamble, summed it up

with, "It's hard to worry about world hunger and farm subsidies when "what's in it for me" is the basis of consumer marketing. What's in it for the consumer? Whether it's an articulated need that they recognize today or an unarticulated need that has yet to be discovered - that's the crux of the proposition. It seems to me that the industry has not found the one unarticulated need that's going to resonate with consumers and MAKE them say, yes, I want that because the benefits are more valuable than what I perceive to be the risks associated with biotechnology." Monsanto has set loose upon the land an army of PR flaks to find the "one unarticulated need" of the consumer, that one "concept of the gene" that will give them total control.

*Further Reading:*  
Manheim, Jarol B. "The Death of a Thousand Cuts: Corporate Campaigns and the Attack on the Corporation." published by Lawrence Erlbaum Assoc. in 2001.

### Biotech's "Strengths"

- Hides Behind FDA
- 70% of Processed Food in Supermarkets Are Biotech
- 100% Organic is No Longer Possible on Large Scale

### Biotech's Flash Points

- Monsanto - Negative with Public
- The Patenting of Life
- The names "Biotechnology," "GE," and "GMO" mean "unnatural"

### Biotech's Stratagem

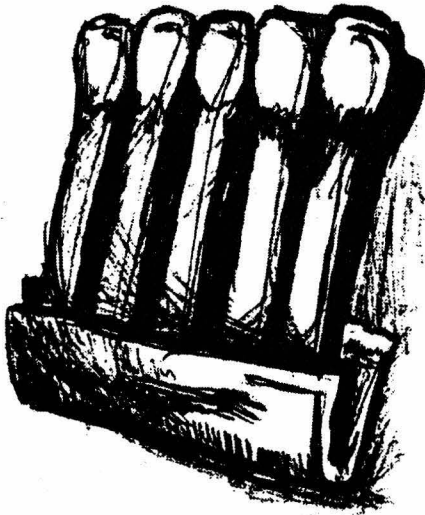
- Food Industry To Sell GE Food Through Fantasy
- Future Ad Campaign - "Partnership With Nature"
- Consumers "Want it All" - Medical & Food Biotech
- Biotech Scientists Told To Be Educators NOT Advocates
- "Unethical Argument" That Holding Back Technologies is Bad

- "Benefits to the Farmer" Shifts to "Benefits to the Consumer"
- Turn Farmers into Serfs Through Patents and Lawsuits

### Safe Food Stratagem

- Constantly Raise New Issues That Force the Biotech Community to Respond - "Patents on Life."

- Erode Cultural Support Structures By Broadcasting Cultural Oppositions To Biotech - Like the Catholic Church
- Expose Recent FDA Scandals and Erode the Public's Trust in the FDA
- Bring Secondary Pressure on Biotech's Financial Arrangements By Targeting Global Retail Food Partners and Financial Institutions



## Investigation of Phoenix Arsons Heats Up

Since January 1998, 11 homes have been torched near the Phoenix Mountains Preserve and the McDowell Sonoran Preserve in Scottsdale, Arizona. The total damage is estimated at more than \$5 million.

After months of relative silence since the last preserve arson in January, police arrested Mark Sands on April 20. It is alleged that Sands defaced a sign at a construction site near an unfinished house which had previously been burned twice. Police witnessed Sands writing "CSP" on the sign, and he was arrested at his house

shortly thereafter. CSP is known as the Coalition to Save the Preserves and has claimed responsibility for the preserve arsons in a protest against urban sprawl.

Authorities have been careful to not label Sands a suspect, rather stating that anyone arrested at midnight in the neighborhoods near the preserves would be considered an "investigative lead." Sands was questioned for 12 hours before being released.

Neighbors say Sands was aware of police surveillance in the area and had told them he spoke with an undercover officer stationed near his house. They question why he would deface the sign when he knew the police were watching.

In an unusual move, Sands' initial appearance was closed to the public at the request of the Phoenix Police Department. After being released on condition that he must check in with a pre-trial services officer and stay away from the scene of the crime, his preliminary hearing was canceled. No

criminal charges against Sands have been filed at this time.

Sources close to the investigation suggest that all is not free and clear for Sands just yet. The authorities, in this case a collaborative effort between the FBI, Phoenix Police and Fire Departments, are still questioning his neighbors, friends and family members.

Hardly a poster boy of the radical environmental movement, the news media was abuzz after Sands' arrest, speculating what an unlikely suspect he makes. Sands is a 49-year-old self-employed marketing consultant who also serves as the vice president of a Phoenix neighborhood association. He worked as a spokesperson for the Arizona Department of Education in the mid-'90s and later with two different health care organizations. Sands is active in a Bible study group, and his only public crusade has been an attempt to purchase new playground equipment in his neighborhood. He lives near the Phoenix Mountains Preserve and likes to use the hiking trails.

### Frontlines

#### Kenyans Clash Over Threatened Forests

In early May, a skirmish on the edge of the Kaptagat Forest in central Kenya saw a man lash his whip down hard on a youth wearing a "Save our Forests" t-shirt. Soon a mob started throwing rocks at a busload of environmental activists from Kenya's Green Belt Movement, trying to keep them from reaching a patch of threatened woodland. After a rock smashed a window, and blood streamed from a passenger's head, the busload of visitors headed elsewhere to expose forest destruction. This was just one battle in a much larger dispute fighting to preserve what is left of Kenya's forests.

The conflict peaked when the government issued a plan in February to log seven percent of Kenya's total forest cover to house landless farmers.

"There's something that the administration there is hiding," said Green Belt activist Wangari Maathai. "We are dealing with very corrupt and greedy people."

"It's not even corruption like stealing from the bank, this is stealing from the present and from the future," said Maathai.

The mob that attacked the Green Belt bus shouted at visitors that the forest was a zone reserved for KANU—the party that has ruled Kenya since independence in 1963. Maathai bears no grudge against the mob, instead directing her ire against politicians she said hired the men to keep their exploitation of the forest a secret.

#### ELF Burns Ross Island Sand and Gravel Cement Trucks in Portland

The April 15 arson of two cement trucks was claimed by the Earth Liberation Front (ELF). In their communiqué the ELF warns, "If Ross Island Sand and Gravel mines in the Columbia River Gorge, then the ELF will take necessary action. Let this be a warning to all the greedy corporations who exploit our Earth's natural resources, especially those who do it under the FTAA and the title of 'free trade'."

In recent years Ross Island Sand and Gravel have made headlines in Oregon for their environmentally destructive practices, including the dredging of toxic disposal cells. The ELF communiqué continued, "In their Easter basket we decided to leave four containers with gasoline and a time-delayed fuse placed under two of their cement trucks."

# BLAST FROM THE PAST

## Hey, There! What's that Sound?

# EARTH FIRST!

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 21, 1982  
SUMMER SOLSTICE



LITHA EDITION  
Vol. II, No. VI

BY PETE DUSTRUD

*This article originally appeared in the June-July 1982 Earth First! Journal.*

It is summer. Each day as the sun burns bright, the warmth moves to higher places. Little by little, the mountain soil releases more moisture, nurturing nature's wonders. The forest is not quiet; it is alive with sound and movement. Millions of songs fill the air—birds, insects, the wind on the treetops and the gushing streams—all playing their melodies by the rhythm of the Earth. Nothing is lost here, nothing is taken without being returned. The largest creatures give back to the smallest. Everything here, right down to the last drop of water, the most hidden spider, the smallest patch of lichen, takes its part in the great cycle. Between these sounds, this chorus of life, there is another phenom-

enon permeating every nook and cranny in the universe. It too can be heard, but one must listen well.

It is the silence.

Today it is very quiet. The silence is broken by only faint whispers. As the day grows hotter, the silence grows thicker. What is wrong? Where are we? Is this a dream? No, this is the Gros Ventre range of Wyoming. And today, every creature is intently listening because they have never heard this sound before. Far off it comes—plodding, thumping, churning and banging: Metallic beasts of destruction have entered the lower hills and are slowly, but steadily, inching their way up Little Granite Creek, smashing, killing, laying waste, devouring everything in the way.

Oh, they have done this elsewhere.

What was once virgin wilderness, thriving with nature's abundance, is now scarred and festering, riddled with cancerous tumors of the humans' making. Like a patient, infected with cancer, the malignancy only grows larger and more lethal. Before enough antibodies can come to the defense, the organism is dying.

But, as it has been said, life is tough and death is easy. The noise at the bottom of the mountain gets louder. As it does, millions of heartbeats on the mountain quicken. An old grizzly bear suddenly gives up trying to catch her fat trout and disappears into thicker cover. All around the path of the invaders, animals scatter to seek refuge, much like they do when a fire comes. Unlike fires, however, the noisy clamoring bulldozers are relentless: They

## Frontlines

### Korean Environmentalist Employs Treesit

Park Yong-shin shouts, "Stop destroying the forest!" at a Korea Land Corporation's (Koland) construction site. From a treesit perch, eight meters off the ground, Park hopes to stop development on Mount Daeji by Koland. Park is an activist with the Citizens' Movement for Environmental Justice.

After building a hut in the tree with a wooden board, Park moved in on April 29. He says that he will continue his protest until Koland promises to cancel the entire development project and preserve nearly 40,000 square meters of forest on Mount Daeji.

### Anniversary of Brazilian Massacre Marked by Protests

Across Brazil, nationwide protests marked the fifth anniversary of one of Brazil's bloodiest land disputes. On April 17, 1996, police clashed with nearly 2,000 landless peasants in the eastern Amazon town of

Eldorado dos Carajas, killing 19 and wounding 69.

Although 156 policemen were indicted for the killings, only three officers have gone to trial—and were acquitted for lack of evidence. The verdict later was overturned. A new trial is expected next month.

"Landless workers are renewing their offensive against the government," said Joao Pedro Stedile, a leader of the movement. More than 1,000 Brazilians have lost their lives in land disputes over the past decade, according to the Land Pastoral, a Roman Catholic group that advocates land reform.

In the northeastern city of Recife, protesters planted 19 crosses in a grassy downtown area to honor the victims of Eldorado dos Carajas. Hundreds of workers marched through the downtown financial district in São Paulo. Some waved flags and banners that read: "Massacre—Never Again." A bridge linking Brazil to Argentina was briefly blocked by hundreds of farmworkers in the far southern city of Uruguaiana, where protests were also held outside the local offices of Italian dairy giant Parmalat against food imports and excessive profits for multinational companies.

In the midwestern city of Campo Grande, protesters broke windows and threw eggs at a McDonald's restaurant, a favorite symbol of a globalized economy.

keep coming and will do so until they reach a pristine, alpine saddle, far up on the mountain. There, they will bring up other weapons to tear a deep hole out of the life-giving Earth. Like a hideous vampire, this mechanized bloodsucker will stab deep into the soil and rock in search of the decayed remains of creatures long gone.

Once oil is found, the pumps will pull from the Earth as much oil and gas as is demanded by the desperate power-mongers in charge of the invading machinery.

Thousands of miles away, in a vinyl and chrome-plated toilet stall, an insidious shell of what was once a being resembling the human variety, will let off an extra cackle or two, as he, James G. Watt, muses over his "divine" duty, and tomorrow will call the rape of the Gros Ventre "wise management."

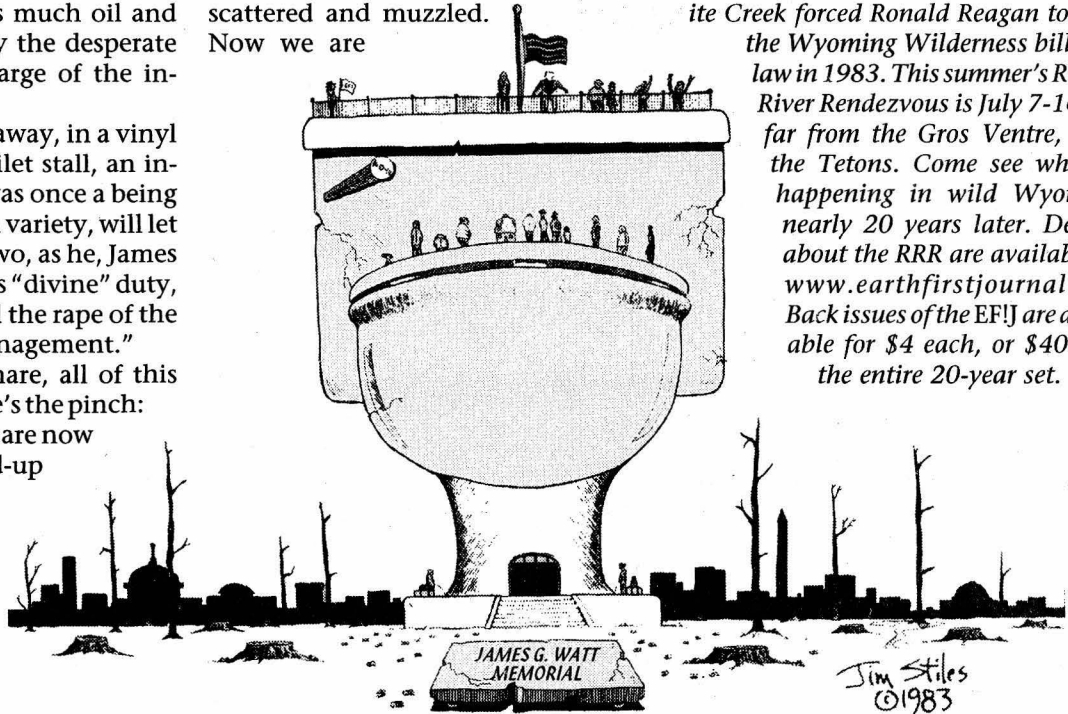
Like a nasty nightmare, all of this could happen, but here's the pinch: It won't, because there are now enough concerned, fed-up and active humans, who are loosely united under one banner (not a national one, but a planetary one), who are drawn to that strong impulse and concern: the

Earth's survival. We are not, and the Earth is not, alive because of profits first, nor because of power first, greed first, progress first or war first—we are alive due to the Earth first—always have been, always will be. We are Earth First!ers! The survival of this one and only planet we have is what counts.

There have always been people like us, but our voices have often been scattered and muzzled. Now we are

coming out of the woodwork, as it were. We need no convincing, no one has to give us sermons, or tell us what to think and do. The score is pretty damn obvious. Our planet is being destroyed by humans, so it must be saved by humans. If we don't save her, who will?

*Editors' Note: A successful campaign to save the Gros Ventre and Little Granite Creek forced Ronald Reagan to sign the Wyoming Wilderness bill into law in 1983. This summer's Round River Rendezvous is July 7-16 not far from the Gros Ventre, near the Tetons. Come see what is happening in wild Wyoming nearly 20 years later. Details about the RRR are available at [www.earthfirstjournal.org](http://www.earthfirstjournal.org). Back issues of the EF!J are available for \$4 each, or \$400 for the entire 20-year set.*



## Frontlines

### Twenty-Eight Rabbits Rescued from California Lab

The Animal Liberation Front (ALF) has claimed responsibility for liberating 28 rabbits from a vivisection lab in Castroville, California. ICRC Company was targeted in the early morning hours of April 28, marking the end of World Week for Animals in Laboratories.

The raid operated under the cover of darkness to rescue the animals. In a communiqué released by the ALF Press Office, the activists described how they cut through a perimeter fence, avoided motion detector sensors and broke into the facility while the caretakers were watching television in a building next door.

ALF spokesperson David Barbarash concurred with the ALF activists that these rabbits "live their lives in agony and are then murdered under the guise of 'science'."

"Whether this lab is conducting toxicology experiments for chemicals and pesticides, or whether they are conducting medical or psychological research, experimenting on sentient animals is abhorrent and immoral," stated Barbarash.

### Vancouver Teddy Bear Direct Action

On May 4, approximately 25 teddy bears, supported by a dozen humans, held a teddy bear picnic in the offices of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) in downtown Vancouver, British Columbia. They were part of an affinity group known as the Vancouver Teddy Bear Brigade.

The direct action teddy bears arrived complete with a miniature, yet functional, catapult, which launched the smaller bears through the air. It was a festive yet serious picnic. They clarified to the employees present that they were nonviolent and were not upset at them as people, just at DFAIT and the judicial system.

The teddy bears demanded the immediate release of the six political prisoners still in jail in Quebec City as a result of the Summit of the Americas. One of the prisoners, Jaggi Singh, was violently kidnapped off the street by cops disguised as "protesters" who threw him in a mini van. The police accused him of being in possession of weapon for dangerous purposes, a weapon that was in fact a giant catapult used to throw teddy bears over the infamous Quebec City Wall, with which Singh had no link whatsoever.

This was the bears first nonviolent direct action, but the teddy bears announced, "We will be back!"

# ARMED WITH VISIONS

## COYOTE WAITS

**You use my land  
For your abodes,  
Bulldoze canyons  
To build toll roads,**

**Create airports  
For sonic jets,  
So I go down  
And eat your pets.**

**—Patricia Hobbs Hendry**

## ODE TO ANWR

*I am wolf.  
I am caribou.  
I am the circle and the blossom  
And the unfolding dance.  
I am the rich red life-giving blood  
And the Tundra's summer passion.  
Spirit of the tundra,  
Lightning midnight  
With your flickering magic,  
Give me a cave  
in your high alpine meadows  
And I will walk the skies for you  
On floating clouds of wildflowers  
And I will tend your thick brown bogs  
And shepherd your children  
And when summer fades  
I will merge my bones  
With fur and feather and petal.  
— Mary de La Valette*

## CUTTIN FENCE

Out here in the wild New West  
I like to do what I do best  
I tried it once and ever since  
When I go out I'm cuttin Fence

The bobbed wire stretches across the land  
But it don't stop the blowin sand  
Or dust, for the rest of us  
For hence, when I go out I'm cuttin Fence

The cow is King in this dustbowl castle  
And all their pies are a gawl damned hassle  
It'd take years in Congress to clean it all up  
And so I opt for a quick shortcut, cuttin Fence

Some say "Cuttin Fence, what will that do?"  
I yell "Hey the range ain't no goddamned zoo"

Let freedom reign from mount to sea  
And let them shit-smear'd cows roam free

Free with the coyote the cat and the wolf  
And may padded paw outrun slow hoof  
For the range was meant for the wild and free  
A truth welfare ranchers will never see

So when you're out on our public land  
Have them cutters close at hand  
And keep in mind, it just makes sense  
To always keep on cuttin fence.

—Porcupine Slim

Send poems to:  
Warrior Poets Society  
POB 14501  
Berkeley, CA 94712-5501

**CLEAR AS CUT GLASS**

*and just as dangerous*

## AT CONEY ISLAND

on the pier  
creosote and salt weighing on small breeze  
raw immigrants netting crabs with crude nets  
celebrating when hoisting a blue crab  
marbled watercolor and tinged with orange  
an edible creature  
and the color the water should be

more times than not,  
nets hold the mud-brown spider crab  
the color of Coney Island water  
disgusted  
the crabbers trounce these animals  
or cast them on the dock  
to die

young Julia, Kora and Ben and I start  
rescuing the mud ones  
picking them up and plopping them  
back to their home

razor looks  
from Puerto Rican and Eastern European faces  
heat of Spanish is upon me  
and the spiky language of the Ukraine  
i hesitate

but my children innocent to the out-pouring  
of strange words rescue spider crabs from little boys  
they exchange glances  
they can't exchange words  
paralysis creeps into our efforts

then Saint Francis appears  
crow's feet around her wide eyes  
tight dark hair and bronze skin  
in the form of an old woman  
renting the tension with a voice like a stone

*"No asa esol Es un animal!"*  
cloaked in her anger and shouts  
we keep grabbing the undesirables  
and putting them into the ocean  
fear and mud on our soft hands

—David Albano

Send poems to:  
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Berkeley, CA 94712-5501

## LIFE IS A KISSING BUG

My memory taunts  
Staring out (barely  
Cracked) windows, such  
Onslaught of Memories  
Gnawing at my innards  
Red brick, vintage buildings  
Gray March Sky I  
Distance my thoughts who  
Travel where the body cannot  
The buzzards that flew once  
Overhead scavenge from  
Old tree stump, climb  
The extending (aspen) embrace  
Oh, how the grip of mountains  
Greets me, like misty tears  
Or winter breath and  
Calming effect of love  
Unveiled, softening of souls

I.

Once might rest my hands  
On bark of pine, spine of  
My dreams and distance

LISTEN!

The wind dies not in  
Din of human voice,

But

Come back you fool  
No time for such  
Romantic reveries  
The bohemian life  
Awaits you.

II.

I do not want it.

III.

Summer is coming  
And budding old oaks  
With skies increasing blue  
LIFE IS A BITCH, they  
Say, life is a dog,  
And then you die,  
—Close but no cigar,  
As the saying claims,  
life is a howling coyote  
Running free under  
Skies of the west  
and Life is a Kissing  
Bug, in all its poison or  
The Horned Owl, nature  
Red in tooth and claw,  
Life is a Mexican  
Wolf, once again  
Into the arms of  
A hungry, hugging GRIZZ—  
And THEN you die

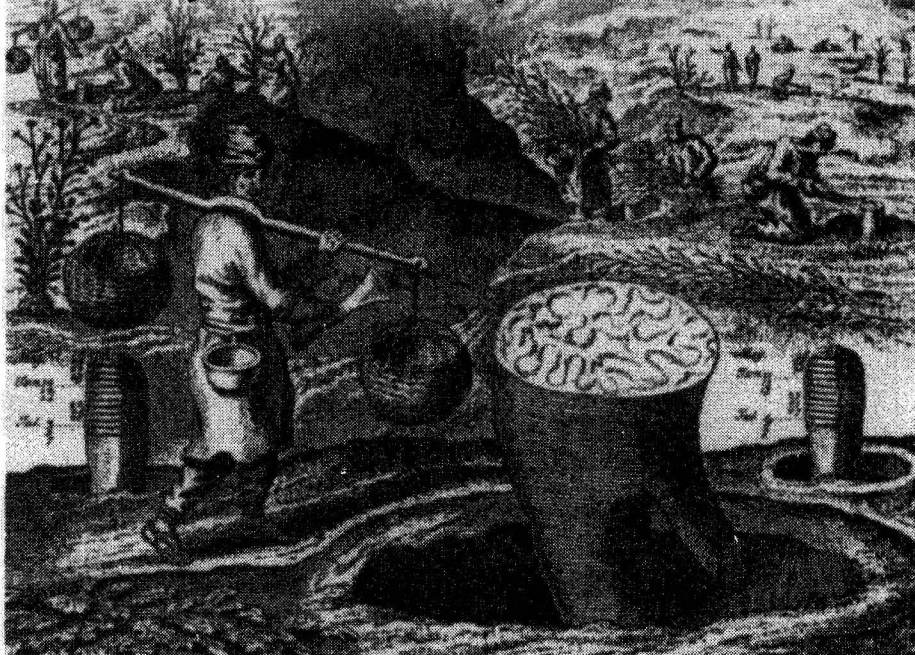
But what a way to go

—Klin Lapisardi



# Anarcho-herbalism

## Thoughts on Healing and Revolution



BY LAUREL LUDDITE

My medicine chest is a council of bioregions, with representatives gathered together as I make my way around the world west of the Rocky Mountains. The coptis root was picked out of the churned-up scar left by an excavator, at the retreating edge of the Idaho wilderness. The tiny amount of pipsissewa leaves came from an ancient grove above the Klamath River just feet away from where the district ranger sat on a stump talking about his plans to cut it all down. I am drying nettles from the California creek where salmon die in the silt left after a century of industrial logging.

Every jar holds a story—often a ghost story of dying ecosystems and places gone forever. I am honored to have known the plants in their homes and to have studied their uses as medicine. But for people not inclined to roam throughout the wilds, purchased herbal preparations such as tinctures may be the link back to this sort of healing.

Like so much in this consumerist society, it is easy to ignore the connections between a bottle on a store's shelf and a living, growing plant out in the world somewhere. It can be hard to know if the plant grows a mile away or

on another continent. There is much to be said for reconnecting, for educating ourselves about the herbs we use and for gathering our own medicine when we can. That's how we will be able to build a new system of healing—one that can support our movement away from the corporate power structure that medicine has become.

The development of a new medical system, or the recovery of ancient models, will be another link in our safety net when industrialism fails. It will keep us alive and kicking out windows. Many people don't even have access to industrial medicine. Anarcho-herbalism will re-establish our connection to the real medicine that is the Earth.

### An Alternative to "Alternative Medicine"

The sort of herbal medicine popular these days—presented to us by the media and so-called green capitalists as yet another exciting fad—has brought with it very few thoughts on a new way of healing. The plants, reduced to capsule form or, worse, to their "active ingredients," are just new tools to work with in the same body-machine that industrial medicine sees people as being. They be-

come no different than pharmaceutical drugs or a scalpel blade: something with which to pry into the body-machine and use to mess around with the parts—only much less effective because the herbs have been taken out of the system of healing in which they have their strength.

When the marketers of herbal products get their hands on a new "miracle cure," it can mean extinction for the plant. This is especially sad when so many living creatures go into useless products or are wasted on conditions that they don't treat. The classic example of this is goldenseal, *Hydrastis canadensis*—a plant close to extinction in the wild. It has a couple of amazing actions in the human body but has mostly been marketed as a cure for the common cold, which it will do almost nothing to help. Unsurprisingly, the largest brokers of wild-harvested goldenseal and many other big-name herbs are multinational pharmaceutical corporations. Given American society's obsession with herbal Viagra, weight loss pills and stimulants, most of the herbs on the mass market are being sacrificed to ridiculous causes.

There is an alternative to "alternative medicine." Southwestern herbalist, author and teacher Michael Moore probably said it best: "In this country, the herb business mostly revolves around recently marketed substances with new research, and it comes from them to us. Whereas we're trying to establish as much as possible—in this "lower level" if you will—the fact that we need to create a practice and a model that's impervious to faddism. We're trying to practice in a way that derives from practice rather than from marketing. Not from above to below but from below around. Bioregionalism *über alles*. Keep it local. No centralization because centralization kills everything."

### Herbo-primitivism

We need another way of looking at our bodies and the plant medicines. Seeing the two as interconnected and in balance is new to industrial culture, but in reality it is the most ancient healing model on Earth. We knew it before we were people. Animals know how to use plants to medicate themselves. Their examples surround us, from dogs eating grass to bears digging osha roots. Probably every human society has had some way of explaining how the body works

and how plant medicines work in us.

One thing all herbalists know—dogs and bears included—is that a health problem is best treated before it begins. In more primitive societies where people have the luxury of listening to their own bodies, it is easy to spot an imbalance before it turns into an acute disease state. This is where herbs are most effective. They work at this subclinical level of “imbalances” and “deficiency” and “excess.” This is subtle and requires a lot of self-knowledge or at least self-awareness. It uses intuition as a diagnostic tool. Emotion, spirituality and environment become medicines. The spirit and environment of the plants we gather affects their healing properties, and our relationship with those plants becomes very important.

### Green Herbology

When we take herbal medicine, we are taking in part of a plant's environment. Everything it ate, drank and experienced has formed the medicine you're depending on, so you better make sure it gets all the best. When we are healed by plants, we owe it to them to look out for their kind and the places where they live. Traditional plant-gatherers often have a prayer they recite before they take anything from the wild. Our modern prayer should be a promise to defend



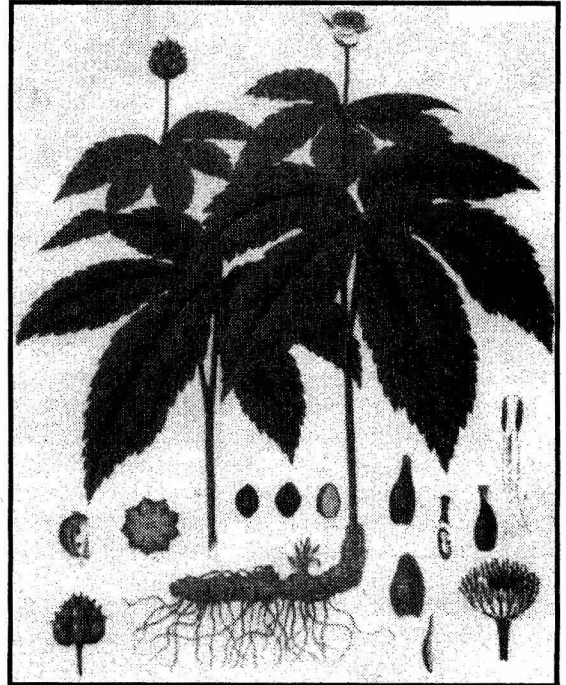
the plant when it needs it. This true herbal healing system has at its heart a deep commitment to the Earth.

The bioregional concept is important to this model of healing. Plants' actions in our bodies are really quite limited by the chemicals they can produce from sunlight and soil. For every big-name herb on the market cut from the rainforest or dug from the mountains, there is most likely a plant with a similar action growing in your watershed. Some of the best medicines to maintain good health grow in vacant lots and neglected gardens around the world.

### Anarcho-herbalism

A society of people who are responsible for their own health and able to gather or grow their own medicines is a hard society to rule. These days we are dependent on the power structure of industrial health care—the secret society of doctors, white-male-dominated medical schools, corporate decision makers with their toxic pharmaceuticals and labs full of tortured beings. That dependence is one more thing keeping us tied to the state and unable to rebel with all our hearts or to even envision a world without such oppression. With a new system of healing, based on self-knowledge and herbal wisdom, we will be that much more free. Offering a real alternative health care system will help to calm some people's fears about returning to an anarchistic, Earth-centered way of life. There is a false security in the men with big machines, ready to put you back together again if you have enough money. What is ignored is the fact that industrial society causes most of the diseases that people fear. Living free on a healing Earth while surrounded by true community and eating real food will prove to be a better medicine than anything you can buy.

What steps can we make toward creating this new system of medicine? We all need to learn what we can about our own health. This can be through training in one or more of the surviving models of traditional healing and/or through self-observation. How do you feel when you're just starting to get a cold? What kinds of



*Hydrastis canadensis* (goldenseal)

problems come up repeatedly, especially when you're stressed out? If you're a woman, how long is your cycle and what does the blood look like? Understanding how our bodies act in times of health can help us recognize the very early stages of disease when herbs are the most useful.

People who have some background in healing (in the traditional or industrial systems) can be a great help to those of us just learning. Healers who are working to form this new model, whether collectively or through their individual practices, should keep in mind that commitment to the Earth and a decentralized form are central to truly revolutionary medicine.

In these times of change, everything is being examined and either destroyed, rebuilt or created from our hearts. Industrialism has affected every aspect of our lives—we are just starting to realize how much has been lost. Medicine is just one part of the machine that we have to take back and recreate into a form that works for the society we will become. Every herb, pill and procedure should be judged on its sustainability and accessibility to small groups of people. We can start with ourselves, within our communities and circles, but we should never stop expanding outwards until industrial medicine rusts in a forgotten grave, a victim of its own imbalances.

# Dear Shit fer Brains...

Dear Shit fer Brains,

To whom it may concern:  
Hello, I am a local activist in the LA area and for a long time, I considered your tactics a bit extreme when compared to other environmental groups. It has just come to my attention that there are groups which sole purpose is to terrorize the lives of the people whose wish to better our environment. For a long time, I took a more passive approach when dealing with such issues as our environment. It seems apparent to me now that the only way to get such an important issues like the environment even noticed is to take a more direct stance. I would like to thank your organization for taking such a strong stand against the degradation of our earth and for helping people like myself find others with similar goals.

Sincerely,

—CHRISTOPHER PICON

Dear SFB,

isn't spray paint toxic??? Won't the chipmunks cut their little paws on all the broken glass you people leave laying around? How do your saboteurs get to their job sites? I certainly hope they use bicycles. Why can't you mind your own business, or, if you insist on minding mine, then move somewhere where you will be appreciated.....former Soviet republics come to mind. Thank God that suck ass clinton is gone love,

—THOMAS

TDBONGE@BTC-BCL.COM

Dear Shit fer Brains,

This is a tentative declaration of war. Read carefully, this will be your first and only communication from us. Your actions threaten the lives of people all over the world. Your destructive

ways are a threat to democracy, capitalism and scientific achievement. Since you show no mercy or remorse, none will be shown you as well. Only your denouncement of violent behavior and total cessation of violent activity will be accepted as a cease fire.

Sends this to every militant environmental group and member of such groups that even if you plan not to comply. They have the right to know. Let it be known that if you openly engage in association with the ELF and Earth First, you will soon be a target. This is necessary since these groups are composed of leaderless cells, so all cells must be destroyed.

You will be given several weeks to ponder your actions, change your ways, separate yourself from these rouge mobs, and to circulate this communication. Unless the unprovoked, ignorant acts of violence are halted and denounced, *You will become targets of your own policy.* Your communications, structures, finance and members will become valid targets. We are not demanding you change your beliefs, just your tactics. Find a peaceful means or you will be annihilated.

Though we understand the need for conservationist's, will no longer accept or tolerate your militant ways. Greenpeace, (though we don't agree with many of their conclusions) at least conduct themselves in a peaceful manner. In fact we defend their right to assembly and free speech. Greenpeace denounces the actions of Earth First and the ELF. For this reason we want to make it clear that *Greenpeace is not a target in this campaign!*

This is not an anti-environmentalist campaign. This is a campaign to eliminate the threat of physical harm to the science of

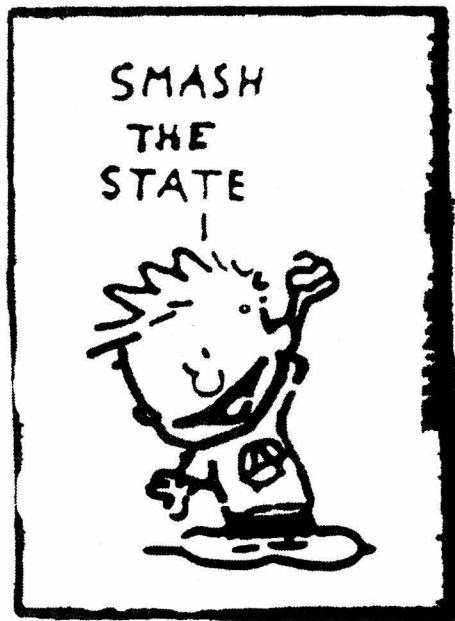
GMO's, GMO research facilities, the right to make money from GMO's in a free democracy and the attempt to end world hunger. Please take this message very seriously. We abhor violence but will meet it head on. Be assured that these actions are well planned and financed. You will be soundly defeated in this type of conflict with us.

We will not identify ourselves or take credit for our actions. We will actively seek your demise, incarceration and to discredit your group and members. We will work with law enforcement to further enhance our reach. We will actively increase our membership, budget, and technology until you are vanquished. You have been given fair and adequate warning. On behalf of freedom loving capitalists and starving people everywhere, we conclude this communication.

—YAKIR OSMOFF

ELFMUSTDIE@HOTMAIL.COM

*Editors' Note: The author of this letter is believed to be a researcher at the US Forest Service North Central Research Station Biotechnology Laboratory in Rhinelander, Wisconsin. Based on previous correspondence with other activists, it appears that the author became upset when the ELF cut down more than 500 GE trees s/he was studying, causing more than \$1 million in damages and terminating a 15-year-old research program. If activists expect to be successful, which according to this letter they are, then we must expect to get letters such as this. Don't get frightened, but do get active!*



Dear SFB,

Is there any chance that ELF or other environmentalist groups will branch out into international operations? Someone must stop the raping and pillaging of the amazon rainforest, and the insane amount of poaching that occurs in Africa and Asia.

*The Smithsonian is fucked up.* How dare they even attempt to shut down a conservation center for rare species. I refuse to support world trade until other nations clean up their act.

All environmentalists should band together and

- a. amass an large group and hold the amazon rainforest from loggers

- b. have a boycott on all Brazilian and Chinese products.

- c. start a mass protest letter to "little" Dick Cheney for wanting coal as our main power source

- d. start a revolution similar to the ones which allowed civil/gay rights

We can't let them walk all over us anymore; we got to show them we mean business.

—REBEL IN THE WINGS

# More Shit for the Brain...

Dear Shit fer Brains,

Just wanted to poke my head up yer asses and say that I loved the last issue. The new layout is much easier to handle and read and the smaller size is more comfortable to wipe my ass with when I'm done with it.

I really appreciated the last article on the Roots of May Day. More of these types of thing, dig? Also the Burn Vail Anti-ad; jummy.

That "Essence of Earth First!" crap in the beginning though, gotta go. Blah, blah, blah.

Thanks also for the Peltier letter and update on the state's ongoing harassment of Rod Coronado.

Keep up the good work and quit frontin' on the Earth First! definitions.

—FROM SOMEONE WHO HAS A  
FUCKING OPINION

Dear SFB,

I received the new mag issue and love it. i am so impressed, it looks fantastic. We were making allowances to you all for the first issue while at the Syngenta action. I see it and am very happy.

This is very useful to me. Good propaganda. I will make a real effort to forward you digi-

tal photos and articles of actions. Its much more durable as a zine. Thank you for giving me an effective recruiting and educational tool. I appreciate it cause its so fricken useful to me.

Power and equality,

—CHRIS IRWIN

Dear SFB

It seems that with the death of Edward Abbey, Bonnie Abbzug has rather gone off the rails. If EF! is to be the preserve of politically correct people with no prejudices it has had it. The article "Shouldering EF's baggage" is very confused, attacking Abbey for attacking immigrants, and then going on to do precisely the same.

There are errors of time. Foreman's appreciation of AIDS was before there was any prospect of any effective treatment. So cut trying to use that to prove racism.

The joy of AIDS treatment is that it keeps alive more sources of infection, and also maintains a much larger population of the disease itself so that it is much more likely to evolve to be infectious like flu. That is without the efforts of those trying to effect horizontal gene transfer to that end.

It is very fashionable among

those who might have written the Abzug article to spout about Sustainability. Let us face the blunt truth: It is probably too late, Mankind has been too quick for God.

Although new diseases like BSE and AIDS show God is fighting back, it is unlikely that she can reduce the World's human population to a sustainable five million in time to save mammalian life.

—ILYAN

Comment on your fine essay:

Years ago, as a young activist in Eugene, Oregon (early 70's), I, too, was stunned by some of the inequities in personal dynamics among people who claimed to be social change agents and somewhat beyond reproach. I remember a meeting in which I had had enough of some of this hypocrisy and publicly declared I was through with "the community," at which time I went back to school, became an apartment manager, and attempted to meld back into the so-called establishment.

I have never been terribly comfortable living within a capitalistic society, though I have been successful at it. In my early 50's I have been trying to return to my early roots, which is hard to do when you have multiple family obligations, some property to manage, age-related health issues etc. You will not understand until you get there. In any case, I certainly don't want to discourage young activists in their efforts to defend the rapidly eroding natural world, just send this caveat: we are all human beings, and certainly flawed by at least a couple hundred years of an industrial society that has pitted the rich against the poor, the powerful against the weak. In addition, we are, at base,

just animals with a "superior" intellect who, like most species, are opportunistic—including within our close knit communities where we may even feel *safer* to be opportunistic. (Even in "straight" society most rapes and abuse occurs within families that we profess to love or which profess to love us).

I agree that we, as flawed humans, should sit around and try to root out the problems but I don't agree that an activist "interloper" should be thought terribly less of for an indiscretion such as this. He/she should be educated, and temporarily shamed, perhaps. What does "straight" society do to people like this—lock them up without any real rehabilitation (especially in California), and then parole them years later with a couple hundred bucks in their pockets to start a "new" life (who will hire them?). We can do better. The alternative community can do much better, and if we do we will reveal to the entire world that we are not on the wrong side of the political spectrum.

I think it is irresponsible to invoke all kinds of political or sociological rhetoric about those who fall—most of us at one time or another—and, yes, we should go out and do the jobs that obviously so need to be done.

—BILL S.

Hi,

This letter is in reference to the ELF home burnings.

I really cannot see how burning houses helps the environmental movement:

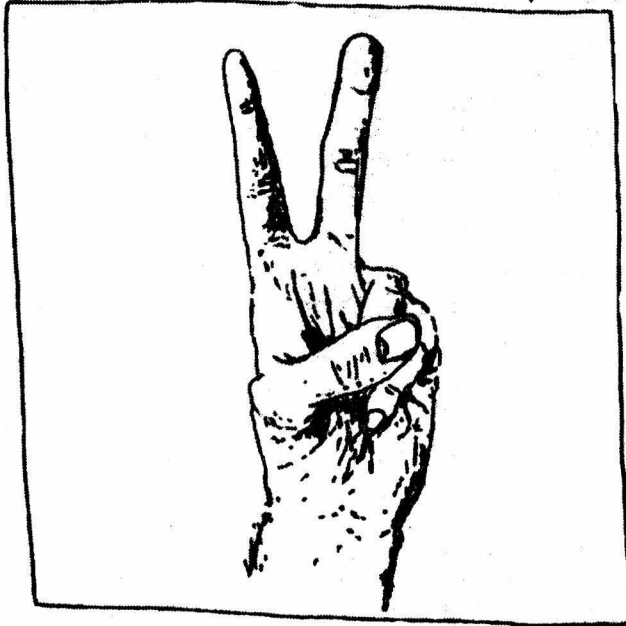
1—Does ELF know the people in the houses they are burning, or do they just assume that because they are wealthy, they are bad people? These could very well be nice, generous, caring people in these houses.

*continued on next page*



# Less than 300 words!

Peace sign, also used to poke somebody in the eyes.



*continued from previous page*

What if the guy inside got rich by investing the CT scan, or some other medical instrument that may have kept your father from dying? What if they give half their money to some good cause?

And if they are horrible people living in the houses, why not focus on these peoples' corporations? After all, it is the corporation doing the damage. Burn the corporate offices, but not the house. (But if you burn a house, make it Charles Hurwitz' house.)

The home is sacred. House burning will *never* receive support from the general public because it is far too personal. Without public support and sympathy, ELF will never ever succeed. A person sitting in a tree receives public support and sympathy, as does a person chained to a bulldozer. A house burner does not. Please burn the corporations, but not houses. It proves nothing.

2—ELF claims to be fighting urban sprawl. Do they offer

solutions or just aggression? The root cause of urban sprawl is overpopulation. Nothing else. What are they doing about this? Are they educating youth not to pop out four or five kids? No. They are burning houses. Where do they expect people to live? In skyscrapers, so that our cities go upward and not outward? Fine, but they should work towards that end and not towards acts without solutions, such as houseburning. People are going to live somewhere, just like the ELF people live somewhere.

3—People need places to live and therefore another home *will* be built for these people, in one place or another, and this second house will be build of natural materials—wood and plastic and steel, and other things that require ruining the earth in order to produce. Why does ELF want twice as many of these materials produced for one person's living space? The same goes for burning vehicles. Does ELF know that if a person or company goes out

and buys another vehicle, another couple tons of steel and rubber just got wasted (in another words, another mountain just got strip-mined for more metals and another Indonesian rain forest got slashed and burned to produce the rubber necessary for the vehicle replacement.)

Please let's focus on something productive and not counterproductive, such as houseburning.

—KERRY KRIGER

KERRYKRIGER@YAHOO.COM

ANTARCTIC EF!

Dear Shit fer Brains,

No Fuckin Compromise!!

This is a very strong statement. I think that when it all comes down to do or die. We are going to "Do."

Right now I am in the *pen*. And to be radical is a charge! On April 7 at 11:30 pm to April 8 at 1:30 am I observed an inmate get hand cuffed and maced after they hogtied her. They being the correctional officers, six of them. This woman just had open-heart surgery she is 21 years old and still recovering. I can't jump up and call a meeting. I can't shout and I can't organize a petition. I will go to lock up and it's in another prison about an hour from here. This facility is the only prison for women in New Jersey. I wrote to her family and took 10 eye witness statements. Can someone help me here?

—NADINE ANDERSEN

#414455

POB 4004-ST-1-N

CLINTON, NJ 08809

Dear Earth First!

My name is Hemp and I'm currently locked-up in a Sterling, CO Prison. It's really depressing in here but I look forward to getting your Journal from other brothers, man that really relaxes me for awhile and makes me smile

knowing the fight is continuing strong. The last time I was out and active was back in 97'-98' we were Dillon Creek Forest Defenders where I went under the name of T or Troll. Our base camp was just outside of Happy Camp, CA and as you probably already know, we succeeded in stopping winter operations. Also in one of our actions Spiderman was ran over by a logger and I pulled him to safety. And a few of the other brothers and sisters that made us up where Julia Butterfly, Glowworm Aaron, Egert, Gaurdian and Sky. Why am I writing you and telling you all of this? Well, because I'm lonely and miss Mother Earth and my individual struggle for her. So I was thinking if you could print my letter and put me back into contact with my people, I would greatly appreciate it, not to mention it would ease my mind. Thank you for your efforts.

Always Earth First!

—HEMP

ARON NIXON

#104783 S.C.F.

POB 6000

STERLING, CO 80751

Dear Mouse Shit for Brains,  
Take a look at tree seedlings in winter and you'll see that mice and voles girdle the bases, killing the seedlings. They get away with it and they are very destructive and wasteful. If people were to girdle experimental, genetically engineered seedlings, they would be punished for breaking the law. So, what you have to hope for is that mice invade experimental crops, find peanut butter smeared on the bases of seedlings, and chew through the seedlings, killing them. A have a heart trap could be used to release hundreds of rodents near such a facility. Is there a law against releasing mice near GE crops?

—ANONYMOUS

# NY Rendezvous continued

continued from page 9

Next we had an anti-sexist workshop for men. This is a developing movement in the activist community in NYC. We created a safe space for people to speak openly about our own sexist behavior and develop creative solutions for destroying sexism.

We moved to another threatened garden, *La Plaza Cultural*, for a large-scale play organized by the community. Climbing trainings went on in magnificent willow trees that crown the community space. We ended the evening with music and festivities in a squat just down the block.

Our final planned day was spent in the South Bronx, one of the poorest communities in the US, hit hard by pollution from highways, waste transfer stations, sewage treatment plant, incinerator smoke and power plants, but also home to more than 100 community gardens and countless lots gone wild.

In a small inlet next to the largest scrap metal yard in NYC is the restored Hunt's Point Riverside Park on the Bronx River. We navigated it in a boat built by local high school students. We rowed the length

of the mammoth Hunt's Point Market, where more than 20,000 trucks per day drop food from far away. The market is dubbed the worst ecological disaster in the city. We navigated the rotting skeletons of pier pilings getting sucked back to the depths by a renewed burst of gribbles and shipworms. Riker's Island prison and a monolith steel prison barge, opened for overflow in Mayor Giuliani's time, came into view near a break in the endless seawall where cordgrass flourishes despite decades of subjugation.

Throughout the day, the Cherry Tree Association hosted a restoration of a marina reclaimed from city neglect. The NYPD sometimes uses the space as

*This gathering was an attempt to highlight rampant environmental racism, failures of urban planning and to bring disparate communities together, bioregionally, to further radicalize people in the communities that feel the brunt of the urban environmental blight.*

a firing range and it is directly adjacent to a brand new power plant construction site. Stiff competition, but squatting land was never easy.

We ended the evening cooking over an open fire in the Cherry Tree Garden and listening to Dr. Paul Makiewicz of the Gaia Institute about their efforts to use indigenous plants and so-called waste products to restore the watershed and intertidal marshes. "NYC is

an environmental disaster or an incredible opportunity spitting us in the face. We don't need to abandon the city, we need to rebuild it."

The next day a group of activists paid a surprise visit to the NYC offices of Governor George Pataki. This was a protest against the construction of 10 power plants in poor communities in NYC. The quasi-public New York Power Authority (NYPA) pushed through the plan, just below the size requiring a full Environmental Impact Review—which would have forced public comment and appropriate biological studies. The plants will emit thousands of tons of sulfur dioxide, carbon monoxide, particulate matter, nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds such as benzopyrenes and formaldehyde per year. The construction is being rushed to pre-empt court cases that have already been filed.

In the week following the gathering there was a huge rally to save community gardens and a protest to end the bombing in Vieques at the United Nations with 28 people arrested.

For more information, visit the following websites: More Gardens! Coalition [www.moregardens.org](http://www.moregardens.org); Gaia Institute [www.gaia-inst.org](http://www.gaia-inst.org); New York City Indymedia, [www.nyc.indymedia.org](http://www.nyc.indymedia.org).

## Dear Comrade

The Supreme Central Council of Biocentrism has determined that all those not residing in heavily forested areas are not in touch with *true nature* and are therefore undeserving of the honor and distinction of the title Eco-defender. These running lapdog reactionaries must be located and re-educated at once for the future of *the party and the cause*. We must not allow the creeping tide of counter-revolutionary social justice decadence to undermine the Supreme Theory of Biocentrism (STB) that places wild, untouched, untrammled, unwalked-upon, unshat-upon, virgin wilderness above the petty sufferings of *Homo sapiens*—even if some *sapiens* once inhabited said wilderness areas and were extinguished by some ancestral comrades.

The fight for *true nature* must always be placed above and beyond the tri-



pling concerns of working people, low-income people, displaced people, handicapped people, diseased people, left-wing people, brutalized-by-cops people, refugee people, urban people, social-anarcho-people, black people, brown people, yellow people and purple-people eaters as well. It must never be spoken that any of these people are even capable of the honor and wisdom of being a wilderness defender, or even an environmentalist or environmental jus-

tice comrade, or even cleaning up their own neighborhood and seeing the connection to wilderness defense for that would violate the core beliefs of *the party and the cause*. The 90 percent of human peoples that do not reside near heavily wooded areas will never be able to appreciate the *true beauty and mystery of wild nature* and must not taint the STB!

We must *forever* keep alive the separation and distinction between nature and people, just as our comrades on Wall Street do and therefore ensure that social justice *never* unites with environmental defense, and the strength, pride, unity and purity of *the party* are never compromised and we never, ever see again what happened in Seattle.

No Compromise in Defense of Comrade Earth!

Always Onward and Upward, Comrade!  
Sincerely,  
Supreme Central Council of Biocentrism

## Wild Rockies Update

*continued from page 15*

a closure order charges. Two months later (hours after her release) the judge found Drea guilty of two counts of interfering with logging equipment and found an additional activist guilty of one charge of interfering and one charge of a closure violation. Locust received six months, with two months time served, and he is in Sea-Tac Federal Detention Center until August 4 (check the Earth Liberation Prisoner list for more information).

Despite all this madness, there's no good reason to stay away from Idaho! It is beautiful here, and we fully intend to remain vigilant in our defense of the largest contiguous roadless area in the lower 48 states. Join Wild Rockies Earth First! this summer on a direct action tour of the threats facing our bioregion.

For more information, contact Wild Rockies Earth First!, POB 1742, Missoula, MT 59806; (406) 721-3494; wref@wildrockies.org.



## The Wild Rockies EF! Direct Action Tour

**June 25-July 4: Otter-Wing and Mackey Day Timber Sales, Central Idaho.** We will be doing extensive field assessments on the effects of logging from last winter in the area, as well as doing direct action if necessary. We will also be looking at the Slate Creek Roadless area, where the freddies are planning a massive "restoration project" (i.e. timber sale). This activity represents the first use of the loopholes present in the now tenuous roadless policy.

**July 5-July 18: Earth First! National Rendezvous, Tetons, Wyoming.** We will help set up the site and participate in actions aimed at oil and gas leases in the Tetons—A top priority of the Bush Administration's misguided energy policy.

**July 19-25: Boise-Cascade Corporation, Boise, Idaho.** The company is responsible for ecosystem destruction and genocide of indigenous people worldwide. Boise Cascade is also the lead plaintiff in a lawsuit opposing the US Government's roadless protection policy.

**July 25-August 15: Rock Creek Mine, northwest Montana.** This mine is in the final Environmental

Impact Statement stage and could be implemented as early as this summer. The mine would go under the Cabinet-Yak wilderness area. The location of the mine facilities is in a critical area of grizzly bear habitat.

**August 16-September 16: Bitterroot National Forest, Montana.** This project is on a fast track and could be implemented this fall. The purpose calls for the logging of 65,000 acres yielding 180-million board feet and the reconstruction of 600 miles of logging road to modern industrial standards.

**September 17-October 10: Stone Container Pulp Factory, French Town, Montana.** Stone is one of the worst polluters in the Northern Rockies ecosystem, and we will serve notice that this is no longer acceptable.

If you are interested in joining a part or all of the tour, please contact us. We have an information packet we can send you. Food and transportation will be provided by Wild Rockies EF!. As usual we must make a pathetic, yet heart-felt plea for donations of cash, coffee, bulk dry goods, socks and climbing gear. Make checks out to Wild Rockies Earth First!

## Sin Agua, No Hay Vida Sin Tierra, No Hay Paz

### ENRON's Lou Pai Invades Colorado

The *La Sierra* community in the northern Sangre de Cristo mountains of Colorado's San Luis Valley is the scene of one of the state's longest running water and land rights struggles. The 1848 Treaty of Hidalgo was intended to protect Chicano farmers' rights in San Luis, but the US government has generally ignored the residents.

*La Sierra*, formerly known as the Taylor Ranch, and its watershed provide the lifeblood of the San Luis communities. The ranch was recently bought by Lou Pai, a major stockholder and CEO of ENRON corporation—one of the largest energy corporations in the world.

Since purchasing the property, Lou Pai has waged an aggressive campaign to acquire more property in the area. He prefers strong-arm tactics such as: blocking irrigation ditches, fencing off property next to the ranch and claiming it as his own, having people arrested for trespassing while clearing out irrigation ditches and beating one 60-year-old farmer with a shovel. Calling the police is not a good idea in this area—many of the sheriffs work part-time at the ranch.



photo by Denise Luttrell

A member of the Barrio Warriors addresses the crowd gathered at Lou Pai's headquarters.

On March 10, more than 200 activists and local farmers marched to Lou Pai's headquarters on the south end of the ranch. At the gates, activist and filmmaker Sabin Potillo yelled out, "People need to be made aware of what's going on, it's time to move forward and stand together."

Community dialog is ongoing and the people of San Luis are building bridges between anti-globalists, environmentalists and radical Chicanos. Working together, everyone is learning to speak the same language.

For more information, contact Culebra EF!, POB 762, San Luis, CO 81152; afr@amigo.net.

# No Star Wars! Activists Invade Vandenberg



photos by Hans Bennett

On Armed Forces Day, May 19, 300 protesters faced off with US Space Command troops, water cannons and special forces officers as helicopter gunships circled overhead. This protest at Vandenberg Air Force Base in California drew attention to the military's involvement in Star Wars, satellite direction of defoliation aircraft in Colombia, support for corporate globalization and worldwide surveillance. Military satellites and nuclear test missiles are regularly

launched from Vandenberg, the largest Space Command facility in the world.

In an action similar to the bombing range occupations on Vieques, Puerto Rico, two dozen members of the Vandenberg Action Coalition infiltrated deep into the base's security zones at the sprawling 98,000-acre facility. Banners were hung from satellite tracking dishes and one group managed to get a banner onto a military communications tower on top of a mountain. Only

10 of the backwoods protesters were arrested. They face double trespass and conspiracy charges. Two Catholic Worker activists from Los Angeles were still in jail days after their arrests for participating in the backcountry security zone occupation.

Altogether 37 people were arrested the week of May 19, bringing the total up to 72 arrests at Vandenberg so far this year. Organizers are calling for another massive demonstration on October 13.

## NORWAY PURSUES WOLF GENOCIDE PROGRAM

*continued from page 17*

By making the *de facto* exclusion of wolves from most of the country a cornerstone in their management policy, the government implicitly hammers home the message that the wolf is by definition a "problem" that has to be limited. Here the department officials argue that the zoning is necessary to avoid conflicts and that it is also a prerequisite to acceptance of wolves in Norway.

This reasoning is doubtful to say the least, since the limitation of wolves' living areas can no more be expected to lead to greater acceptance of wolves than the principle of Apartheid contributed to the increased acceptance of and respect for black people in South Africa. There is another parallel: Like the former Apartheid, the wolf zone model in Norway is a result of hatred and prejudice.

The worst thing that can happen is that the present zone principle continues to be adhered to. This is because people will become accustomed to the thought that wolves must not be allowed a free existence. Thus, unless the friends of the wolf manage to bring about an abandonment of the concept of severe limitation of the wolves' areas, the Norwegian wolf management zones are likely to serve a very negative educational function. As long as the current Norwegian management model persists, the wolf is prevented from being a natural element in the fauna. It seems that the government's aim is to pay

lip service to protection of the wolf, while avoiding the accompanying responsibility for accepting the wolves' natural right to form and sustain a viable population. The present management strategy has been likened to a sort of "wilderness zoo" in which a small population is maintained and assisted by the regular artificial introduction of genetically-foreign wolves into the small population of animals whose genetic variability would otherwise rapidly dwindle and become too small for survival.

What can people in Norway and abroad do about this? Several strategies will have to be used. The informative line has to be accompanied by direct and spectacular actions that can catch people's attention, since the majority of people seem to be undecided and cling to what they believe is a "neutral" attitude. Since Norway is an attractive country for tourists from around the world, it certainly would have an effect if the government sees that their wolf management principles will reflect badly upon the country abroad. I therefore call upon you all to bring out the message about what our management authorities are doing. At the same time, there are people inside Norway who are preparing for the upcoming fight to prevent the slaughter of the remaining wolf pack in Oesterdalen, a slaughter that the sheep farmers have already been promised.

For more information, visit [www.alpha-gruppen.com](http://www.alpha-gruppen.com).



# CRACKING DAMS ACTIVISTS PUSH DECOMMISSIONING AGENDA



photo courtesy US Bureau of Reclamation

On June 5, 1976 the Teton Dam broke, and for a short time the river was free again.

*continued from page 18*

By 11 a.m., two of the dozers were swallowed into the pit just as a large whirlpool formed in the reservoir behind the dam. At 11:57 a.m., the face of the dam collapsed.

Wilford resident Elaine Johnson later wrote, "Suddenly the Western third of the dam disintegrated. One witness said the wall of water seemed to hang in the air for a second, then come crashing down the canyon. An estimated 80 billion gallons of water was loose and headed for the Upper Snake River Valley. By evening, the reservoir had drained completely."

Dramatically, with the loss of 11 lives, millions of dollars in damage and the destruction of several communities, the first large BuRec dam was decommissioned—before it could deliver a drop of subsidized water to the potato and alfalfa farmers who had pressured Congress to fund the project.

For the first time, intense scrutiny was brought on an agency that had for years been one of the most popular and respected in the federal government. As a result of questions raised in Congress about the reliability of other BuRec dams, new laws were passed and safety programs put in place that required periodic reviews and inspections of all dams throughout the US. The agency worked hard to repair its damaged reputation and succeeded, in part, by persuading Congress to put it in charge of reviewing itself.

The failure of the Teton Dam 25 years ago remains a matter of great embarrassment to BuRec, certainly a chapter in the agency's 99-year history it would rather forget. But BuRec has an even bigger anniversary coming up next year, the centennial of the federal reclamation program and there's a lot of history looking back in the mirror at the agency's brass and public relations flacks. The picture is not quite as pretty as they would have us believe.

## Resist! If Resistance is Not Enough, Then Subvert!

Five years after the Teton Dam failure, another major crack in the BuRec dam portfolio occurred—only this time

the damage was symbolic. On the vernal equinox of 1981, a small crowd of activists gathered at the Carl Hayden Visitor Center at Glen Canyon Dam. Author Ed Abbey stood in the parking lot, exhorting the group to, "Resist, subvert, delay, until the system self-destructs." Meanwhile, a scruffy-looking group of characters climbed a fence on the other side of the visitor center, hauling a large roll of black plastic out onto the crest of the dam.

This was history in the making, at least as far as the environmental movement is concerned. That brisk March morning was the first meeting of Ed Abbey and several of the founders of the Earth First! movement. The event was captured for posterity on film and later produced as a short documentary. Earth First! co-founders Dave Foreman, Bart Koehler and others ambled out onto the dam where they proceeded to unfurl the long sheet of plastic down the face of the dam, appearing to form a long, narrow black "crack."

This innovative incident became an instant classic, all the more so because BuRec has since beefed up security measures at the dam, making it all but impossible for such a stunt to be carried out today. As far as actions go, this was one that is unlikely to be matched in the future.

The crack in Glen Canyon Dam may have been the only "banner hang" ever perpetrated on a BuRec facility and in that respect certainly earns a place in the direct action history books. From the agency's perspective, the action was little more than a distant blip on a radar screen. Despite the romantic "Monkey Wrench Gang" rhetoric, the action presented little threat to the agency's power. The event would, however, foreshadow a movement—nearly 20 years later—that would challenge BuRec on a number of dams throughout the basin.

## Can Adaptive Management Save the Grand Canyon?

In 1996, the late David Brower publicly called for decommissioning Glen Canyon Dam. The "Archdruid" sparked a flame that has ignited a movement to uncover the many sacred sites and the 250 miles of majestic canyons of the Glen and the San Juan River. In the last year of his life, Brower co-founded the Glen Canyon Action Network and attended a rally at the dam where several hundred activists from around the country gathered to call for decommissioning a number of BuRec dams, including Glen Canyon (see *EF!J* May-June 2000).

That rally, on the third annual International Day of Action Against Dams, marked the beginning of a grassroots organizing campaign to bring together people from all walks of life to begin the work of restoring rivers.

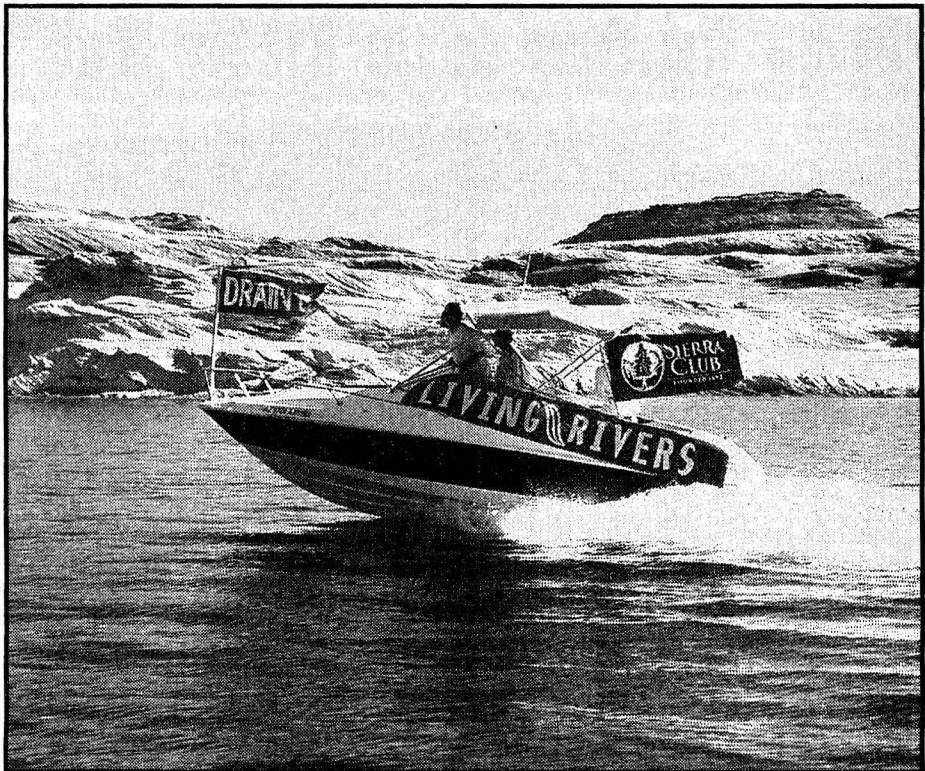
One of the concerns driving the Colorado River restoration movement is the recovery of native fish that are on the endangered species list. Predation by introduced fish and the destruction of habitat by dams and water diversions are the chief culprits of the decline of these species. Endangered fish are extirpated in many river reaches and in many areas of the reservoirs. The

government's response has been to support "adaptive management" for the river reaches below the dams.

The Grand Canyon Adaptive Management Program (GCAMP) is the most prominent such effort. Set up in 1996 by former Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt as a stakeholder collaborative group, the GCAMP includes federal and state agency personnel, power interests and representatives from environmental and recreation groups. The GCAMP has avoided any serious discussion of the possibility of removing Glen Canyon Dam, in part because the official stakeholder representatives do not seem to want to examine the issue. The conclusion of five years of research and monitoring in the Grand Canyon seems to be that more studies are needed before any substantive action might be taken. BuRec's management options are extremely limited, given the lack of institutional will to address the dam itself. At best, flows and water temperature downstream of the dam can be manipulated to more closely mimic the natural flow/temperature regime. But even that, as well thought out as it might be, cannot substitute for the loss of vital nutrients and sediments that are trapped in Lake Powell Reservoir, never reaching the Grand Canyon. Large dams create insurmountable barriers to fish migration and render unusable long stretches of critical riverine habitat.

BuRec intends to initiate adaptive management strategies at other dams in the basin such as Flaming Gorge on the Utah-Wyoming border and Navajo Dam on the San Juan River. Draft Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) are in preparation for these structures and are expected later this year. Activists are calling on the agency to include analyses of dam decommissioning alternatives in the EIS.

Adaptive management, without benchmark analysis and evaluation of a wide spectrum of alternatives including decommissioning, is little more than a fancy monitoring program. How much longer will the program continue without getting any results? At some point, different protocols must be tried. And those should include a scientifically valid study with decommissioning as an alternative.



*Drain it! Glen Canyon activists take the message to "Lake" Powell.*

### **Last Call for Reservoirs**

Just when you thought it was safe to go back out on the rivers, a proposal has appeared for yet another dam in the Colorado River basin.

Last fall, Congress passed a law authorizing construction of the Animas-La Plata (A-LP) reservoir project, a spectacular boondoggle planned for the Animas River near Durango, Colorado. The Animas is the last free-flowing tributary of the San Juan River. If A-LP is built, it will probably be the last project of any size that BuRec builds, as well as the most uneconomical and unworkable. Sufficient water does not exist in the river to fulfill the purposes of the project. The reservoir site includes a former uranium tailings pile and is contaminated with heavy metals. Environmentalists have threatened a lawsuit that could tie the project up in court. Stay tuned.

Meanwhile, the mighty rivers of the Southwest continue to be diverted, the reservoirs evaporate huge amounts of water into the desert skies every day and endangered species continue their slow but steady decline. Activists are organizing, changing the political dynamics and shifting the terms of debate from whether it may make sense to take down some dams to asking how soon the dams will go. The sooner natural flows can be restored to river

reaches, the sooner the recovery of the native ecosystem will commence.

Looking ahead to the BuRec centennial in 2002, activists are calling for the agency to change its name to the "Bureau of Restoration." Let's make the agency focus in its second century on working to put the pieces of our broken ecosystems back together.

It's been said by many—even Bruce Babbitt himself—that the era of big dam-building is over. If river activists can make their case to the American people, the dam-building orgy of the last 50 years will not only come to an end, but will begin to reverse. In our lifetimes, we may live to see the splendor of majestic canyons restored.

In the case of Glen Canyon Dam, at least, the question now is whether we will be able to initiate a science-driven decommissioning process that will bring back Glen Canyon while protecting Grand Canyon, or whether Mother Nature will do it all at once as in the case of Teton Dam. Either way, we'll get Glen Canyon back, but we would like to do it carefully, with minimal disruption downstream. We hope you'll be with us every step of the way.

For more information, contact Glen Canyon Action Network, POB 466, 21 N. Main St., Moab, UT 84532; (435) 259-1063; info@drainit.org; www.drainit.org.

# George Wuerthner on the Cowboy Myth...



A typical "romantic" western scene: trashed streams and cow-burnt land

*continued from page 19*

Because of its huge geographical scope, even if it were a benign use of the landscape, it would be a concern.

But it's anything but benign. It is the number one source for water pollution in the West. It's the number one source of soil erosion in the West. It's the number one cause of species endangerment in the West. It's the reason we don't have wolves throughout the West. It's one of the major reasons that more than four-fifths of all native fish west of the Continental Divide are endangered or threatened.

We are facing a biodiversity crisis. While protection of private lands is desirable, it is questionable whether we will ever achieve more than spotty and unsatisfactory results. Our public lands are critical to any effort aimed at protection of biodiversity and as a place where landscape-scale ecological processes like wildfire and predation can operate. We can grow cows elsewhere if we insist on growing cows anywhere. And there are certainly far better places to do this than our western public lands.

**Tim:** There is much discussion of the cows vs. condo myth. Some say cows

beget condos. Just what does this mean and is it a legitimate concern?

**George:** Cows vs. condos refers to a false dichotomy that believes if you eliminate livestock production, particularly on public lands, you will foster greater sprawl and development. Many environmentalists, as well as the live-

**The problem with the cows vs. condos myth is that it saps public support for alternatives... Those promoting ranching as a means of preserving open space are actually fiddling while Rome burns.**

stock industry itself, suggest that the way to protect open space is to protect the livestock industry. There are several problems with this strategy.

Most of us live in cities or towns that are growing. The West is one of the fastest-growing parts of the country due to net in-migration. It is only natural to

assume that sprawl is necessarily worse than livestock production. It is something that we all experience everyday. Most of us don't directly experience the negative effects of livestock on a daily basis. So this colors our perception of the issue.

On an acre-by-acre comparison, sprawl and urban development is highly destructive and probably far more damaging than having some cows munching on weeds—it's not a fair comparison. The amount of land directly affected by sprawl and development is actually quite small. But I don't want anyone to accuse me of saying that sprawl isn't a problem. Where it occurs it is a problem and it needs to be controlled, guided or even kept from occurring at all. Where I differ from others is that I believe we need to control, guide or eliminate livestock production as well as sprawl. Neither is good for ecosystems or native species. It's not a choice of one or the other. We should be fighting both.

If you added in the effects of farming—and most of the agricultural land in the US is used to grow crops ultimately fed to livestock, not consumed directly by humans—livestock production is responsible for more endangered species than any other human activity, including urbanization.

Livestock production affects nearly 70 to 75 percent of the entire US. That includes the public and private rangeland used for grazing, the lands used for crop production like hay or corn and the lands used as pasture. It's a huge amount of land. By comparison urbanization only affects three percent of the US land area. So if you are talking about total ecological impacts, the effects of livestock production are far greater than sprawl simply based on geographical scales.

In California, only four percent of the landscape is developed according to analysis of aerial photos. I find the statistics compelling. I know that may be difficult to believe if you are living in Los Angeles or the San Francisco bay area, but think again. You have millions of acres in the desert, up in the Sierra Nevada and along the North Coast that is virtually uninhabited. Much of this is public land—half of California is public land—and will never be developed. Even most of the agricultural lands are used for

EFT Journal the photo

livestock production—with hay and pasture accounting for more crop acreage than any other crops grown in the state.

When you look at other western states it is even more skewed towards livestock—for instance 95 percent of Montana has less than four people per square mile. That's frontier by the 1890 US census definition. Yes, there are some crowded and growing areas of the state—but these make up a small amount of the total—some 0.17 percent of the state's total land area. Most of Montana's non-forested land is used for agricultural production, including livestock. So most of the West is dominated by open space, not urbanization or sprawl.

Open space isn't necessarily good for wildlife or ecosystem protection. If that were the case, then Montana would not have any endangered species. There would be bison, wolves, grizzlies and sage grouse everywhere—but these species are on the verge of extinction.

Why? Because of sprawl? Hardly. Because of agriculture—primarily livestock production.

Even if you don't agree with me that livestock production is the greatest contributor to biological impoverishment, that doesn't mean that ranching can preserve open space. The only effective way to preserve open space is through zoning, purchase of development rights or outright purchase of land.

The problem with the cows vs. condos myth is that it saps public support for alternatives. If people think we can have our cake and eat it too—i.e. having ranching and the Cowboy Myth preserved and not have to cough up money for land acquisition or debate about zoning issues, they are going to avoid biting the bullet and seriously discussing these proven alternatives. Those promoting ranching as a means of preserving open space are actually fiddling while Rome burns.

**Tim:** Is public lands ranching dying a natural death and, if so, what can we do to help it along?

**George:** Yes it is dying—I would say the industry is already comatose and that is one reason why a strategy aimed at "preserving ranching" as a way to protect open space is both naive and ultimately doomed to failure.

Rising land prices around the West have effectively killed the western livestock industry. You can't buy land at today's prices and pay it off running cattle. That means that no young people

can enter the business—unless they have outside money. That has several effects. Old ranchers as they retire are not being replaced. Secondly, it also makes it more difficult to pass on a ranch to family members. Even small ranches are now worth millions of dollars.

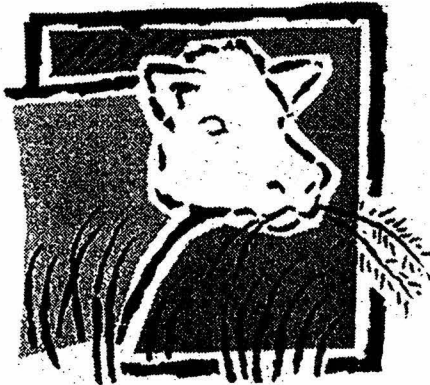
You are left without much choice but to sell it. In some places this means subdividing it. In other areas it means selling to some wealthy individual who runs the ranch as a "trophy" or "hobby." That is not all together a bad fate, since it keeps the land intact, but if you are rich you don't need to run cows.

I think there are several ways to hasten ranching's death. First, continued pressure on ranchers, particularly public lands ranchers, makes it less fun to

be into ranching. For the wealthy and elite that are coming to dominate the western livestock business, making it less prestigious to be a rancher could effectively change the status of this occupation. It is somewhat like making it less desirable to be a slave owner. Once this is no longer socially acceptable, far fewer wealthy individuals will run cows on their lands. They might seek status in a different way—restoring ecosystems—as Ted Turner has done. We should try to shape the debate so that ecosystem restoration is what the wealthy do—not run cows.

*Editors' Note: Stay tuned for our special "Blast From the Past" next issue when George reflects on the moral maturity of tree spiking.*

## CATTLE ENHANCE THE *environment*



Cattle graze on land that can't be used for anything else because the terrain is too steep or hilly for building houses, or too rocky or dry for growing food crops:

- About 1.2 billion acres fall into this category — one-half the size of the United States (excluding Hawaii and Alaska).
- At least 90 percent is covered with grass which contains cellulose, indigestible by humans. However, cattle can digest this grass, converting it into beef and dairy products.
- This land would go to waste if it wasn't used for grazing cattle.

*Industry propaganda: part of a larger newspaper ad called "Beef—Enhancing Our Planet and Human Existence"*

# Politicos Pelted, Pied and Splattered

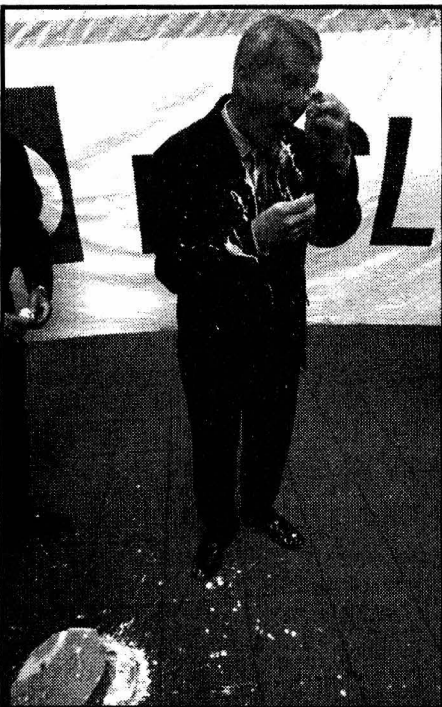
## Free Evan Brown! Jail Jean "Pepper" Chrétien

An international federation of pie-throwers is demanding the immediate release of political prisoner Evan Brown (a.k.a. Agent Simple Simon). Brown was wrongfully jailed by Canadian Judge John Douglas, a man whose reasoning has been clearly affected by excessive ingestion of the local transgenic potatoes on Prince Edward Island.

The courts proved once more that to fight for justice and democracy is a creaminal act under the law that protects the rich and powerful with no regards to social justice. Evan Brown got 30 days in jail despite the fact that our Pie Minister Jean Chrétien has declared that receiving a cream pie constituted "a prize, a distinction." Chrétien weaseled out of a subpoena that required him to appear in court, by claiming an antique law called "parliamentary privilege."

*L'Internationale des Anarchos-Pâtisseries* will pie all Canadian citizens in cities where we have members, until Evan Brown is released and Chrétien jailed. We declare open season for pie throwing. As long as they continue to lie, we will continue to pie!

The Pie is the limit!  
*T'auras ta tarte, la tarte!*



Norwegian workers celebrate May Day with Foreign Minister Jagland.

## The BBB Received the Following Communication from Norway:

"We are *Bergen Bloetekake Brigade* from Bergen, Norway. We recently threw a cake on the Minister of... don't know the name in English, but her name is Sylvia Brustad, she is responsible for all the housing problems in Norway." Two weeks later, according to Reuters, Norway's Foreign Minister Thorbjørn Jagland was in for a surprise when protesters threw a cream pie in his face. He light-heartedly cleaned himself up and proceeded to lead a labor march in Oslo. This was the fifth Scandinavian pie action in two months.

## Pie-wielding Forest Defender Sentenced to Six Months in Prison

Salmon Soufflè Society pie-thrower Randall Mark soufflèd US Senator Helen Chenoweth in Idaho last September. Because he was on probation from a previous protest against logging, and because Idaho is such a reactionary state, he was sentenced to a six-month sentence. He is scheduled to be released in early June.

## Armitage Yoked in Seoul

South Korean protesters threw raw eggs at US Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage on May 9, as he was driven from his hotel for a round of meetings with South Korean cabinet ministers. At least six activists were arrested after pelting Armitage's car with eggs as he was driving out of the Grand Hyatt Hotel following breakfast.

"We're not happy with this coming to Korea," said the Reverend Mun Jeong-hyun, a leader of a group that objects to US plans for a global missile defense system. "He's trying to force Korea to accept the missile defense," Mun said.

## Pissed Prescott Punches Protester

On May 16, British Deputy Prime Minister John Prescott was attacked and wrestled to the ground after punching an egg-throwing demonstrator in Wales. The Deputy Minister, the political equivalent of an American Vice President, lashed out in response to being hit in the face by an



Prescott enjoys a visit with local Welsh lads.

egg thrown at close range from an angry crowd. The ugly fracas capped a day in which the launch of a Labour Party manifesto was overshadowed by a series of episodes in which senior politicians from all parties faced public abuse and hostility.

A man hurled the egg as Prescott passed him. Television pictures showed Prescott turning and jabbing out at the man with his left hand. The man then lunged at Prescott across a crowd-control barrier, and the pair became locked in a struggle in which Prescott was pinned to the ground. The Deputy Prime Minister was then hustled inside, egg dripping from his face and jacket.

The local Conservative candidate promptly called for him to resign, saying, "What sort of role model is he for young people? Throwing eggs is almost a time-honoured tradition in this country. It might hurt and sting your face a bit, but it doesn't harm you. If politicians can't put up with things like that they shouldn't be in the job."

In 1997, the anarchist pop band Chumbawamba dumped a bucket of ice water on Prescott at the British Music Awards, an incident he described as "deplorable, utterly contemptible."

## Slick Willie Enjoys a Sticky

On May 17, the day after the Prescott incident, Former President Bill Clinton was jeered by anti-globalization protesters and attacked by an egg-throwing anarchist while visiting Poland's capital as part of a European speaking tour. The egg struck Clinton's sleeve as he walked through Warsaw's Old Town district.

According to reports, Clinton said in response to the attack that "it's good for young people to be angry about something."

# ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS OF THE WEIRD

## Snake Gets Revenge on Drunk

A snake being tormented by a drunk in an Australian coastal resort on May 9, responded by almost choking the man to death.

Police said a 39-year-old man was wandering about the town of Byron Bay with a six foot python, which he used to harass passersby before repeatedly hurling the snake against a wall.

Two police officers arrived to find the man, clearly a little the worse for wear, had retrieved his companion and was parading with it around his shoulders. The reptile's patience, however, was at an end, and it decided to reassert itself by choking its handler.

The man gasped for air and "fell face first into the concrete." The police at the scene used their batons to unwind the snake from around the man's throat.

The man was treated later by an ambulance crew and allowed to sleep off his big night in jail. As a reward for apprehending a drunk, the snake was released into the wild.

## McVeigh on the Vegan Diet

Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh, asked by People For the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) to drop animal products from his diet, says he understands the cause but doesn't fully support it.

In a response to PETA, McVeigh also wrote, "I cannot sustain a prolonged intellectual debate on the subject as my time is short, but I suggest hitting Ted Kaczynski up for his opinions on the subject."

McVeigh even provided the prison address for Kaczynski, the Unabomber. The two were held in the same prison in Florence, Colorado, before McVeigh was moved to death row at the U.S. Penitentiary in Terre Haute, Indiana.

In the letter to Bruce Friedrich, PETA's vegan campaign coordinator, McVeigh wrote, "Truth is, I understand your cause—I've seen slaughterhouses myself—but I still believe in reasonable taking and eating of game (as an outdoorsman and hunter)."

McVeigh went on to raise questions about where people in "the veg movement" draw the line. "Where do those who oppose suffering stand?" McVeigh wrote. "(Ever see a fish struggling out of water?) What about grubs/worms/etc.?"

McVeigh, convicted of killing 168 people by bombing the Oklahoma City federal building in 1995, also noted that plants are alive and respond to stimuli, just as an animal would respond to pain.

"To me, the answer is as the Indians believed: Respect the life you take to sustain yourself, but come to terms with your place in the 'food chain'," McVeigh wrote.

## Elephants Drive Villagers into Trees

Rampaging elephants lured by the smell of homemade liquor have forced nearly 24 tribespeople to sleep in tree-tops in the eastern Indian state of Orissa, an official said.

Some 60 elephants are running amok in the area, damaging mud houses as they try to sniff out the alcohol.

"Close to two dozen people are staying in the treetops with family members because they are afraid of the elephants. They often take their bedding and food (with them) during the night," a local said. "At least six people have died in the past 18 months in elephant attacks in the area and 200 houses have been damaged or destroyed."

The elephants have been drawn to the area, 220 km (137 miles) from the state capital of Bhubaneswar, by the smell of *handia*, a local brew made out of fermented rice.

## Earth Day with Ayn Rand's People

If you were looking for the Ayn Rand Institute (ARI) to throw a big Earth Day bash, you can forget about it.

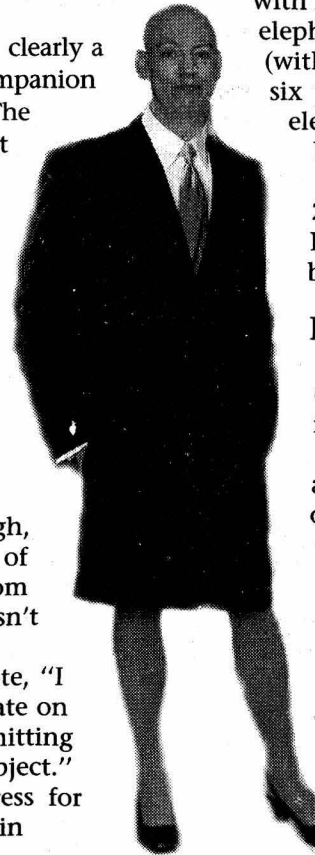
"Earth Day should be a celebration of the achievements of industry and technology, not of their destruction. It's a myth that the environmentalists are saving the Earth for man—they actually see human beings as the enemies of nature," said Dr. Andrew Bernstein, a senior writer for the institute. "Earth Day should be the occasion for celebrating the Earth as a great value, not in and of itself, but only as a means to achieve human values."

Bernstein said Earth Day 2001's theme of "Leave your car at home" expresses the environmentalists' fundamental contempt for industrial society, progress and human values. "Without automobiles there would be little commerce, communication or freedom," he said. "The goal of the environmentalists is to see man crawling back to the cave."

ARI cooperated with the Virginia-based Center for the Moral Defense of Capitalism in a national campaign to protest Earth Day as anti-human life and to celebrate the benefits to man of developing the Earth. This joint effort climaxed with a small demonstration at the Washington Monument on Earth Day.

## This is What Democracy Looks Like

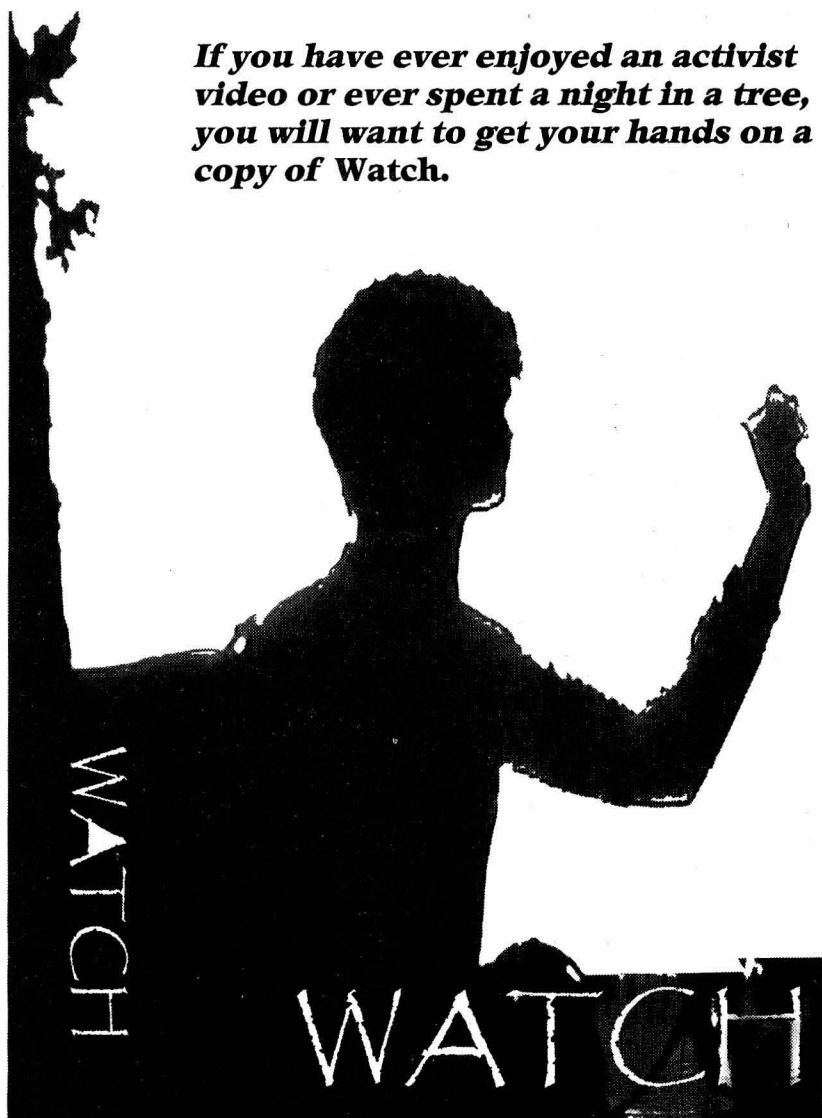
Protesters around the world celebrate May Day by filling the streets of cities. However, for as little as \$100, an American business called [www.whitehouseprotests.com](http://www.whitehouseprotests.com) will hold a 3 foot by 10 foot banner in front of the White House for an hour and send you a photo of it. A promotional statement asserts that, "Those who make peaceful demonstration possible will make violent revolution inconceivable." How true that is.



"Our view is that [Interior Secretary Gail Norton] is James Watt in a skirt," said Allen Mattison, the national spokesperson for the Sierra Club.

# VIDEO REVIEW: *Watch*

***If you have ever enjoyed an activist video or ever spent a night in a tree, you will want to get your hands on a copy of Watch.***



video. When the folks of Randle, Washington call it like they see it, corporate media spin falls apart and the "jobs vs. the Earth" argument vanishes before our eyes. The heart and soul of *Watch* are these interviews with townsfolk who don't want their mountain clear-cut and are fed up with timber industry landslides. As soon as the way is clear for their voices to be heard, rural folks who love the Earth come out in droves to speak the truth and stand for the land.

Meanwhile, up on the mountain, viewers are treated to a sense of both the thrill and tranquility of a summer in the treetops. In the city, activists take it to corporate headquarters in a decisive action days before Plum Creek screamed "uncle." All of this action takes place in a context of Native rights to the land that transcend government, corporate claims and activist visions.

But far from a sugar-coating, Briana opens with a challenge to the whole notion of video in Earth-activism. And the victory itself is examined for the underlying meaning of a government buyout that leaves more money in corporate hands.

If you have ever enjoyed an activist video or ever spent a night in a tree, you will want to get your hands on a copy of *Watch*. If a friend or family member still doesn't understand why you work for the Earth or what direct action is, this may be your answer. After all, if its one thing Americans do well it is watching TV. So let's get them to spend an evening watching *Watch*.

Before you read the next article write a check for \$15 to Briana Waters and send it with your shipping address to the Gifford Pinchot Task Force, POB 11427, Olympia, WA 98508. For information about benefit screenings and cable access airings, contact [brianawaters@hotmail.com](mailto:brianawaters@hotmail.com).

BY TIM REAM

A campaign that saves 6,000 acres of ancient forest from clearcutting is a precious wonder. That such a campaign mixes direct action with strong rural organizing in a timber town is miraculous. When such a campaign is captured on film, available to you as a 66-minute organizing tool for \$15, it sounds too good to be true. As if that were not enough, in the male-dominated world of video production this excellent work comes from first-time director/producer Briana Waters. *Watch!*

The campaign to save Watch Mountain and Fossil Creek in southern Washington is set in the end game of the I-90 land exchange, summer of 1999. Losing means the land would leave public "ownership" and be rapidly destroyed. The villains include Slade Gorton, Patty Murray, Sierra Club Checkerboard Project and Plum Creek Timber Company. The coalition for the Earth is a mix of down-home folks in the prime of life and a set of young treesitters, new and old.

We get to meet a wide variety of characters rarely seen in activist

## BOOK REVIEW

# The Battle in Seattle:

## The Story Behind and Beyond the WTO Demonstrations

BY PEGGY SUE McRAE

If you were there, you will definitely want to read it. And if you plan on protesting corporate globalization at any time in the future, Janet Thomas' book, *The Battle in Seattle: The Story Behind and Beyond the WTO Demonstrations* is required reading. Through the stories of people who made it happen, Thomas weaves together the multifaceted strands that created what is now considered a benchmark event in the history of citizen protest. By giving voice to the diverse causes compelled to converge and challenge the soulless brutality of corporate domination, she presents a readable, comprehensible pathway through the labyrinth of global politics and realities. The book serves not only as a document of the Seattle protest but also as a valuable reference and an inspiration to continued resistance.

I was born in Seattle. Like the author I now live on San Juan Island. The landscape of this book was familiar to me and brought home the old adage "Think globally, act locally." As familiar with the territory as I am, reading *The Battle in Seattle* taught me many things I did not know. Thomas takes her readers back to a 1944 meeting in New Hampshire at Bretton Woods that sets the stage for our current global economic situation, then she brings us up to date with the critical issue of today's third world debt.

In the Fall of 1999, the microcosm and the macrocosm intersected in our backyard. New York filmmaker Shaya Mercer who directed the full-length documentary *Trade-Off* that premiered at the Seattle International Film Festival in June 2000,

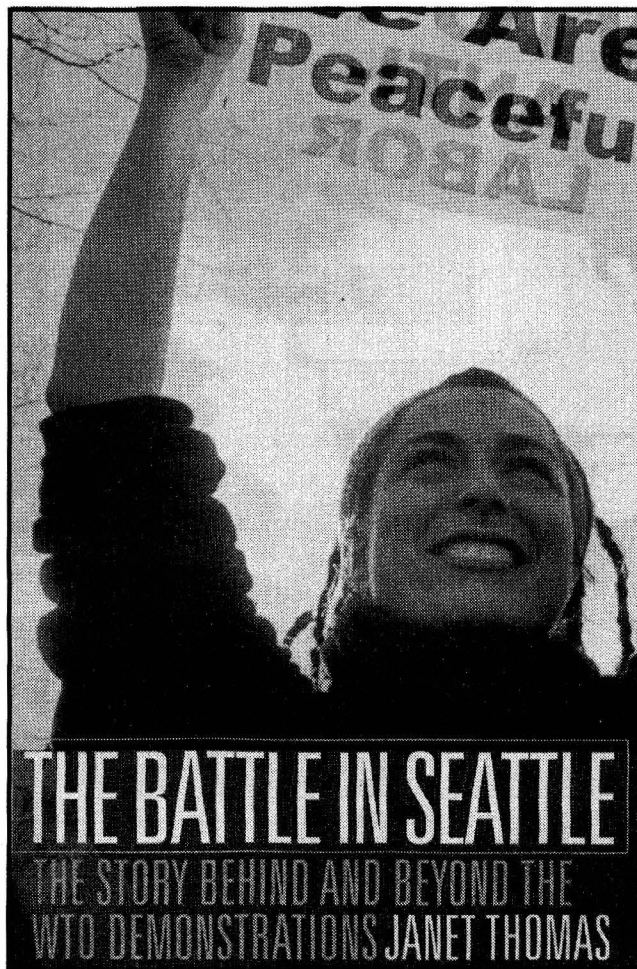
grew up here on San Juan Island. Ben White who came up with the idea for the sea turtle action and organized the construction of 250 sea turtle costumes (one of which is now in the Smithsonian museum) lives just down the road. And the organic farmers that Thomas went to interview in the Cascade Moun-

event, yet it also serves as a tool for activists by showing the relationships between a broad scope of issues. Farming, labor, third world debt, animal rights, environmental issues and issues of sovereignty come together as mutually dependent forces in resisting corporate control. The scope of the issues make it impossible to cover any one area in great depth, so for further exploration nearly 200 organizations are listed at the back of the book with addresses, phone numbers and websites. Organizational contacts are followed by an informed list of suggested reading materials.

Not only does this book bring the problems into focus, but solutions are suggested as well. Interviewee, Dr. Michael Cohen, founder of the Gaia Conference and recipient of the UN's Distinguished World Citizen award, teaches his students "to forget what we've learned and get intimate with what we know." Says Cohen, "Power will prevail, but it will be the power of natural attraction: a state of inherent grace, in which we fit into the web of life and keep our inherent sensory awareness well tuned for the occasion."

Standing up to the might and muscle of global corporate power is a daunting challenge. Even understanding the complexity of the issues can be intimidating. Here is a tool that offers clarity and connection, information and inspiration. I highly recommend adding this one to your bookshelf or your backpack.

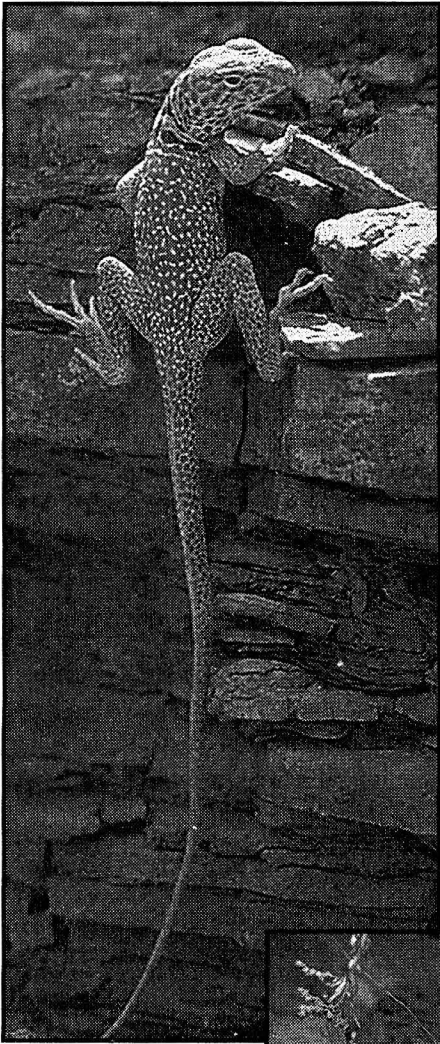
Check it out for yourself. The book is published by Fulcrum publishing and is available through this website ([www.battleinseattlebook.com](http://www.battleinseattlebook.com)).



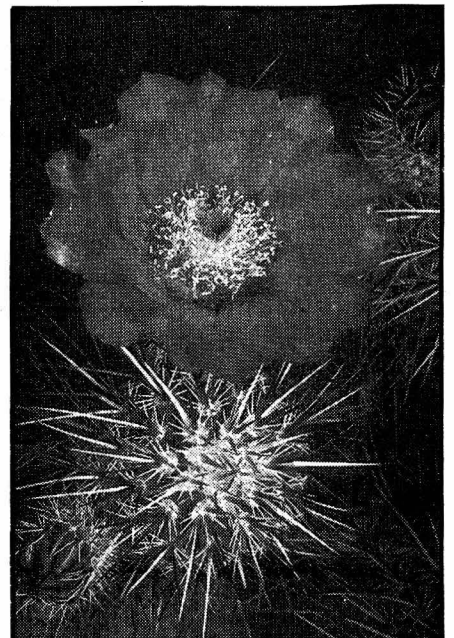
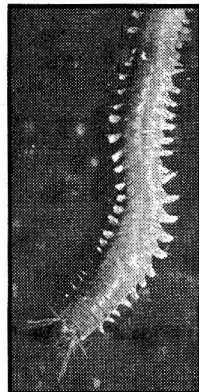
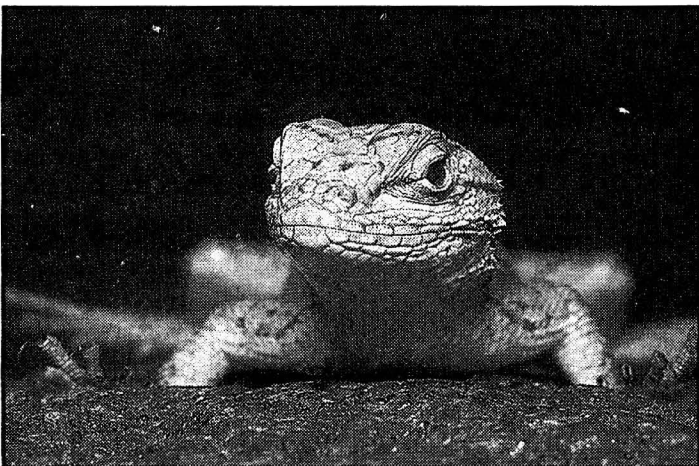
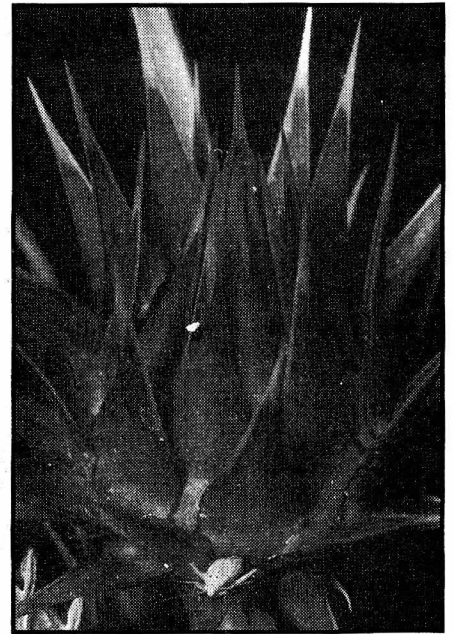
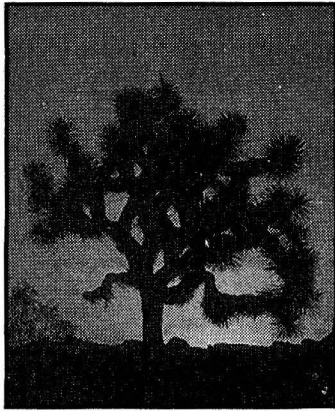
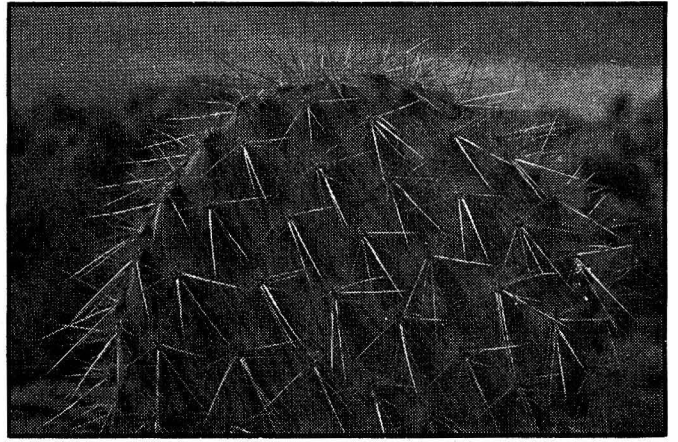
tains sent her back to neighboring Orcas Island to talk with Tom Forster, who had about 20 farmers from around the world at his house for the WTO. The global and the local were converging. As Thomas writes, "The issues are as close as the buttons on our clothes, and as distant as the despair in Africa."

This book is a history of a specific





*Dave Parks has contributed photos to the Journal for years. We thank Dave and all our contributors and supporters. Please continue to send in your art, photos, poetry, articles and ideas!*



*All photos by Dave Parks*



# Earth First!



## Trinkets and Snake Oil



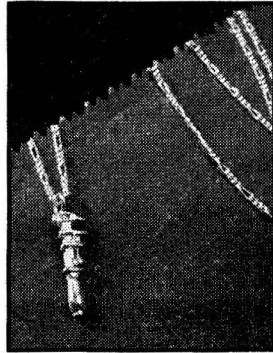
### KEEP IT WILD!

A compilation of songs from seven of EF!'s favorite musicians: Darryl Cherney, Alice DiMichele, Robert Hoyt, Dana Lyons, Casey Neill, Peg Millett and Joanne Rand.

**"Keep It Wild!" SALE! CD—\$14 TAPE—\$9 or free with a new subscription, see form page 67.**

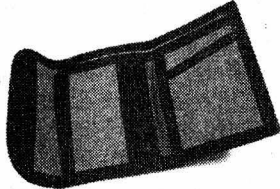
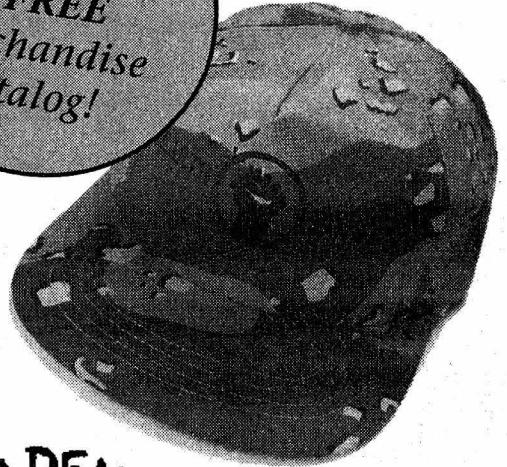
### Monkeywrench Jewelry

Sterling silver, made from old spoons. Available as 12-inch necklace, lapel pin, and post or dangle earring. Necklace **\$15**, Lapel pin **\$10** Earrings **\$10** (each)



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Small 1.5-inch stickers good for bikes or bulldozers! Earth First! "Fist," "Tools" or "No Deal, Assholes." Thirty stickers, **\$2**

## Earth First! Direct Action Manual



Second Edition

Uncompromising Nonviolent Resistance in Defense of Mother Earth!

### Direct Action Manual

The antidote to despair. Everything you need to know about blockading tactics, techniques and devices to defend the Earth, from monkeywrenching to civil disobedience. Fully illustrated, lots of diagrams and graphics, 154 pages, **\$10**

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Tan with black and green fist and black lettering. Specify wording. "Greed Kills" or "Earth First!" **\$12**

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# FAQ about the ELF

The *Frequently Asked Questions about the Earth Liberation Front* booklet is now available from the North American ELF press office. This 31-page booklet contains answers to 22 of the most frequently asked questions about the ELF. It is printed on 100 percent recycled, acid free paper with a full color cover.

Available for \$6 postage paid in the US and \$7 international.

Please make all checks and money orders out to "Resistance," c/o North American ELF Press Office, POB 4783, Portland, OR 97208, USA.



## International Turn it On Day

In support of global economic collapse. Turn all electrical items on and leave them on for at least 24 hours (or until blackouts knock out all the power).

### July 27

As California goes, so goes the US. First the California economy. Then the US. Then the world.

## HIGH-FLYING ACTION

This fall at one of the mass actions against the IMF and the WTO something new and exciting will help make these actions spectacular. For at least a week before the anti-globalization protest, a brave warrior risking her life and freedom will have spread the word around the planet about the reality of a WTO New World Order. Thousands of additional people will join the protest action solely because of this high-flying individual. No, it won't be Julia Hill up there this time, but it will be a new radical voice with a sophisticated appeal to mass direct action.

This action will take place hundreds of feet above the ground on a three by eight-foot platform suspended on a traverse line between two skyscrapers. Cell phones, solar chargers, a free radio station and perhaps a live webcast will be this woman's only companions. Surprises that we cannot divulge will accompany the

action, which we hope will last several weeks. We have the plan, the technical and media teams ready to go. What this planet and what we need is: the cash! Make checks payable to \_ark\_ idle; send your ideas, dreams and other donations to Tanya, SKY-SIT EARTH, POB 3412, Tucson, AZ 85722; (888) 392-4832 x.212-312-6662; skysitmedia@excite.com; or Sarah, blackgreen@chickmail.com.

## World Economic Forum

October 7-9, Miami, Florida

The World Economic Forum (WEF) is planning on meeting in Miami, Florida, primarily to assess the progress of the FTAA negotiations. The date is tentatively set for October 7-9. There is intent on mobilizing opposition on a large scale in south Florida, and we are seeking support from other activists around the state, country and world in these areas:

- Indy media
- Legal aid
- Logistics
- Medical team
- Food
- Outreach
- Action trainings

We need to get started now! The south Florida activist community is not very large and dwindles even more in the summer, but the state network is pretty tight.

Planning for October could help strengthen the community, as well as spreading the global movement to new places. Please get in touch ASAP if you can help coordinate in one of the above areas, especially if you think you wanna spend the summer in the tropics, help prepare locally.

For more information and updates, contact [rodentuprising@hotmail.com](mailto:rodentuprising@hotmail.com).

## Revolutionaries of the World: Converge on Washington DC!

Between September 28 and October 4, 2001, people will be coming together to oppose the bi-annual meetings of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank. These meetings will be occurring at the Wardman Park Marriot Hotel in Washington, DC.

Both the IMF and the World Bank are merely the outward faces of a brutal elite bent on imposing its destructive economic regime on the entire world. We will not be content with reforming or even abolishing the IMF/World Bank. We will not rest until every last bank has burned—'til the last memory of banks has been erased. Only from the ashes of these banks, and of capitalism itself, can arise a New World of liberation, community and ecological harmony.

We call for a large-scale mobilization to disrupt the IMF/World Bank meetings in solidarity with revolutionary movements throughout the world. We envision a joyous festival of resistance that will bring these meetings to a halt.

There is much to be done—please get in touch! Send all correspondence to: [wordsarenotenough@hotmail.com](mailto:wordsarenotenough@hotmail.com). Visit: [www.infoshop.org/octo/abolishthebank.html](http://www.infoshop.org/octo/abolishthebank.html).

# ODYSSEY Active-Fest 2001 BEYOND BABYLON 2nd Annual

## Northern California Activist Festival of Creativity

People from Northern California and beyond will gather on Bastille Day weekend (July 13-15), at the Boonville Fairgrounds in Anderson Valley, Mendocino, California. We will share our collective concerns about the declining viability of the life force upon this planet, the subversion of the democratic process and the corporate "web of death" which entangles us.

Can we, immersed in the grave circumstances of the state, repression of dissent and the manipulation of the political process, organize amongst ourselves and explore ways to enhance what pertains to basic human needs, in a manner that impacts the planet lightly?

We can learn from each other the nature and origin of some of the problems, evolving creative solutions. We can no longer participate in those aspects of society that contribute to this Earthly debasement. We now get to write the future history of the next seven generations.

We're excited about offering to our community a forum and gallery for the performing arts, including music, theater, comedy, poetry and cinema. If you would like to make a donation to Active-Fest 2001, you can send your tax-deductible check to the Mendocino Environmental Center, 106 W. Standley, Ukiah, CA 95482.

We regret that absolutely *no* alcohol or dogs are permitted.

For more information, contact Rafael Borrás, POB 2685, Fort Bragg, CA 95437; (707) 961-6253; rafa@saber.net; www.saber.net/~rafa.

## Mattole wish list

People are needed at the Mattole Action Camp (see page 15). Please come to the Mattole for a few days and help defend the 3,000 acres of incredible old-growth Doug fir forest. Come prepared for wet and cold conditions. The hike to the Free State is more than 12 miles.

Essential Mattole Forest Defender Needs:

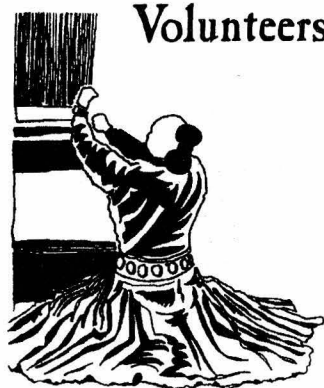
- Walkie-talkies
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- UHF/VHF radios
- Hydrogen peroxide
- Dried soup mixes
- Organic oats & rice
- Tofu
- Dried fruit/raw nuts
- Bivy sacs & sleeping bags
- Raingear
- Still cameras & film
- Wool socks

For more information, contact the Mattole Forest Defenders, POB 28, Arcata, CA 95518; (707) 825-6598; (707) 822-3771 (fax); ncef@humboldt1.com; www.mattoleforestdefense.org.

## Protect Medicine Lake from Geothermal Development

Recently a stay against construction at Medicine Lake in Northern California was lifted, giving CalPine Corporation the green light to begin drilling test wells. The Medicine Lake Highlands are held sacred by every tribe in the area including the Pit River, Modoc and Shasta people. Exploitation of the geothermal power under the mountains would destroy ancient traditions of healing and worship and poison this pristine aquifer, one of the main sources of the Sacramento River. Drilling could begin at any time, even as the project is being challenged in court.

A 7.5-minute organizing video about proposed geothermal development at Medicine Lake is now available. The video features interviews with Native elders, underwater photography and narration by Steven Segal. You can watch the video online ([www.medicinelakevideo.org](http://www.medicinelakevideo.org)), or you can order it at POB 133, Mount Shasta, CA 96067. Donations can be sent to the Mount Shasta BioRegional Ecology Center, POB 1143, Mount Shasta, CA 96067.



## Volunteers Needed to Support the Traditional Diné on Black Mesa

Black Mesa Indigenous Support (BMIS) is coordinating volunteers to repair livestock corrals, hogans and vehicles, interns for permaculture projects, sheep herding, mudding an adobe structure, shearing sheep, planting corn and much more. Work crews are good any time of the year. Please contact BMIS, and we can provide you with further information about cultural sensitivity and the nature of the projects.

BMIS is a group of individuals acting to support the sovereignty of the indigenous people affected by mining activities on Black Mesa, who face forced relocation, environmental devastation and cultural extinction at the hands of multinational corporations, and the US and tribal governments. For more information, contact (520) 773-8086; [www.blackmesais.org](http://www.blackmesais.org).

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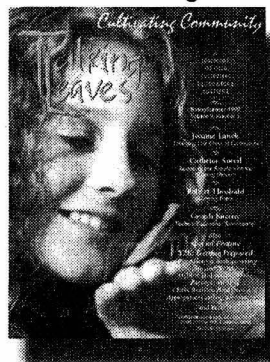
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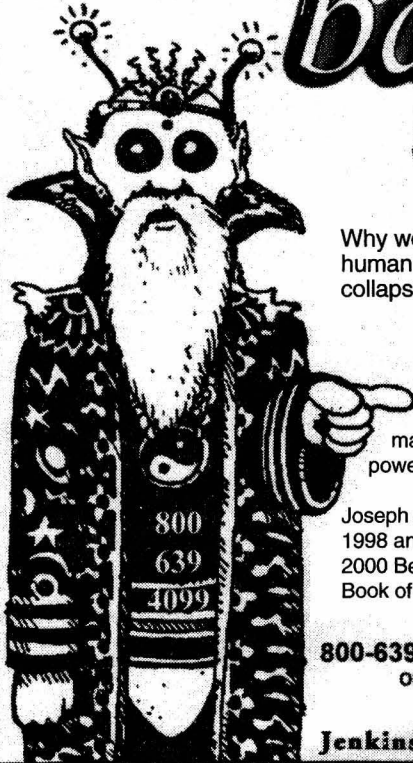
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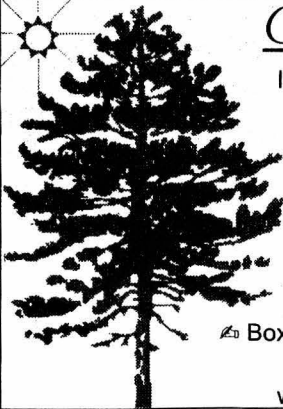
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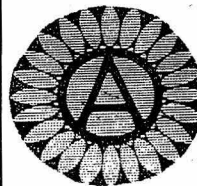
[www.earthfirstjournal.org](http://www.earthfirstjournal.org)

The website is going through some major renovations, if you haven't seen it in a while, check it out.



## Green Anarchy #5

This issue includes Northwest Heats Up, The EZLN is Not Anarchist, Stuck in the Mud of Ideology: A Response to Stick it to the Manarchy, Police State in Davos—Riots in Zurich, and much more.



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Eugene, OR 97440  
USA

# Prisoner Support: They Are in There for Us

## Ecodefense

•Jeremiah Rush Bowen #108016, DCC, 1140 E. 10 Road, Delta, CO 81416. Serving two years for the attempted arson of a townhouse in Boulder, Colorado, in the summer of 2000.

•Jeffrey Luers (a.k.a. Free), POB 50263, Eugene, OR 97405. This is a temporary address as he awaits the outcome of his trial on 11 charges relating to two arsons in Eugene, Oregon.

•Craig Marshall (a.k.a. Critter), POB 50263, Eugene, OR 97405. Serving a five-year six-month sentence for conspiracy to commit arson and possession of unlawful devices.

•Ted Kaczynski #04475-046, US Pen-admin Max Facility, POB 8500, Florence, CO 81226.

•Helen Woodson #03231-045, FMC Carswell, POB 27137 Admin Max Unit, Fort Worth, TX 76127. Serving 27 years for robbing a bank and then setting the money on fire while reading out a statement denouncing greed, capitalism and the destruction of the environment.

•Lee Himlin EX7748 HMP Perry Road, Sherwood, Nottingham, N65 3AG UK. On remand for criminal damage to quarrying equipment at the Nine Ladies quarry.

•Nikos Maziotis, c/o Dafni Vaganou, Ozortz 3, 10689 Athens, Greece. Serving five years for bombing the Greek Ministry of Industry in solidarity with the residents of Strymonikós Bay opposed to the attempts by TVX-Gold to build a factory there.

•Silvano Pellissero, Com. Mastrolierto, Via Ferrerinoli #2, Sanponso, 10080 Torino, Italy. Serving six years eight months for allegedly sabotaging a rail line construction site in the Northern Italian Alps. Silvano reads French, Spanish and Italian (not English).

## Animal Liberation

•Mia Muhonen, Vaasan Poliisilaitos, Raastuvankatu 30,65100 Vaasa, Finland. Being held on suspicion of raiding a mink farm.

•Brandon Elder, Tampereen kihlakunnan poliisilaitos/Tutkintavankila Hatanpäänvaltatie 16,33100 Tampere, Finland. Being held on suspicion of raiding a mink farm.

•Mel Broughton DJ8216, HMP The Mount, Molyneaux Avenue, Boyingdon, Hemel Hempstead, HP3 0NZ, England. Serving four years for conspiracy to cause explosions.

•Barry Horne VC2141, HMP Belmarsh, Western Way, Thamesmead, London SE28 0EB, England. Serving 18 years for various anti-vivisection arsons and attempted arsons.

## Anti-capitalist

•Robert Lee Thaxton #12112716, OSP, 2605 State Street, Salem, OR 97310. Rob threw a rock at a cop in self-defense at the 1999 Eugene J18 RTS and received a severe seven year sentence as part of a "mandatory minimum" sentence. He was recently moved back to this address for unknown reasons.

•Michael Collins, FR6303, HMP Elmley, Church Road, Eastchurch, Sheerness, Kent, ME12 4AY, UK. Two years.

•Jonathan Elliot, FT10TT, H.M.P Petonville, Caledonian Road London, N7 8TT, UK. Six months, due out soon.

•Marcus Gabbard, FT9062 HMP Camp Hill, Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 5PB UK. He has been sentenced to 18 months for setting fire to a police van during the N30 demonstrations.

## Indigenous

•Eric Wildcat Hall #BL-5355, Unit I/A 10745 Route 18, Albion, PA 16475-0002. Serving 35-75 years for helping ship arms to Central American resisters.

•Leonard Peltier #89637-132, POB 1000, Leavenworth, KS 66048. An American Indian Movement (AIM) activist, serving two life sentences, after having been framed for the murder of two FBI agents.

•Robert Wilson #640289, Estelle Prison Pack Unit 1, 2400 Wallace Pack Rd, Navasota, TX 77869. In 1978 Robert (a.k.a. Standing Deer) exposed a government plot to assassinate Leonard Peltier. His reward was life in prison.

•Lenny Chavez, POB 28703, Oakland CA 94694. An AIM activist who defended himself and his family from an armed racist. Lenny disarmed his attacker by stabbing him with a penknife and was jailed for attempted murder.

## MOVE

•Debbie Simms Africa (006307), Janet Holloway Africa (006308), Janine Phillips Africa (006309), SCI Cambridge Springs, 451 Fullerton Ave., Cambridge Springs, PA 16403-1238.

•Michael Davis Africa (AM4973), Charles Simms Africa (AM4975), SCI Grateford, POB 244, Grateford, PA 19426-0244.

•Edward Goodman Africa (AM4974), SCI Camp Hill, PA 17011-0200.

•William Phillips Africa (AM4984), Delbert Orr Africa (AM4985), SCI Dallas Drawer K, Dallas, PA 18612.

**WE ARE IN HERE FOR YOU; YOU ARE OUT THERE FOR US**

This list is a small sample of the total number of political prisoners worldwide. For more information visit [www.spiritoffreedom.org.uk](http://www.spiritoffreedom.org.uk). The *EF!J* offers free subscriptions to prisoners. Due to the high cost of mailing, we must request that prisoners and prison support groups/individuals keep us posted about address changes so that we don't waste postage.

# International Earth First! Directory

There is an international Earth First! web page at: [www.snet.co.uk/ef/](http://www.snet.co.uk/ef/)

## AUSTRALIA

**EF! Australia**  
POB 1059, Maleny, Qld 4552  
[efoz@earthfirst.org.au](mailto:efoz@earthfirst.org.au)  
**Rainforest Information Centre**  
POB 368, Lismore, NSW 2480  
(066) 21-85-05  
**EF! Australia Community**  
Lot 9 Halliford Rd via Dalby, Qld 4405  
tel/fax 61 (0) 7-3207-0033;  
[admin@earthfirst.org.au](mailto:admin@earthfirst.org.au)

## CANADA

**EF! Manitoba**  
599 Talbot Ave, Winnipeg  
Manitoba R2L 0R7;  
(204) 453-9052  
**EF! Montreal & Diffusion Noire**  
c/o Librairie Alternative  
2035 St. Laurent, 2 e étage  
Montréal, Quebec H2X 2T3  
**Elaho EF!**  
1030 Keefer St, Vancouver, BC V6A 1Z1  
(604) 682-3269 x.6144;  
[earth\\_first@ziplip.com](mailto:earth_first@ziplip.com)  
**CURACAO**  
**EF! Curaçao**  
POB 4893, Willemstad, Curaçao,  
Netherlands Antilles  
599-9-4616256 (fax); [falcone@fiberia.com](mailto:falcone@fiberia.com)

## CZECH REPUBLIC

**Zeme Predevsim**  
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[zemepredevsim@ecn.cz](mailto:zemepredevsim@ecn.cz)  
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[carbusters@ecn.cz](mailto:carbusters@ecn.cz)

## EIRE

**An Talamh Glas c/o Robert**  
[robatg@hotmail.com](mailto:robatg@hotmail.com)

## ENGLAND

*More than 50 Earth First! and radical ecological direct action groups exist in the "United Kingdom." There are also a number of other anarchist/revolutionary groups and projects. For a list or for general news from the UK, contact:*  
**EF! Action Update**  
POB 487 Norwich NR2 3AL, 0160-3219811;  
[efactionupdate@bigfoot.com](mailto:efactionupdate@bigfoot.com)



## Manchester EF!

A30, c/o Dept.29, 255 Wilmslow Road,  
Manchester M14 5LW  
0161-226-6814;

[mancef@nematode.freemove.co.uk](mailto:mancef@nematode.freemove.co.uk)

## Leeds EF! c/o CRC

16 Sholebroke Ave, Leeds LS7 3HB  
0113-262-9365; [leedsef@ukf.net](mailto:leedsef@ukf.net)

## Do or Die

c/o Prior House, 6 Tilbury Place, Brighton,  
East Sussex, BN2 2GY  
[doordtp@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:doordtp@yahoo.co.uk)

## FINLAND

### Finland EF!

Viiivinkatu 17 AS 17, 33610 Tampere 61

## FRANCE

### Les Eco-guerriers

71 Av. Jean Jaurès, 92140 Clamart  
01-40-95-09-06; [contact@earth-first.org](mailto:contact@earth-first.org)

## GERMANY

### EF! Germany c/o Avalon

Friedrich-Ebert Str 24, 45127 Essen

## INDIA

### Anand Skaria

POB #14, Cochin 682001, Kerala  
(009) 484-25435

### Bander Bagicha

Near Maurya Lok PATNA-800 001 Bihar,  
Post Box 229

## ISRAEL

### Green Action Israel

POB 4611, Tel-Aviv, 61046  
972 (0) 3 516 2349

## THE NETHERLANDS

### Groene Front!

Postbus 85069, 3508 AB, Utrecht  
tel/fax 31-84-8666018; [groenfr@dds.nl](mailto:groenfr@dds.nl)

## PHILIPPINES

### Ariel Betan, Green Forum

3rd Floor, Liberty Building  
Pasay Road, Makati, Metro Manila  
(2) 816-0986, 851-110, 818-3207

### Volunteers for Earth Defense

189 San Antonio Ext. SFDMM  
1105 Quezon City

### EF! Campaign East M. Mla.

POB 176, Tagig Central PO  
1632 Tagig, M. Mla.

## POLAND

### Workshop for All Beings

POB 40, 43-304 Bielsko, Biala 4  
tel/fax 48-33 (8)183153

### In Defense of the Earth

Towarzystwo Ekologiczne  
"W Obronieziemi" Domonika Baryla  
ul. Limanowskiego 138/42  
91-038, Lodz;  
48-42-653-38-16;  
[goral@tewoz.most.org.pl](mailto:goral@tewoz.most.org.pl)

## RUSSIA

### ECODEFENSE!

Moskovsky prospekt 120-34236006  
Kaliningrad/Koenigsburg  
tel/fax 7 (0112) 43-72-86  
[ecodefense@glas.apc.org](mailto:ecodefense@glas.apc.org)

### Rainbow Keepers (10 local groups)

POB 14, Nizhni Novgorod, 603082  
(8312) 34-32-80

### Rainbow Keepers (Moscow)

(095) 954-91-93; [rk@glas.apc.org](mailto:rk@glas.apc.org)

### Rainbow Keepers

POB 52, Kasimov, 391330  
7 (09131) 4 15 14; [rk@lavrik.ryazan.ru](mailto:rk@lavrik.ryazan.ru)

## SCOTLAND

### Glasgow EF!

POB 180, Glasgow G4 9AB  
44 (0)41 636 1924/339-8009;  
424 3688 (fax); [scotree@gn.apc.org](mailto:scotree@gn.apc.org)

### Fife EF!

c/o 91 South Street, St. Andrews,  
Fife KY16 9Q, 01334- 477411

## SLOVAKIA

### Slobodná Alternativa

Staromestská 6/D, 811 03 Bratislava

## SOUTH AFRICA

### Earth Action!

POB 181034, Dalbridge, Durban 6016

## SOUTH KOREA

### Green Korea United

110-740 #605 Korean Ecumenical Bldg.  
136-56 Younji-Dong, Jongro-Gu, Seoul  
82-2-747-8500; 82-2-766-4180 (fax);  
[greenkorea@greenkorea.org](mailto:greenkorea@greenkorea.org)

## SPAIN

### Environmental Workshop

IES Xelmirez I, 15701 Santiago,  
[manoelantonio@lettera.net](mailto:manoelantonio@lettera.net)

## SWEDEN

### Morgan Larsson

Lagmansgaten 9C, 46-37 Vänersborg  
Action For Social Ecology  
POB 34089, 10026 Stockholm  
46-70-7560195

## UKRAINE

### Rainbow Keepers (5 local groups)

POB 322, Kiev 252187  
7 38 (044) 265-7628; 550-6068 (fax);  
[rk@cci.glasnet.ru](mailto:rk@cci.glasnet.ru)

## WALES

### Gwynedd & Mon EF!

The Greenhouse, 1, Trevelyan Terrace  
Bangor, Gwynedd LL57 1AX  
01248-355821

## Projects & Campaigns

### Bioengineering Action Network

POB 11331, Eugene, OR 97440  
[ban@tao.ca](mailto:ban@tao.ca); [www.tao.ca/~ban](http://www.tao.ca/~ban)

### Cold Mountain, Cold Rivers

POB 7941, Missoula, MT 59807  
(406) 728-0867; [cmcr@wildrockies.org](mailto:cmcr@wildrockies.org)

### EF! Direct Action Fund

POB 210, Canyon, CA 94516  
tel/fax (925) 376-7329

### End Corporate Dominance

HCR 82, Fossil, OR 97830  
(541) 468-2028

### North American Earth Liberation

#### Prisoners Support Network

POB 11331, Eugene, OR 97440  
[naelpsn@yahoo.com](mailto:naelpsn@yahoo.com)

#### Warrior Poets Society

POB 14501, Berkeley, CA 94712

#### ELF Press Office

(503) 478-0902; [elfpress@tao.ca](mailto:elfpress@tao.ca);  
[www.earthliberationfront.com](http://www.earthliberationfront.com)

#### North American ALF Press Office

POB 3673, Courtenay, BC V9N 7P1  
(250) 703-6312; (419) 858-9065 (fax);  
[naalfpo@tao.ca](mailto:naalfpo@tao.ca); [www.animalliberation.net](http://www.animalliberation.net)

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POB 860997, Tuscaloosa, AL 35486  
ua-earthfirst@antisocial.com

## ALASKA

**Alaska Action Center**  
(907) 56-EARTH; akaction@alaska.com

## ARIZONA

**Arizona Wildlands Museum**  
POB 24988, Tempe, AZ 85285  
Tucson EF!

POB 3412, Tucson, AZ 85722  
az\_earth\_first@hotmail.com

## **Ponderosa Wingnuts**

2155 E. Maple #17, Flagstaff, AZ 86004  
(520) 774-6542

## **Wildfire Infoshop**

POB 23552, Flagstaff, AZ 86002  
wildfireinfoshop@yahoo.com

## **Riff Raff Collective**

214 N. McKormick St, Prescott, AZ 86301  
(520) 541-9162

## **Phoenix EF!**

POB 1601, Scottsdale, AZ 85252  
phoenixef@excite.com

## CALIFORNIA

### **Northcoast EF!**

POB 28, Arcata, CA 95518  
(707) 825-6598; ncef@humboldt1.com

### **Sierra EF!**

228 Commercial St, Dept. #174  
Nevada City, CA 95959

### **Fairfax Action Team**

POB 393, Lagunitas, CA 94938

### **Sonoma County EF!**

POB 7544, Santa Rosa, CA 93107  
(707) 523-1229

### **Bay Area EF!**

POB 83, Canyon, CA 94516  
(510) 848-8724

### **Santa Cruz EF!/EF! Radio**

POB 344, Santa Cruz, CA 95061  
(831) 425-3205; cruzef@cruzio.com

### **Sequoia EF!**

POB 1108, Exeter, CA 93221  
exetrade@aol.com

### **Santa Barbara EF!**

POB 12799, Santa Barbara, CA 93107  
(805) 961-2516; sbef@rain.org

### **Action Resource Center**

POB 2104, Venice, CA 90294  
(310) 396-3254; 392-9965 (fax);  
arcla@enviroweb.org

### **Mojave EF!**

POB 492, Lancaster, CA 93584  
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### **Peninsular Ranges EF!**

POB 4738, Irvine, CA 92616-4738

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### **Alachua EF!**

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### **Red Gate EF!**

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### **Shawnee EF!**

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### **Mass Direct Action**

POB 484, Somerset, MA 02726

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### **Yellowstone EF!**

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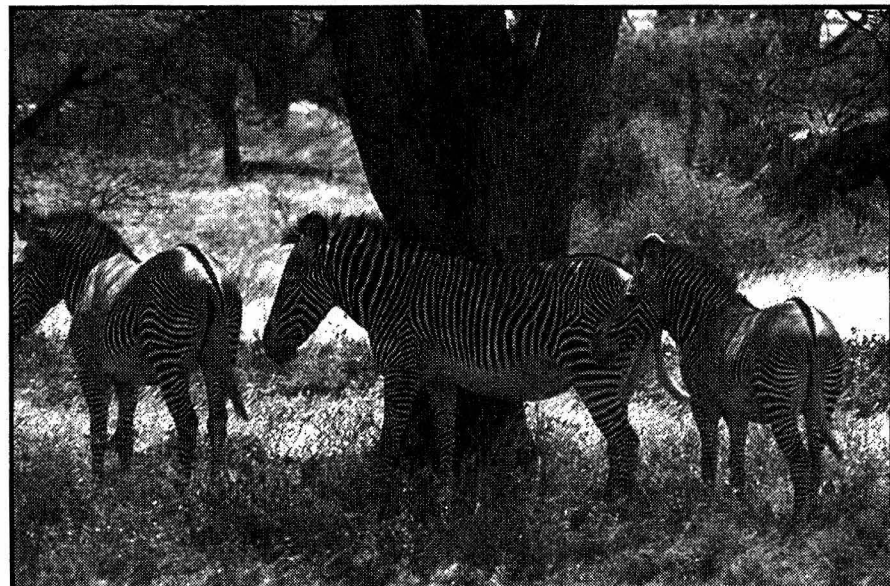


photo by Dave Parks

Three Grevy Zebras, Buffalo Springs, Kenya

# The Road to the Underground... and Beyond

Want to be a revolutionary? Anarchist? Try this: Walk straight out your door into the night air... Climb a hill or something up high. Look out into the darkness at the dark sky. Then let your eyes look down at the multitude of lights flashing, porch lights, street lights, offices, cars and airports. Close your eyes and you can still see it... Ripeness for picking.

Picture the thousands of cities, millions of cars... the rows of shiny jet airplanes, ready and fueled. Safety and security purchased cheap, on the market, hired guards with guns. How many bullets or light bulbs does it take to run a global consumer system, how many burn out each day? Bulbs are dying and guns are selling faster than young bodies are rotting (45,000 dead each day, 17 million a year to starvation and war). Hunger and starvation become investments in the game of Globalization.net. How much do I get for 44,000 extinct species each year? Can you feel inside of yourself the things you can't express... the hidden pain? The broken filmstrip plastic slaps noisily as the techno-police state-nightmare keeps pounding its counter-mantra: "Pull the plug. Stop me! Before I hurt everything, more..."

If we took a bunch of starving kids and endangered animals, and we just burned them in a big bonfire, would it make you flinch? Or will we soon just stand there as the bar-code programming replaces our eyes—or at least our vision. This dark monster that shines before our eyes is like *The Matrix*—only worse—it's organic and it ends in the death of everything. It's more than a game and more than a movie when this curtain closes.

Scrap the way you have viewed the world. All the key symbols and cultural concepts we use to define the world—the way that we think—have been corrupted and manipulated to delude us into ignorance and self-destruction. If the system hasn't stolen your soul yet, nor sucked out your determination, then come along with us. Embrace the Underground.

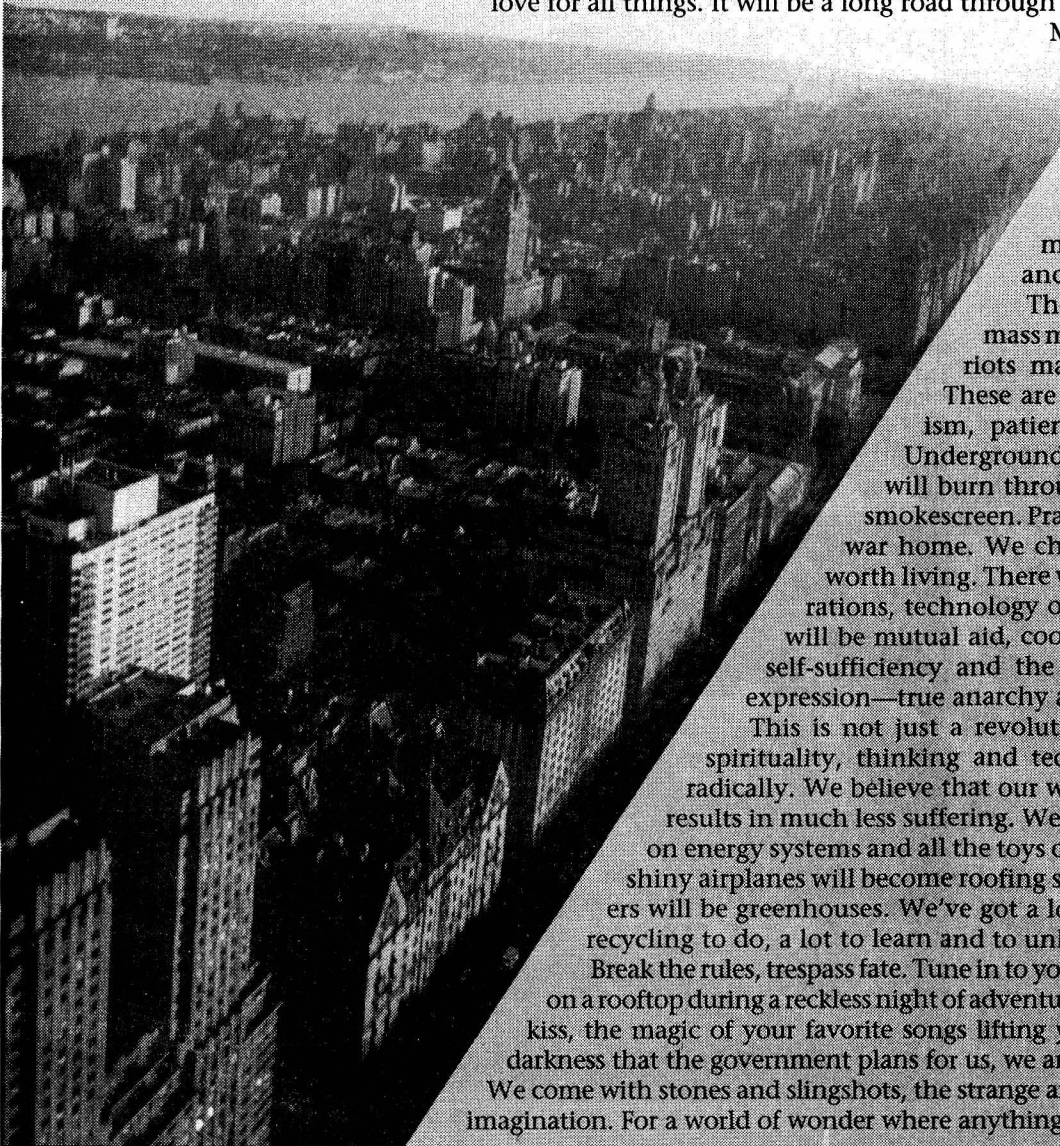
We don't need to hide behind words like democracy, reform or progress. Purge these constructs and replace them with liberation, anarchy and love from our hearts. We must be brave and believe in a world of sharing free expression and love for all things. It will be a long road through the Underground.

Moderates always play the game of holding back and diluting the radicals' "condemnation of materialism." From Jesus to Buddha and Gandhi to Che Guevara, moderates beg for patience and then redefine the truth.

These are the "end times" of mass movement protests and even riots may no longer be effective. These are the "end times" of passivism, patience and moderation. The Underground's bonfires of celebration will burn through the veil of the media's smokescreen. Praxis not posturing. Bring the war home. We chart a new course for a life worth living. There will be no more USA, corporations, technology or material affluence. There will be mutual aid, cooperation, decentralization, self-sufficiency and the liberation of desires—self expression—true anarchy and wildness.

This is not just a revolution about power! Culture, spirituality, thinking and technology must all change radically. We believe that our way—the quickening way—results in much less suffering. We reach now to pull the plug on energy systems and all the toys of the greedy boys. All those shiny airplanes will become roofing shingles... and the skyscrapers will be greenhouses. We've got a lot of reducing, reusing and recycling to do, a lot to learn and to unlearn.

Break the rules, trespass fate. Tune in to your deepest feelings, the wind on a rooftop during a reckless night of adventure, the roar of an unexpected kiss, the magic of your favorite songs lifting you up. Fearless against the darkness that the government plans for us, we are strong in our own desires. We come with stones and slingshots, the strange and untamed weapons of our imagination. For a world of wonder where anything is possible...





**As the last old-growth conifers fall and are replaced by managed tree farms, as the last free-flowing rivers are dammed and as the few remaining unaltered big game winter ranges are subdivided; more species will become extinct, native ecosystems will disappear, more noxious weeds and other exotics will invade the depleted landscape and more genetic material will be forever lost. The quality of the planet will continue to plummet, unless those who care about, bleed for and love wild country begin to work to reverse the tragic depletion of life, natural diversity and wildness. –Howie Wolke**



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