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Ramon - Xnty po EF!

Earth First!

Solidarity
State

Samhain 1992

Vol. XIII, No. 1

THE RADICAL ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNAL

November 2

THREE DOLLARS

Earth First! Takes on Tropical Imports

IBMST

By Jake Jagoff

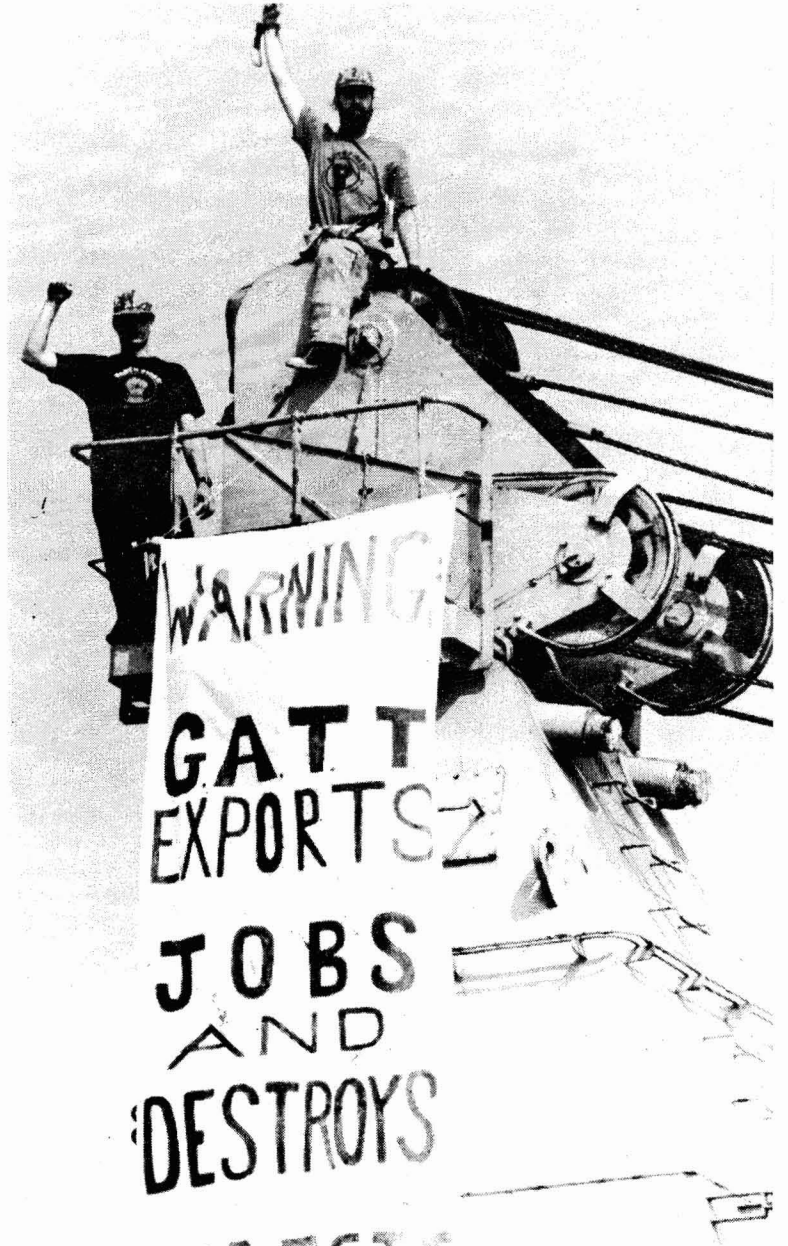
On October 20th, 1992, rainforest activists from Earth First!, Greenpeace, and the Rainforest Action Network (RAN) occupied the Sammi Superstars, a Pan Ocean Bulk Carrier (POBC) ship heavily-laden with tropical plywood from Indonesia. Eleven activists boarded the ship and proceeded to unfurl a 60-foot banner, shut down four cranes on the ship, and obtain video footage of the vessel's rainforest cargo.

Six Earth First! activists ascended the ship's four 150-foot cranes, successfully preventing any unloading of tropical timber for six hours. The activists allowed the dock workers to unload steel from the ship which strengthened the solidarity between the affinity group and the local longshoremen. Two of the activists, support for the Greenpeace climbers deploying the banner, were escorted off the ship. Luckily, the media was able to read the banner's poignant message, "Stop Tropical Timber Imports: Rainforest Wood Out of Hollywood!"

According to various longshoremen at the action, the protest cost POBC between \$150,000 and \$500,000. Port spokeswoman Yvonne Avila said the 644-foot Korean-owned ship was carrying 4,300 tons of plywood and 1,000 tons of steel destined for local markets. She confirmed that none of the plywood and only a small portion of the steel was unloaded during the protest. Greenpeace spokesman Bill Walker estimated 4,900 acres of rainforest would have to be cut to produce the 4,300 tons of plywood.

The ship action was the first of its kind in the US and signaled an escalation in the campaign to ban tropical timber imports into North America. In addition, it was significant that the process used to organize the action allowed Earth First!, Greenpeace, and RAN to work together to protect rainforests. This eco-tripartite has laid a solid foundation for future joint actions

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Roving eco-dudes Jim and Chuck straddle the Sammi Superstar cargo ship's crane to stop the importation of Indonesian hardwood for use by the evil Hollywood film industry. "What a blast!" Jim said, "We owned that ship. Talk about personal empowerment."

**Washington Earth First! Blocks
Plum Creek Log Export at Docks in Tacoma
See story and photos page 7**

Mainstream Groups Sell Out Big Montana "Wilderness" Bill Dies in Congress

By Steve Maher

So there they were, camped out in Debbie Sease's Sierra Club office. Bart "would-be Wilderness czar" Koehler of the Greater Yellowstone Coalition, John Gatchell of Montana Wilderness Association, and, of course, Debbie. Just sittin' there, trying to figure out how they could get Pat Williams elected and maybe protect some wilderness while they were at it. Dreaming about their paychecks. Maybe Bart was thinking about gettin' himself a horse too. Just sittin' there.

In their own minds, they were the power brokers who were gonna finally get this thing settled. Once and for all, or at least until next time. Imagine the headlines: "Debbie Seizes the Day!" "Czar Bart Leads Comrades Through the Wilderness!" and "Congress Snickers behind Gatchell's Back!" Our heroes worked closely with their venue to glory, Max Baucus, spineless Democratic Senator from Montana (he grew up with sheep ya' know). It turns out, they wanted more Wilderness than Baucus (but not much). So Max started threatenin' 'em, telling them he was never going to work with them again and was maybe gonna sic the Democratic Campaign Committee on 'em. I guess maybe Max wasn't as worried as Debbie about getting Williams re-elected.

The tragic part of our heroes' story is that Max got humiliated when right-wing reactionary Al Simpson killed his wilderness giveaway on the Senate floor. Debbie, Gatchell, and Czar Bart lost their place in the sun and went moping home.

So gentle reader, that's it in a nutshell, but read on for the full fetid features of this sordid saga.

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Native Americans
Fight Destruction of
Wild and Sacred Lands

Anti-Columbus Protests
Worldwide

Plowshares Disarm a
Military Satellite

ads, ads and more ads



PHOTO: HUGH GARDNER

American Indian Movement forces cancellation of Columbus Day parade in Denver, Colorado. See story page 20.

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Earth First! and Five Hundred Years of Resistance

I consider it the objective of the *Earth First! Journal* to provide a forum for discussion and debate, for self-education and inspiration—the larger mission being to provide focus for organizing and, perhaps most importantly, for building unity among a diverse people; in essence, to serve the Earth First! movement, and the earth and all it's creatures.

Recent improvements in both the form and content of the *Journal* can be attributed to several factors, including the editorial leadership of Mike Roselle, the day-to-day management of several key personnel, and production by longterm and rotating staffers.

However, it goes without saying that the *Journal's* working collective could not do this without the contributions coming from writers, artists, poets, and photographers who provide us with material for publication. While in-house writing is more frequent, it still represents only a small portion of overall *Journal* material. We must rely on many of you if the *Journal* is to continue to serve it's role more effectively.

This issue is especially exciting to me due to it's primary focus: 500 years of idigenous resistance! In this issue we have the words of Tiny Man Heavy Runner, a chief of the Blackfeet in northern Montana. His words are especially important in bridging the gap between Indian concerns and wilderness defense. Tiny Man is especially adept at providing us with an insightful message, one that is necessary to the development of a strategy to build unity between Indians and radical environmentalists.

Speaking of unity between Indians and Earth First!, I'm pleased to say that such unity has come in the form of a statement of solidarity addressed to Earth First! from the American Indian Movement of Colorado. Written by Ward Churchill, co-director of Colorado AIM, this statement of solidarity reflects the maturity of Earth First! as a growing movement, bridging links with other movements who share our hopes and struggle for a new society, one that includes the lives and well-being of all species.

After reading Ward's letter, one

may come away with a preference for less attention to past conflicts and specific individuals, past and present, in Earth First!. But such a preference doesn't make these issues of the past go away. For AIM, and others I assume, these issues are still important and worth addressing, and it will probably remain so for the foreseeable future.

Also, it may be worth noting that issues of domination of humans over other humans, whether in the form of sexism, racism, or classism, remains the central focus of many of our sister and brother movements. While we are most concerned with domination of humans over nature,

long oppressed. His view of the events contrasts sharply from the reports of the Denver establishment press, which depicted AIM, as Hugh indicated to me over the phone, as violent, denying the Italians of Denver their right to free speech. In essence, an attempt to discredit AIM and it's objectives.

All this business about unity, especially with Indians, is vitally important as we plan for next year's Earth First! Round River Rendezvous, to take place near Mt. Graham in Arizona, scene of years of resistance to development by both Indians and Earth First! Two articles in this issue pertain to Mt. Graham and the travesty now taking place there.

Just as significant in this issue is the review of the defeat of the Montana Wilderness bill. Tiny Man addressed the relevance of the wilderness bill for the Blackfeet, and an article on the first page gives the blow by blow report. With over six million acres of roadless land in Montana, this wilderness bill holds great significance for defenders of biodiversity. The Wilderness bills proposed in Congress did not provide nearly enough protection for these wildlands. Rather, they released the great majority of roadless area to development.

Related to this is an interview with Lance Olsen of the Great Bear Foundation. In his interview with the *Journal*, Lance covers a wide range of issues that relate specifically to wilderness designation, the survival of the world's great bears, and more.

On behalf of all those directly involved in the production of the *Journal*, I encourage your involvement, your critical appraisal of the *Journal*, and your participation in making it a more effective forum for the Earth First! movement.

In Solidarity,
DON SMITH



American Indian Movement Protest of Columbus Day Parade, Denver, Colorado

i.e. the destruction of nature by humans, we would be seriously mistaken to divorce these various forms of domination from one another. Perhaps this is the primary lesson alluded to in Ward Churchill's statement.

Colorado AIM's statement of solidarity comes as a result of the reporting of my friend Hugh Gardner in Denver. Hugh attended AIM's protest of Denver's Columbus day parade, the first established parade of its kind in the country. Along with his photos, the story he provides reveals the true spirit of protest—the personalities, and the strength and energy of a people

Earth First!

Samhain

November 2, 1992

Vol. XIII, No. I

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Earth First! Journal is a forum for the no-compromise environmental movement. Responsibility rests with the individual authors and correspondents. The contents do not necessarily represent the viewpoint of this newspaper, the Earth First! movement, local Earth First! groups or individual Earth First!ers.

Submissions are welcomed and should be typed or clearly printed. Send a SASE if you would like them returned. We encourage submissions on Macintosh disks or via Econet (send to "earthfirst"). We appreciate a cover letter with any pertinent information, including a telephone number where we may contact you if we have questions. Art or photographs (negatives are best, prints are good, slides are fair) are desirable to illustrate articles and essays. They will be returned if requested. Please include explicit permission to reprint slides.

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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The deadline for the next issue is December 5th.

IN MEMORY OF PETRA KELLY

BY MICK WOMERSLEY

It is unfortunate that America will probably not mourn the deaths of Green Party founder Petra Kelly and retired general-turned activist Gert Bastian. Their violent ends merited only a small piece in the "Food and Health" section of Missoula's local rag this morning and, outraged, I feel the need to strike back. Who will know the story if it is never told loud enough?

Those of us who were young in Europe in the late seventies and early eighties will remember the hopeless feeling that we experienced with the invasion of our countries by American Pershing and Cruise missiles. We also remember the hope we experienced when the German Greens won seats in the Bundestag, and Kelly, our hero, was seen in newspaper photos talking with government penguins wearing t-shirts and sandals. One particularly dramatic moment that needs to be remembered as part of our folk culture was when the Greens took their seats in the parliament for the first time. All the rest of Bundestag, mostly men with a smattering of women, all conservatively dressed, was upstaged by the colorful procession of Green parliamentarians. When they sat down, they did so in such a way that they were a solid block of color between the two mainstream parties.

We needed to know then that we had political power. Petra and the Green movement told us we did. Bastian, the old soldier, showed us that older people could and would share the same values. Some of us were inspired and went to found other branches of the movement elsewhere, or took the energy and changed our lives in other ways.

The environmental movement already has its share of martyrs and most of us probably don't even believe in martyring ourselves to the cause.

all leaders, and will simply learn to become better leaders ourselves if they take our best from us. Others seem to think that the movement will fragment at the hands of skilled spin doctors, will topple under the weight of conservative public backlashes, or will simply peter out if ignored. Mistakes number two, three and four.

A movement that is based on grassroots support for a human way of life, a humane way of life that doesn't kill the planet or take resources from other humans who need them is based

There will be others. Nobody can stop us in the next stage, which is when we tell the world that it is possible to live as a Green on the planet, and not only is it possible, it's more human, more fun and more fulfilling.

Today I shed a tear for Kelly and Bastian. Last night I was inspired by Helen Caldicott on public radio (one leader is replaced immediately by another). She told of how she was banned from a major prime-time network show after her book, *If You Really Love the Planet* came out. The corporate sponsors, General Electric, were named as despoilers in the book, and they tweaked the tail of the network to censor Caldicott. She got her message out in other ways.

As always, I will go out into the world again today to try to continue living my life in the best way I know how. No one can take that power away from me or anyone else. In the future, the American media will be shamed by historians for their mean-spirited adherence to the dictates of their corporate slave-drivers, and their various financial rationales. Meanwhile, my friends and I are free.

Mick Womersley is a wilderness advocate and native of England.

Some people seem to think that our movement can be decapitated by removing leaders. Mistake number one.

That would be against all the ecological imperatives that I know of.

It is clear to me that some people seem to think that our movement can be decapitated by removing leaders. Mistake number one. We are

mostly on the strength of our own emotions and human needs. We already have our new lives. They can never be taken away. Kelly and Bastian were there to help us show ourselves what to do to make our new lives.



Letters to the Editor

Dear Earth First! (the Journal and the movement)

After having dropped out of the EF! scene for a couple years, it was with a mixture of curiosity, skepticism and even some mild apprehension that I decided to attend the Rendezvous this past summer in Colorado. I was nevertheless quite gladdened to see a generous dose of spunk and fire (and so much bare skin, ooh!) animating the EF! milieu again. And it wasn't like some phony, off-the-shelf smile button brand "good-vibes-in-a-can" where everyone simply pretends that there are no problems, attempting to obscure the obvious "public secret" that there *are* problems. No, the energy seemed refreshingly authentic. Few seemed to deny conflict, only to accept and integrate it better. I think a basic condition which consumerism fosters and on which it depends for its continuation is the craving—inculcated, is'pose, by years of 30-minute sit-coms—for some false ideal of perfection and resolution instantaneously. Dropping out of everything from relationships to business ventures to political projects at the first sign of trouble has become a hallmark of modern culture, radical environmentalism no exception. In

the Switch-to-Brand-X society we are so rarely taught, encouraged or rewarded for developing persistence, decisiveness, resolve or patience, among other qualities necessary to succeed at life or anything. It gets back to those irrational Hollywood expectations of perfection, like the anorexic, silicone-implanted, air-brush-enhanced centerfolds: no one *really* looks like that (thankfully!) and we'd all be dismal failures if we tried. To approach any endeavor in both a "realistic" and "idealistic" sense requires a pre-acceptance of failure, conflict and mistake. Taken thusly, these events become simply a part of the learning process. Imperfection ceases to be a "problem," in a sense, as it has been expected all along. Setbacks come as no surprise and there are methods of overcoming them, learning and moving on.

The turmoil of recent years (actually since about '87) has, in my opinion, been caused at least as much by people's poor response to conflicts as to the conflicts themselves. At least! The fact that conflict even existed is what really seemed to upset people, many of whom were likely living in an air-brush-enhanced fantasy. Maybe this explains so much of the extremely out-of-proportion responses and the difficulty of ever really resolving much in the way of differences. Dig?

So, it seems EF!ers as a whole (if one can even begin to so generalize) have come quite a ways towards that part about "learning and moving on." That's why it's called a movement. And those who couldn't or wouldn't do it either moved out or simply got left behind on the curb. That too, is predictable and cause for few tears. People will come and go, each contrib-

uting in their own manner—for better or worse—to the process of shaping the movement. Mourning the dead for too long or attempting their resuscitation only leads down a dead-end street populated with fawning necrophiliacs. Better to maintain and encourage vigor and sincerity in action and spirit at all times in order to inspire and inflame those of similar passion. And ain't that what makes EF! what it has been and is?

A final comment: many of the difficulties of the past 5 or so years were anticipated either both in context or content by those in certain quarters of the movement. But vindication is really only like sugar to a famished person—sweet, but of little nourishment. Let's hope that a movement which sees itself as a global Cassandra and wears its heresy so brazenly will, in the future, pay more attention to its own heretics.

Cheers,

—JAN OSIK

Dear EF!

Contrary to the Dear SFB letter in the last issue, I think Jesus would've very much supported tree spiking. Studying the Bible here at the eco-Christian commune I've been living at for the last couple years, I've come to see that if Jesus were alive today He would've likely been an Earth First!er and a monkeywrencher—of sorts. As we all know, "Wilderness is next to Godliness" and it's time for Christians to fight for "God's Country" by any means necessary! We are organizing militant eco-Christians to "Spike (themselves to) a tree for Jesus." This will save the wilderness and bring one closer to God as well as help alleviate world over-population—with the added bonus benefit of reducing the

number of first-world hyper-consumers. Souls, airy as they are, have very little impact on the heavenly ecosystem, so this is no excuse for not volunteering immediately. Right now, two groups of dysfunctional, angst-ridden misanthropes have decided not to wait for either the Rapture or Armageddon and are preparing to take "the Big Ride" for your sins. (Preparation involves fasting, self-flagellation and chanting "Fuck the human race"). We wish them well. We'll soon be publishing a journal covering eco-Christian direct action techniques (self-spiking, etc) along with warnings about the Hell-fires which await wilderness despoilers. It's called *Live Mild or Fry!* and we encourage everyone to submit.

—MIKE JAKUBAL

Dear shit for brains,

Live Wild or Die #4 needs yer help. Ideally we'd like to have our little zine out and on the racks by the Activists Conference in January, but judging by the submissions we have received so far this will be difficult. So far our mailing to EF! contacts and radical publications has prompted a decent response but by no means is it enough material to publish something worthy of being called *LWOD* (pronounced el-wod). Are ya going to help us or what!?! We'd really like to see something a little heftier than book reviews and shitty graphics. Thanks for all the poetry but how about sending us some original graphics and camera-ready art, the usual humor and satire we've seen in past *LWODs*, short, loud rants on our own desires and for the wild, and submissions for the monkeywrench chronology (see Dear Ned Ludd in this issue).

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The Great Bear: Will it Survive in the Wild?

BY DON SMITH

Lance Olsen is former President of the Great Bear Foundation, located in Missoula, Montana. Born and raised in central Montana, Lance has taught at a number of universities and colleges. He is a leading national spokesperson on behalf of the bear and the preservation of wilderness habitat necessary for bear survival. This interview focuses on a variety of issues, ranging from the threats to grizzlies, the politics of national environmental groups, to global climate and human overpopulation.

Journal: You resigned recently as President of the Great Bear Foundation. What lay behind your decision to do this?

Lance: Ten years...I believe presidents should come and presidents should go. It also got really clear to me that our top priority species, the grizzly bear in the lower 48 states and southern Canada, may not survive.

Journal: Why is that?

Lance: The answer is partly simple and partly complicated. One part of it is that the landscape is changing so rapidly that the bears won't be able to survive what is happening.

Journal: Your resignation was intended in part to state this publicly, was it not?

Lance: Yes. Partly it was a declaration about all the bullshit, about all the feel-good biology that states 'the bears are doing just fine and we got everything under control.'

Journal: Which is coming from the agencies?

Lance: Yes, and some of the major environmental groups. Jay Hair, President of the National Wildlife Federation, was quoted in the *Missoulian* saying that Senate Bill 1696 (the Montana wilderness bill, which was eventually defeated) protected all the key wildlife habitat in Montana. When I learned of that my first urge was to write and ask him to resign on the grounds of incompetence. The major environmental groups are repeating the same mistakes once again.

Journal: Name a few of these groups.

Lance: The National Wildlife Federation, the Wilderness Society, the Sierra Club, basically all of them.

Journal: They're all saying that the grizzly is doing fine in the lower 48?

Lance: They're all acting as if there were no threats to the bear. They're all supporting bills like 1696, accepting one million to 1.5 million acres out of 6 million in Montana.

Journal: This wilderness bill did not protect roadless land so much as release land for exploitation. Are we better off now that the Montana wilderness bill has been defeated?

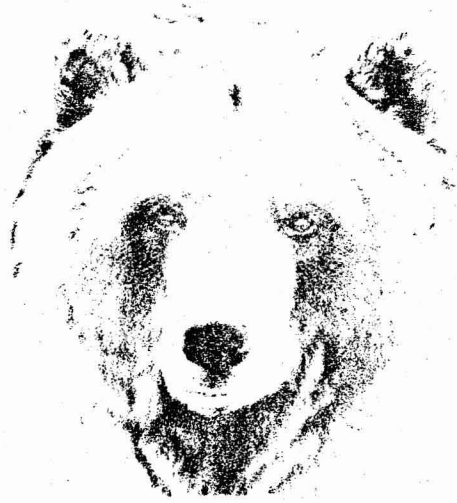
Lance: Absolutely. The national groups are taking a piecemeal approach to wilderness, ignoring the needs of wildlife. They are actively opposing the Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act, which is set up according to the needs of wildlife.

Journal: It is almost as if national groups feel threatened by local groups.

Lance: Yes, they do. The bigger they get, the broader the net they have to cast. It becomes easy for them to convince their members that they have had a victory when what they really had was a loss. 'We saved a million acres,' they'll tell their membership. But they won't say that they saved a million acres at the cost of 4 million acres, acres that will be leased to oil, gas, timber and the motorized sports industry. The bigger they get the more unsophisticated their members are, and some of their contributors won't allow them to do specific things. They won't take the best biological course because they want to protect their funding.

Journal: Lets look at Yellowstone and Glacier National Park regions. The *Bear News* (publication of Great Bear Foundation) states that there are more bears in the Glacier region, yet the population may be more threatened there than in Yellowstone.

Lance: It is generally accepted that there are more bears in the Glacier region than Yellowstone. That may be true. I suspect it is true. But the Northern Continental Divide is being unraveled, shrinking more rapidly than Yellowstone. Along its western front in the valleys, housing developments impact



the areas, creating a strip city from Whitefish to Missoula down nearly to Darby. And that strip city is a death trap because the grizzlies that wander into it aren't welcomed, and they'll either be killed or packed off to zoos. Putting them in zoos is the same as death as far as the wild population is concerned. There is oil and gas, mining, logging, subdivisions and tourism. All these indicators point straight to extinction.

Journal: The grizzlies of the Mission Mountain range are being cut off from grizzlies in the Bob Marshall and Great Bear Wildernesses and Glacier...

Lance: Because of the excesses in the Swan Valley; too much housing and too much logging and road building. The Mission Mountain bears are part of a larger population, but isolated, they are a few struggling bears, and they will die.

Journal: The Central Idaho Wilderness Complex may be large enough for bears, but can they survive without the salmon runs of 100 years ago?

Lance: That's a worthwhile question. If we get salmon recovery it will boost the bears' chances. We also need clearcut recovery. We can't give up on this. We need to restore these areas by putting forests back together. We need experimental ways to bring back old growth.

Journal: Recovery also presupposes road closures.

Lance: Yes. In a big way.

Journal: The grizzly is an indicator species...

Lance: Yes, and so are human beings, and if we want to know how the grizzly is doing, look at the local, native population and how they are doing. People who were born here, how are they doing? A small logger can't afford to outbid the big logging outfits for timber sales. The little guy can't compete with the big companies for these sales. The forest plans aren't doing local people any good. But the big companies are fattening quite well.

Journal: The Forest Service is basically structuring their forest plans to benefit monopoly capitalism.

Lance: Well, how could it be any other way. When Reagan was elected the first thing he did was to appoint John Crowell as Secretary of Agriculture, overseeing the Forest Service. Crowell was loyal to Louisiana-Pacific.

Journal: And it hasn't been any different with Bush.

Lance: No, its the same.

Journal: So when we speak of the Bush Administration we're speaking of the Reagan-Bush Administration?

Lance: Yes we are. Its one continuous Reagan-Bush Administration. Bush's first job appointed by Reagan was to head up a commission to get rid of regulations. To get rid of law and order is what that means. To de-regulate banking, forests, everything.

Journal: When Reagan-Bush speak of deregulation, of getting government off our backs, they're speaking specifically of getting government off large corporation's backs. Government has in fact been made bigger!

Lance: The small local logger whose back got broken didn't have government support. There was a redistribution of wealth. The local post and pole operation that had been cutting modestly here and there got their pockets picked for the benefit of the big guys. Reagan said he'd kill debt and he increased it. He said he was against redistribution of wealth, yet pulled off his own redistribution scheme, locking the forest up for multi-national corporations.

Journal: The welfare system is intact. It just got re-directed.

Lance: Yes. Its still the same water coming out of the same hose. It is just being directed to a different part of the lawn.

Journal: Any thoughts on the Wise Use Movement?

Lance: For the grassroots folks in the Wise Use Movement, they don't know what's hitting them. They're being blind sided. Its a shame. They're being wiped out by the same people who they think are their allies. The local people are an indicator of what's happening. These local people are indicator species. I look at the people who have been sucked into the Wise Use Movement and say, 'I know what's going to happen to them.' And I take that as an indicator of what's going to happen to the bear. The changing nature of the landscape is going to determine it for both of them. People here can't afford to buy homes. People that have lived all their lives, going back four generations, can't afford to live here anymore.

Journal: Where are they going?

Lance: Some of them just move deeper into the woods where land is cheaper, further and further away from the cities and towns. They become the leading pioneers in the urban sprawl, wiping out the wildlife habitat. They become environmental refugees. They crowd the bear. Some go up to Alaska to cut the Tongass.

Journal: And the same issues reside there as here. Let's examine a recent incident in Glacier where a grizzly and her two cubs were killed because they had killed and partially fed on a hiker, raising fears within the Park Service that they would be accustomed to human meat and thus kill again. You make an argument that some clashes between humans and bears will always exist. But you're more concerned that too much attention to these kinds of incidents can detract us from greater threats to the grizzly?

Lance: It can. As we move more and more into bear habitat there will be more bear deaths. Its getting to the point that bears can't sustain this any longer. The mortality and the habitat question are one and the same. If we don't leave the bear with enough secure habitat once we move in they die. Bears are also being hit by cars, trains, buses and trucks. They

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Plowshare Activists

When Stars Have Eyes

Activists Destroy Surveillance Satellite

I tried to do what was possible, rather than what was permitted. I tried to do what was right rather than what was convenient.
—Keith Kjoller, at his sentencing, September 21, 1992

BY PETE SHANKS

On May 10th, Plowshare activists Peter Lumsdaine and Keith Kjoller disarmed a satellite. They broke into the headquarters of Rockwell International's headquarters in Seal Beach, California in the middle of the night, and headed for building 86, which contained two clean rooms holding eight Navstar satellites, two of which were wrapped and ready for shipment to Cape Canaveral.

Clean rooms are 99.8% (at least) dust-free environments for the assembly of delicate high-tech gear. Kjoller and Lumsdaine smashed into them with axes. That in itself ruined the work in progress; the contaminated equipment had to be stripped down, checked and reassembled. The noise attracted the attention of security guards, who grabbed Kjoller and flung him into the shards of glass before he could get inside.

Lumsdaine meanwhile managed to get to one of the finished satellites and used his ax to get the wrapping off and start dismantling the machine. He

civilian use. Their biggest customers: the Pentagon just before Desert Storm began, when they wanted more in a hurry and the Chinese government just before the 1989 crackdown, when army troops from remote provinces were sent to "restore order" in Beijing.

Each extra satellite launched compounds the strength of the system. Ten were put up in 1989-90, but technical difficulties restricted the launches to one in '91. These were resolved and the 12th of this series went up on February 23rd, 1992, with launches scheduled every 60-90 days thereafter. As of mid-September, no more had gone up.

The activists were held at first without bail, then on a million bucks of bail. In late June they were briefly let out, after agreeing to a plea bargain, under which they stipulated that they caused up to \$1.5 million of damage and were told they could expect no more than about two years in jail.

Lumsdaine was given 24 months in jail and Kjoller 18, for a minor contribution (he didn't actually get to a satellite). Both were ordered to pay \$15,000 restitution to Rockwell International and placed on supervised probation for three years after their release. The Plowshares are generally Christian anti-war, anti-military activists who practice a type of

WEST VIRGINIA MOUNTAIN MAN

*I met him a few years ago,
on a warm and sunny
fall day,
as I hiked through the wilderness
of the Alleghenies,
it was Indian summer,
the leaves were red and golden.
He sat on a log
outside his little shack,
carving a piece of wood.
Old man in the forested hills.
How long has he lived here for,
I wonder.
I walked closer, and the old man
looked up at me, and made a gesture
with his hand.
Have a seat, son, he said.
Then he went on carving.
I tried to start a conversation,
and i told the man
about my travels,
i mentioned the places I had been:
Paris, New York, San Francisco,
Amsterdam.
Tell me more about these places,
he said.
There wasn't too much to tell, I said.
All I had left was shallow impressions,
I had just stayed a day,
and rushed on
to new sights, new sounds, new people.
He told me that he had spent his whole
life
in these hills, and the farthest he had
gone
was a town 15 miles to the east,
but that was a couple of years ago,
these days he didn't go to town anymore
Too many people, too much noise.
And then he told stories
about the land
the trees
the rivers
the animals
and I realized
that this old man
not only knew the land,
he was the land.
When he talked, I could hear the
the trees talk,
and I am sure the old man
could feel
the wild rivers
flow through his veins.
He told me about this black bear
that lived around here,
sometimes he came real close.
The old man said he kept a rifle,
but he never tried to shoot the bear.
God made this land for all critters
to share,
he said.
I still think of the old man
sometimes.
And I wonder if he still lives
out there
amidst the trees
the rivers
the hills.*

—Peter Zmyj



"Starlight..."



"...star bright..."



"...first star..."



"...I nuke tonight..."

got 60 blows in before the stunned guards finally forced him to stop. Damage estimates for the whole operation run up to nearly \$3 million, according to Rockwell.

Navstar (Navigation System Time and Ranging) GPS (Global Positioning System) is, as of now, incomplete. Currently, 21 out of an expected 24 are up, strung around the globe in three different orbits, like nooses with eight knots each, at least four will be visible from any point on earth at any time.

The intended users, of course, are the military.

Navstar is a targeting system. Receivers are attached to cruise missiles, 6-inch artillery shells, planes, tanks, and Jeeps. They help to guide first-strike missiles to their targets, and infantry across unfamiliar terrain. In the words of Bob Aldrige, a former Trident missile engineer, "Navstar takes the guess out of warfighting." The system was field tested in the Gulf War, and the Pentagon loved it.

The war department has been working on GPS for almost thirty years. Its uses for a nuclear first strike are extremely significant, but "Navstar is ideal for certain kinds of counterinsurgency operations," explains Lumsdaine. "The traditional advantage of lightly armed peasant guerillas or civilian refugees, is that they know the local terrain." But Navstar lets the invaders know exactly where they are and takes away the edge.

For public-relations purposes, the Pentagon and the manufacturers try to foster the illusion that GPS is intended to find sailors lost at sea, even though they encrypt the signals so that only the military get the most accurate data. Some large corporations do want to use it to map and exploit third-world resources, but it was never designed for

civil disobedience monkeywrenching. They often break into military installation where they are sure to be caught and damage or destroy weapons and weapons systems.

Northern California activists are continuing to raise money for Keith, Peter, their cause, and their dependants, as well as to spread the word about what they did and why they did it. Checks should be made available to "Stop First Strike/LAC" and sent to PO Box 11645, Berkeley, CA 94701-2645.

People who particularly want to help Peter's daughter, Lucy, can send donations to her mother, Jean Peterson, at P.O. Box 8003, Santa Cruz, CA 95061.

Meanwhile, Peter and Keith would love to hear from you. Letters must include the recipient's registration number and should be sent to: Keith Kjoller, Registration Number 94358-012 Peter Lumsdaine, Registration Number 94359-012 Metropolitan Detention Center, P.O. Box 1500, Los Angeles, CA 90053

This address will change when they are signed to a long-term facility, but mail will be forwarded. For updates or further information, call the hotline at 415-824-0214.

Pete Shanks is a writer and activist who lives in Santa Cruz, CA, and is proud to be an alien. Besides, most of his town seceded from America years ago and wants to take the rest of the country with it.

Importing Indonesia's Forests...

Tropical Timber Ship Blockaded

continued from page 1

and taken the offensive against the tropical timber industry. We proved with this action that if we are to change consumer attitudes, corporate investments and government policies, on this issue, we must continue to combine our energies and our resources. Otherwise, the tropical timber campaign in North America will remain a distant priority.

The action in the port of Long Beach was the culmination of months of planning, conference calls, local meetings and outreach. The sum total of all this work was reflected in how well all the diverse elements came together to produce a colorful and highly empowering action. Our goals of challenging POBC to stop transporting tropical timber, illustrating to Hollywood why they don't need to use tropical plywood in set construction and educating American companies and consumers about their connection to tropical deforestation all came across loud and clear.

Over the last few years, rainforest activists in Europe and Australia have mounted similar blockades. Organizers who co-ordinated the action in Los Angeles believe that the first direct action against a tropical timber ship entering the US will help rainforest groups make stronger national and international links. The blockade coincided with World Rainforest Week and, as such, represents further progress in the campaign to curb commercial logging of tropical forests by halting imports to the leading markets of Japan, Europe and the US. "Commercial logging is destroying 16 million acres of rainforest a year," said Campbell Plowden of Greenpeace International.

The ports of Long Beach and adjacent Los Angeles rank third in US imports of tropical timber from Southeast Asia. In 1991, the ports received timber equivalent to the destruction of 800,000 acres of rainforest, according to Bill Walker of Greenpeace. The response from Indonesia was quick as the country's chief timber baron, Bob Hasan, stated in today's Jakarta paper. "Such boycotts are old-

fashioned...Consumers know our plywood is the most efficient, otherwise they won't use it." Hasan maintained that Indonesia's rainforests are selectively logged using sustained yield management. Anyone who has traveled to Sumatra, Kalimantan (Indonesian Borneo) and Irian Jaya (West Papua) can see for themselves the ecological and social havoc caused by the timber industry.

Indonesia contains the most rainforest after Brazil and World Bank officials estimate that the country is destroying about 2.4 million acres of forest every year. Indonesia's exports of timber products is the country's major earner after oil and gas. Last year, Indonesia exported about one million cubic meters (10.7 million cubic feet) of hardwood plywood to the US. One of the major users of tropical plywood (known as meranti) in LA is the entertainment industry which consumes approximately 250,000 sheets of rainforest plywood every year. While several independent producers have started using alternatives, no major studios have as yet switched over to existing alternatives.

Our port action in LA generated mounds of positive publicity. More importantly, it has initiated serious campaigns against the shipping lines of POBC and Hyundai, who account for 80 percent of all tropical timber transported into the US. Hollywood and American consumers support the criminals making millions off rainforests and the people who live there.

For more information on how to plug into future ship actions or other rainforest protests: Contact Jake Jagoff, **Earth First! Tropical Timber Campaign**, POB 5176 Missoula, MT 59806 econet: earthfirst! (No phone calls to Jagoff, please!); Campbell Plowden, **Greenpeace Tropical Timber Campaign**, 1436 U St. NW, Washington, DC 20009 ph. (202) 319-2414; Pam Wellner **Tropical Timber Co-ordinator, Rainforest Action Network**, 450 Sansome, Suite 700, San Francisco, CA 94111 ph. (415) 398-4404 econet: rainforest

A Seagull's Perspective of the Blockade

BY JIM FLYNN

What a blast! We owned that ship. Talk about personal empowerment; Pan Ocean Bulk Carriers asked our permission to use a crane to unload non-timber cargo.

Working with Greenpeace was great also. Not only were the people wonderful (closet Earth First!ers, if you ask me), but they have lots of neat toys. From a late night bull session in our "safe" house, to a kick-ass action within a week, we were able to combine forces, goals, and ideologies. All this was made possible by the groundwork laid by the good folks at the Rainforest Action Network.

On the day of the action, it was a bit intimidating to wander, bleary-eyed, out of the Earth First! motel room down to the Greenpeace/RAN room. It became obvious that they didn't even enjoy the hour's worth of sleep that we got. They all were sitting quietly in the dark, dressed out in full gear with earnest demeanor. Within an hour, we were approaching the ship. Then we got word there was a complete police blockade on land and we knew they would be waiting for us. After a brief discussion on the merits of a visit to Catalina, we decided to go for it. Amazingly, we were able to pull up to the ship without confrontation. But our problems weren't over. Our ladders were too short to reach the railing on the ship, so we had to unload at the dock. Three Earth First! crane sitters (Kimberly, Chuck and myself) approached the gangplank from near the bow, three more (Kristin, Craig and Kevin) accompanied by Mike with a video camera approached from land and the Greenpeace banner hangers climbed the dock to reach the gangplank from near the stern. Our team of three walked the length of the ship and were escorted on board by some security dude who made no attempt to stop us. Within minutes we were on top of the cranes. The banner hangers got caught on the deck of the ship, but much to their credit, they were able to unfurl the banner while their support people were escorted off the ship and released. Not long after that, the other crane team boarded the ship and one

climber got up immediately. The other two were detained by the authorities momentarily, then scrambled up the cranes themselves.

That was it, within a half hour of reaching the dock, four cranes were occupied with banners and sitters and another banner hung off the side of the ship, complete with climbers. It soon became obvious they had no way to remove us from the ship. It was so obvious to everyone, they didn't even try.

The ground troops filled an essential diversionary role and then joined us near the dock. All were inspired once visual contact was made between the crane sitters and the picketers. It was even possible to see the guerrilla theater from the top of the cranes. The skit involved a chainsaw, a tree, a Hollywood movie director and numerous forest creatures accompanied by assorted eco-defenders and noise-makers. Howling and drumming on the ship could be heard by the picketers as well.

After a few hours, an agreement was made to allow the longshoremen to operate one crane to unload a yacht and some steel. Our people were allowed freedom of movement on the ship and a dialogue was established with some Korean crew members on the ship. Eventually the Long Beach PD yelled up to one of our support people on the deck and negotiations were initiated. Our position was clear: we weren't coming down until POBC agreed to take their load of tropical timber away from the harbor and away from North America. In the end, we agreed to come down with a guaranteed citation and release. We left after six hours of occupation, confident that we couldn't be removed, comforted by the thought of how much money we cost Pan Ocean Bulk, and knowing that we had got the word out that the import of tropical timber would not be tolerated.

Hats-off and fists raised to all the folks at RAN and Greenpeace. See you on the front lines.

Native Forest Network activists unfurl a banner at the port of Long Beach near Los Angeles, where Indonesian timber is imported for disposable movie sets.

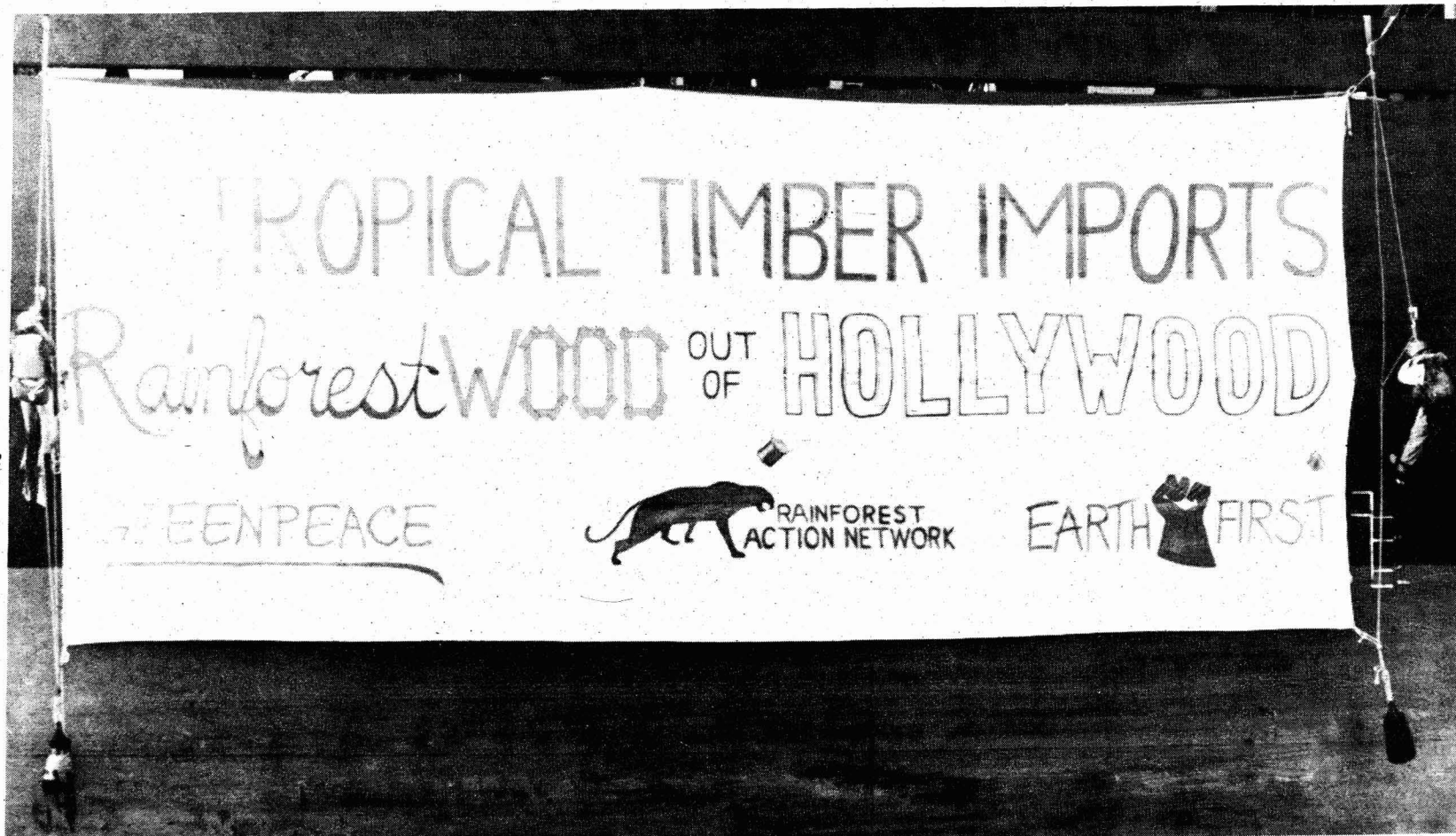


photo: Robert Visser

While Exporting Washington's

Washington Earth First! Occupies Plum Creek Log Yard and Export Dock

BY WASHINGTON EARTH FIRST!

In honor of World Rainforest Week, and to coordinate this Native Forest Network action with the simultaneous action in Los Angeles, Washington Earth First! targeted and shut down the Plum Creek log export dock in Tacoma, Washington.

Background

We picked Plum Creek because they are the second largest private land owner in Washington, after Weyerhaeuser. Plum Creek is a subsidiary of Burlington Resources, which stole its land from the public in 1864 in a Burlington Northern railroad land deal. Plum Creek's president and CEO, David Leland, admits that they are purposely liquidating old growth and that cutting at twice the sustainable rate. Further analysis of Plum Creek reveals they are, in fact, cutting at three times the sustainable rate. Plum Creek exports half of the trees they harvest in Washington state. Even more shocking, Plum Creek pays no income tax on the money it makes cutting down the trees. It is set up as a limited partnership. Under a 1987 Federal Tax Law, limited partnerships that get 90 percent of their sales from natural resources do not have to pay income taxes.

Plum Creek and Murphy Pacific Corporations are tenants of the Port of Tacoma at the export dock on Commencement Bay, slightly east of downtown, in the "single-use-industrial-area."

Washington state, the world's biggest raw log exporter, exports overseas one-fourth to one-third of the trees cut in the state as raw logs, primarily to Japan. Sixty-percent of the Northwest's annual cut is sent overseas as raw or minimally processed wood products. Evidence suggests seven direct jobs and fourteen indirect jobs are lost with every million board feet of timber sent overseas unprocessed. The USFWS has stated that any job loss caused by spotted owl protection could be more than made up by a small reduction in raw log exports. Ostensibly, it is illegal to export raw logs from public lands in Washington, but legal loopholes allow private/public land log substitution.

Our Action

Our actions took several fronts, including a visit by high-flying banner hanger Tony very early on Tuesday morning, October 20, 1992. A couple hours after his arrival, about fifty of us descended on Plum Creek from Bellington, Seattle, and Olympia.

The Tacoma police were apologetic for their lack of staff since a city teachers strike was simultaneously happening and they could not afford staff for a "major action." We explained to them, when asked who our spokesperson was, that we had come from three very different towns and had done no coordination other than to announce the action.

We gathered together and stormed in as a banner unfurled from the crane above. We immediately took over the place, singing and drumming, encircling log-stacking machines, eventually shutting them down. Two logs were placed in the driveway, blocking arriving log trucks.

As the workers shut down their evil yellow monsters, activists began to

Photo: Michael Howell



Despite all the propoganda about us radical enviromeddlers costing good Americans their livelihoods, it's shipments like this one, temporarily blocked by Washington Earth First!, that are the real culprits.

explore the true horror of the log yard. Mature and old growth Douglas Fir and Hemlocks from the west slope of the Cascade Range, and Poderosa Pine from the east slope waited to be exported to Asia.

Simultaneously, another group ran through the log yard to a ship, which was half full of raw logs which would fill up at Port Townsend before heading to Japan. We boarded it, preventing them from leaving for several hours.

In the adjacent Murphy Pacific log yard, some Earth Firsters briefly shut down the operation but were confronted by a very angry longshoreman. We discovered that Murphy Pacific owned logs on the north side of the dock as well as having just sold the logs on the ship. The tribe split into smaller groups and ran into the yard, blocking the machinery with their bodies. With the media on the scene, we stopped the machines from stacking logs with a fun-and-run strategy, which shut them down. It was a crazy game of hide-and-seek among the logs—us against the industrial machine.

The cops came and warned those who were on the ship to leave or be arrested. Also present was Slicky Willy, a suit spokespod representing the port of Tacoma, who informed us that we were trespassing and endangering our lives.

We decided (in the quickest consensus ever) to head back over

to Plum Creek side of the dock to join others, who were engaged in a positive discussion with some workers. At this point, our friend on the crane had climbed down, fifteen log trucks were backed up from the Plum Creek yard entrance, and a cougar was locked to a log stacking machine. Cougar demanded that Plum Creek remain closed for the day. Slick Willy claimed that he wasn't authorized to make that decision and then informed us that because of the "vandalism" (bar code inventory tags were being ripped from logs), we all had to leave or be subjected to arrest. We left in order to avoid the legal hassles, carrying among others, signs reading "Earth First!, Profits Last." The action ended with a defiant march across the log scales.

By the time of our departure, idled longshoremen, media and 25 riot police had gathered along with a chartered police bus.

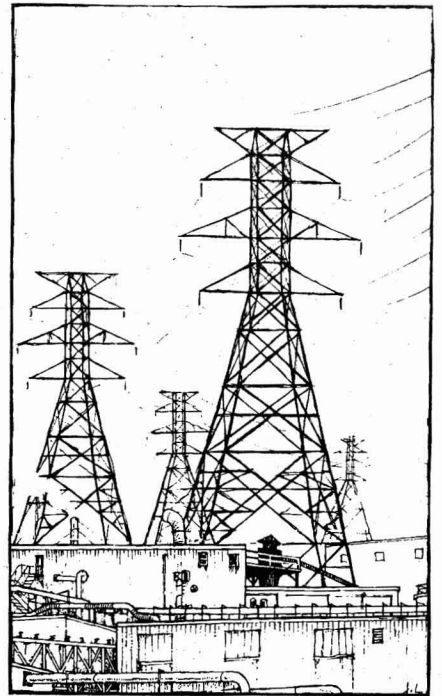
The biggest success of the day was that, despite limited planning Washington Earth First! banded together. We all fed off of each others' wild spirits and pulled off a kickass action.

In terms of immediate impact from the action, equipment was shut down for several hours, the log ship was prevented from leaving, and about a dozen log trucks were turned away from the facility. According to Sharon

Kanareff, industrial PR extremist (aka Director of Corporate Affairs) for Plum Creek, "clearly we are going to have some monetary impact from even what appeared to be a simple action of demonstrators tearing some bar-coded tags off of logs." With logs of media coverage and no arrests made, we left in great spirits, leaving behind and Earth First! banner flying high above the Plum Creek dock.

What you can Do: Visit Plum Creek's log yard in Tacoma Everett, or contact David Leland at their corporate office in downtown Seattle: First Interstate Building, 23rd floor, 999 Third Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104, (206) 467-3600. Read *Ecodefense* for ideas of what you might do at either place.

ed. note: We got three separate articles describing this action and did our best to compile them into one, clear story.



Indonesian meranti plywood, destined to become backdrop for "Star Trek" or "Dances With Wolves," is unloaded at the port of Long Beach, California. Hollywood alone uses approximately a quarter million sheets of meranti a year.



Photo: Robert Visser

Tucson Businessmen Attack Apache —Again

Another History of Mt. Graham

BY JEAN EISENHOWER

In 1871, the Apache of the Graham Mountains were living, as ordered by the US Army, peacefully on the land around Fort Grant—theoretically under Army protection. On April 30, most of the Apache men were out hunting when 77 women, children and old people were attacked and brutally murdered. The attack was organized by a ring of Tucson merchants and businessmen who had been getting rich on large Army supply contracts. The attack was meant to goad other Apaches into attacking army forts, thus keeping the war machine rolling.

One hundred twenty one years later, the Apache are once again being attacked by "respectable, upstanding" Tucson businessmen.

Mount Graham, once home to the Apache, and part of the Apache reservation established in 1871, is now the site of a controversial proposed

vice testifying to Mt. Graham's sacredness to the Apache. The insult also obscures the University's actual activities.

In 1989, UA officials finally met face-to-face with the Tribal Council, which was critical of the project, and discussed an opposition resolution. The University President, however, seems to have no recollection of that meeting, as he has repeatedly said, "No Apache concerns, religious or otherwise, were expressed."

Six months later, the Tribal Council passed the first of three unanimous resolutions opposing the project as "...a display of profound disrespect as well as a serious violation of our traditional religious beliefs."

Prior to this, when the project first became public news, Tribal Chairman Buck Kitcheyan threatened the Forest Service with a lawsuit, saying,

Forest Service was dismissed, but the Apache are appealing it.

One of the University's partners is the Vatican, which has an office on the University of Arizona campus. The University of Arizona has pulled out all the stops in disseminating misleading information and insulting the integrity of the Apache and others who respect Native American access to sacred lands. They've been highly successful, as well, in pressuring local media to give them positive and profuse coverage on everything related to telescopes, and in ignoring and playing down any opposition, though some local papers have editorialized against it. Fortunately, the European media have been less easily manipulated by the UA (see sidebar).

If you are offended by the lies that bolster the UA's power plays, read on and act.

Earth First! in UK Joins the Fight for Mount Graham

BY JASON TORRANCE

On October 7, British activists vented their outrage at the Vatican's continued involvement in the destruction of Mt. Graham. Catholics Against Vatican Exploitation of Apache Traditional Sites joined with Earth First! activists outside of the Vatican Embassy. The original action that was planned consisted of hanging a banner on the building itself, with other activists gathering in front of the main door with assorted banners and placards. I was particularly looking forward to ringing the doorbell, and upon opening, uttering, "Hi, We're here for Mt. Graham..." However, this was thwarted by a heavy police presence waiting for us at the embassy and a police escort from our meeting point, the train station, to the embassy. At least someone was taking us seriously!

The climbers looked around the building for banner hanging possibilities, irritated that their fun had been taken from them for the day. Not to be outdone, the climbers walked with a purpose into the middle of the road, banner spread out between them, and brought traffic to a standstill. The police ended the roadblock, escorting the activists from the road, whispering in their ears "I know you want to get arrested, but we're not arresting you"—marks a change, eh?

The standard presentation of the protest letter provided further amusement when the embassy official was found cowering behind a bush in front of the embassy.

Singing specially written hymns was very much the order of the day from the Catholic contingent among us.

As we left, I had a little chat with one of the police officers who was assigned to see us back safely away from the embassy. "See you again soon, and oh, don't forget the hydraulic boltcutters next time," were my parting words. An evil grin began to grow on my face as I began plotting for Vatican Embassy Part II.



telescope complex, one of the hottest environmental battles of the decade (and the site of next summer's Earth First! Round River Rendezvous.)

The reservation once included not only the Graham (or Pinaleno) Mountains, but the lands around Safford, the Gila Valley, Globe and Morenci. As rich farmland, lumber and copper resources were discovered, all these areas were taken from the Apache and given to Anglo settlers and developers.

The University of Arizona (UA), which is planning a telescope complex on Emerald Peak of Mount Graham, claims to have contacted, via form letter in 1985, all tribes which might have an interest in protecting Mount Graham. The UA has no evidence any letter was received by the Apache, and it did not do follow ups, consultations or interviews to confirm it. But it continues, to this day, to blame the Apache for not responding in a timely manner, and accuses them of being "used by environmentalists." This insult ignores the fact that during the NEPA public comment period, many letters were received by the Forest Ser-

"Since time immemorial, Mount Graham has been sacred to the Apache people." Unfortunately, in May, 1991, Kitcheyan was ousted by the tribe for theft and embezzlement of tribal funds. Facing huge legal debts, he suddenly became the UA's "Apache religious authority," reversed himself on the sacredness of the mountain and today speaks publicly on the UA's behalf. But he has failed repeatedly to produce the medicine men or elders who he said would support his new stand.

The University even sought to bring this deposed and accused Tribal Chairman to Europe to represent native concerns to the UA's project partners, but he could not leave the country while awaiting trial. Then, when the Apache elders and Council members traveled to Europe (and each time they have spoken out in any public forum), the University has cast dispersions on their integrity and questioned how much of the tribe they might represent. Meanwhile, more and more Apaches are getting involved in this issue, and support for the Tribal Council's stand continues growing. The case brought by the Apache against the

Write your US Senator (Washington DC 20510) or Representative (Washington DC 20515) and ask them to restore cultural and religious and environmental protection laws to Mount Graham.

Contact your local Catholic bishop and ask him to write to Bishop Moreno of Tucson, asking Moreno (192 South Stone, Tucson, AZ 85702) to abandon the project. The President of the National Catholic Conference of Catholic Bishops has determined—arrogantly and incorrectly—that this is a matter between the Bishop and the Pope.

Contact the two Jesuits, "Fathers" Polzer (State Museum, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721) and Coyne (00120 Vatican), who have submitted affidavits in the lawsuit opposing the Apache people. Give them a piece of your mind.

The Apache Survival Coalition would be very interested in receiving copies of your letters: Mail them promptly to ASC, Box 11814, Tucson, AZ 85734.

Idaho Minister Gives Support to Roadless Area Preaching that *Earth First! Gospel*

BY RAMON

A dramatic event occurred recently in connection with the Roadless Area Rescue Expedition actions in central Idaho. This summer, Earth First!ers from around the country joined Wild Rockies EF! in the Nez Perce National Forest to protest and blockade the building of roads to log the previously roadless corridor between the Gospel Hump and River-of-No-Return Wilderness areas.

A local minister, upon overhearing "puns" directed against Earth First!, decided to visit our camp and see for himself what we were all about. The very next Sunday, August 16th, he delivered a sermon to his congregation, portions of which are quoted below. Remember that this took place in the conservative Idaho community of Grangeville, and that many of his parishioners have ties to the logging community.

"Prophecy or prophetic speech is most often unsettling, unsolicited, and unwanted. It takes a certain amount of grit, almost adventure, to hear the prophetic word because it will

the forest is already designated 'wilderness'; and about the mission of the Forest Service to provide services and recreation for the largest number of people.

"I also went to Dixie, down road 222 to a place where several long-haired, passionate young men and women were camped. I learned about delicate ecosystems; about the damaging effects of too many roads; about how we should more often return and give back to the forest rather than take and use. I heard words, burning words, erupting from within their depths: 'If we don't learn and adopt new ways and become more faithful to creation, our forest temple will be destroyed.'

"I think we need to decide if Earth First! speaks an unsettling truth or possibility. Just because the message may be threatening doesn't mean it's not hearable. Is it possible that the economic drive to turn trees into two-by-fours is sabotaging our foresters' and scientists' best-laid plans? Forcing them to cut too many roads and too many trees?"

*The prophetic word... will most often
be heard as fantasy and falsehood,
or as threat and treason.
It is almost as risky to hear prophecy
as to speak the words themselves.*

most often be heard as fantasy and falsehood, or as threat and treason. It is almost as risky to hear prophecy as to speak the words themselves.

"Can you imagine how frightening it must have been to listen to Patrick Henry and Nathan Hale: 'Give me liberty or give me death,' and 'I only regret that I have but one life to give for my country.' These are prophetic words of justice, equality, and fairness, understandings which all of us now accept and espouse, but which were frightening and unsettling then, no matter which side you found yourself on.

"Last week I showed up at a meeting with several community people. Before beginning our business we were all visiting, talking about this and that, and within about five minutes I heard two or three puns describing, with no complimentary intent, the activities of Earth First! in the Nez Perce Forest. Now I'm no deep sage when it comes to human behavior, but I know we often express our unsettled or threatened dispositions through jokes. It's easier to release frustration by laughing than by expressing under-the-surface tension.

"Time to look into this," I said. Later that same day I read about Jeremiah as the 'laughingstock' of all Jerusalem. And about the frustration he felt with a message he could not suppress: '...like a burning fire shut up in my bones, I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot.' But 'nobody knows the trouble I see.'

"I went to the Nez Perce Forest spokesperson; I learned of environmental impact studies; about a combined effort to treat the forest fairly and carefully; about how one half of

"Earth First! and other environmental activists prophesize that it's not too late. With God's fidelity and our own, we can turn spears into pruning hooks and forests into sustaining temples of God's gracious residence."

During a visit to his office a few days later, we were pleased to hear that, although some members of his congregation disapproved of the sermon, a larger number sympathized. Thus, the ripple effects of our actions in Idaho continue to spread. Through a committed and organized presence again in 1993, and with community support like the above, true change IS possible.



Jay Tatara



Photo: Wild Rockies EF!

Damon holds the saws at bay from his perch in the Cove-Mallard Roadless Area of central Idaho, Summer, 1992.

Lawsuit Filed to Stop All Logging in Nez Perce National Forest

A lawsuit has been filed by a coalition of sportsmen's and conservation groups to prevent the roading and logging of the Mallard/Cove Creek areas in central Idaho. This summer, Mallard-Cove was the site of Wild Rockies Earth First!'s Roadless Area Rescue Expedition basecamp, protests and lockdowns (see *Earth First!* Mabon, '92).

The Idaho Sportsmen's Coalition along with the Alliance for the Wild Rockies, the Ecology Center, Idaho's Golden Eagle Audubon Chapter, the Forest Conservation Council, Foundation for North American Wild Sheep and the Oregon Natural Resources Council filed the Notice of Intent to Sue on August 27. There is a mandatory sixty-day waiting period between the filing of intent to sue and the actual start of the lawsuit which will seek to halt *all* sell-off on the Nez Perce National Forest, not just the Mallard-Cove area.

The lawsuit will most likely hinge on the Forest Service's blatant disregard for the Endangered Species Act. The area to be logged is habitat for chinook salmon, bull trout, pine mar-

ten, wolverine and possibly wolves. The Forest Service plans to build 149 miles of new logging roads to clearcut 76 million board feet of lumber from the Nez Perce National Forest.

The Idaho Sportsmen's Coalition issued a press release in which their executive director in Boise, Ron Mitchell, praised the Earth First! actions this summer. "They have no other recourse to stop illegal actions by a government agency that is blatantly and arrogantly violating major laws...The real outlaws are the Forest Service."

The Earth First! basecamp has been abandoned for the winter, although plans are already being made for next spring and summer and we are hoping the increased local support (see accompanying article) will help make it a more successful effort.

—SOURCE: IDAHO SPORTSMAN'S COALITION

People Other Than Malthus

BY BILL McCORMICK

There have been a number of articles recently in publications like *Earth First!*, *The Progressive*, and *The Ecologist* that have examined the issue of overpopulation. So the thought occurred to me to write an article using entirely non-traditional sources on population limitation.

It is becoming increasingly clear to me that the old Malthusian, Garrett Hardin, "let 'em drop like flies" line is becoming so discredited and meaningless in population debates that the mere act of citing either one of them can be tantamount to tying an iron anvil around one's neck. Which is not to say that Hardin or even Malthus did not have some very relevant things to say, it's just mixed in with too much excess baggage.

I think the most important and relevant point I could make is how clearly native and traditional peoples understand the importance of limiting their numbers in relation to their environments. Many people may not know that American Indian Movement activist and scholar Ward Churchill has written several times on carrying capacity in the pages of *Z Magazine*:

"Virtually every identifiable indigenous society has made it a central practice, continued over thousands of years, to hold down their populations below the level which they would begin to cause serious ecological disequilibrium within their respective regions. In all of America north of the Rio Grande—a territory which might accommodate 40-45 million people—there were perhaps 10 million indigenous inhabitants at the onset of the European invasion. And these low numbers are not accounted for by the population in question living at the razor's edge of subsistence. Indeed, they were cultures which had been perfected over a thousand generations...and had long practiced forms of governance upon which the whole 'modern' Euroamerican conception of democracy was eventually predicated...

"Population rather than production is the issue actually before us. In fact, it seems to me that any serious discussion of global problem resolution must begin with the observation that a 5.25 billion human population is itself outrageously unrealistic. The question then becomes not how we sustain such a ludicrous overburden of one species, but how we begin to inculcate a broad consciousness leading to the steady scaling back of human numbers to some point well below 50% of the present level (and keep it there)....

"I argue that we must de-emphasize the relation of humanity in order to gain an appropriate insight into the interaction of society with everything else. We must seek to achieve a profound reinterpretation of ourselves and our role as human beings if we are to move forward rather than repeating the same sequence of errors until oblivion sets in." (*ZETA* July/August 1989, p 154)

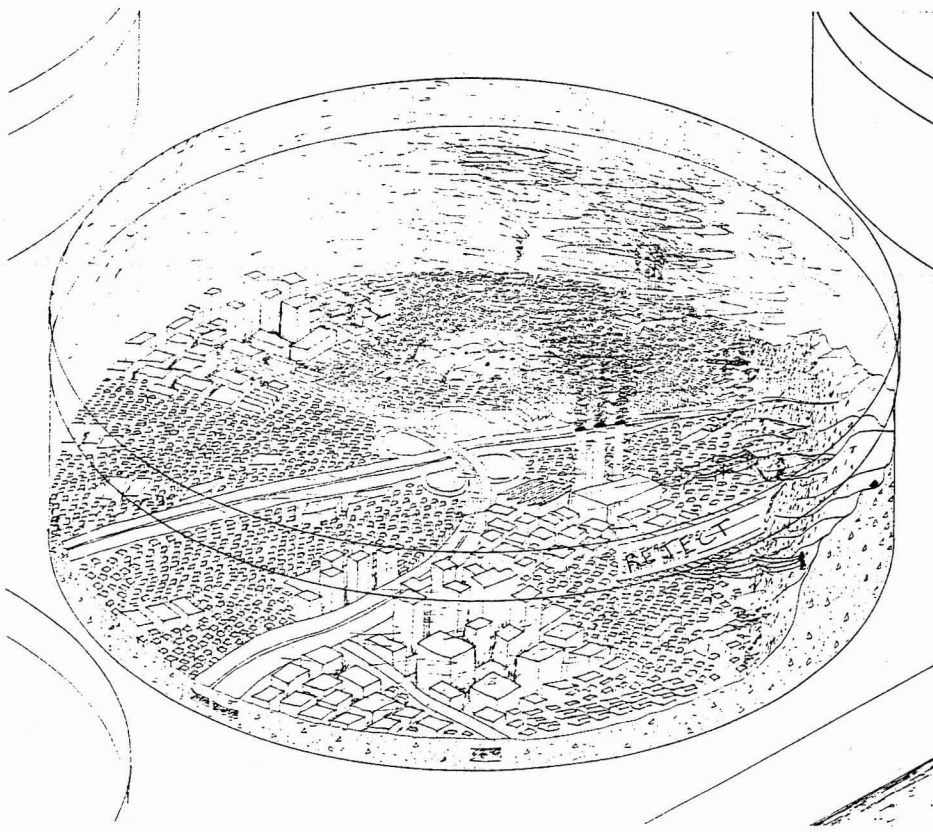
I recently came across an extremely important book that should be required reading for all of the "Overpopulation is a Myth" school. Helena Norberg-Hodge's *Ancient Futures* is about her experience with the Tibetan people of Ladakh in northern India. She chronicles the agonizingly familiar 'coca-colonization' that has taken place there between 1975 and the present. But what I found most noteworthy about her book is the very clear emphasis on population control:

"In fact, the more time I spent in Ladakh, the more I came to realize the importance of scale...the scale of life is such that people can directly experience their mutual interdependence....

"This stability has in turn, I believe, contributed to the environmental balance and social harmony. That population control is an important factor in maintaining a balance with the environment is clear...it seems that social friction is likely to be reduced if the number of people depending on a fixed quantity of resources remains the same from generation to generation. Under those circumstances, the need for scrambling and fighting to survive is clearly minimized....

"Traditionally, people were conscious of the limits of resources and of their personal responsibilities. I have heard older people say, 'What on earth is going to happen if we start dividing the land and increasing in numbers? It can never work.' But the new economy cuts people off from the earth...A given area can only produce so much, so you know that it is important to keep the population stable."

Many people may also not be aware that the Reverend Martin Luther



King Jr. had a statement entered in the Congressional Record on the importance of addressing the overpopulation problem directly, and not second, third, or fourth hand:

"During the past several weeks the press has been filled with reports of sightings of flying saucers. While we need not give credence to these stories, they allow our imagination to speculate on how visitors from outer space would judge us. I am afraid they would be stupefied at our conduct. They would observe that for death planning we spend billions to create engines of war. They would also observe that we spend millions to prevent death by disease and other causes. Finally they would observe that we spend paltry sums for population planning, even though its spontaneous growth is an urgent threat to life on our planet. Our visitors from outer space could be forgiven if they reported home that our planet is inhabited by a race of insane men whose future is bleak and uncertain.

"There is no human circumstance more tragic than the persisting existence of a harmful condition for which a remedy is readily available. Family planning, to relate population to world resources, is possible, practical and necessary. Unlike plagues of the Dark Ages or contemporary diseases we do not yet understand, the modern plague of overpopulation is soluble by means we have discovered and with resources we possess.

"What is lacking is not sufficient knowledge of the solution, but universal consciousness of the gravity of the problem and education of the billions who are its victims." (Congressional Record—Senate, May 10, 1966, pp. 10164-65).

There have been a number of feminist radicals who have written on population limitation, though I guarantee you won't see their words highlighted in the politically correct press. Here is well-known anarchist Emma Goldman in her book, *Living My Life*:

"Still more impressed was I by the fierce, blind struggle of the women of the poor against frequent pregnancies. Most of them lived in continued dread of conception; the great mass of

Tresca, an Italian-American anarchist, was sentenced to a year and a day for advertising a book called 'The Art of Not making Children'...Emma Goldman was also jailed for giving out contraceptive information...Carl Rove, an I.W.W. longshoreman, was jailed in San Mateo, California for three months for selling Sanger's 'Family Limitation'....Police and prison guards were often hostile and violent to the birth-control prisoners, especially the women."

Ecofeminist Rosemary Radford Ruether has also provided a very cogent analysis of this question in her essay *Unraveling the Seamless Garment*. "The affirmation of life is not based on a series of individual, isolated acts which can be extended as a 'moral good.' Rather, the affirmation of life belongs to systems of interlocking social and ecological relationships in which excess is as much a cause of mass slaughter and misery as direct killing. Birthing human life is based on the ability to sustain and nurture that life through a lifetime...the sustaining of each life demands a whole network of resources, not only to exist, but to be made available to that person. These two realities, the person and the network of resources to sustain their life, have to come into some adequate fit together in order for it to be said that more life approximates a 'moral good.'

"In today's world, that ecological and social fit between persons and resource is wildly out of balance. A minority of the world's population monopolize most of the world's resources, while the majority live in misery or starve outright. The military systems of the powerful exist basically to keep this unjust monopoly over the world's resources in its present state....

"But it is doubtful that global population can be allowed to increase beyond the present level if there is any hope of feeding the world's population, even if resources were more justly distributed. Just to name one reality: not only is the world's arable land for food not being expanded, but it is rapidly shrinking through erosion and through confiscation for roads and housing. But, in today's actual situation (which shows no signs of being easily changed), where the world's resources are not justly distributed, people have to decide concretely what number of lives they can really sustain in this or that particular situation. To decide not to have more children, in a context where one feels one's resources to sustain present life already strained, is as much a decision for life as is the affirmation of the lives that actually exist....

"What this means is that we are finite beings....One does not affirm life by insisting on infinite expansion of births of people condemned to miserably truncated existence's because there is not adequate balance between the numbers of people and the nexus of resources which can sustain something approximating a whole or fulfilling life. Such refusal to see the connection between these two things is as myopically anti-life as those who plan to nuke the world in order to save it for democracy." (*Probe*, Jan/Feb 1985)

I also have quotations on tap from Shirley Chisholm, Alice Walker, Chief Oren Lyons, Pranay Gupte, David Suzuki and many other non-white males, but I think perhaps the point has been made.

the married women submitted helplessly, and when they found themselves pregnant, their alarm and worry would result in the determination to get rid of their expected offspring.... Having a large brood of children, often more than the weekly wage of the father could provide for, each additional child was a curse, 'a curse of God' as orthodox Jewish women and Irish Catholics repeatedly told me."

One of the most amazing finds I made while researching this question is what I call the suppressed history of left anti-natalism. In *Woman's Body, Woman's Right*, Linda Gordon provides a fascinating account of how active the International Workers of the World (Wobblies) and other radical, turn-of-the-century groups were in trying to get birth control information to the people, despite constant harassment by the authorities.

"Many activists were arrested and jailed for their birth-control activities—at least twenty besides (Margaret) Sanger on federal charges alone. Carlo

A (Cyanide) River Runs Through It

Heap Leach Gold Mine Planned for the Headwaters of the Blackfoot River

BY ALLISON SLATER

The trees have already been cut. The hillsides are scarred with miles of roads and collapsing embankments. The river and streams are choked with sediment and poisoned with old mine tailings. Typical landscape left by a traditional resource extraction economy past its peak. But the mountains and drainages at the headwaters of the Blackfoot River are about to become part of the latest craze in land destruction: cyanide heap leach gold mining.

Phelps Dodge and Canyon Resources, both multi-national mining companies, have plans to apply for a permit for an open pit strip mine and cyanide leach pads just outside the town of Lincoln, Montana. They have been peppering the hills with test drill holes for the past six years, and last summer, they struck gold. Seven million ounces of it are scattered in among 185 million tons of rock, and they plan on turning a 5600 foot peak into a 250 foot deep, ten thousand square foot pit to get at the gold.

The mine itself won't become a reality for another several years, but exploration was recently stepped up from routine exploration. 614 new test holes (in addition to the 130-plus already there), 30 miles of new road and a metallurgical testing facility, which is a small scale cyanide leach system, were approved by the Montana Department of State Lands as having no significant impact.

The project spreads out over 10,000 acres of state owned and private land, with some additional exploration across the river in the Helena National Forest. The private land, interestingly enough, is owned by the family of Senator Max Baucus (D-MT), champion of the wilderness destruction bill (see story, page 1). The Baucus family stands to earn a

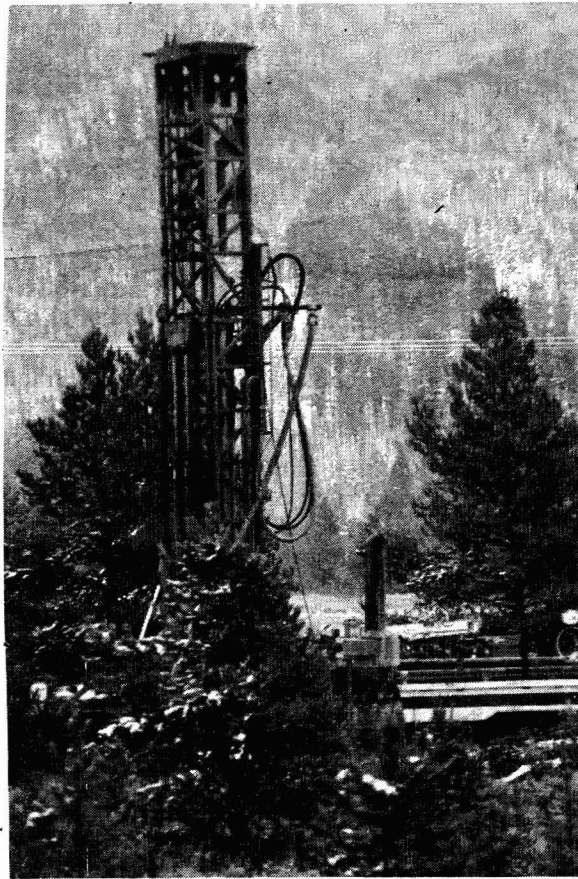


Photo: Allison Slater

nice bit of pocket change from the creation of this mine, as they will be receiving a surface entry fee and 5% royalty.

But the windfall for Max's loved ones and the rest of the gold-hungry crew will be the death knell for the already suffering Blackfoot River and surrounding habitats. Naturally, the state dedicated the "wildlife" section of their environmental assessment to elk and trout, the only species they recognize as wildlife, but even these favorite critters are in serious trouble. Brook trout and cutthroat trout have declined by more than 70 per cent in the past 15 years. Only one finger-sized bull trout, which once flourished in the Blackfoot River, was found in one of the tributaries during their fisheries study. Core elk winter range, already thrashed by intensive logging and easy access hunting, will be dug up or buried under waste rock, along with the homes of other critters such as moose, rough grouse, blue grouse, mountain lion, black bear, golden eagles, bald eagles, and a variety of songbirds, waterfowl and raptors. One of the mitigations suggested by the state is that if bald eagle nests are found in the drilling area, they will supposedly stop work, but the mere presence of adults not in the process of laying or hatching eggs will be ignored.

Grizzly bear have been sighted in the project area, the most recent only this past spring. This puts the state-owned tracts in a "special management" area for grizzly bear. Bad news for the bear. The Montana Department of State Lands response to the griz near Lincoln is, "Management policy is to discourage presence of grizzly bears and factors contributing to their presence. Management decisions will not consider maintaining or improving grizzly bear habitat." Therefore, an open pit cyanide heap leach mine is fully in accordance with their special griz policy.

Cyanide heap leach mining is a process of extracting minute traces of gold from huge amounts of rock. The McDonald deposit above the Blackfoot contains 0.028 ounces of gold for every ton of other minerals. That's over 53 tons of rock dug up and doused with cyanide for a single, one and a half ounce wedding ring.

The mountain containing the gold is gouged out and crushed into small chunks. This bulk ore is spread out over plastic-lined leach pads and sprayed with a sodium cyanide solution. Sodium cyanide binds to gold molecules. The cyanide-gold solution runs off into a "pregnant pond" which is further treated to cause the gold to precipitate out. They are then left with both rock and liquid contaminated with cyanide. These are treated with ferrous sulphate and hydrogen peroxide, which turns it into thiocyanate or other cyanide derivatives which the mining industry and their cohorts in the state government assure us are harmless. The detoxified rock will be used to rebuild the hillsides and the treated water will be spread out over the land to percolate down into the groundwater. Since no system can "reasonably" be expected to be perfect, Montana water quality standards allow 0.2 mg of cyanide per liter of water to leach into the aquifer.

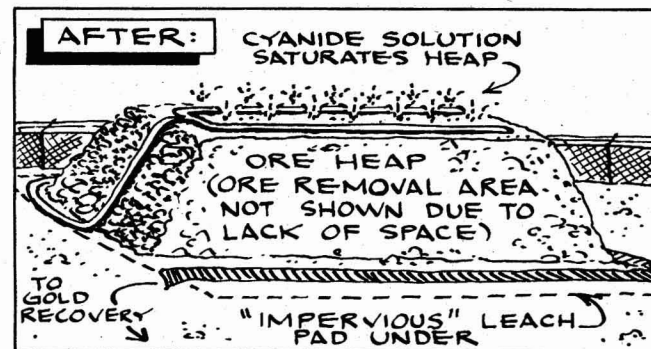
The process of cyanide heap leach mining was developed in Arizona and New Mexico, areas with significantly less rainfall than western Montana. One of the major concerns with potential contamination of surrounding water sources is rain and snow which falls into the leaching areas and then runs out into surface water or seeps into groundwater outside the lined leach pad. Even in the arid southwest, all the mines eventually have some leak or spill.

A Phelps Dodge cyanide heap leach copper mine in New Mexico has spilled over 188 million gallons of acid-contaminated waste into Whitewater Creek in five years. The Summitville gold mine in the

San Juans of Colorado had the first of its spills less than six months after it came on line. Since then, there have been multiple failures of their cyanide containment systems, the worst of which killed all aquatic life along 17 miles of Alamosa River in 1990. Heavy spring runoffs in the mountains overflow their containment ponds or cut through clay leach pad liners.

All four of the cyanide leach mines in central Montana, also a dry area, have leaked. The Kendall gold mine in the Mocassin Mountains of Montana had a major cyanide spill in 1984. Canyon Re-

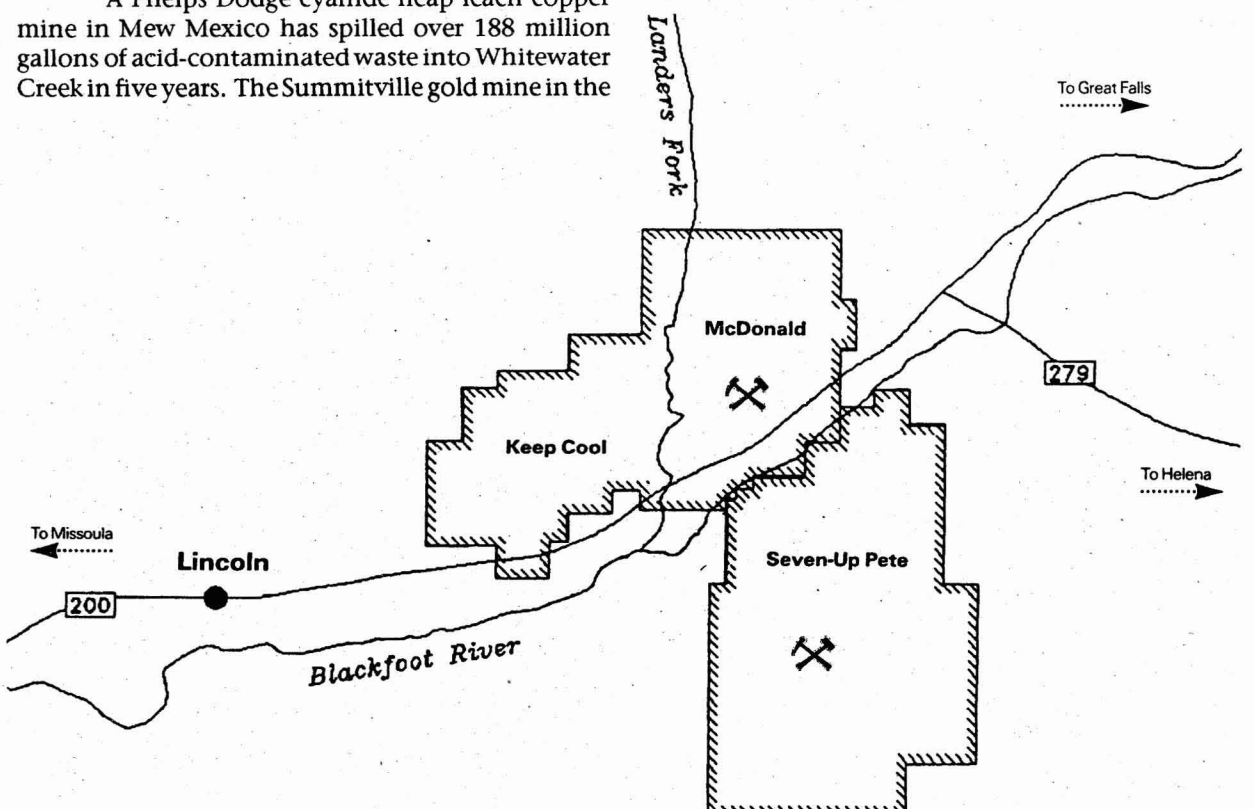
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sources, which owns the Kendall mine, had to be forced by local pressure to put in containment systems able to withstand "100-year floods." The area has had 100 year flood levels of precipitation every year since. Local people are now trying to get the mine to upgrade the ponds further.

Similar problems can be expected at the Seven-Up Pete mine which is just west of the continental divide. The high peaks catch most of what's left of precipitation moving east from the coast. Heavy rain or snow storms could cause overflow of the settling ponds and will cause erosion on the steep slopes they will be mining.

The Blackfoot River is the one glamorized in Robert Redford's new film "A River Runs Through It." The film had to be shot at another location because the Blackfoot is already so polluted. Educate movie-goers about the reality of the river. If you want flyers about the mine, write to me at the *Journal* POB 5176 and I'll make some up for you.



The Bastards Still Want to Damn the Tat

BY MICHAEL HOWELL

The Tatshenshini River at Dalton Post, Yukon Territory, is a swift, cold, milky river slipping by at 3000 cubic feet per second (cfs). An hour downstream, the river constricts to a narrow, boulder-strewn channel—where two people in the expedition following mine nearly became grizzly food—then broadens and meanders through a pristine wilderness valley. Wolves, grizzlies, Dall sheep, mountain goats, moose, eagles, and a rare subspecies of black bear known as the “glacier bear” for its distinctive silver-blue pelage, all thrive in this area. The Tat watershed is also the sole passage for migratory wildlife through North America’s highest coastal mountain range.

The Tat flows at almost 20,000 cfs by the time it merges with the 120,000 cfs of the mighty Alsek River, producing a flow about six times the volume of the Colorado River. Between Dalton Post and its outlet at Dry Bay, the river cuts between peaks almost three miles high and through the world’s largest non-polar icefield where glaciers calve at the river’s edge.

Unscarred by roads, logging, mining, or settlers, the Tatshenshini region is 2.3 million acres of grand scale wilderness, and the Tat watershed comprises the unprotected core of what could be the largest international park in the world. The area’s global significance is indisputable: Kluane National Park in the Yukon is a World Heritage Site, and the IUCN has also indicated that the BC portion of the Tat also qualifies for this status. In addition to Kluane Park, the area is adjacent to Wrangell-St. Elias and Glacier Bay National Parks on the United States side of the border. According to Jake Messelink, Assistant Deputy Minister of BC Parks, “Expert assessment has placed this river in the top echelon of wilderness rivers when judged at an international scale of reference.”

The BC section of the Tatshenshini heartland, however, remains vulnerable since it is home to treasures of another kind. Windy Craggy Mountain, which straddles the high ground above the confluence of the Tat and the Alsek, could become the largest open pit copper mine in Canada if Geddes Resources of Toronto gets its way. Geddes proposes to remove the summit glacier and rip off the upper 2000 feet of the mountain to get at the copper deposits underneath.

The impacts of the mine would be severe:

- Acid Mine Drainage (AMD): Sulfuric acid as strong as battery acid will be produced if rocks containing sulfide minerals are exposed to air and water. The presence of sulfuric acid would leach out toxic heavy metals from the rock of the water table, resulting in an acid bath that could wipe out the Tatshenshini-Alsek’s salmon runs and grizzly populations. AMD also persists long after mining operations have ceased, and continues to be a problem at many mines that have been inactive for centuries.

Geddes has proposed to mitigate AMD by immersing the several hundred tons of sulfide-bearing rock overburden under the waters of dams on Tats’ Creek. This seems a simple solution, except that the proposed dam sites are in the most geologically active area of North America (Recall Mt. Spur and Redoubt in the last couple of years, or the Great Quake of 1964 that measured 8.4 on the Richter scale). It would be a Russian roulette game with time until the dams would be breached and AMD would destroy the pristine waters below.

- Mining Camp: The “camp” would actually be a small city of 600 people and would last up to 20 years.

- Roads: The proposed mine road would parallel the Tatshenshini for 30 miles and cross it with a major bridge at a set of rapids known to expedition rafters as Monkeywrench Rapid. Whither roads go, so go development activities and poaching, therefore diligent river runners have continued systematic desurveying activities. Today, no road alignment survey evidence remains on the ground. The road stoolies want to slam the road through during crucial bear pre-denning feeding activity; all the construction crews, heavy machinery, and their ilk would be extremely disruptive to calorie-hunger bears. Not only would gravel be dredged from the Tatshenshini, but the sediment resultant from roadbuilding would foul the river for many spawning runs in the future. The Haines Highway is also slated for widening to accommodate huge trucks.

- Pipeline: Slurry concentrate and fuel oil would be shipped through pipelines made of high-density polyethylene plastic. Rupture of either line could result in massive line could result in massive spills,

poisoning fish and wildlife. These pipelines could not be allowed to freeze or solidify, so they could not be shut off if ruptured since the slurry would freeze. This means major volumes of toxic ore could spew directly into the rivers with catastrophic impacts. The pipe crosses over 200 salmon bearing streams and would pose a major hazard to the health of bald eagles at the Chilkat Eagle Preserve and spawning

Geddes to produce a new Stage 1 report which would address more issues than the present Stage 1 report. Furthermore, since Geddes issued the MDRP Stage 1 report, the MDRP process has been replaced with the Mine Development Assessment Act (passed summer, 1990). Once BC is finished, the Canadian government must also submit the Windy Craggy proposal to its Environmental Assessment Review Process.



Photo: Tatshenshini Wild

The powerful Alsek River—here running at more than 100,000 cfs—flows through peaks and glaciers on the way to Dry Bay.

salmon upon which they feed.

- Terminal at Haines, Alaska: The pipeline would terminate at huge tanks where the slurry would be dewatered, dumping 360,000 gallons of toxic effluent a day into Lynn Canal, home to a \$41 million/year fishery which supports Haines, Alaska.

- Wildlife: The road would cut through open alpine, prime grizzly habitat and the only Dall sheep winter range in BC. With giant ore trucks making 74 trips daily, animal deaths would be certain. Poaching of currently undisturbed wildlife would occur.

- Adventure Tourism: Due to its wilderness and spectacular scenery, the Tatshenshini is known as one of the world’s premier commercial rafting rivers. If the road were built, the river’s present reputation would be lost, seriously hurting adventure tourism operators.

Since the Geddes deposit is so remote there is much doubt whether it is economic to mine. The road could be built into the Tatshenshini wilderness only to have financing for the mine fall through. They haven’t completed feasibility studies, nor do they have any copper contracts.

Geddes seems to have a mercenary vision for this wilderness. As Gerald Harper, President of Geddes Resources puts it, “We can’t enjoy this planet unless we have the cash to do it with.” As far as he is concerned, “The Tatshenshini isn’t pristine wilderness, it’s barren ground.” In response to international support to protect the Tatshenshini, Geddes has demanded compensation to the tune of \$1 billion for the BC government, even though two-thirds of Geddes’ exploration expenses have been covered through a taxpayer write-off.

The litany of adverse environmental impacts from Windy Craggy are endless. However, in the process of obtaining the necessary permits from BC, Canadian and US governments, Geddes Resources is pressing the BC government for quick approval, and would like to have the mine on-line by 1994. Consequently, townfolk of Haines and Yakutat, Alaska, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Park Service, along with 50 environmental groups in Canada and the United States representing over 5 million people, have banded together to launch a many-pronged campaign to fight for preservation of the Tatshenshini-Alsek region and outright rejection of the Windy Craggy mine proposal. These efforts are coordinated in BC, Canada, and the US through the Tatshenshini International coalition based in Vancouver, BC.

In April, 1992, The BC government put a formal review of the mine on hold indefinitely so the province can draft an area land use plan. That plan could designate the area as park land with no mining, ruling the area needs no special protection or offer a compromise. Although the land use planning process supersedes the Mine Development Review Process (MDRP), it is possible the plan will force

Existing US-Canadian treaties and legislation may block the mine proposal since Geddes must secure US approval before proceeding with the mine:

- An international Joint Commission may be convened through the 1909 Boundary Waters Treaty to assess the potential for damage to transboundary waters. Article IV of the treaty provides that such waters “shall not be polluted on either side to the injury of health or property on the other;” Article IX suggests jurisdiction for wilderness, wildlife and recreational values.

- The 1986 Pacific Salmon Treaty identifies Alsek River chinook and early-run sockeye stocks as depressed and requiring special protection. The treaty requires actions to conserve and rebuild salmon stocks.

- The Migratory Bird Treaty would come into effect because the toxic mine tailings will result in “takings.”

In addition to the international governmental treaty obligations, a thorough Environmental Impact Statement is required in the US so that the effects of the Geddes proposal are completely known. This is expected to address the mine’s impact upon Glacier Bay National Park, and the local fishing economy. The US must also issue several permits including right-of-way for the pipeline, approval for international hazardous material disposal, section 404 permit for the port facility in Haines, AK, and CWA section 402 permit for discharge of pollutants.

Two resolutions introduced this year may work in our favor to preserve the Tatshenshini, although all legislative solutions usually involve some compromise. House Joint Resolution 460, introduced by Congressman Wayne Owens (D-UT) with more than 20 co-sponsors and companion measure SJR 290 introduced by Senator Al Gore (D-TN) directed the Secretaries of Interior and State to negotiate with the BC and Canadian governments for preservation of the area as a National Park or Reserve. It directed the Secretary of Interior to enter into negotiations with Canada to protect the entire Tatshenshini-Alsek watershed and its fisheries, wildlife, water quality, recreational areas, and wilderness values. The Secretary of State would seek an agreement with the Canadian Government for the International Joint Commission to study the potential adverse environmental and social impacts of the proposed mining activity. Furthermore, no permits would be issued for the mine until the completion of the commission study. Finally, the Secretary of Interior would seek the cooperation of the Canadian Government to obtain World Heritage Site Status and protection for the entire Alsek and Tatshenshini River Watershed. Unfortunately, no resolution came out of the recently-completed session in Congress. The Tatshenshini International coalition has developed an extensive list of resources and materials. If you are interested in T-shirts, books, videotapes, or

continued on the next page

Dams-be-gone?

BY HOWLER

The Elwha River is likely to be the first major American river that has the honor of having two dams removed from its watershed, although the timeline for dam removal may condemn to extinction several species that are already on the brink. The Elwha River descends from the heart of Olympic National Park through rainforest and rock canyons to the Strait of Juan de Fuca at the entrance to Puget Sound. From its headwaters to the town of Port Angeles on the strait, the Elwha is only 45 miles long. The river historically supported runs of wild anadromous fish including all five species of Pacific salmon and three species of trout.

Elwha Dam, built illegally in 1914 only five miles from the river's mouth, blocked migratory fish from 40 of the river's 45 miles. Fourteen years later, the Glines Canyon Dam was built seven miles upstream. The Glines Canyon Dam was then included in the newly created Olympic National Park in 1938. Both dams have effectively functioned to critically deplete spawning gravel downstream.

The license to operate Glines Canyon Dam, which expired in 1976, has been renewed annually by FERC. Relicensing has been delayed until the decision of whether to purchase and remove the dams is resolved. James River Corporation, the current owner, may be liable for costs to restore the watershed since the company has an unlicensed obstruction on a navigable river. Proposed mitigation measures such as trap and haul by James River have been shot down by the fish agencies as not going far enough. The fish agencies have concluded the key to successful restoration of the ecosystem is removal of the dams.

The legislative approach has resulted in S.2527 and HR.4844, called the Elwha River Ecosystem and Fisheries Restoration Act, which, as of October 16, 1992, is awaiting the current president's signature. By the time this bill authorized the Secretary of Interior to prepare a report, purchase for \$29 million and remove (up to an additional \$70 million) the Elwha and Glines Canyon dams from the Elwha River, species dependent on the river could be extinct. This legal procedure is filled with fatal flaws that could delay the removal of the dams. Lujan could either drag his feet or recommend against the dam purchase. Rep. John Dingell, who oversees the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission operations, could continue to oppose the bill. If Daishowa Pulp Mill in Port Angeles balks, a new deal would need to be negotiated. If guarantees of local water rights for downstream users would be jeopardized by removing the dams, the deal could be off.

The never-ending legislative process will repeat itself if the intent of this bill is not fulfilled; kind of like dinosaurs waiting out the ice age. Yet, the illegal dams still stand, with fewer and fewer fish each year. George Hayduke would know what to do.

Bio Bio Decision Due Soon

The fate of the mighty Bio Bio River in Chile, one of great wild rivers of the world, may be decided in the next few months.

The International Finance Corporation (IFC), the arm of the World Bank that makes loans to private borrowers, will probably decide in December whether to help fund the proposed Pangué Dam on the Bio Bio. Pangué is only the first of a series of proposed dams that would wipe out the whole stretches of the Bio Bio.

A team from IFC visited Chile in early August to conduct a final appraisal mission before it hands a recommendation to the Bank's board of directors, which decides all loan applications. The team met with Chilean government officials, ENDESA employees, members of an activist organization, Grupo de Acción por el Bio Bio (GABB) and representatives from the local Pehuenche Indians, whose lifestyle would be drastically affected by the dam.

"I think we have a reasonable sense of the issues on both sides," said IFC information officer Mark Constantine.

Meanwhile, ENDESA, the Chilean utility that would build the dams, announced that construction on Pangué will not begin until 1994. The company had previously stated it would begin diverting water at the site next year.

Though the Chilean government supports the dam, recent events there have placed additional obstacles in the path of the dam builders. Three lawsuits have been filed, asking for an injunction against the dam's construction. One suit points to the area's high amount of volcanic activity. A recent eruption of the nearby Copahue Volcano confirmed GABB's concern about volcanic activity near the dam site.

In conversations with the Center for Studies of the Upper Bio Bio at the University of Concepcion, regarded as the scientific experts on the area, the IFC's appraisal team was told that a proper environmental assessment of the project should include an analysis of the cumulative impacts of all six proposed dams. The World Bank's own guidelines recommend a study of cumulative impacts when a series of projects is planned. So far, however, the IFC has balked at requiring such a study, contending that it is an autonomous arm of the World Bank and is not bound by its policies.

The International Rivers Network, a group that opposes construction of large, destructive dams, recently charged that a cumulative study is imperative because the proposed Pangué Dam's reservoir will only give it storage capacity to generate power at 75 percent of the rate ENDESA has claimed. The group contends that a second, upstream dam will be needed to make the project profitable. But the IFC has not accepted that analysis, and contends the

Pangué project can stand economically on its own.

Environmentalists are arguing that, in any case, a US law known as the Pelosi amendment prohibits the Bank's US representative from voting to approve the loan until at least 120 days after environmental assessment of the proposed project is delivered to the Bank's board of directors. An environmental assessment was done by ENDESA early this year, but it did not contain an analysis of alternatives to the project, as required by World Bank guidelines and by the Pelosi amendment.

What you can do:

Write your US Representative and your two US Senators urging them to take action to save the Bio-Bio River in Chile from damming. Ask them to contact the US Treasury Department and the International Finance Corporation to urge funding for alternative ways of producing electricity in Chile, ways that will preserve the Bio-Bio for the native people that live along it and for the endemic plant and animal species. Addresses: US House of Reps., Washington, DC 20515; US Senate, Washington, DC 20510

SOURCE: NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF RIVER SPORTS

Banks Want to Dam Costa Rican Rivers

ProRios, a river conservation organization in Costa Rica, has asked the Inter-American Development Bank to promote and help fund energy efficiency projects there before loaning money toward the construction of proposed dams on the Rio Pacuare and Rio Reventazon.

The Costa Rican Electric Institute (ICE) wants to build four dams, two on the Pacuare and two on the Reventazon. Flooding caused by the dams would wipe out virgin rainforests and cut roads into the forest along the Pacuare. The concern is that this access will stimulate illegal logging and clearing for agriculture. ProRios asserts that the ICE has made no provisions to anticipate those problems, and has done little to investigate less destructive means of generating energy.

What you can do: Write the US representative of the Inter-American Development Bank and ask him to vote against ICE's loan application unless a cumulative environmental study is conducted for all four dams and serious consideration is given to energy alternatives in Costa Rica. Write to: Mr. Larry Mellinger, Inter-American Development Bank, 1300 New York Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20577

SOURCE: CURRENTS

Tatshenshini

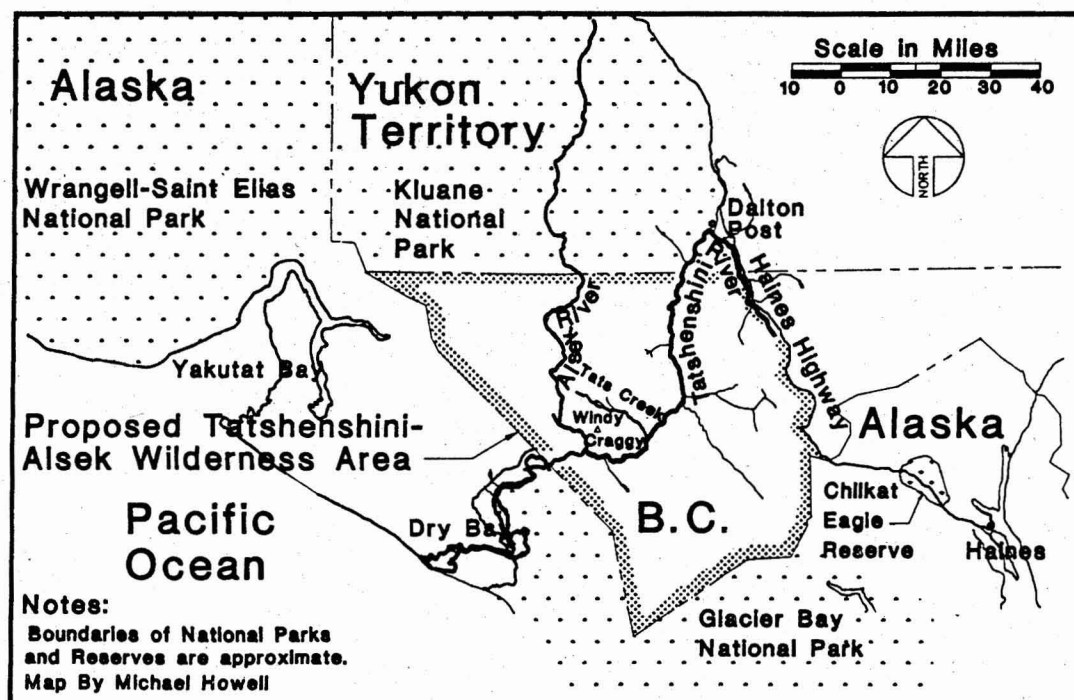
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campaign services in your area, please contact Tatshenshini International at the address below.

The River Defense Task Force is committed to preserving this magnificent area as wilderness. In order to do so, we will be coordinating several programs with Tatshenshini International, including on-the-river research of wildlife and water quality, but we must raise research funds and assemble a team of biological experts. If you can help, please send donations or a description of your expertise to the River Defense Task Force at the address below.

What You Can Do: Take ten minutes to help protect the Tatshenshini from the proposed mine. Obviously, the 102nd Congress has already ended, and both Gore and Owens are running for different offices (Gore for Vice-president, Owens for the Senate), so wait until after the election results are in, then write somebody who won and tell them to re-introduce or co-sponsor a version of Owens' HJR 460 or Gore's SJR 290. Also, direct opposition to the following:

Premier Mike Harcourt, Legislative Buildings, Victoria, BC Canada V8V 1X4; Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, House of Commons, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1A 0A6; President Clinton or Bush or whomever, White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave, Washington DC; Please copy your letter to, or contact for more information: River Defense Task Force, POB 60164, Seattle, WA, USA 98160. Contact for Resources or Materials: Tatshenshini Wild, 843-810 West Broadway, Vancouver, BC Canada V5Z 4C9



Map of Southeast Alaska & Northwest British Columbia

Attempted Wilderness Sellout Fails...

continued from page 1

Another Montana Wilderness Bill died somewhere on Capitol Hill this fall. Senate Bill 1696, the Montana National Forest Management Act, introduced by Baucus and Montana Republican Conrad Burns, would have provided for the protection of 1.19 million acres of Wilderness and the formation of over 200,000 acres of wilderness study areas and most importantly, the release of over four million acres of roadless wild lands for development and resource extraction. Baucus and Burns persuaded the Senate to pass S. 1696, over the objections of Al Gore, Pat Leahy, and Paul Wellstone, among others, who considered the bill weak.

In the House, after some wrangling between Bruce Vento (D-MN), George Miller (D-CA), and Pat Williams (D-MT), the Interior Committee weighed in with a compromise of its own that called for 1.45 million acres of big "W" wilderness, providing twice as much land in wilderness study and improving the release language of the "Burns-Baucus" package. In full House debate over the bill, Rep. Peter Kostmayer of Pennsylvania (who had previously introduced an ecosystem protection act—see below), offered a four million acre amendment to broaden wilderness protection. Kostmayer's amendment was rejected in favor of the Interior Committee's version. Ron "Spike an Earth First!er" Marlenee (R-MT) also offered the original Baucus-Burns version as an option, but the full House chose the Interior version over the Baucus-Burns version as well.

What was truly alarming about this debate were the actions of the large state and national environmental groups. These groups were willing to sacrifice four million acres as an ante to assist the reelection of Pat Williams, a moderate Democratic Representative from Montana. Williams is running a close race for Montana's sole seat in the House against Republican Marlenee. The national mainstream groups are understandably concerned about the possibility of an environmental cretin like Marlenee beating Williams; many of them also felt that Williams needed to get a Wilderness bill passed to get elected. The critical question here is what was more important to them, protection of wildlands or the election of Williams.

Worst of all is the methodical plodding of the US Forest Service (USFS), which regardless of land use legislation maintains its nearly insatiable drive to road and develop the lands it manages, including roadless areas. Without passage of a Montana Wilderness bill. "It will be more difficult to get the public to accept logging in roadless areas..." according to Regional Forester Dave Jolly, but "we did agree in our forest plans to enter some of these roadless areas."

Ultimately, though, what killed S. 1696, or any version thereof, was not the vehement protests of grassroots groups here in Montana, or the political wrangling of the national groups who tried to buy an election with four million acres of pristine wildlands, but the asinine whims of five Western senators. Afraid that passage of even a weak wilderness bill threatened their own wise-use agenda, they decided to step-in and demonstrate their version of political reality. They stopped the bill cold when it came up for unanimous consent.

The House's Williams/Vento compromise sought to both increase the acreage of protected and studied wilderness and also to change the dangerous release language in an effort to protect public and judiciary review. It

fiddled with water rights language and was proclaimed a major overhaul of the Senate bill by the Sierra Club, The Wilderness Society, National Audubon Society, Greater Yellowstone Coalition and Montana Wilderness Association. Pat Williams trumpeted his bill as the election year answer.

The Interior version then jumped back to the Senate for approval or conferencing with only a few days left in the session. Baucus then tried a split-the-difference bill between the Baucus-Burns version and the House Interior version. But in doing so, he lost the support of Conrad Burns, who apparently had reached his upper limit with the Baucus-Burns

compromise. Hence, when Baucus did eventually manage to get the latest compromise in front of the Senate, Alan "Boney-Ass" (He called himself that, I did not make it up) Simpson (R-WY), speaking for five unnamed western Senators, killed the bill.

The Montana Wilderness bill determines the fate of the remaining six million acres of presently, but tenuously, unroaded wilderness. It includes areas of low elevation, biologically diverse national forests and the traditional high altitude ramparts historically included in the preservation system. Quibbling over 0.11 million acres either way seems paltry and essentially moot in comparison to the travesty of the bills themselves.

Responsible land use legislation is out there. The Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act (NREPA: HR 5944) was introduced on September 9, 1992, by Peter Kostmayer and co-sponsored by four other House members. It provides protection for areas still considered part of the timber base, an apparently radical idea just taking hold in Washington. It provides protection for intact ecosystems and the plants and animals still found in the wilds of the northern Rockies. The bill also provides what many scientists believe is the only chance to save grizzly bears in the lower 48. It ignores political boundaries because ecosystems ignore political boundaries. And much to the consternation of groups like the Montana Wilderness Association and the Sierra Club, it ignores political "reality" and established political agendas. NREPA creates its own political agenda, put forth by grassroots activists who care more for the land than they do for the artificial boundaries imposed by Washington bureaucrats and politicians alike.

A collection of grassroots organizers, scientists, economists, lobbyists and a lot of just plain people have been yelling for years about compromising what has already been compromised, cut-up, degraded and destroyed. The Alliance for the Wild Rockies (AWR), a regional alliance of grassroots activist groups, has organized protests, demonstrations, and town meetings in support of NREPA. NREPA shows us all that the political reality of land use legislation can and must change. AWR eventually found a congressperson more interested in ecosystems than political posturing to introduce NREPA. AWR also took its concerns to the national environmental groups. Instead of working with AWR and the constituency it represents, however, the national groups actively tried to stifle AWR's efforts in favor of their own weak-kneed agendas.

The Sierra Club, The Wilderness Society, National Audubon Society, Greater Yellowstone Coalition, Montana Wilderness Association, Montana Wildlife Federation and the National Wildlife Federation mailed a letter dated September 27, 1992, to every member of the House urging them to pass the House Interior Committee's version of the Montana wilderness bill and "to oppose all amendments."

The letter also promised that this Vento/Williams bill would "...represent a major step forward toward protecting critical roadless areas in

Sound land use legislation is not based on whoring around Washington, performing political favors.

Montana, vital low elevation wildlife habitat, and much of Montana's very significant ancient forests." The letter was on the Hill at the same time as NREPA was being reformatted into an amendment to the House Interior bill for Kostmayer to offer in full House debate. Kostmayer's amendment called for the protection of more than four million acres of Wilderness and Wild and Scenic Rivers, plus the formation of an ecosystem study for the entire Northern Rockies bioregion. It also provided interim protection for those federal lands included in the study. Only two of the seven signers of the letter agreed to comment on their opposition to NREPA.

John Gatchell of Montana Wilderness Association emphatically stated that none of the "players" knew of Kostmayer's amendments when they signed the letter, and that they do, in fact, support ecosystem study and more biologically-based land use decisions. For Gatchell, the House bill represented progress in the fifteen-year-old wilderness debate. When he did become aware of Kostmayer's planned amendment, he felt his organization could not, at that time, support something so sweeping. "NREPA needs a lot of work," he stated, "and when the amendment did hit the floor, it was voted down."

Bart Koehler of the Greater Yellowstone Coalition (GYC) said much the same thing. "No one in Washington knew Kostmayer had an amendment and when they did find out, they just could not go along with it." Koehler considered the Kostmayer amendment "fatally flawed," and thought that it was



photo: from the Earth First! Journal archives

"The mighty forces of the Earth, now... Will resist the beast this time/ And your children will stand strong, now/ Keep together and hold the line." Bart Koehler, alias Johnny Sagebrush, from his song, "Will Our Mother be Unbroken?"

"replete with problems and did not protect enough of Montana." Basically, Koehler believed that the purpose of the Kostmayer amendment was to kill passage of any bill, while he desperately sought resolution.

The mainstream groups did more than simply not go along with Kostmayer's amendment. They sent another letter, signed by the same groups less the Montana Wildlife Federation and National Wildlife Federation, to the House leadership and stated again their support of only the Williams/Vento bill. "While we strongly support the goals of protecting additional wilderness and wild rivers in the Northern Rockies ecosystem... we cannot support adopting the amendment at this time." They could not support the bill because the timing was wrong, and because passage of no legislation "leaves vulnerable wildlands without protection for an indefinite time."

Koehler made the same point. He stated emphatically and repeatedly that Kostmayer's amendment was "way too much; too late," and seriously flawed because it did not cover "flagship areas" of vital concern that were covered in the Interior version of the bill. He said he was neither jumping on the bandwagon nor doing cartwheels over either bill. Bart claimed AWR folks "sit in Missoula and believe two fundamental myths: one, that killing this bill somehow protects the six million acres of de facto wilderness, and two, that if the House bill did pass, there would be no more wilderness additions." Accordingly, he felt AWR was mistakenly leading others to believe that passage of the House bill spelled doom for real wilderness, big "W" or otherwise.

Many Earth First!ers will remember Koehler as "Johnny Sagebrush," erstwhile crony of Mike

Roselle, Howie Wolke, and Dave Foreman in those heady days of yore. Koehler came to the GYC from the Southeast Alaska Conservation Council last year after he led lobbying efforts for the passage of the Tongass Timber Reform Act. The GYC hired Koehler to coordinate lobbying efforts for passage of Wilderness legislation in the region. A few rich foundations piled some grant money into the GYC's coffers and sent Bart to work.

Not many people concerned with ecosystem protection are buying Koehler's line. What we get by the defeat of this bill is not the assurance of roadless protection, but the safeguard of full environmental review by the USFS before entering any roadless area, and yet another opportunity to make responsible land use legislation. Sure, we can add areas previously overlooked to existing Wilderness areas (e.g. the Cowboy's Heaven addition to the Lee Metcalf Wilderness), but only if they have remained unroaded and generally larger than five thousand acres.

Max Baucus is aware of this and has warned that, "Next year, the out-of-state groups are going to attempt to have even more control and more influence over our state. We have to be very cognizant of these pressures and these changes. There has been a fundamental change in political dynamics." Baucus even went so far as threatening to shut out all environmental groups from future dialogue. According to an internal Sierra Club memo he, "pulled out the big guns...threatening us with the Democratic Campaign Committee, telling us he'd never be able to work closely with us again, and other juicy stuff." Passage of any bill would release lands to mandates of existing national forest plans. In most cases, these plans are already being implemented, but timber sales are stalled by the lengthy and costly EIS process that goes along with entering roadless areas. The compromise bills thrown around Congress, if passed, would have relegated Forest Service review to mere bureaucratic formality.

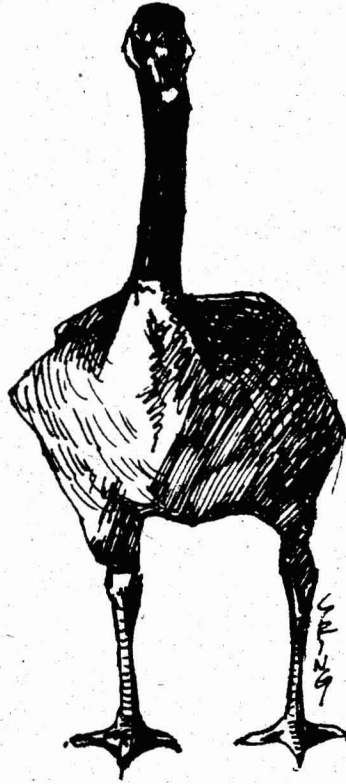
The USFS will get the logs and keep them rolling. Like a plodding leviathan, they continue to lumber around forests, carving them up into little chunks to be devoured and denuded. Left to the mandates of their dangerously flawed forest plans, the USFS will rush to carve up vulnerable roadless areas into parcels so small (less than 5000 acres) they are precluded from Wilderness consideration. Forest plans call for 17 percent of timber sales in Montana to come off roadless areas. Even parts of the mainstream groups' "vital low elevation wildlife habitat" and stands of our "very significant ancient forests," because they sure as hell are not going to get any marketable timber from the alpine areas. At least not with current marketability standards, anyway.

For years most of us have been aware of the inability of the USFS to get out of the timber industry's bed, but it now appears that the entrenched and disaffected national environmental groups have jumped into the same bed, creating a land use orgy of truly extreme proportions. The national environ-

mental groups have lost touch with the best interests of the land. Instead of leading their membership through difficult but necessary issues with education and vision, they blindly follow the political agendas of friends in Congress and their most powerful donors. In an effort to appease the lowest common denominator in their constituency, they often make trade-offs and compromises that threaten the funda-

mental favors. It is based on the biological needs of ecosystems themselves. The Northern Rockies ecosystem needs fewer roads. It has been fragmented already, and now demands linkage zones that serve to connect the larger unroaded areas. Wilderness as a resource has been degraded enough. It is time we take what is ecologically correct and insist upon its political viability. NREPA goes a long way towards achieving that vision. We need diverse and healthy wild areas. They sustain us.

Poised on the edge of a new century, we seem to be facing a few clear choices. We can do our best to conserve and restore the rich ecological treasures we still have, providing ourselves and all who come after with a sustainable and evolving future, or we can rush headlong into the 21st century, blind drunk on our own insane, consumptive greed and asleep, awash in apathy. We cannot heed the lame calls for moderation coming from Washington, we are way too tipsy already.



Forestry Building

*We could tread into the next day
unreleased breath bending our lungs like a
ready baby
we could halt at the tomb inscribed with
bloody signs
and flanked by human skulls but these
clichés
lay back their nerve like a belly-up pup
seeking mercy
in the face of the forestry chalkboard
where crimes are scrawled in the open
on a green field.*

*In the building of forestry the young ones are
learning an equation
and it says the value of the living body is less
than the wholesale price of its bones.
Ritually enacting an old mistake, initiates
use their equation to solve the problem of
forest service—
by helping themselves to the forest they serve
it indeed
on a platy roadbed to the insatiable mouth
of institutional perpetuity and for an instant
the overserved, undeserving forest hangs
there
on the lip of the thing
like a toothpick, before it disappears.
The boardfoot equation says
as axes approach infinity life is less than
money
and the system is greater than or equal to
everything else.
It says the new word for forest is a number
and along with the exponentially flattening
hand of denial
it drives the grid of our habits into the
muscle
of the earth like a brand
but can easily be carried over to the next
generation
and its remainder expressed in fraction
form.
It says yes the new word for forest is a
number
and like the fixed stars packaged in pink
haze
it can be used to guide us
through the stumpy alleyways of displaced
desire
because it always stays in one place
you always know where to find it
in the smog, in the squelch of bland
continuation it's there
it's right there
on the bottom line.*

—Leslie Ryan

mental integrity of our last unroaded wild lands. Ironically, when their memberships are made aware of an issue, they tend to side not with the bureaucracy that supposedly speaks for them, but with the land and the critters most affected. Both the Bozeman chapter of Sierra Club and a Montana chapter of Audubon went against their national leadership and called for the squashing of any version of S. 1696. Not only do these groups welcome the death of the bill, but they actively promote NREPA legislation. Not because it is a political reality or is somehow politically viable, but because it is in the best interest of the land.

Groups like the GYC and Sierra Club abandon sound biology in favor of palatable political stances to assure continued funding. Slaves to the middle road, these groups and the money they represent must undergo a dramatic shift in perspective. People who are shopping their way to a better tomorrow and doing it with cute little Audubon checks have to realize the true costs. The mainstream groups have the responsibility to show their members that sound environmental policy is not a fad. And it should not be determined by political viability or election year skulduggery.

Getting Pat Williams re-elected at the cost of four million acres hardly seems worth it. And worse, these groups would have applauded passage of a wilderness bill and touted it as a hardfought success. Everyone seems to consistently overlook the fact that this is not simply a "Montana" wilderness bill. These lands are national forests and this issue sweeps over state boundaries as easily as a migrating goose.

We have already compromised our wild lands. The fragments remaining barely allow a foothold for our most majestic and sensitive species. These areas can remain viable storehouses of ecological integrity, but only with formal protection that effectively removes the land from Forest Service management. The Forest Service has proven repeatedly its dogged determination to manage roadless areas for the sole benefit of extractive resource industries.

Sound land use legislation is not based on whoring around Washington, DC, performing po-



Marshal Moo Montana

INTERNATIONAL NEWS



Greenpeace Ship Seized While Investigating Nuclear Waste in Russia

On October 12th, the Greenpeace vessel, *Solo*, was apprehended, towed to a port near Murmansk, Russia, and detained for a week. Greenpeace activists were attempting to document radioactive waste dump sites near Novaya Zemlya in far eastern Russian waters. An inflatable boat had been launched to take samples, when they were ordered to stop and three warning shots were fired across the stern of the *Solo*. The crew on the *Solo* was able to retrieve the inflatable, then they were pursued by the Russian coast guard and were arrested just outside territorial waters. The ship is now free to leave Russia.

Both the *Solo* and the *Rainbow Warrior* are visiting Russian Far East naval bases to expose the deadly legacy of nuclear submarine operations in the Pacific. The US and Russia operate almost 100 nuclear-powered vessels in the area.

Already, Greenpeace has uncovered information about two Soviet nuclear-powered submarines which experienced reactor meltdowns in the Pacific, and is confirming reports about radioactive waste dumped near Vladivostok, in the Sea of Japan.

"In the last year we learned that 12 submarine nuclear reactors and thousands of barrels of radioactive

waste were dumped in Arctic waters," said Joshua Handler, Nuclear Free Seas campaign research coordinator. "Now we are confirming a similar story of secret dumping in the Pacific."

Greenpeace's flagship, *Rainbow Warrior*, sailed into the site of a 1985 nuclear submarine accident in Chazma Bay, near Vladivostok on October 14. Chazma Bay was the site of a nuclear reactor explosion in August 1985 during the refuelling of an Echo II submarine. The accident killed 10 sailors and released hundreds of thousands of curies of radioactivity.

Until last year, when Greenpeace activists visited the area, the world did not know about the accident. The 1985 release of radioactivity created a plume 6 kilometers long and 1.5 kilometres wide. During a tour of the fallout trace last year, Greenpeace measured radiation at 100 times background levels.

Although the *Rainbow Warrior* had received an invitation from the city authorities and permission from the regional KGB to visit Chazma, the commander of the local flotilla, attempted to force the ship to leave, claiming that the ship violated navigational rules.

—SOURCE: GREENPEACE

Columbus Protests in Latin America Violently Repressed

The Confederation of Indigenous Nations of Ecuador held nationwide protests on October 9 to coincide with the 500th anniversary of the colonialist European invasion of the Americas and to oppose the government's indifference toward the demands of the indigenous population. They were violently repressed by the Ecuadoran government.

In the province of Imbabura, Ecuador, activist Segundo Caiza was killed and six others were injured when national armed forces opened fire on the peaceful protestors. In the provinces of Cotopaxi, Tungurahua, and Cayambe, activists were arrested and are being detained in prison, including 13-year old Yolanda Andrango.

On the same day in Columbia, demonstrators on the Pan-American Highway in the Cauca region were attacked by army and police. Fifteen people were seriously wounded, many more were injured and detained. Protestors included indigenous peoples, African-Americans, and peasants, with women and children from each of these communities.

The previous day in the Rioblanco and Pescador regions of Columbia, groups of protestors were tear-gassed, shot at, and run over with army vehicles.

For more information contact: *South and Meso American Indian Information Center*, PO Box 28703, Oakland, CA 94604.

Anti-Dam Activist Killed in India

On July 13, Dhanibai Nawa Padvia, an anti-dam activist, was shot and killed by forest guards in Taloda, a forest area in India which is being cleared for resettlement caused by the Sardar Sarovar Dam Project. The forest guards and police went into the village of Kalibel to evict tribal people from the resettlement area. When the tribals protested, the guards started beating them up and opened fire, injuring seven and killing Dhanibai Nawa Padvia.

The \$11 billion Sardar Sarovar Project consists of building 30 large, 135 medium-sized and 3000 small dams to the Narmada river. The Sardar Sarovar reservoir will submerge over 248 villages in three states (Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat) and over 100,000 people, mostly tribals, will be displaced.

—SOURCE: ECOLOGY CENTER TERRAIN

Don't Let Twyford Down!

Twyford Downs, near Winchester, form part of one of the most beautiful and precious landscapes in England. Steeped in the history of this land, the area has a wealth of unique historic sites, ancient trackways and wild flowers that have been virtually eliminated from the rest of the countryside. However, thanks to our crazy car-culture and the Department of Transportation's blue line mania, plus the intervention of powerful self-interested parties like Winchester College, Tarmac Construction is poised to rip a 100 feet deep cutting through the centre of this amazing place, and create huge embankments across the adjoining water meadows with the excavated chalk. The downs are still intact—well, 98 percent intact. Preliminary work has created a huge scar on the hillside, but this could be restored and replanted if protesters and environmental activists can win the fight against the planet-wreckers.

Nonviolent direct action has been used many times this summer to disrupt the contractors and send the message that we will fight for our natural heritage; that no one on this planet should dare or have the right to order such devastation. Time delays and extra costs have been caused by activists obstructing the preliminary works by locking onto machinery, flooding the site, and generally demoralising the contractors. At the same time, there has been covert ecotage by mysterious operators who appear at night and are believed to originate at the bottom of the roads minister's garden.

Near the Morestead Road, on the line of the proposed motorway, is a network of ancient trackways with deep turfed gullies hewn by millions of human and animal feet over thousands of years. To stand here and feel the history of this site and feel a connection with our past is a wonderful experience. The protesters now camped here believe this place can be saved and have pledged to protect it from the threatened environmental vandalism. The site has been declared an independent territory and has been fortified in readiness for stage one: the stripping of the flower rich turf which has evolved over hundreds of years and moving it to another site; an act that can be likened to the collection of zoo specimens while allowing their habitats to disappear. Some of the protesters have been here since March and are totally committed. There is more work to be done in defending the trackways and always the opportunity of inspiring or joining one of many actions against the contractors. Walk on the downs in the moonlight and develop your sense of outrage at the mindless march of "progress." Get there soon. Don't let Twyford down.

For Information Contact: *South Downs EF!* on 0273 683205, *Oxford EF!* on 0865 725840 or Hotline: with a 30 second update message, on 0225 444133



Gringos in the Mist

US Imports Assault Rainforests Worldwide

Maxus Invades Ecuador

The oil company Maxus, based in Dallas, is starting the construction of a road and oil pipeline into the land of the Waorani, the most vulnerable of the rainforest peoples in Ecuador. Controls designed to prevent the colonization which usually accompanies roadbuilding in the Ecuadorian Amazon may not be enough to stop an invasion of Waorani land.

The Maxus Energy Corporation took over the controlling interest in the area, known as Block 16, when Conoco, another US oil company, pulled out. (The Ecuadorian Amazon has been divided into "blocks." Companies bid for the right to prospect for oil in each block.) Maxus intends to implement the same management plan as that devised by Conoco. It will build a road linking seven oil wells within Block 16. An oil pipeline will run alongside the road, buried underground. The entire area of Block 16 (some 200,000 hectares) is Waorani land, although some of it is not recognized as such by the government.

The road starts on the northern edge of Waorani territory, south of the Napo River. The northernmost well will start to be developed by helicopter-borne crews even before the road has reached it. The road and pipeline will also link at least two wells in concessions owned by the state oil company Petroecuador, which is also on Waorani land.

There are reports of an unknown group of Waorani appearing in the area of where Maxus is operating—they will be very vulnerable to new diseases brought in by the road-building crews and violent conflicts are likely. It is possible these Indians are the Tagaeri, a very secretive group of Waorani who have resisted all attempts by outsiders to contact them.

Maxus, aware of protests against roads on Indian land, claims that it will be able to prevent colonizers coming in along the road—by setting up security posts staffed by Quichua Indians at the head of the road, and an identity card system. However, the pressure of colonization from the northern Amazon is very heavy, and

there is a danger that the controls will be inadequate to prevent encroachment onto Waorani land. Very serious pollution and oil seepages are expected to result.

Very few Waorani speak Spanish, so most find it difficult to assess the potential risks of the situation they are facing. There is a Waorani organization which is negotiating with Maxus to ensure that no developments take place on Waorani land which the Waorani do not agree to. The Ecuadorian Government recognized a part of Waorani land as Indian territory, but denied them the right to prevent oil companies operating in this area (known as the Waorani Ethnic Reserve).

The aim of Survival International's campaign is for the Waorani to be given the chance to control the nature and pace of the changes now taking place on their land. They can only do this if their land rights are secure. Please join us in lobbying the Ecuadorian Government to grant them this.

Please write:

S.E. Sixto Duran Ballen, Presidente de la Republica, Palacio de Gobierno, Garcia Moreno 1043, Quito, Ecuador And:

Charles L. Blackburn, Chairman, President and Chief, Executive Officer, Maxus Energy Corporation, 717 North Harwood St., Dallas, Texas 75201-6594

—SOURCE: SURVIVAL INTERNATIONAL

Dallas is Digging up Peru, Too

BY EDWARD HAMMOND

"Awajuntik Kakagmaitji Iina Nugke Ayamjaku Tuke Depetkashbauwaitji!"
We the Aguaruna are heroes defending our territory—we are never defeated!

The Aguaruna and Huambisa Peoples of Northeastern Peru are threatened with imminent devastation at the hands of US-based petroleum companies.

Only in its early stages, the ill-designed exploration and exploitation plan for the Marañon, Santiago, and Nieva River Basins has already provoked a mass outcry from the area's native population. Emir Etsam Nugkuag, an Aguaruna from the community of Napuruka, said, "The detonations (from seismic testing) and the clearings being made are scaring away the animals and destroying the resources that our families depend upon to survive."

The companies operating in "Lot 50" are two Houston, Texas, based firms, Edward Callan Interests and Halliburton Geophysical Services. Their plans, made available in Lima, indicate that the exploration will continue with the clearing of roads, helipads, camps, and, most likely, test and then production wells. Aguaruna and Huambisa leaders fear a repetition of the environmental and human nightmares recently experienced in Ecuador's Oriente.

Plans call for a minimum of 135 km of 2 meter wide paths to be cleared along 11 different "seismic lines." Along these paths, engineers plan to detonate

charges of up to 10 lbs of TNT as close as 25 meters apart.

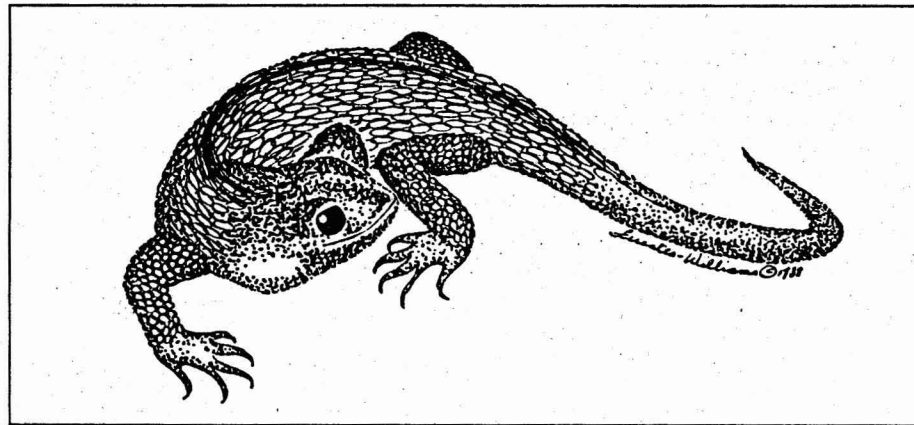
Helicopters will operate and helipads will be cleared along the Cordillera de Campanquiz, a biologically rich area where animals are taking refuge from current exploration activities.

Roads will open areas already under pressure from coca cultivators. One Aguaruna leader, Damian Tibijam, has been killed by colonists while trying to defend Aguaruna territory in Chamikar.

Oil company representatives agreed to meet with representatives of Aguaruna and Huambisa communities, but arrived escorted by the Peruvian Armed Forces and, despite four days of desperate pleas from community leaders, indicated they would not change their plans before returning to Lima in an Army helicopter.

This new threat comes on the heels of the recent victory preventing Texas Crude Inc. from entering the Pacaya-Samiria Reserve.

For more information contact:
COICA, Jiron Larco Herrera #1057,
Lima 17 PERU
fax/phone 011-51-14-619228
or: Edward Hammond (512) 479-8629
"perezoso@ccwf.cc.utexas.edu"



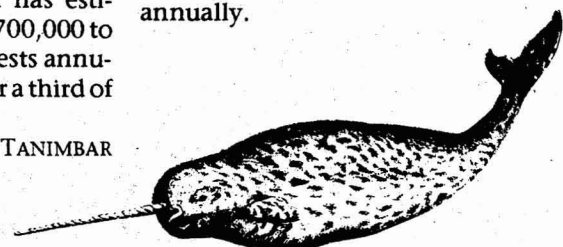
Sneaking Teak Out of Cambodia

BY MICHAEL STEIN

United Nations peacekeepers have reported that massive logging in Cambodia's remote northeast may have disastrous environmental consequences. The report claimed deserters from the Phnom Penh army and Khmer Rouge guerrilla faction were "deeply involved" in illegal logging along the Cambodia-Laos border.

Cambodia's mountainous northeast is home to the country's only stands of the highly-prized teak hardwood, which, along with rosewood, is being heavily logged. Of the 22 saw mills operating in Stung Treng province, only six were legal, the paper said. In Stung Treng district around the Mekong riverside town, only four out of nine saw mills were operating with a permit.

Also, a 400-strong group of nomadic Montagnard tribesmen, formerly paid by the US Central Intelligence Agency as an anti-Vietnamese guerrilla force, are living in the area. The paper said "slash and burn" cultivation techniques were responsible for clearing 3,000 hectares (7,413 acres) of forest land annually.



Indonesian Villagers Attack Logging Machinery

From the air, the island of Yamdena in Indonesia, with its lush rainforests and turquoise coral reefs, looks like an idyllic tropical island paradise. But timber contractors are moving in to cut the trees, and Yamdena's inhabitants fear that with the forest gone, their island will just sink into the sea.

In mid-July some 200 villagers from Yamdena staged a demonstration in the logging concession area. On September 14, dozens of furious residents ransacked the company's logging equipment and facilities. A series of similar accidents had reportedly taken place since July. The most recent action resulted in the arrests of more than 300 islanders, including a number of village chiefs accused of supporting the people. Many protesters and a number of company employees were injured. Police harassed, beat, and fired shots at protesters.

Yamdena is part of the "Spice Islands" in the Moluccas, about 1500 km east of the Indonesian capital, Jakarta, where officials have given logging tycoon Liem Sioe Liong permission to move into the island with his chainsaws.

More than half of the 320,000 hectare island is rainforest, which was formally protected in 1971 by the government, but Liem's PT Alam Nusa Segar (PT ANS) began logging in Yamdena in January and has already hauled away 15,000 cubic metres of wood.

Forest degradation in Yamdena will cause an estimated annual erosion of 10 tonnes of soil per hectare. The island has a skin of topsoil only 50 cm thick sitting on limestone. It takes 100 years for limestone areas to add one centimeter to the topsoil, making it nearly impossible to restore the land after the forests are

gone. Several islands in the Moluccas have already been submerged because of erosion of denuded topsoil. Tapak Kuda, an island in northern Sumatra, is sinking because its mangroves have been cut. Tapak Kuda residents have been asked to evacuate. Near Yamdena is the island of Kei, which was logged heavily by a Dutch company in the late 19th century. Today, Kei has almost no topsoil left and is covered with jagged rocks. People there grow cassava with difficulty.

Indonesia supplies 85 percent of the world's demand for hardwood plywood. The World Bank has estimated that the country loses 700,000 to 1.2 million hectares of its forests annually. Logging is responsible for a third of that amount.

—SOURCE: ASSOCIATION OF TANIMBAR INTELLECTUALS

The Sarawak Campaign: Perspectives for Discussion

BY JAMES LOCKHEAD

There is a lot of discussion going on about the direction of the international campaign on Sarawak. We contribute a few points to add to that discussion. For us, it is a question of perspective. Much of what is said here is based on the input of people in Sarawak and Malaysia, whom we met during a visit at the end of last year. We spoke to literally hundreds of people directly and indirectly involved in the struggle. A number of comments were made, some of which we pass on here.

First and foremost, they underlined that, of course, the major issue for the indigenous people in Sarawak is the issue of land. Yet this perspective also includes the vision that their struggle is not only about the effects of logging on land rights and local cultures in Sarawak, but also the whole struggle of marginalised people across Malaysia for land and other human rights, and the whole issue of "development": who decides, who profits, and who is trampled over. As such, the cutting of the forest is only one part of the process of "dispossession," and if we confine our remarks to Sarawak, logging is only one way in which indigenous people are deprived of their land.

Without exception, people involved in the struggle expressed their appreciation and urged the continuation of the international support is not only appreciated in terms of the support and encouragement it gives to local people, but people outside the country are often able to gain access to infor-

mation which is not available within Malaysia (and which therefore should be fed back in) and are also able to mount campaigns on elements of the struggle which people in Sarawak and Malaysia may not be in a position to do.

A number of international activists took part in a direct action at the Kuala Baram port, which resulted in their arrest and subsequent jailing. This action generated considerable controversy and heat both before it went ahead and in its aftermath. Amongst the issues raised are the concerns regarding "foreign" understanding (or not) of local dynamics and possible consequences of such an action, and the whole issue of how "internationalists" can support a specific struggle like that in Sarawak.

It should be said immediately that different people expressed different opinions about the action: there were some who pointed to some of the positive effects of the action and some (more, in our experience) who viewed it negatively. The major positive effect indicated was that the action did result in local communities finding

support and inspiration from the example of the "foreigners" who were ready to go to (a local) jail over the issue, presumably the main reason for undertaking the action.

However, there were/are many dissenting voices, and much of the controversy generated by the action centres on the way the action was planned and the consequences of the action. Those who participated in the



action reported that there was local support and that there was local consultation before the action took place. Although, no doubt, there were those who did support the action; we came across many who did not, and amongst those were people who have been

cited as "supporters" of the action. This points to a major area of difficulty. Few local people express their opinions bluntly, and for that reason, unless one is attuned to local expression, one may miss the message of "get lost." This seems to have happened several times in Sarawak during the "consultation" process, and this whole question of cultural gaps is one which (a) was obviously not bridged and (b) should already have us asking a lot of questions about this sort of action and how it is conceived. Clearly, there are a lot of people in Sarawak who were most disillusioned by the results of the so-called consultation process and not just those who some of us would anyway ignore as being peripheral to the struggle.

In terms of the consequences of the action, on the minus side, as well as the perceived failure of the consultation procedure, people reported increased police and Special Branch pressure on local people and organizations as a direct consequence of the action. Since many of those people reported that they were not in support of the action in the first place, they pointed out that this increase of pressure on the local struggle, which goes on long after the foreigners are released from jail, was neither positive, nor in any way within local control. It had been foreseen, was something that had been expressed to the foreign activists, and yet was a consequence that the activists had chosen either to ignore or accept as "inevitable." Many would argue that foreign activists have no

U.S. Tropical Rainforest Activist Responds

BY JAKE JAGOFF

A year has passed since the S.S. Western Civilization action team journeyed to Sarawak, Malaysia to protest the wholesale destruction of its forests and the corresponding loss of its forest cultures. After shutting down loading operations for a day at one facility in Kuala Baram, we were detained and eventually charged with criminal trespassing. Our sentences varied from 50 to 80 days which we spent in a prison outside of Miri, Sarawak. From the outset, criticism surrounded the action, pointing to the highly polarized nature of rainforest politics and developmental approaches in the South. With the blessing of hindsight, I reckon it's time to examine the controversy; specifically, how effective or ineffective our tactics and our strategies were in Sarawak.

First off, while the logging in Sarawak has continued unabated, the struggle of Sarawak's indigenous peoples becomes grimmer and grimmer. Crackdowns by Malaysian authorities persist as Prime Minister Mahathir and his Barisan Nasional (BN) Party suck the fight out of the environmental movement just as the logging sucks the life out of the forest. Anderson Mutang, a Kelabit from Sarawak and one of the inspirations behind the Sarawak Indigenous People's Alliance, was detained last February for two months before the government allowed bail to be posted and a court date set. He left the country and went to Canada and has elected not to return to face trial.

I had a chance to meet Anderson at the annual Chautauqua gathering of Rainforest Action Groups from around North America where we chat-

ted briefly about the last year's course of events. After expressing my thanks for his gutsy activism, I apologized for bringing the shit down on him. He fended off my apology with a warm smile before expressing his thanks for the solidarity we showed with Sarawak's forest dwellers. It suddenly dawned on me that, while our efforts in Sarawak were done independently from the Dayak blockaders in the upper Baram and the general populace, we would never have been able to do an action in Sarawak without folks like Anderson bridging the network between North and South.

The SOS Sarawak action team went to Borneo to protest more than simply rainforest destruction. We also wanted to empower more local people of Sarawak to act on behalf of their forests and their communities. This was, perhaps, the most delicate balancing act for us as our action focused on tropical timber exports and not so much on indigenous land rights, even though the two issues are directly connected. According to Lockhead, "The major issue for the indigenous people in Sarawak is the issue of land." On a broader level, he argues that the destruction of the rainforest is but one facet in the process of "dispossession." Lockhead concludes by stating that the whole developmental approach is skewed and must be examined if the rampant cutting of the forests is to stop. No arguments here.

In retrospect, I wonder if a better target for our affinity group might have been a governmental development agency or even the Chief Minister's office. Realistically, however, rainforest destruction and the plight of the Dayaks are what has driven the

Sarawak campaign from the beginning. In essence, they are the prisms which have allowed most of us culturally illiterate college graduates to see the root causes of deforestation and dispossession in Sarawak and elsewhere.

By targeting loading barges engaged in exporting Sarawak's forests to Japan, Korea, Australia and the US, we were challenging Mahathir's development strategy and Malaysia's right to assert control over Sarawak's natural resources.

In terms of our actual effectiveness with the action, the only tangible thing we did was shut down loading operations for a day at one facility. In short, we cost the timber company and the shipping agent some money. Given the total governmental control of the media in Sarawak and Malaysia, it's doubtful we gained heaps of sympathy for our cause. But I reckon one thing we did gain was respect, because no matter what side of the issues you're on, the people in Sarawak, who live with Big Brother everyday, must appreciate our gumption. Did we, as Lockhead's comments imply, run roughshod over local efforts and concerns? In terms of tribal sentiments, I would have to say no, as it seems most of the feedback from the

indigenous communities was positive. After all, they are the ones who used civil disobedience themselves. Within the cities and towns of Sarawak, however, I think there was resentment directed at us, though most of it was contrived through the media.

I'd like to address a few of Lockhead's conclusions, firstly regarding consultation. In the repressive political climate of Sarawak and Malaysia, I'd like to know how one formally consults with groups, tribes and individuals. You can't be totally up front lest you bring the Special Branch (Secret Police) to their doorstep, nor can you expect these groups and individuals to come to you. The insinuation in your article was that we should have secured clearance from every NGO and tribe before acting. This is clearly impossible in Sarawak given

the circumstances and points to your inability to see that, aside from the tribal people opposing the timber industry and the government in the forest, most NGOs and working people are scared shitless or resistance (for good reason) and would never consider an act of civil disobedience. While we could have consulted with more citizen groups, to think that we would win their approval for the action is nothing short of revolutionary fantasy.



Sarawak Debate...

continued from previous page

right to make such a decision on behalf of the local struggle; such "help" is unsolicited and unwanted.

This kind of decision about the context in which the local struggle operates was also questioned in terms of the effect the action had in relation to Malaysian Government reaction. Again, this had been clearly pointed out to the activists. They were told by many parties that the action would be greeted with glee by the Malaysian authorities as providing exactly the right kind of propaganda material to back up the Malaysian government's efforts at blaming local resistance in Sarawak on "western eco-imperialists." Of course this is exactly what happened, and since the Kuala Baram action, there has been increased exploitation by the Malaysian government spokespeople and the government-controlled media of the offensive against "foreign imperialists" who have taken it upon themselves (ourselves) to impose their own ideas on local people, to sabotage the development and economy of Malaysia, and provides further evidence of the "colonial" and imperialist intentions of the North against the South.

Control of the local media means that this message has been stuffed down the throats of the Malaysian public, and in terms of the struggle in Sarawak to develop, it is essential that other sections of the Malaysian population become involved in the struggle. Yet the "misinformation" put out by the Malaysian government means that it is likely that whole sec-

tions of the Malaysian public have been alienated from the struggle, and even if they were sympathetic, find it now much harder to get involved openly in the issue. Some would and did argue that this is overstated: some of the activists have argued that "all publicity is good publicity." Whilst it is difficult to "prove" one way or another what the effect of such propaganda and publicity has been, it would seem to us that rather hasty assumptions are being made about the political contexts of the struggle in Malaysia and the local dynamics of protest. This more than anything has led local organizations and people to condemn the action as ill-conceived, destructive and adventurist. Whilst others would point to some positive effects of the action, particularly the point that local people did derive some inspiration from it, not one person we spoke to said that such an action should be repeated. All of them said, "Not again, please." The underlying sentiment is: "Keep up the campaign outside Sarawak, we appreciate that," but, "allow us to develop our own struggle locally, respect us for that."

Excerpted from WORLD RAINFOREST REPORT June 1992



Eco-Imperialists?

continued from previous page

short of revolutionary fantasy.

We did talk and correspond with many folks on an informal basis—several who did express reservations. But with the exception of one group, SAM (Friends of the Earth, which is a national environmental group in Malaysia), which was totally opposed to our efforts, all the groups and people we talked to said that, while they did not agree or could not participate, they would not stand in our way.

Lockhead mentions increased police pressure after the action, but we certainly didn't provoke all of this, as evidenced by the eight month blockade at Long Aging, 400 protesters marching in Kanowit for the release of two Ibans arrested for detaining four timber tractors invading their native lands and an increase in monkeywrenching. We shouldn't shoulder all the blame for harassment of local activists; after all, there is a historical context starting in the early 1970s that traces opposition to the timber industry.

I find the regurgitation of SAM's arguments that the action was greeted with glee by the Malaysian government to be shallow and reductionist. They would have done the same thing if we had occupied the Malaysian Embassy in Washington, DC. Regardless of where we strike, Mahathir and company will continue to portray the campaign as run by Western investigators who have stirred up the natives. While this simple strategy insulates the Malaysian government from criticism from the international community, I believe that our job as activists is to fire one another up. The Dayaks have inspired me to become involved in the campaign and, perhaps, the SOS Sarawak

team was returning the favor.

For obvious reasons, due to draconian measures, activists in Sarawak and Malaysia are very limited in what they can say and do. Add to this the lack of free press and you have a situation where most people in Malaysia and Sarawak are unaware of the widespread resistance to logging, specifically, and to the practice of civil disobedience in general. Lockhead's comments in no way encourage either local people or international supporters to use this tactic which appears to me to be (along with monkeywrenching) the only effective tactic employed by the campaign to date.

I'm not arguing that CD should dictate the course of the campaign, I'm saying that CD, inside and outside Sarawak, remains one tool in the tool box. Nothing more and nothing less. Does this mean that more people of Sarawak and Malaysia will engage in CD? Probably not. In fact, in the short term it's made it harder to do CD. But hopefully the seed was planted in some young revolutionary's mind, who watches the unending procession of horizontal forest everyday, and ponders that maybe our action was right on.

I respect James Lockhead and SIMBA's work and appreciate his input and agree that the key work is support for local initiatives, but I also see the forest and myriad non-human life forms struggling to survive. I reckon this means that my tolerance for homocentric development issues wanes at times as my biocentric philosophy comes pouring through. This is my perspective and I hope James can respect it.

Council of Women Challenges Logging in Papua New Guinea

Logging has been approved in the Hunstein Range in Papua New Guinea's Sepik River region. Should the logging go ahead it will destroy 380,000 hectares of World Heritage quality rainforest and cause an unknown number of people living in this remote area to be dislocated. However, since no proper negotiation with the traditional landowners has been done, the operation is technically illegal. The East Sepik Council of Women (ESCOW) is mounting a legal challenge to halt the logging and support the traditional landowners. This will be the first legal case in Papua New Guinea's history to challenge a logging operation before it has begun and promises to set a precedent for all future logging if it succeeds.

Background

The Hunstein Range is a remote and little-disturbed part of upper East Sepik Province, Papua New Guinea. Circled by the April and Salumei rivers, the range rises above the Sepik River floodplain to over 1500 metres altitude. A recent survey of one river valley in the range found over 1200 species of plants with 10 per cent of these estimated to be new to Western science. It is home to the largest stand of kauri pine (*Agathis labillardieri*) in the world.

Only one thousand people live in the Hunstein: village-based subsistence farmers, sago processors and hunter/gatherers who live almost exclusively on forest products. While villagers wish to retain the quality of their environment, the pressure to enter into an agreement to allow industrial logging in the area is increasing.

For the past year, ESCOW has been working with the people of the Hunstein Range to develop small sustainable enterprises (such as marketing of handicrafts, portable sawmilling, sale of forest perfumes and cassowary farming) and to assist the Department of Environment and Conservation in establishing a conservation area.

Logging Approved

On 26 June 1992—the day before the new Forest Act came into force—the National Cabinet of New Guinea approved the 380,000 hectare April-Salumei logging concession cov-

ering much of the Hunstein Range and adjoining river valleys. Forestry officers argue that the requisite two-thirds of all landowners have signed the logging agreement. However, the old Forest Act requires all landowners to sign the agreement. The two-thirds commonly used by the logging industry is merely convention and only continues because it has never been challenged. The April-Salumei Timber Rights Purchase (TRP) was rushed through the day before Parliament approved the new Forest Act along with a number of other contentious logging areas. The main target of the logging will be the valuable kauri stands.

Grounds for Legal Challenge

ESCOW intends to contest the declaration of the April-Salumei TRP the grounds that landowners were coerced, bribed or intimidated into signing the logging agreement. Even so, they only have the signatures of two-thirds of the landowners. They will also be challenged for having an improper benefit statement in logging agreement. According to law, the TRP document must state the level of timber volume expected from the concession and the benefits that would be derived by the landowners. If this is not present or is questionable, the TRP declaration may be challenged in an administrative law action.

A lawyer has been found at reduced cost. An interim injunction will be taken out to temporarily halt the TRP while the case is being prepared.

Funds Needed

Funds are needed to pay legal costs and to cover the high costs of collecting statements from aggrieved landowners (travel to and from the Hunstein Range is extremely expensive).

Donations should be transferred into the "East Sepik Social Action Fund" Account No. 049 706 8956 860 with Westpac Bank, Wewak, ESP, PNG. Alternatively cheques may be made out to the fund and posted to ESCOW at the address below. For further information or to make donations, write to Otto Soondrawu East Sepik Council of Women PO Box 75 Wewak ESP PNG ph +675.862 025 fax +675.862 131.

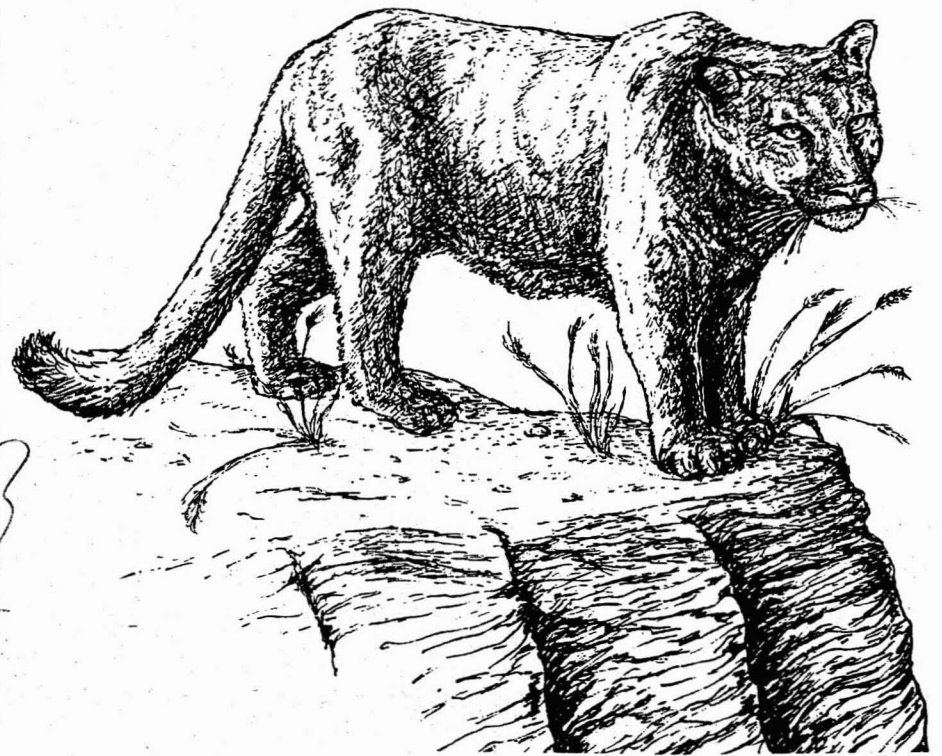
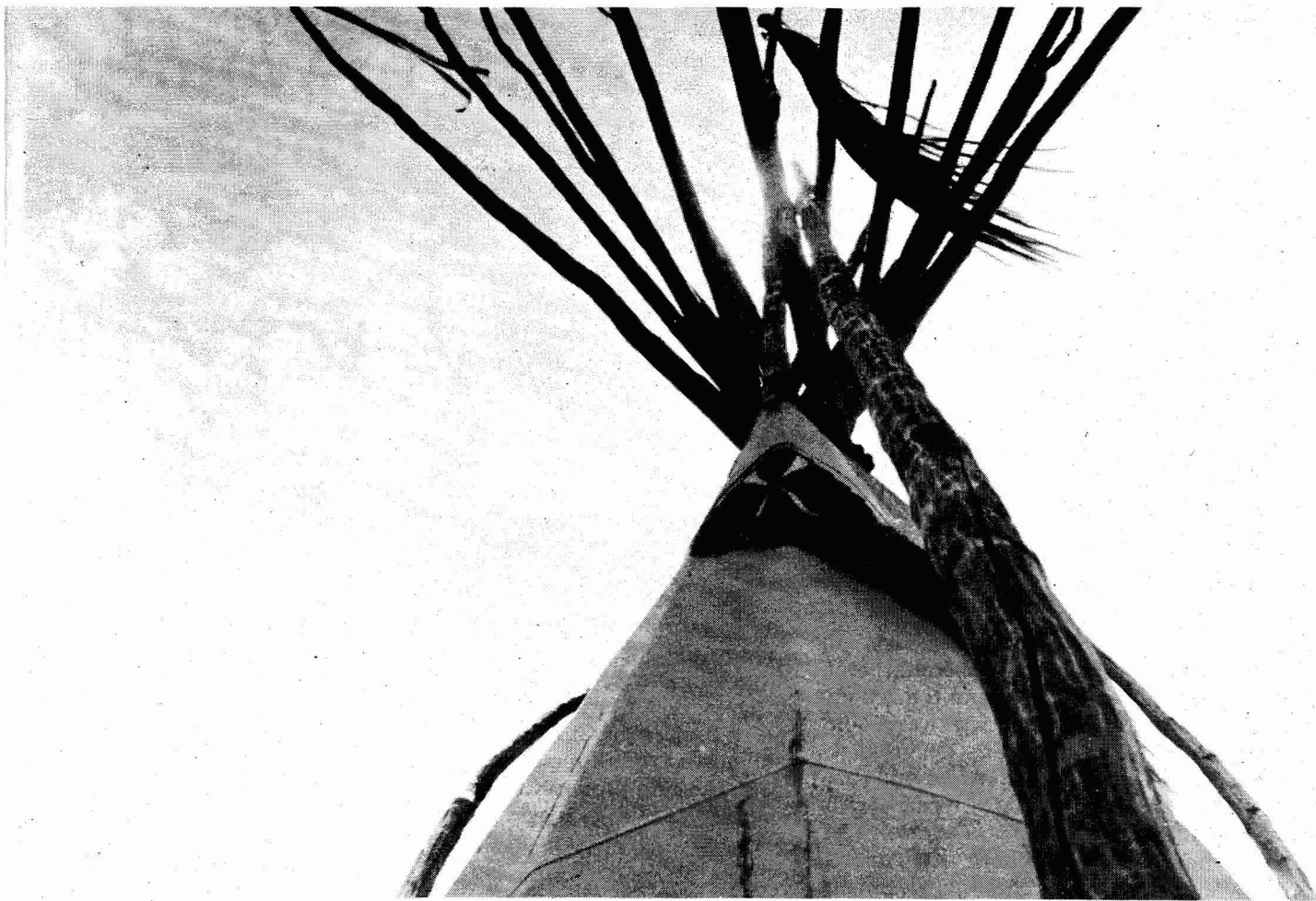


photo: David Hestmeyer



N/A

Columbus Day Parade Canceled in Denver

AMERICAN INDIAN MOVEMENT CELEBRATES VICTORY OVER COLUMBUS DAY

BY HUGH GARDNER

Things were tense in Denver the week leading up to the October 10 Columbus Day parade. The American Indian Movement (AIM) had been working for years to rename or re-focus this traditional event in the Rocky Mountain's capitol city, where Columbus Day originated in 1907—including dumping stage blood on the statue of Columbus in Civic Center Park—without success. This year, the Quincentenary of Columbus' fateful arrival, they vowed to lay down their bodies if necessary to end this celebration of enslavement and genocide against indigenous peoples.

Rumors abounded of Ku Klux Klan provocateurs attending, Latino gangs who had their own bone to pick with Columbus, and violent street fighters of the sort which plagued Denver's Martin Luther King march last spring. Local media fueled the fire by evoking AIM's militance and its reputation for violent resistance a la Wounded Knee, 1973. That the action planned was only peaceful civil disobedience usually got lost in the hysteria. Local police mobilized hundreds of officers, predicting violence, and an elite cadre of state troopers was called in to the capitol. Negotiations between AIM and Denver Mayor Wellington Webb to stop the parade or at least change its name proved fruitless. The city's position was that Columbus Day Parade sponsors, the Federation of Italian-American Organizations (FIAO), were entitled to "free speech" and that the parade would go on.

In the basement of the Living Water Church the night of October 8, about 150 Indians, Latinos and non-native supporters gathered to make signs and hear leaders address the group on strategy. Russell Means, co-founder of AIM and its executive director for Colorado,



CAHULLA RED ELK

that was both righteous — noting that almost 40 peace and justice organizations supported the AIM action, but only the KKK endorsed the FIAO effort — and calming, describing the support systems available for those hurt or arrested. Other leaders gave detailed instructions for how to respond if tear gassed, how to be a member of AIM security, what and what not to wear or bring. The tenor was sober "calm before the storm," but a clear dedication to passive resistance. Supporters were clearly informed of the ground rules - no alcohol, drugs, or weapons - and reminded not to bring pockets of marbles, which if dropped might impede law enforcement officials.

The morning of October 10 dawned bright and cold in Denver's downtown Civic Center Park, only a few blocks from where the Columbus Day Parade would gather at 10 a.m. Overnight a group of artists and AIM members had erected 92 sets of charred teepee lodge poles around the park to symbolize the historical assault against Indian culture. They set a stark and dramatic backdrop for the several hundred supporters gathered in the park's central Amphitheater for prayer services asking the spirit world for safety and success.

As the appointed hour came closer, a succession of speakers, poets and singers — Indian men, women, Latinos, blacks — gave personal testimony to the meaning of what was about to happen. Means lightened things up, and showed how this event was dedicated to the future, by jokes about the 7-year old nephew he depended on to tell him what to do. By 9:30, over 2,000 people had arrived, now mostly white supporters. At

church appeared at the mike to announce he had just been over to the parade headquarters and observed only 25 paraders, 3 cars, 135 policemen and one "pitiful" float. A realization swept through the crowd that, like the Little Bighorn, they greatly outnumbered the other guys.

Precisely at 10 a.m., as the bell tower on the Civic Center chimed out the hour, an electric, historic moment occurred as Means was handed a message, choked back visible tears, and announced that the FIAO had called off the parade. The stunned crowd spontaneously erupted in a frenzy of ululations, fist power, whooping and drumming. They had won.

A few minutes later a last bit of tension silenced the crowd when people on the fringes started yelling "they're moving, the parade is happening." What happened was the parade people were led under police escort to a face-saving rally on the state capital steps, protected by cordons of elite state troopers. AIM discouraged interfering but a few arrests were made as a group of young whites laid down before retreating FIAO marchers. Peace was restored for good with an announcement that an FIAO representative was on his way back over to ask for reconciliation.

It was announced that the city requested a meeting to discuss this unexpected turn of events. Means responded that he would honor this request, but right now the Indians were going to have a victory dance around the park: "We'll enjoy our day today, and meet with them some other day." Immediately a stately procession, led by Indian drummers and staff-bearers, slowly began to circle the park with demonstrators falling in behind.

Mean's victory tears belied his im-

age in the local press as hostile and violent, "the last militant." From the evidence of 10/10/1992, Means has now become, if he wasn't before, an authentic moral leader in the tradition of Ghandi and King. Some of the most painful criticism he's received has come from within the Native American community itself, charging him with creating a cult of personality and having a mandate to speak for all Indians. But Crazy Horse had no mandate either; he



RUSSELL MEANS

just led by example. In later interviews with reporters, he showed no hint of gloating or self-righteous vindication, saying he felt "tired, elated, and looking forward to participating in the Italian-American Appreciation Day parade next year."

In the afternoon, AIM and its supporters retired to Tall Bull (Daniels) Park south of Denver for a victory Wacipi ("celebration" in Lakota). They danced their triumph — no alcohol, drugs or weapons enforced by AIM security in their silky red warjackets. Soon after a full moon, the "Hunter's Moon," rose up over the east, they were gone.

Blackfoot Chief Voices Concern Over Continued Threat To Badger-Two Medicine Area In Montana

BY TIMOTHY BALLARD

My intention was not to write a piece solely on Blackfoot concerns over the Badger-Two Medicine area in northern Montana. I had hoped to work towards a more encompassing article on present struggles by Native Americans to thwart the heinous encroachment of outside greed upon their little remaining lands. The list of stories needed to be told is long—depressingly so. Every story seemed to be equally as important as the other, no matter which tribal voice was being represented. One thing became clear though: whatever story needed to be told, it was important for the people to speak for themselves about the issues directly facing their lands, culture, and sovereignty rights. So, when the opportunity presented itself to go to Blackfoot land and speak to one of the traditional leaders about these matters, it seemed important to hear the concerns first hand.

Today, Blackfoot land rests on the eastern front of the Rocky Mountain range in northern Montana and extends well into the southern reaches of the Canadian Province of Alberta. The sights are impressive with the vast expanse of the windswept, rolling plains meeting the abrupt beginnings of the towering Rockies. For more than a century now the Blackfeet have worked with all of the typical concerns facing an indigenous culture. Not surprisingly, they have been bitterly divided on the way in which to meet the continuing influence of western culture on their land and people. As a result, traditionalists concerned with cultural preservation are often paired off against those who have tasted the addictive flavor of the dollar.

Tiny Man Heavy Runner, chief of the Brave Dogs Society, a traditional religious society, sat down with me over a couple days to speak about his concerns for an area on the southeastern edge of Blackfoot land known as the Badger-Two Medicine. This land, over one hundred and thirty thousand acres of public National Forest, is nestled between vast wilderness areas and Glacier National Park, and is home not only to the threatened grizzly, but the endangered (and returning) gray wolf and many other sensitive species as well. This is important to Tiny Man, but of more concern is the protection of this last Blackfoot stronghold for ongoing cultural and sacred practices. Non-Blackfeet concerned about the issue hope that in the end a traditional understanding and approach will ensure wildlands security.

Multinational oil companies want to explore and later develop this land for reasons that extend far beyond any amount of suspected oil reserves. It has been admitted by the Forest Service that even if the less than one percent chance of finding oil is successful, the amount found would only fuel the nation for less than a day, leaving in its wake permanently ruined lands, useless for spiritual fulfillment and wildlife habitat. All of this has been met with fierce opposition from both Blackfeet and a small portion of the environmental community. Major demonstrations have been held and enough appeals filed to warrant some kind of attention, but it seems that it has fallen, once again, on the deaf ears of the lease givers — the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management. These bureaucracies have callously investigated religious and cultural matters, often offending outright respected Blackfoot elders.

Those close to the issue have

heard that the Forest Service has given the privately held leases the green light. Now it is only up to the BLM to openly say move ahead, and this is expected to come as early as December of this year. With the recent death of the Montana (non)Wilderness Bill, which would have given it limited protection, and the increasingly promising yet distant Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act which would give it wilderness study protection (something traditional Blackfoot are happy with since it allows them to appoint their own members of the study board), there seems to be little time left for any form of negotiations within the formal channels.

If there is going to be any working relationships, be it in the Badger or anywhere else, between Indians and non-Indian activists, there must be an awareness about a message that I heard from everyone I spoke with, including Tiny Man. And this was that if you want to lend a hand, make sure you are fully aware of your own motives first, then come ask how you can help. In the case of the Badger, anyway, I sensed that there was a subtle wariness of "environmentalists" wanting to help, because often it is for their own agendas, even if it is seemingly for the common good of the earth. It is obvious that this has been accentuated for the Blackfeet because of ignored treaty concerns which back up their solid stance behind the fact that they never ceded this land to any government.

So, with this in mind it is essential that Heavy Runner's voice be heard on these matters:

"It is important for the people in America, and the international community to hear about the Blackfoot struggle—to hear about our resistance. We have a resistance right now that is completely untold. The Blackfoot people have never said anything, we've always sat back and listened. Now we have finally taken a position so that we can tell these people something. We want to protect what's ours, what we've inherited. We want to protect treaties, we want to protect our sacred lands, our self determination. The biggest threat to all of this is the change of times. We have to still maintain our own foundations. The Badger is an important part of that—it is a place where we hunt and get our meat, fish, all of our plants and medicine, our clean water, a place to go to heal yourself spiritually, a place to go to learn. We have places back there that are real special to us that belong to some of our ancestors.

"The Badger is so important to the preservation of the Blackfeet culture, especially for our young. Every young man in Blackfoot country has that inspiration to go to the mountains. It is one of the phenomenon that we have to deal with—every young man, and woman too, sometime in their young lives, they have to go to the

mountains. When they go there it is personal. No one has the right to interrogate them why they are going to the mountains. We have a need to educate our younger people through traditional ways in the mountains, just

putting contempt on your own self when you destroy anything of this earth.

"When we realized that our culture was being threatened, our sacred practices in jeopardy, the first thing that came to mind was protection. When it came to protecting Blackfoot culture we realized that we had to stand up to the United States Forest Service and other government agencies and their policies—we had to stand up and openly battle the Forest Service and the multinational corporations. Their policy through their Environmental Impact Statement was for us to answer questions in dealing with specific sites: sites specific as far as religious use. But in our land, our world, our culture, our law, you can't really give that information as far as site specific. You have to take an area approach, and they can't accept that.

"If Fina and Chevron, the big oil companies, get their way, the traditional pocket of Blackfoot culture will die. So really there is a very big threat. If they could open up the Badger then there is no place in the world that they can't get into. Because it is considered Blackfoot land, Blackfoot sacred land, it is considered a sacred place—one of the last clean areas. So with that in mind, if they could penetrate this controversy, then there is nothing that could stop them anywhere else.

"Some of our elders went to the United States Forest Service, to their anthropologists, but they threw it all away. Their reason was that we did not give them anything that they could work with. A very respected man in our elderships gave them some very important information—the Forest Service anthropologists turns around and insults him. She says that she can't take what this man says as proof. When

continued next page



Tiny Man Heavy Runner, chief of the Brave Dogs Society, is an instrumental figure in the fight to protect Blackfeet land and culture.

like our fathers and our grandfathers—it is continuous.

"Our concerns are to keep things pure, keep things protected for future generations. We still have a lot of commitment to those generations. I don't think I would have liked it if the people of the past didn't take time to protect something for us. So we have to pay the same respect to those future people—to try to protect as much of the environment for them. We can't be greedy and destroy this. It is like

Solidarity Statement with Earth First!

October 20, 1992

In behalf of the American Indian Movement of Colorado, I would like to take this opportunity to express firm solidarity with the organization Earth First! Although we in AIM have had occasion to express strong disagreement with the racism, sexism and explicit Eurocentrism imbedded in many of the attitudes and positions articulated by elements of Earth First!'s original icons and theorists—notably David Foreman, George Wuerthner and the late Edward Abbey—we have never disagreed with the organization's guiding concept, "no compromise in defense of Mother Earth." To the contrary, we have unswervingly applauded and supported it. This is all the more true insofar as the past several years have witnessed a strong counterbalancing trend now within Earth First!—perhaps best symbolized by Judy Bari—which first offset and now seems to have generally supplanted the problematic perspectives inherent to the Foreman group. With this in mind, the time seems appropriate to state that Colorado AIM is committed to joining hands with the non-Indians of Earth First! in a common struggle to create a better world, not just for ourselves and our children, but for our children's children, and for all future generations.

All My Relations,

Ward Churchill, Codirector
American Indian Movement of Colorado

Ironically, Sent to
issue the sub by Wuerthner
Subm "Broken Lines" and



Photo: Bob Yetter

An inherent part of Blackfeet traditions and legends, from left to right are Mt. Poia, Scarface, and Morningstar in the Badger-Two Medicine area.

Tiny Man Heavy Runner

continued from previous page

you talk with a Blackfoot holy man and he says that this land is sacred, then, that's what he means! That is our proof.

"Our concept of wilderness is different than the white man's concept of wilderness. But because we are aboriginal, ancient people, we are sophisticated, we considered all of this land to be wilderness. So there really is a deep meaning on wilderness. When it comes to Blackfoot we look at it very differently, it is something different, something more than wilderness—it involves the thunder, lightning, and sacred lands. Our way of dealing with the most important environmental issue is through ceremony. Ceremony is our way to deal with what you call the environment. Our understanding of this is through our ceremony. That's the difference between the people out there and here. Anything that has to do with environment is through ceremony—this is how you understand the universe, your own universe.

"When we're talking environment we're talking about a very complicated issue, because it's not just wilderness or environment. It also means our economic development as a people. So we have to try and decide what would be the best for the land for us as a people to maintain our aboriginal wildlands, sacred lands, and at the same time progress with economic development. So we're in a real awkward position. We have to deal with more legal aspects than just environment and wilderness by themselves. When we present our case we're saying that first of all, these are sacred lands, and second is treaty rights, third is pristine land, fourth, it's headwater country, and fifth, it is a precedent area for future public land issues. What we have to do is make sure that this land remains under the Blackfoot understanding of that treaty. When it comes down to it, it is really a human rights issue as well as civil rights. There is no where else in the world that is like this. It's Blackfoot land, it's Blackfoot treaty, it's Blackfoot sacred land, it's Blackfoot sacred practices.

"When it comes to the legislative or judicial area we have to remember that above everything else this is a Blackfoot issue. Secondary it is environment and wilderness. We have to tell people who are monitoring this the true concerns of the Blackfeet. We have to tell the international community about this piece of land in the treaty of 1895-96. If it wasn't a treaty, an agreement with the Blackfeet and people of the United States, then it

would be different. Because of this, the environmental people, the wilderness people, in their proposed wilderness plan, there has to be a certain clause that is dealing with Blackfoot treaty lands. So we have to have that portion of that wilderness bill dealing specifically with Blackfoot treaty lands. Are they really public lands? Have they

really been ceded? Nothing has been clarified. Blackfoot history tells a different story. As far as we're concerned there is no such thing as a western reservation

boundary. So we have a very unique issue. This issue sets precedent for other Indian struggles over land. See, the oil companies want to come into the Badger-Two Medicine area, but they're not telling the public that there is not enough oil and gas to meet the quotas. What they're concerned about is the precedent. They can come into the Badger and break through all these laws—sacred land, treaty rights, pristine land—if they can break that then it is a domino effect. So all these other tribes, they are all standing back watching for what's going to happen in the Badger.

"When it comes to the controversies surrounding the treaty rights our tribe is very divided. But gradually we're all going under the same statement. It is a sovereignty statement that they own the land and don't have to re-establish ownership. So now we have attorneys and other people willing to make a stand to regain ownership. But we, the Blackfoot-speaking

community, are now saying wait a minute, we don't have to reclaim ownership, we already own it.

"Right now, with the wilderness bill dead, I think our people are going to be united. People have to consider that it is their job to put together protection—their own wilderness bill. Maybe at the same time

**"When you talk with
a Blackfoot holy man and
he says that
this land is sacred, then,
that's what he means!
That is our proof."**

endorsed and supported by the wilderness people around us—special, reserved clause. If there is a wilderness bill

there must be a reserved clause that's exclusively for the Blackfoot—this is because of our treaties. We have to protect ourselves, our treaties, from any kind of threat. Even if it is something good, that sounds real good. We must protect our treaty rights in every aspect. So that's why it's necessary for us to put together our own wilderness proposal to protect this land—this Blackfoot wilderness.

"So I feel very optimistic now with the wilderness bill gone. To us Blackfoot people, that was a very big mess because of the people that put the language in it really didn't know the Blackfoot. Our own people that went along with them, now they have to try a little harder to convince all the people. Because more people know and understand what they've done. They don't have the trust. They gambled and they failed.

"Blackfeet and the non-Indians need to keep in touch, we need to know what is happening to that eco-

system out there. Our need is to work together with the outside people—we are also considered to be United States citizens, and we need to protect ourselves from the government that we are citizens of. We have a lot of work to do, we have to monitor our own land, to see what is happening to it.

"All the years up to now we know everything that has happened to us, we are the victims. And we're finally telling the public, not no more, it's got to quit. We have a binding contract with you—this is our understanding. The treaty did not change—you changed! America changed, not the treaty, we never changed. So this does affect the American public. There is a lot involved, this is why we feel that we need to associate ourselves with people out in America—to know what is going on out there, to see what they are doing to protect themselves and their environment, how they are doing it. And at the same time we can bring about our way of doing it. In order for non-Blackfeet and Blackfeet to work on this issue together they have to fully understand where the other is coming from. I think that this is already happening. The people in the communities around us are becoming concerned because they also are affected.

"People are realizing that the native people of this land have something to offer. A teaching on how to stay on this land. How not to extract all the good things that we need to survive with. The sad thing is we had some of our people helping them in the name of the dollar. Well, we caught those people. They can't do that anymore. No more dealings like that.

"We have only one little area left, all of the rest of it is already messed up. We are only talking about a little area. They pushed us to the mountains, we need to protect this now. If they're going to drill back there they're doing the same as we would be doing if we went to Saint Patrick's Cathedral and put a well down; same thing. But I know many traditional Blackfeet people that wouldn't allow this to happen. If they do decide to do this then they've killed one of the oldest pre-Columbian cultures left today. Not only would they kill our beliefs, but they also would kill our soul. We'd have no soul. Without a soul our physical being cannot exist anymore. This would be the last coup against the Blackfeet."



Photo: Bill Cunningham

Half-Dome Crag looms over land sacred to the Blackfeet, near proposed drill sites.

Indigenous Abenaki Resist Genocide in Vermont: Natives and Earth First! Form Alliance

BY ORIN LANGELE

From the federal and state occupied bioregion of the Dawnland:
 "We were nations before they got here. They raped our land, murdered our people and we're supposed to sit here and say nothing?"
 —Chief Homer St. Francis

The Abenaki of the Dawnland, although respecting peace and all creatures that inhabit Mother Earth, welcomed Giovanni da Verrazano's landing party in 1524 with a shower of arrows. Unfortunately that self-defense attempt was not enough to stop the invasion and Eurocentric onslaught that followed.

Abenaki oral legend says contact with Europeans first began over 900 years ago when Norsemen visited the eastern shores. For centuries foreign occupation has raped the land and attempted to wipe out the indigenous people's culture through war, disease, repression. The Abenaki today are still fighting the occupiers.

"We're fighting a paper war," says outspoken Chief Homer St. Francis. Although the Abenaki do not believe in the jurisdiction of the United States or Vermont's legal system, they are using the courts to fight the paper war. The Abenaki have signed no treaties with any government, nor have they ceded any land to Vermont. The paper war is to try and re-establish their right to self-determination and sovereignty in an illegally occupied bioregion. Because of these efforts, repression and violence have shown their ugly faces.

In December of 1991, the personal camp of Chief St. Francis was burned down near Swanton, Vermont. Although there were no human physical injuries (this time), irreplaceable artifacts were destroyed in the conflagration. Some of the artifacts were the chief's headdress, talking sticks and lithographs. An oil can was found on the scene and arson is more than suspected. Twenty days after the burning of the camp, Chief St. Francis was indicted on a bogus felony charge.

These attacks are part of a pattern of the powers-that-be attempting to put down the Abenaki self-determination movement. The present pat-

tern began with their fishing rights being violated and then harassment by the authorities for their display of Native American license plates on their vehicles. The situation escalated to violent attacks on Chief St. Francis, other members of the tribe were brutalized by state and local law officials. As testimony to this, Swanton Village police have been issued numchucks, a dangerous hand-held martial arts weapon that has been used by police against the Abenaki.

None of this is particularly new to the Native population of this country or to other indigenous peoples throughout the world. The American Indian Movement (AIM) had tremendous violence leveled on them through FBI instigation, and a number of AIM's

eighty movement. The offensive against AIM culminated with the massacre at Wounded Knee, South Dakota in 1973, and the political imprisonment of AIM's Leonard Peltier.

"Well, hell, that's the same thing going on here," said Chief St. Francis. "They're trying to get us to shoot one of their cops so it would give them the authority to move the army in, or whatever, to exterminate us."

In a further act of repression, the Vermont Supreme Court ruled this June that Abenaki aboriginal rights had been extinguished "by the increasing weight of history." The ruling was immediately denounced by the Abenaki and their supporters. "We're headed for the US Supreme Court on this one," Chief St. Francis said.



tern began with their fishing rights being violated and then harassment by the authorities for their display of Na-

leaders were assassinated in a US government attempt to break the potentially powerful Native American sover-

The Abenaki and Earth First! Alliance

Although the 1991 Round River Rendezvous was held in the Green Mountains of the Dawnland, the beginnings of the Abenaki/Earth First! alliance occurred when Earth First!ers visited the Tribal Council office last October to discuss a mini-hydro project on the Missisquoi River. The addition to the dam at Highgate Center will result in more habitat destruction and further destroy the ecological balance of the ecosystems as well as flood Abenaki sacred burial grounds.

We were told that the Abenaki were not working with any environmental groups because the only time environmentalists came to them is when they needed something. Since Earth First! has a radical reputation and

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Earth First! Halts Columbus Day Traffic

BY THE BIODIVERSITY LIBERATION FRONT

Biodiversity Liberation Front Earth First! showed opposition to the Columbus legacy of genocide, repression and ecocide on October 9 and October 12 (Indigenous Peoples Day). The two days of action were pledged in solidarity with indigenous peoples and all living creatures in this 500th year of forced euro- and anthropocentric domination and the 500th year of resistance to ecological and cultural devastation.

October 9—VT Supreme Court Sandbagged

Biodiversity Liberation Front Earth First!, Central Vermont Greens, and the All-Species Project joined with representatives of the Abenaki, Cree and Micmac in front of the Vermont Supreme Court in Montpelier to commemorate the resistance and survival of Native Americans since the arrival of Columbus. The Supreme Court building was chosen as a protest against the Court's decision this summer denying the ancestral rights of Vermont's indigenous Abenaki, which stated they lost these rights "due to the increasing weight of history," and most recently, the Court's decree denying the Cree people's appeal of the Vermont contract with Hydro-Quebec. This contract allows VT's utilities to buy \$4 billion worth of hydro-electric power from Hydro-Quebec while "washing their hands" from any responsibility of destroying Cree, Inuit, and Innu lifestyles and the further devastation of the important James Bay bioregion.

A wigwam was set up close to the steps of the Supreme Court and a traditional pipe ceremony followed. After a speak-out, hundreds of pounds

of sandbags were carried to the second floor of the Supreme Court by Earth First! and other folks from the community where those in session were literally barricaded in their own chambers. Afterwards, a spontaneous street march occurred which blocked traffic and resulted in a cat and mouse game with the police. There were no arrests although one cop got yelled at by a passerby for stepping on the flag, which was his method of stopping people from dragging it on the ground.

October 12—One Arrest; Traffic Blocked Near Hydro-Project

Biodiversity Liberation Front Earth First! rallied next to the Winooski-One hydro project in Winooski, Vermont on the 500th anniversary of the Columbus invasion. After the rally, about 25 Earth First!ers blocked traffic on the Winooski-Burlington bridge, causing a major traffic jam of Columbus Day shoppers, forcing the stranded motorists to shut off their cars and watch construction of the hydro project. Winooski-One project owner John Warshow denied the comparison to genocidal Columbus by stating there are no indigenous people here. The Abenaki would be interested to hear this especially since Winooski is an Abenaki term meaning 'land where the onions grow.'

With traffic at a standstill, one of the blockaded drivers, off-duty police officer Michael Schirling, lunged his car forward in an attempt to force protestors out of his way. He got out of his car and started flashing his wallet with some sort of cop i.d. and ordered everybody off the bridge. He arrested Earth First!er Anne Petermann who

was standing on the sidewalk yelling, "Fascist!" So much for the First Amendment. Earth First!ers went to her rescue and tried to prevent her arrest. One cuff was put on Petermann, by now on the ground, but the crowd refused to let her be dragged to the police car. Finally numchucks were pulled out and were used by one cop to put a compliance hold on her. During the melee, protesters watched Schirling's wallet mysteriously part from his body and jump into the Winooski River. Petermann was later released after being charged with disorderly conduct.

Leaving the bridge, the Earth First! contingent, some dressed in outrageous costumes, proceeded to march to the University of Vermont where more folks joined the demonstration. From the campus the march took over Main Street, further snarling traffic on the way to the Church Street Marketplace while protesters dragged and tore up American flags, handed out informational leaflets and hurled well-aimed rotten tomatoes (organic, of course) at banks, fraternities, city hall and assorted capitalist enterprises celebrating the Columbus Day eco-genocide thing.

The contingent of Earth First!ers and other hooligans then met up with yet more street theater

people and performed skits on Church Street de-mythifying the Columbus "discovery" while combining opposition to the present-day invasion of Hydro-Quebec into James Bay and the culturally genocidal Vermont Supreme Court rulings against Abenakis.

Oh, yeah, before everybody went home, an American flag draped by set was smashed for some reason or other while Burlington cops looked on and laughed.



Ms Chyff blocks, with her body, a Winooski cop who is attempting to use numchucks on downed Earth First!er Anne Petermann during a Biodiversity Liberation Front anti-Columbus blockade next to the Winooski One hydro project in Vermont. Bad cop, no donut!

NOT GO THERE

photo: Orin Langelle

More Letters...

continued from page 3

We'd like to see some substantial explorations on sexuality, gender, and sexism in our tribe. Is there any new information on alternative health care? An advanced freighthopping guide is in the works. Does anyone out there want to tell us about their first experience or ask any questions about hoboing that haven't been answered in past LWODs? Got a good freighthopping tale to tell, send it in. And of course, be creative. What do you want to see on our hallowed pages? Either write it up or let us know yer suggestions.

As always, subscriptions and back issues are free. Here in Portland we have a few #2s and lotsa #3, and #1 has become a collector's item. Please help us with some bucks if ya got any, but most importantly send us yer submission.

—BIG TOM, LWOD, POB 13765, PORTLAND, OR 97213

SFB:

I would like to express my opinion on the role of intoxicants within the Earth First! movement. It seems to me that it has become far too great. This is especially true of alcohol and, in some places, marijuana.

I do not believe that there is no room for intoxicants in any of our lives. Some people seem to be able to use alcohol and/or marijuana in relatively harmless ways and still be healthy and productive. But often, this is not what I see happening within Earth First!

Regardless of which substances are being used, people who do not enjoy intoxicants or who cannot use them because of a history of chemical dependency are likely to eventually start to feel like there is no place for them within the movement. There is little effort to create substance-free spaces or events.

It also strikes me as somewhat inconsistent to protest the dumping of toxic substances into rivers and then dump toxic substances into ourselves, to protect the polluting of the air and then pollute the air we breathe ourselves.

Some people may resent lumping marijuana, alcohol, and other substances together. "Marijuana isn't a drug," they will say, "it is an herb."

The idea that something cannot be both a drug and an herb is absurd. It is true that God/Goddess/Earth created this planet, but also created toadstools. This doesn't mean that we are obliged to ingest them, as any biocentrist should know.

It is this way of thinking which has made the hemp awareness movement so ineffective. As a writer, I feel badly about using so much paper, and would be happy if it were made out of something other than trees. But the fact that hemp can be used to make paper, cloth, rope, and other things has nothing to do with whether or not it is harmless as an intoxicant. In fact, the type of hemp used for cloth and paper is almost totally useless as an intoxicant. If the general public perceives that most of the people who promote the use of hemp for paper smoke a lot of it, they will dismiss the whole concept as a pipe dream.

Besides all of these problems, it seems only logical that our chances of saving the planet are better if we are thinking clearly. It is only our adversaries who benefit when we monkey wrench our brains.

—ETHAN DAVIDSON SAN FRANCISCO, CA.

Dear EF! and/or Shit for brains,

The whole American system (and as far as I'm concerned the whole world system) is built around male decisions, male desire and male greed. The government is one giant patriarchal, sexist, homophobic, racist, environment destroying soup. They play the game and as soon as we start asking permission and think we're playing successfully, they change the rules. We can't play their game any more. Asking permission doesn't work, it only gives them more power. Being a woman and a feminist, I'm creating my own game and my own reality. I believe women have the power to change the course of history (herstory) forever and that includes saving the planet from disaster. Women are life givers, not life destroyers. The patriarchy has imprisoned women's creativity and power for too long and it's time we took it back.

I'd like to thank EF! for not being an institutional organization. It is very individual, not hierarchical. I read the EF! Journal because I DON'T read patriarchal garbage. So thank you EF! and thank you to all of the men and women out there who are building a more peaceful ecosystem without the bricks of patriarchy. You are beautiful.

Love,

—SUZANNE MORRISON, PLYMOUTH, NH

Dear Superlatives for brains:

Will the REAL "largest roadless area in the lower contiguous 48 states" please stand up? It seems that every time I receive a piece of EF! propaganda regarding forest rape, it happens to boast that dubious honor! Does the roadless area in question just slither hither and thither about the country, coming to the aid of brainlocked EF! poster wizards? Or could the bouncing label merely reflect the fragmentation of roadless areas — no thanks to the Freddie's? Verily, I cannot know. If somebody out there is privy to such crucial information, and can break the code of "radical-ese," please! please! Help those of us who are baffled by these "pleas."

Most Sincerely (more so than any other activist)

—THE MOST CONFUSED ACTIVIST IN THE LOWER CONTIGUOUS 48 STATES

Dear Tribe,

Must we waste precious space debating something as obvious as overpopulation? Just as with the debate over whether the world is round, it is time to move on.

Another topic: I have Earth First! friends who are hunters. I have Earth First! friends who are anti-hunting. I do not doubt the commitment of either group to the cause of defending the wild lands. But I ask both, in the interest of defending the integrity of our home planet, to leave their disagreement behind when gathering with the Earth First! tribe. Pax vobiscum.

Sincerely yours,

—HANK BRUSE, 235 TRAVIS DRIVE, WISCONSIN RAPID, WI 54494

SFB:

As an animal rights activist, I must differ from Arcy in the Mabon issue who states that animal rights is not compatible with Earth First because it does not follow the natural order as Earth First! does.

Animal rights has never argued with the natural order and has never believed in the elimination of natural predators. Animal rights is first and foremost against human predators who kill by hunting, farming and commercial exploitation. In the same way Earth First! reacts when logging is carried out by predators who are not animals.

In fact, like Arcy, animal rights has often criticized hunters for taking the prime stock instead of nature's way of taking the weakest. Taking the best in hunting and industry does not involve the natural order which leads to evolution.

Arcy is strongly for the pressure and threat involved with the predator system. This is a fine assumption of nature. Animal rights wants to end the pressure and threat involving human predators which goes against nature. Animal rights goes along with humane euthanasia to end the suffering of the ill and infirmed in accordance with the natural order. To state that animal rights is against the natural order is to be misinformed to the highest degree. Animal rights wants animals to die when nature takes its course.

—FIGHTING FLO

Dear Shit for Brains:

I attended the '92 RRR (my 5th RRR back to '80) and was, as usual, re-energized, inspired and empowered. This RRR was, as usual, in a place of spectacular natural beauty. And I feel that the Colorado hosts had done a first class job of organizing the event.

But my 3-day attendance was marred by the paranoia that pervades some fellow individual attendees at these events since the Arizona 4 ordeal. I had attended some workshops on Thursday, and after dinner and a few drinks, headed for the group circle to enjoy the festivities. Drums were beating out a fantastic rhythm and I wanted to capture the flavor of this RRR fire circle for those back home who couldn't attend. I took out my pocket recorder which I use to take notes and recorded what turned out to be 15 seconds of drum beats. Shortly thereafter, I was approached by two strangers who asked me in an intimidating, accusing manner: "Did you just put something in your pack?" and demanded to inspect my belongings. When I realized they were serious, I suddenly felt like I had been under surveillance by the FBI, Gestapo, or worse. It turns out that the peppercorn-sized "record" light on my tiny recorder had been seen by these two strangers and they suspected I was using a video recorder. I showed my little pocket recorder to one of the RRR organizers, who had now joined the original duo of accusers, but was outraged at being subjected to this kind of treatment.

The complete trust of everyone at RRRs is gone, and maybe for the better. But this means that the FBI has won at least a partial victory in its campaign to intimidate us into a dysfunctional state. Anyone attending such a function should be savvy enough to know not to say anything incriminating outside of a circle of well-known friends. Anyone attending such a function should expect to have their photograph and vehicle license taken. We should not let such paranoia as I witnessed cripple the movement.

That's what the FBI wants. Instead, everyone there should stand up proudly and be counted for a movement he or she believes in and feels strongly for.

If enough people who attend RRRs feel uncomfortable with cameras and recorders, then a policy should be established and made clear to everyone attending (or, better yet, everyone contemplating attending).

Sincerely,

—DICK DOUBLYOO, THE GREAT DIVIDE

Dear EF! Journal staff

Please, please, please, change the name of the letters section to something less offensive.

The EF! Journal is an excellent source of information and a very important forum for radical ecological discussion. On many occasions I have attempted to illustrate (a) point(s) I'm making with info from the EF! Journal. Usually, the only thing that the liberal environmentalist or corporate eco-fucker remembers from this exchange is the profanity—NOT the important information. We are not gaining any credibility by emblazoning "Dear Shit for Brains" in large font (or small font) across our valuable pages.

Although our collective anger, which produces offensive language, is understandable, it is not productively used in this way.

Please consider a name change.

Sincerely,

—EMMETT MUIR

Earth First:

I just read the most recent issue of the *Journal* after not having looked at it for several years. It's taking on the features of its old glory—you are to be commended.

Very interesting reading!

Sincerely,

—GEORGE SESSIONS

Earth First:

One third of the population of this country lives on the East Coast. I just wanted you to know there are a large number of silent Americans out here who want you to know how much we appreciate what you folks are doing for us and for the earth. You're sacrifices are making a difference and will not be forgotten. Many are ready to join with you and with us in the salvation of what is left of Mother Earth.

Thank God for Efers.

—UNCLE CHUNK



Poems should be sent to:
Warrior Poets Society
Bancroft & Telegraph
ASUC Box 361
Berkeley, CA 94720-1111

Armed with Visions

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Ahwaneechee Mortar Holes, Yosemite Loop

A flat rock
surrounded by high granite cliffs
a few steps off the trail.

The sun-warmed surface, smooth
places to sit
feet hanging off:
the cliffs
and stars walking

a circle of holes
three inches apart,
filled with black oak leaves
inside wet and cool
for grinding
with pestle shaped to the
short-fingered hands

acorns in good season, mush cooked in baskets
with hot stones
or baked into bread
wrapp'd in leaves

bitter tannins
washed through
water from the splashing creek. Buckeyes

when oak-
moths flourish

men got to the groves dancing.
Women sing

"the rise and fall of the pounding
stones
was the sound of 'home'"
Ahwaneechee, Maidu, trails. Around
these flat places. What is

sacred? People worked here.

Steve Silberman

Song of the Late-Twentieth-Century Forest People

Torn between the peace of the woods
and our hauntedness,

Egoless noncommotion
and the knowledge that we must act,

Messages of the heart
and messages of the head,

The beauty of the oak
and the ugliness of the mall,

We stagger forward,
Fractured selves in a fractured world,
Grasping for and pushing away serenity,
Pierced with visions we cannot give time to,
Attempting to persist and live through a sickness
Which afflicts, by necessity, even its healers.

In a culture of excess, we are caught in the middle,
Doing too much, yet never doing enough.
But the gap in the Dreamtime will not last forever.
We accept the struggle for what it is.

W. L. Coyote

PROGRESS COMES SLOW TO THE APACHE FOR VICTORIO AND OTHER EARLY ENVIRONMENTALISTS

"Gourd Clan members in their skirmishes with the U.S. Cavalry vied with each other for the honor of capturing a live bugler. If the bugler refused to play at the Clan's victory dance he would be killed. If he played well enough he might be released unharmed."—*John Bierhorst, introduction to the Kiowa Gourd Dance Song*

Now,
Modern rules
have exchanged quality
for quantity,
music for noise.

Yet, things remain different
near Santa Fe.
I heard that Valentino and Kit Carson
are alive and well
deep in the mountains of New Mexico,
where the players have escaped the script.

And, as long
as they keep playing the bugle
for the locals,
they will be spared.

Lone Wolf Circles



UNDER A NEW MOON

Humus beneath
boots my fingers
tickle redwoods
as lungs devour air
as crisp
as a chilled granny smith
time short
my draughts deep
I cover
twenty-five yards
to the next
delectable
diesel.

Keith A. Dodson

Head Cheese From Head Cheeses

3 bureaufats (in charge of overseeing grizzly bear recovery)
large vat of sour milk
salt

beat and whip bureaufats into a gooey paste, adding salt appropriately. place in pigs' heads (if not already in pigs' heads). suspend upside down in sour milk. cook thoroughly. place in dumpsters in West Yellowstone or Cooke City to age. (hope that age brings wisdom.)

from the kitchen of Eric Holle



Am Ex Might Ax East Fork!

BY MIKE STABLER

Semi-regular readers of the *Earth First! Journal* know that American Express teamed up with developer Dan McCarthy years ago to build (yet another) massive ski resort in Colorado. Known as the East Fork Joint Venture (EFJV), its white and wet dream was to plunk a massive ski resort (bigger than Vail) surrounded by national forest, and bordering the San Juan Wilderness Area.

Opposition came from many sectors. Earth First!er's helped educate the public and American Express with demonstrations, stickers, handouts, and rubber stamps. Other tactics included challenging permit requirements, looking for rare wildlife, and getting involved with the Forest Service process. One local activist even ran for County Commissioner to give more clout to the permitting process!

All of this energy may have paid off. EFJV had long been rumored to have run out of money and were whining about too many studies being required. EFJV requested a 3 year extension of its July 1994 deadline to begin construction. On August 17, 1992, San Juan Forest Supervisor Bill Sexton denied the extension.

This may not be the last breath of the EFJV or some other evil develop-

REGIONAL ROUNDUP

News From the Bioregions



American Indian Movement and supporters celebrate Columbus Day Parade cancellation.

ment group. As long as the private inholding remains, and as long as the Freddie's only green orientation is money, then the real threat of future development exists.

Therefore, don't relinquish the boycott! Keep the pressure up on

American Express to acquire full interest in EFJV and donate it to a non-profit environmental group. AMEX could actually get some good press out of the venture! Write to James D. Robinson III, Chief Executive Officer, American Express Corp, World Financial Center, New York, NY 10285.

Chevron Targetted for Toxic Racism

BY DAVE COLLINS

This past July, in another blow to the environment, Chevron began oil production in Papua New Guinea. Chevron, along with five other oil companies, laid the groundwork for operations back in 1989. Chevron has constructed a mini refinery, a network of roads leading from the well sites to the central processing facility, as well as a 160-mile long pipeline which passes through a pristine rainforest and a vast area of mangrove. The project site is located near Lake Kutubu, and has greatly disrupted the lives of the indigenous people and their forest homelands. (See *Earth First! Journal*, June; "Chevron to get Bougainville")

Rainforest Action Network, the West County Toxins Coalition, and other activist groups in demonstration at both Chevron corporate headquarters in downtown San Francisco, and at its refinery in Richmond, California, to protest Chevron's involvement in Papua New Guinea as well as its practices locally.

On Tuesday, September 8th, a news conference was held in front of

Olympic Park Rendezvous Masacree

BY HOWLER

Five hikers trying to reach the Northwest Earth First! Rendezvous were detained by the Park Service in Olympic National Park, Washington on October 2, 1992 at the Boulder Creek Trailhead.

Prior to this Rendezvous, four Seattle Earth First!ers visited the corporate office of Daishowa America Corp. We warned Daishowa that we would organize a boycott of their paper products if they demanded monetary compensation from Congress if the dam was removed and they had to buy more expensive electricity elsewhere. According to Cat Hoffman, Spokespod for the Park Service, Daishowa had her believing we were going to blow up the dams and power lines (something must've gotten lost in the translation). In response, according to Cat, the Park Service, District Attorney, and Daishowa came up with a security and persecution plan for our Rendezvous. Little did we know what awaited us when we came to the rendezvous looking for some camaraderie and music.

We were greeted by a sign on the park road which read: "Earth First Go Home, Spikes in Road, Kill Earth First." We parked our vehicle and stared to hike toward the backcountry campground about two miles away. As we did, an unidentified person with a flashlight demanded we stop and identify ourselves. Soon we were fol-

lowed, and a roadblock was set up ahead. This time it was revealed that several National Park Service Thugs, including Chris Smith with the flashlight, were illegally impeding our progress and demanding identification even though we had a backcountry permit in our possession. We asked what their names and badge numbers were, if they were arresting us, and what was their probable cause.

Apparently, Park Service Thug Kurt Sauer found one woman's five foot, five inch frame so threatening that he grabbed her by the hair, slammed her against their vehicle, jerked her head around a few times, and then put her in handcuffs, later claiming he, "...did it for his own protection." Pretty rough treatment for an unidentified hiker.

Three of us were handcuffed and with two additional people were taken to the park office for question-

ing. We handcuffed folks were handed citations for \$200 each for allegedly "interfering with agency function..." and "failure to obey a lawful order." We will be contesting the charges in federal court and are planning a civil suit against the Park Service, District

Attorney, Diashowa and others for conspiracy, false imprisonment, assault, battery and possibly other charges.

For more information contact: Seattle Earth First! POB 60164, Seattle, WA 98160. To express your solidarity call Superintendent Maureen Finnerty, (206) 452-0315, and tell her that you are concerned about your personal safety when you hike in the park, and Kurt Sauer, to remind him what a jerk he

is (206) 457-4190 or Kurt's boss Bill Pierce (206) 452-4501.



Chevron's corporate headquarters on Market St., in San Francisco. Sponsored by the West County Toxics Coalition (based in Richmond), Chevron was criticized for being negligent in maintaining a good environmental record internationally and for an increase in dangerous accidents in the Richmond area.

On Saturday a rally, followed by a march, was held at Point Richmond. Many of the speakers were folks who had suffered medical problems as a result of the accidents, and, in many cases, were dependent upon medication and breathing apparatus. Following the rally, a march made its way to Chevron's west gate, where a symbolic dumping of "toxic waste" (in this case, water mixed with dry ice) took place.

Buying Swampland in Florida

Green Swamp Preserve Could Sustain Panthers and Bears

BY MAD HATTER

Now all those who share the deep ecology philosophy, encompassed by most Earth Firsters, realize that the old joke, "Hey, I've got some swampland I'd like to sell ya" doesn't get a lot of chuckles, especially here in Florida.

Concerned activists in Central Florida have been fighting for years to seek protection for one of the most environmentally sensitive areas in our state, the Green Swamp.

On August 21st, the Conservation and Recreational Lands committee (CARL) voted 4-2 to begin the purchase process which would eventually place 216,520 acres of Green Swamp land, in public ownership. The Florida Legislature, in 1972, created an area of special state protection of 295,000 acres in response to dramatic development pressure.

The Green Swamp is a mixture of dry and wet land that covers 544,000 acres of Central Florida. Much of the area is high pine flatlands and wiregrass savannahs. Five of Florida's major rivers, the Peace, Hillsborough, Withlacoochee, Oklawaha and the Kissimmee begin their flow from the Green Swamp. In fact, the Green Swamp supplies 70 percent of Florida's water.

Since the mid 60's, the Southwest Florida Water Management District (Swiftmud) has acquired 55,000 acres of the Green Swamp floodplain

which it maintains as a preserve. Also to its credit, Swiftmud has restored nearly 3,000 acres of land previously clearcut by Cummer Cypress Company during the late 1920's and early 1930's.

The 1970's and 80's saw the Green Swamp under siege. Developers from all corners of the globe began buying up portions of the Swamp. All told, there were 27 planned development projects which would cover approximately 16,600 acres of the Green Swamp with golf courses, malls, residential homes, office buildings, "recreational vehicle" spaces and septic tanks.

Not only would this be a nail in the coffin of some 30 species of rare plants and animals, but from an anthropocentric view, the Green Swamp is part of the Floridian Aquifer, a prime groundwater recharge area, which provides drinking water to the overdeveloped, most densely populated areas in Florida.

People in drought stricken Central Florida began wondering whether the natural resources could withstand the further pressure approximately 100,000 humans would bring, particularly when Swiftmud came out with new figures stating that central Florida and west central Florida would be out of drinking water by the year 2020, even without the addition

of these further humans.

Regional planners, after years of granting approval for most development requests, were now going over requests with the proverbial "fine-toothed comb." Restrictions on development and the establishing of a core area to be bought by the public for protection were proposed. Then came the shocker! On November 6, 1991, the Central Florida Regional Planning Council rejected plans for the Lexington Park project and its estimated community of 40,000 residents. The council concluded that this development posed a threat to drinking water, wetlands, the Hillsborough and Withlacoochee rivers, and wildlife. Not to say anything of the possibility that strip development, (7-Eleven's, McDonalds, Burger King and others), would be attracted to this rural area.

Development projects began falling like dominoes. Task forces urged protection for the entire Green Swamp. A nerve had been hit. This area needs to be given the highest priority when the CARL committee reconvenes to discuss priority ranking of proposed projects in December. The area is large enough to support re-introduction of the critically endangered Florida pan-

ther. The Florida black bear may roam there. This is by far the largest wilderness area left in central Florida.

If you are a Florida resident or just a concerned conservationist please, write to the CARL committee at the address below. Especially write to the Florida Department of Natural Resources and the Division of Historical Resources. They were a dissenting voice heard against purchasing the Green Swamp!

Ms. Virginia B. Wetherell, Executive Director, Department of Natural Resources, Marjory Stoneman Douglas Building, Room 1009A, 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, M. S. 15, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000, Phone: (904)488-1554.

Mr. George Percy, Director, Division of Historical Resources, Department of State, R.A. Gray, Building, Room 305, 500 South Bronough Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250, Phone: (904)488-1480.

Dr. O. Greg Brock, Environmental Administrator, Department of Natural Resources, Capital Center, Building c-1, Room 209, 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, M.S. 140, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000, Phone: (904)487-1750 FAX: 922-4250

Don't Hack the Yaak

Lawsuit Filed to Halt Illegal Logging

BY KEITH HAMMER

A number of grassroots conservation groups filed suit in US District Court for the District of Montana on September 8, seeking to halt illegal logging and road building in the Upper Yaak area of the Kootenai National Forest until essential environmental protection measures, dismissed in 1990, are reinstated. According to the Fish and Wildlife Service, over-cutting of forests in the Upper Yaak is jeopardizing the continued existence of the Cabinet-Yaak grizzly bear.

The Montana Ecosystems Defense Council, Cabinet Resource Group, Montana Wilderness Association, and Save the Yaak Committee filed suit against the U.S. Forest Service and the US Fish and Wildlife Service for their roles in authorizing a 90 million board foot, 4-year, Upper Yaak timber program in 1990 (Alternative 9A).

The Upper Yaak timber sale program violates the National Forest Management Act, the Administrative Procedures Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, and the Endangered Species Act. The lawsuit asks the court: 1) to stop all illegal timber harvest and road construction in the Upper Yaak until a legally and biologically adequate EIS and timber sale program is prepared, specifically exempting small Special Salvage Timber Sales of lodgepole pine along open roads and those which comply with all wildlife management standards, 2) to order that 20 percent of the volume of timber sales in the Upper Yaak be sold as Special Salvage Timber Sales, under a delayed payment schedule to enable local independent loggers to survive economically, and 3) for an order directing the USFS to negotiate with plaintiffs while the lawsuit is being heard, in order to allow the harvest of dead and dying lodgepole pine, provided such harvest complies with all standards for wildlife security and

habitat effectiveness.

MEDC Co-chair Keith Hammer laid the blame for the lawsuit squarely on the shoulders of the Forest Service and its "less than arm's length" relationship with the corporate industry. "In bowing to pressure from the timber industry, the Forest Service knowingly abandoned the only legal alternative in its EIS. If the timber industry wants a steady, sustainable supply of timber, it should stop calling in political heavies to force the federal government to violate the law... We're simply trying to see that what does go on up there complies with law and protects both the environment and local loggers."

All new timber sales and road-building projects in the upper Yaak Valley will be stayed for six months under a court agreement between the groups filing suit and the Forest Service. Missoulian, Oct. 20



Grannies Go Radical in Marlborough Country

BY UNCLE CHUNK

Marlborough Township in Pennsylvania has been bitterly involved in a heated battle with a developer who wants to build 746 townhomes (complete with large sewer treatment plant) on the banks of the Unami creek. The Unami courses through the middle of the largest contiguous forest in the five counties surrounding Philadelphia and directly through Marlborough Township; population 3,100 or so. The Unami creek is one of the last remaining "clean" streams (10 miles long from start to finish) within 50 miles of Philadelphia and we are going to make sure, by whatever means necessary, that it remains intact and that the ecosystem surrounding it survives. The 746 townhome project would double the population of our township and the sewer plant is sure to kill everything which lives in the waters of the Unami.

Several hundred of the citizens of Marlborough Township have banded together to fight this developer. We have even begun to actively protest and picket the developer's businesses; not surprising because 50 of the protesters were left with dry or contaminated wells after the greed-merchant drilled a test well last year.

Like most of my neighbors, I have never been involved in protests or picketing before this assault on our beautiful area of nature's greenery. We have gone from Grannies to activists and have even started an Earth First! chapter (however unofficial it may be) in our area in answer to this greedy developer's plan for destruction. Just the mention of our Earth First! chapter sends shivers through the developer's heart and mind. We love it! We are ready!

The Great Whoopie Cat Tree Heist

The United States Forest Service (USFS) has prematurely implemented a Management Plan that ignores the growing public sentiment favoring preservation and pending law suits. In June, largely through the efforts of Congressman Sidney Yates, the House of Representatives passed an Appropriations Bill which included language eliminating funds for all 1993 Shawnee timber sales. The Shawnee protection language was killed by the Senate Appropriations Sub-committee on September 23. Immediately, subsequent to the failure of this bill, hardwood cutting resumed in the Shawnee National Forest. The USFS allowed Brent Logging Co. to proceed with the cutting of the big trees on Whoopie Cat Mountain, located in Hardin County, Southeastern Illinois. Concerned citizens were not notified until days after the fact.

A protest camp to raise public awareness was established at Whoopie Cat Lake by the Shawnee Defense Fund and the Regional Association of Concerned Environmentalists on September 26. Now camped for 14 days, the citizens vow to stay for the duration of the cutting.

Anyone interested in attending the Wake for the Big Trees is being asked to visit Whoopie Cat, to pay last respects to this unique forest habitat before it is destroyed. Those who cannot, may call, Senator Paul Simon (202) 224-2152; Carol Mosely Braun (312) 541-9292; and Congressman Glenn Poshard (618) 985-6300 to voice their concerns, and to encourage them to conduct on-site inspections with the media to document the damages.

—SOURCE: SHAWNEE DEFENSE FUND

Direct Action in the San Juan Mountains of Colorado

BY DANIEL JOHNSON

Remember the post Rendezvous action at the local AMOCO, I mean Scamoco, headquarters in protest of the Coalbed Methane Drilling (see Lughnasadh 1992)? Briefly, what is at issue, is the construction of roads and drill pads on National Forest Lands to tap into methane trapped in coalbeds. This is an unconventional type of drilling, meaning that it is more difficult and expensive to conduct than conventional drilling methods. However, tax credits, which were initiated to promote domestic production of energy, makes this otherwise unprofitable project feasible. In other words, Scamoco is on welfare. The environmental costs of this boondoggle adventure include contamination of drinking water, destruction of wildlife habitat, noise and air pollution, and soil erosion.

September 14 Scamoco began construction at the site. A San Juan Citizens Alliance meeting was held that night, which was attended by San Juan Earth First! and other activists. Several of the local people in the room had fought this project for eight years, had gone through all the legal channels, and still they had lost. As they discussed the pros and cons of direct action, most of which were pros, I felt like I was almost witnessing the first faint signs of revolution. These were business people, farmers, film producers, and computer operators who had been pushed too far by the government and corporations. Some of them even had Scamoco wells on their own property (not of course with their consent). Furthermore, they knew that some of the people working for the contractor on this project were neighbors or ac-



Photo: Gwen

Earth First! and others halt roadbuilding in Colorado's San Juan Mountains

quaintances. It was finally decided that a presence would be made the next day at the drill site and the course of action decided upon.

At the break of dawn, Earth Firsters and Alliance members arrived at the site, then waited for roadbuilders and the press. An hour crept by and the press arrived, but no road builders. Soon, sounds of buzzing chainsaws was heard in the distance. Folks responded by marching a half mile over the overgrazed fields to the site of cutting, which was brought to a halt as activists encircled the skidder and got in the way of the fellers. Two days later work was again halted, which led the Forest Service to issue an enclosure bringing

protests to a halt.

No Pasaran (You will not pass)

During the evening of September 27 Ancient Forest Rescue and San Juan Earth First! began a road rehabilitation project to enforce a road closure. This occurred on the Monument Park which access the South Monument Park Timber Sale, an oldgrowth sale with monstrous Douglas-fir, white pine and ponderosa. Towering barricades appeared on the road that evening with an ancient Doug-fir weighing close to a ton anchoring the first one.

The next morning six individuals were awoken by Forest Service Special Agents not far from the barri-

ades. The area was cordoned off as a crime scene and the six were arrested as suspects. When asked if they had built the barricades one of the suspects flatly stated, "Do you think the six of us could have rolled that giant log by ourselves?" We all of course know they hadn't, and that the forest nymphs we heard laughing in the dark the night before perhaps did know.

Stone Container Corporation is said to be behind schedule for completing this sale because logging was halted during the Earth First! Round River Rendezvous out of fear of protest.

Appalachia Eschews Factories

Air pollution is threatening the southern Appalachian Mountains, forcing the federal government to propose banning new factories in the area. The National Park Service and the US Forest Service don't want any new industries within 120 miles of 5 million acres of public forest unless existing factories reduce their pollution emissions. State agencies, however, contend the recommended pollution controls are beyond what is required by federal law and that to comply would slow economic growth.

—SOURCE: APPALACHIAN CONNECTION

Spraying Threatens Yurok People in California

BY DAVE COLLINS

Northern California's Klamath River has, for centuries, provided the Yurok with spiritual and physical sustenance. Now, after more than ten years of herbicide spraying in nearby forests, many Yurok fear that the Klamath and its lands are killing them.

According to Yurok leaders and environmentalists, increasing numbers of people on the 3,000 member reservation are developing cancers beyond the average rate, and are suffering from a widening variety of other ailments, including miscarriages.

Citing aerial spraying of herbicides such as Garlon-4 and 2, 4-D, residents, not surprisingly, lay the blame at the door of the timber industry. Industry officials, however, deny that there is any link between ailments and the spraying operations, which they claim are closely monitored by the companies involved and pose little or no threat to the environment or human health.

Ryan Hamilton, spokesman for Simpson Timber Co., states: "We're not aware of any documented problems. The only reason we spray is because it is part of the forest management program, and usually we spray only once over a number of years."

Although health officials from both the local inter-tribal clinic and California's Cancer Surveillance Section say they lack the data to link herbicides with cancer increase, they do not rule out the possibility of such a connection.

Dolores Hilton, a grandmother and a veteran teacher's aide living near the mouth of the river at the town of Klamath, is one of the folks being studied. She said she had two major seizures after a helicopter sprayed Garlon-4 during repeated passes near her home one afternoon in 1985.

"I still have problems with my eyes burning," Hilton said, adding that her doctors believe that toxins in the spray have affected her nervous system.

Although the Hiltons have settled with Miller-Rellim Redwood, the company involved, and got an injunction against local spraying three years ago, the herbicide operations have since resumed.

In recent weeks, Yurok activists and other environmentalists, including members of Californians Against Toxics, have demonstrated against herbicide spraying. Patty Clary, founder of CAT, said, "This year the opposition to

spraying, particularly among the Indian community, is more organized and greater than it has ever been."

In addition to health problems caused by the actual spraying, there are residual effects which threaten longstanding cultural traditions. An example is the gathering of hazel and willow and other plant fibers for the weaving of baskets, a traditional art enjoying a renaissance among the young.

"We pass the plants we use for basket-making through our mouths," said Susan Burdick, a Yurok weaver and member of the Northern California Basketweavers and Gathers Association. "We get some of our basket material, like hazel sticks in the spring, (bud break), which is the same time they spray."

While many Yurok work in the timber industry and other occupations, a number of families still depend on hunting and gathering. But those who hunt and fish are finding tumors and dis-

colored flesh in deer and salmon, the populations of which have fallen to alltime lows along the Klamath.

Dolores Hilton is well aware of this. "Ducks have been born with three legs. One was born with the feathers inside out," she said. "And in this subdivision of about 60 to 65 homes, enormous numbers of people are dying of cancer."

Hilton's family has been seriously affected by the spraying operations in one way or another. Her daughter, Sally, who was 15 at the time of the spraying, has suffered nightmarish childbearing problems, intense chest pains, and some effects of Bell's palsy, a disorder normally striking the elderly that paralyzed half her face just days after her exposure to the spraying.

Hilton says that her husband, Hank, used to be a logger, and believed that only "hippies and pot growers were against the spraying." These days, though, he feels differently. Said Hilton, "The last time he heard the helicopters, he went and grabbed his gun."



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are being hit by subdivisions and logging roads. Logging roads make it easier for poachers; easier access and faster escape.

Journal: Some would argue that when an individual hikes in true wilderness they must accept the risk of being attacked by the grizzly, and if attacked, the grizzly shouldn't pay for the risk taken by the hiker.

Lance: That's a worthwhile argument. Someone should champion that argument.

Journal: Others argue that the same ethics that justifies the killing of those bears is also at work diminishing bear habitat; that if we challenge the killing we are at the same time challenging the forces behind habitat losses.

Lance: Yes, you could do that, if its done explicitly. But I don't see that happening. People too often stick with the ethical question of killing these bears and don't relate it to habitat issues. The problem with this ethical question is that it can take up a lot of energy and time. Meanwhile thousands of acres are disappearing. Where is the real threat to the bears? The quiet deaths are probably more important. What we don't see are the bears that are being canceled out before they are even born because of loss of habitat.

Journal: In *Bear News* global climate change is often addressed. Doesn't this crisis present an almost insurmountable challenge for the bear.

Lance: Well, it is also an insurmountable challenge to our own survival. We do seem to be on a very suicidal course. We may also bring down a lot of innocents with us, including a lot of people who never created this or wanted it or asked for it. For bears the most pressing global issue of the moment is loss of the ozone shield and the consequences of ultra-violet radiation. The increase in ultra-violet radiation is often described in terms of skin cancer, but it also opens up more serious questions. Will we suffocate before dying of skin cancer? Ultra-violet radiation is deadly for plants. Plants provide us with oxygen. There is a threat here of eventual mass suffocation. Again, we are an indicator species and we're in trouble. Another thing, polar bears face the threat of being blinded by UV radiation. In South America, loss of the ozone shield has resulted in sheep and rabbits and others being blinded.

Journal: Lets talk about the bear in other parts of the world.

Lance: The most endangered bears are the giant panda in China, the sun bear in Southeast Asia, the spectacled bear in the South American Andes, and the grizzly in the lower 48 states and southern Canada. For the grizzly it gets worse and worse every year. The grizzly may go first. For all four bears, they're losing big wilderness. In Southeast Asia the greatest threat is logging, bringing access and poaching. Land mines in Eastern Europe and Southeast Asia are a problem. In Croatia we are getting reports that bears are getting their arms blown off by stepping on land mines. In civil wars some portion of the people do the same thing that bears do. They seek secure places in the hills, and the land mines follow.

All overpopulation is ultimately self-correcting, with a crash if necessary. We are a self-endangering species.

Journal: What is the prescription for bear recovery?

Lance: Well, we must let ourselves down lightly in population. We are either going to bring ourselves down with a crash with uncontrolled human population growth or we are going to let ourselves down lightly.

Journal: This decline in human population is bound to come about whether it happens in a crash or gradually.

Lance: All overpopulation is ultimately self-correcting, with a crash if necessary. We are a self-endangering species.

Journal: We can't divorce the issues affecting the grizzly bear from the same forces that are going to impact us as a species.

Lance: Yes, and governments aren't responding to

overpopulation. Governments are more motivated by the forces of cheap labor. Labor can only be cheap with large populations.

Journal: So we're still operating by the simplest principles of early capitalism?

Lance: No, we are not. We're operating by perverse notions of it!

Journal: The prescription for bear recovery would seem to require some eventual sustainable development, but not sustainable development for 5 billion people!

Lance: Right. There is nothing sustainable with 5 billion people.

Journal: So we have a prescription for the recovery of the human species?

Lance: Yes. Less of us living better.

Journal: This brings us to quality of life issues.

Lance: Yes, in well defined ways. The crash will put us back in the cave. That is what we'll be reduced to. But we don't need to return to the cave. One of the things I love about the industry is that they try to create fears about environmentalists when they say, 'these people are going to put us back in the cave.' I'm thinking, 'governments are doing that right now.' If environmentalists really wanted us to go back to the caves we would just retire and let government do it for us. It is already being done!

Lance continues to be editor of Bear News, providing in depth coverage and analysis on conditions confronting the bears nationally and internationally. To receive Bear News, send \$20 for membership in Great Bear Foundation, P.O.Box 2699, Missoula, Montana, 59806.

* * *

Abenaki Resist Genocide...

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was known to take measures of defending the earth that no other environmental groups seemed willing to take, the Abenaki took time to listen to us. And we took the time to listen to them.

When we spoke about the dam, biodiversity and the equality of all species, Chief St. Francis said, "What's more sacred than water? It's holy water. If you don't have water, you don't have life."

He said the birds go south and they are poisoned off because they eat the crops and then people holler about the mosquitoes here. "Who the hell eats the mosquitoes in the first place?" he said. "It's common sense."

As time passed, the alliance grew. When Chief St. Francis' camp was burned down, Earth First! immediately issued a press release publicly stating our solidarity with the sovereign Abenaki tribe and condemned that act and opposed all acts of genocide toward native peoples. We also stated that we "view those atrocities as another act by a predominant, greedy white corporate power structure which senses itself on the verge of toppling and strikes out senselessly in an attempt to right itself." We further pledged our assistance and resistance for the Abenaki, and all native heritage cultures.

Earth First! in the northeast region has tried to assist the Abenaki in many ways. Besides organizing rides to, and showing up for court hearings, we've held emergency meetings of solidarity in crisis situations and have tried to involve various communities in resistance through education and information.

Because of all this, gifts were exchanged between the Abenaki and Earth First! in the Abenaki traditional way to further seal the bond. In addition, Abenaki Tribal Judge Michael Delaney recently told

a reporter from *Akwesasne Notes*, of the Mohawk Nation, that when the Abenaki regain their sovereignty, Earth First! will be called on to help tear down the man-made dams that plague the Missisquoi River.

This solidarity is important not just to our bioregion, but to others as well, as the alliances grow. The Cree have said they will secede from Quebec if Quebec secedes from Canada. One can visualize what could become of Quebecois Premier Bourassa's hideous dream: the nightmare of the James Bay Hydro-Quebec travesty. The Abenaki also have a strong alliance with the Cree.

We must remember that the indigenous people were here living in a balance with the natural world before Columbus rammed the western hemisphere. As one Abenaki told me, "This Struggle...it's all about Mother Earth."

"The history wants to forget," said Tribal Judge Delaney, "but we can't forget."

Write letters of protest to:
Vermont Supreme Court, 111 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05602
Governor Howard Dean, 109 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05602
Governor's Advisory Commission on Native Ameri-



DEAR NED LUDD

DEAR NED LUDD has returned as a regular feature in the *Earth First! Journal* for discussion of creative means of effective defense against the forces of industrial totalitarianism. Neither the Earth First! movement nor the *Earth First! Journal* necessarily encourage anyone to do any of the things discussed in DEAR NED LUDD.



S.P.I.K.E. Nails Sugarloaf

Forest officials found tree spikes on Wednesday, September 23 in a controversial timber sale in the Siskiyou National Forest. A group calling itself "Society Protecting Intact Kinetic Ecosystems" had sent a letter to the *Mail Tribune* earlier in the month warning of tree spiking.
—*Medford Mail Tribune* 9/27/92

At the end of August a group of us calling ourselves S.P.I.K.E. (society protecting intact kinetic eco-systems) completed a nine month project of tree spiking in the wild Kangaroo roadless area in the high country of the Siskiyou National Forest. This magnificent wild land is scheduled to be cut sometime this fall by the timber industry, with the consent and assistance of the US Forest Service. The timber sale's name is Sugarloaf, after one of the high craggy peaks that rise up to 6,000 feet elevation, and is in the midst of a relatively vast, wild and untamed roadless area. This area runs from the Illinois/Greyback drainage to the Red Buttes Wilderness Area and Applegate drainage, making this one large chunk of unroaded wilderness intact and healthy. Due to the high elevation of the area, many large mammals and predators such as the black bear, cougar, bobcat, and even some wolverine inhabit the large stands of fir and spruce as they use this corridor that drops from one drainage to another. This area is crucial, making it one of the last roadless areas in the Siskiyou bioregion. The scars of 100 years of the forest service and timber industry are visible below the Kangaroo, as the mountains are endlessly raped with clearcuts and tree farms.

For far too long we have listened to the false promises of the bureaucracy regarding their timber "harvest plans." This area slipped through the cracks of the legal loophole which put it up for rape on the Forest Service's (\$) devastation list. We have compromised far too much with the earth rapers. We have sat at their table and pleaded for small scraps of forests that have only ended up being cut five years later by the timber scum. Realizing the desperate situation, we began this spiking project nine months ago and just drove our last spike into an old growth spruce in mid-August in our efforts to disrupt this travesty that was/is about to occur.

Perhaps the worst incident from the repercussions of this action was the lack of support from Earth First! and the environmental community in southwestern Oregon. The environmental community condemned the action with paragraphs of quotes in the news articles stating, "We do not condone this sort of action." This was the only painful repercussion we felt as our comrades joined the en-

emy to trash the efforts of some people who worked hard and determined to do what they could to save this wild place! The mainstream press used these people to discredit the actions of direct action element of the environmental struggle, to divide and conquer just as they have any progressive struggle in this fascist country. We would rather have seen quotes from these so-called EF!ers against the timber industry instead of against a noble act to disrupt the rape that was about to occur. All those wasted words

by the environmental community could have done more to focus on the real eco-terrorists who are about to batter this place. WE WOULD LIKE TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT EARTH FIRST! (WILLAMETTE) DOES NOT SPEAK FOR THE ECO STRUGGLE AND CANNOT SPEAK FOR THE ACTS OF THOSE COMMITTED TO FUCKING UP THE BUREAUCRACY'S BUSINESS AS USUAL, EARTH RAPE IN THE BACKCOUNTRY! No compromise in defense of the earth is nothing more than an image, a slogan used by many so-called Earth First!ers. Everytime you sit at the enemy's table and work through their legal system that is carefully set-up to limit any changes, you are compromising!

WAKE UP FOLKS! They have nearly conquered the Siskiyou! For how much longer will you be pleading with the enemy before you realize that they will take every bit of wilderness that is left unless we cause them financial hardship and disrupt their plans? Tree-spiking serves many purposes: 1) it throws a monkey wrench in their machine, causing them to drain their monetary resources, as they will have to send Forest Service employees into the forests to locate the spikes. This entails hiking steep areas to locate spikes and they are required to check every tree in the area. 2) The possibility that the earth rapers may drop the sale, which in some cases has happened (in British Columbia, due to a relentless campaign by activists, several areas have been saved due to spiking). 3) To pile on the pressure and show the Forest Service and timber scum that people will not tolerate their lies and destruction. 4) To bring to the public's attention the dirty deeds of the earth rapers.

Drastic times require drastic actions and reactions and we at S.P.I.K.E. reclaim the tactic of tree-spiking and economic sabotage against the earth raping industries. We encourage others to use these tactics as we feel this is the only chance we have to slow down the destruction. The more people that take up this level of the struggle, the greater the effect it will have; we call on all people to declare WAR on the scum who trash the last wild places. The liberal reformist approach will get us nowhere! It is time again to hit them where it really hurts—in the pocket books. The same mindset that stepped on this continent 500 years ago is still rolling its death machine into conquer all that is wild, regardless of how many letters we write or phone calls we make. Profits are all they see and it is profits we must attack. 500 years of earth rape, broken treaties and blatant lies should be enough to tell us we are up against a monster, a monster that cannot be reformed; it must be destroyed. Who wants their mild reforms any-

continued next page

Kalmiopsis EF! Replies...

"You better stop what you're doing or we'll investigate you for the tree spiking."
—Freddie law enforcement officer threatening Willamette EF! activist. October 4.

I thought it might be good to respond to this letter since this took place in our neck of the woods. Even though none of us are quoted or referred to specifically we support the efforts of Willamette Earth First! on behalf of the Siskiyou.

Ever since our campaign to stop the Bald Mountain road in 1983 I've often been questioned ad nauseam by the press about tree spiking. My reply or some variation thereof has always been "Earth First! neither condemns nor condones acts of monkeywrenching," though personally I believe that in Oregon tree spiking is a totally failed tactic by any measure. My answer has always been based on the assumption that the person(s) doing the spiking were sincere, had analyzed the situation, and believed they had no choice. I am now convinced this is not true of s.p.i.k.e. The EF!er quoted in s.p.i.k.e.'s whiny diatribe and Willamette EF! have been working hard to end all logging on the Siskiyou and in the last few years they have been in the forefront of organizing real resistance to the Forest Service. They are not sitting at any "enemy's table."

The justifications used here for this spiking are ridiculous, to put it mildly. Let's try a dose of reality, s.p.i.k.e. It was the Forest Service that confirmed the spiking to the press, despite statements to the contrary. This letter talks about bringing "public attention" to the sale. Thanks to local activists, Sugarloaf had already become a high profile issue.

Could it be that spiking a timber sale that already has strong visible opposition actually helps the timber industry by marginalizing and undermining support for that resistance?

Maybe there is a reason the Forest Service/timber industry has taken every opportunity in Oregon to publicize spiking even in cases where the spikers were more interested in actually trying to protect the forest by not notifying the press. The reason is this,

s.p.i.k.e.: now they can divert public attention, so they don't have to address the real issues of deforestation, watershed destruction, and extinction

All they have to do is cry terrorism and engage in scare tactics with the public. "Drain monetary resources": get real! The USES loses hundreds of millions of dollars every year on timber sales. There is such an imbalance of priorities here that, as I write this, the freddies are running 24 hour patrols and setting up covert surveillance in the area because these morons actually think they'll catch someone spiking now, after all this.

They "may drop the sale." This has never happened here and there have been more than a few spikings. This isn't BC. That's north of here. Of the many timber sales that have been spiked, every one has been clearcut.

"Pressure" them. A few years ago the Woodrat timber sale was spiked. The Feds had the contractor cut down the spiked trees and leave them. Giant 200 plus year old pines killed and left to rot just to prove some sick point. This is the mentality we are up against. Pressure has to be real, not imagined.

These points aside let's consider a more likely possibility about s.p.i.k.e. Check out the way this spiking was carried out. Why would somebody announce to the media (instead of notifying the FS like *Ecodefense* suggests) that Sugarloaf was spiked, thereby forcing the freddies into a position of having to cut the forest so they don't look like they're caving in to so-called terrorism? Why does s.p.i.k.e. imply that Willamette EF!ers are somehow collaborators? Why spike a forest that is receiving a ground swell of local support? If that isn't enough, dig the inane rant at the end of the letter. All this argues for a quite different agenda than s.p.i.k.e. professes. Over the past few years we have seen how local Earth First! groups that effectively organized or raised public concern on an issue have been targeted for disruption. I don't know if s.p.i.k.e. is an agent provocateur, if not, they play the role real well. I do know this tree spiking will be an irrelevant factor in the fate of Sugarloaf.

—STEVE MARSDEN FOR KALMIOPSIS EF!

BOOK REVIEW: *In the Absence of the Sacred*

In the Absence of the Sacred: The Failure of Technology and the Survival of the Indian Nations, by Jerry Mander, Sierra Club Books, San Francisco, 1991.

REVIEWED BY CHRIS ROTH

For a year and a half, in my early twenties, I lived in a tent on the Hopi reservation in Arizona. Needless to say, I did not become a Hopi, nor could I have. I became very involved in my job working with mentally retarded Hopis, but in other respects never really transcended my "outsider" status. My access to "traditional" Hopi life was limited, for the most part, to the public ceremonial dances, and for a combination of reasons I felt it inappropriate to push those limits. I was happy being involved in this vibrant culture in a role that was open to me. Though I envied those with full access to it by virtue of birth, I have since come to appreciate more how difficult it would be to live in a culture under such siege.

I spent almost all of my time outside, and eschewed technology. I tried to do nothing to disrupt my relationship with the land. It still seems like one of the best periods of my life, the time when I felt most attuned to what, for lack of a better term, I will call the "sacred."

Jerry Mander's *In the Absence of the Sacred: The Failure of Technology and the Survival of the Indian Nations* could have been one of my "bibles," had it existed then. And though I have rejoined White American Civilization, albeit on its fringes, and spend more time now contemplating rows of organic vegetables than I do the desert, mesas, canyons, and mountains home to some of the continent's first people, it is still a bible of sorts.

In the Absence of the Sacred is two books in one; the first, describing in sometimes horrifying detail how our unquestioning faith in technology has blinded us to its shortcomings and separated us from the natural world to a suicidal degree; and the second, connecting this technological juggernaut to "suppression of the native alternative" and to the "world war against the Indians" that continues to be waged.

Mander traces the impact of technological "progress" on his own life and the place where he grew up, and discusses the ingredients of the pro-technology paradigm in which we are immersed; among them, the kind of "guilty until proven innocent" caution familiar to Hopi and Amish but foreign to us. To the claim that the problems with technology arise not from the technologies themselves but from the ways we have chosen to use them, Mander responds, "The idea that technology is neutral is itself not neutral—it directly serves the interests of the people who benefit from our inability to see where the juggernaut is headed."

In Mander's view, we need a way to criticize and take into account the social, political, economic, spiritual, ecological, biological and military ramifications of new technologies. Evaluations of technology, Mander and philosopher Jacques Ellul believe, must not be confined to the machines themselves. "Equally important...is to grasp that in technological society, the structure of all human life and its systems of organization reflect the logic of the machine."

A case in point is the modern corporation, whose inherent requirement for profit and growth, and disharmony with our own individual natures and the nature of the planet,

produce a kind of "corporate schizophrenia" (as well as untold damage to the Earth): "Human beings within the corporate structure, whatever their personal morals and feelings, are prevented from operating on their own standards."

A major section deals with computers. Mander suggests that the apparent short-run benefits sometimes offered by computers have lured environmentalists into using them without recognizing their impact on nature. "Unfortunately, the major question about computers is not whether

Against this stark portrait of technological society run amuck, Mander contrasts the lifeways of this continent's native peoples, who for thousands of years lived (and in many cases continue to live) in harmony with the land, attuned to its sacred character. In the last several hundred years we have managed to destroy much of that land, many of its peoples, and many of their ways, but the continued survival and resistance of native peoples (over 1-1/2 million native Americans in the US, and millions of native people living in a traditional manner world-

ering nature and native peoples. The native problem today, as it always has been, is directly related to the needs of technological societies to find and obtain remotely located resources (in North America, gold, land, coal, oil, uranium, fish...), in order to fuel an incessant and intrinsic demand for growth and technological fulfillment."

Appropriately, given the despair that our situation can engender, Mander concludes his book with some words against pessimism. He believes that "describing the reality of a problem will encourage activism, not withdrawal," and also that the present negative trends can in fact be reversed. He takes as examples of inspiration the many activist groups working against aspects of the industrial paradigm and for the earth and its native peoples, and encourages involvement by providing a lengthy list of organizations and periodicals. He suggests that we each need to arrive at standards for our personal lifestyles and live by them, consistent with our values and what we know about the state of the world—and to extend this commitment within our home communities.

Most of all, he finds hope in the fact that millions of native people around the world have survived, against all odds, and gained strength in the face of the brutal assaults upon them, their lands, and their ways. "Their strength is fed by the knowledge that what they are doing is rooted in the earth and deserves to succeed."

I, too, believe that our civilization's experiment in living in the absence of the sacred will end, that native peoples and native ways will ultimately prevail, and that awareness of the Earth and its ways will return to all others who survive as well. I received this feeling of the Earth's and native peoples' enduring power and vitality nowhere as strongly as on the Hopi Reservation. In a landscape where it may be the central assumption of technological geological time is everywhere present, visible and palpable, surrounded by people whose culture expresses their universe, one sees the current brief technological phase of "human time" in all its flurried irrelevance. If Hopiland said anything to me, it was this: White civilization's current fit of suicidal insanity will some day be over—soon on the scale of geological time—and when it is, the Earth, and everything alive, will breathe a huge sigh of relief. The Earth will return to health and wholeness, and its people, "native" by necessity in attitude and practice if not in race, will see the world as sacred once again.

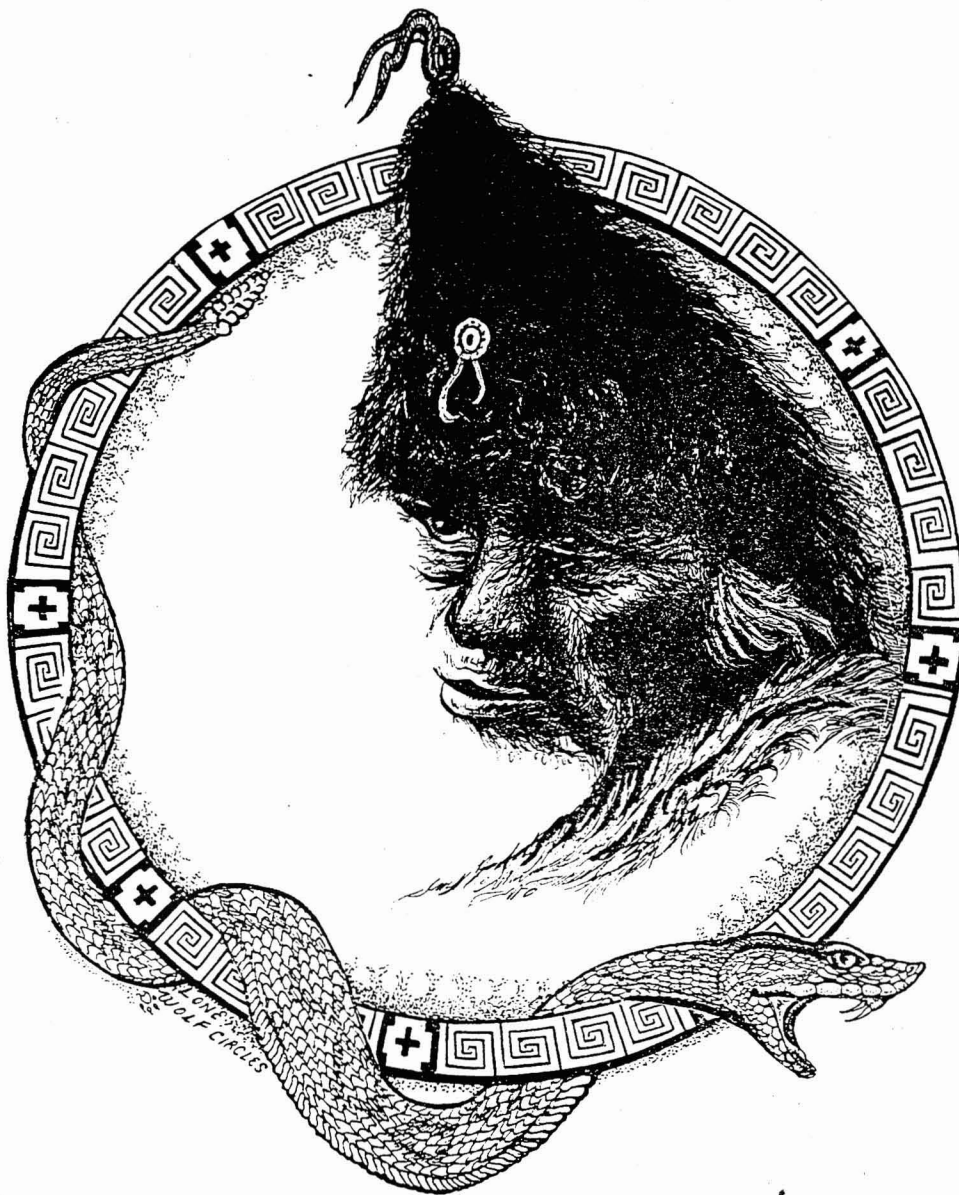
It is only a matter of time. But the interim period may be difficult. Read this book, and act on what you learn from it.

It may be the central assumption of technological societies that there is virtue in overpowering nature and native peoples.

they serve you or your organization or your business well. We must look at the totality of how computers affect society, and life on earth. Computers, like television, are far more valuable and helpful to the military, to multinational corporations, to international banking, to governments, and to institutions of surveillance and control—all of whom use this technology on a scale and with a speed that are beyond our imaginings—than they ever will be to you and me."

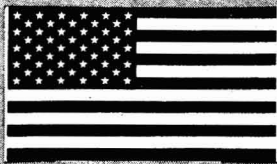
wide), in the face of our onslaught, attest to their strength.


Not surprising, "since the beginnings of the technological juggernaut, the only consistent opposition has come from land-based native peoples. Rooted in an alternative view of the planet, Indians, islanders, and peoples of the North remain our most clear-minded critics. They are also our most direct victims. It may be the central assumption of technological society that there is virtue in overpower-



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Earth First! t-shirts, from left to right: The **Earth First! Fist**—here shown in green on 100% natural unbleached organic cotton (L, XL, \$12), also available in the traditional black design on a green 100% cotton shirt (M, L, XL, \$11) or a red 100% cotton shirt (M, L, XL, \$11), or in a green, yellow, and red design on black 100% cotton shirt (L, XL, \$12). In fact, all of our t-shirts are 100% cotton; the difference between them is that some are unbleached, undyed, and are spun from organic cotton, which produces an off-white, creamy ecru sort of shirt color. All three designs in the photo above that are on light-colored shirts are in fact on this natural-colored, unbleached, undyed, heavyweight organic cotton. All of our dyed shirts are heavyweight (mostly Hanes Beefy-T, to be specific) cotton, as well. Unless otherwise indicated, you can assume that the shirt is short-sleeved. We have many-colored screens done by Scott at Preservation Press in Chico, California.. Scott has silk-screened Earth First! t-shirts since the very early days when the Journal office was located in Chico. Our screens with less complicated color combinations are done by William of Missoula, using water-based inks.

No Fucking Compromise, the Hog Rider's Special (white design on black shirt, M, L, XL, \$11, or in long sleeves for \$13), was designed by Jackie Taylor, a wilderness defender from the southern Appalachians. According to Roselle, this design, which features a sunglasses-wearing skull with spikes and flowers clenched in its jaw, incorporates motifs from Harley Davidson, The Grateful Dead, and Earth First!. It was a popular item at this year's RRR by the Rio Piedras, and local Earth First! groups are moving these like hotcakes.

Earth First! Tools, from the design by the late John Zaelit (black design on natural organic shirt, M, L, XL, \$12), features a crossed stone axe and monkeywrench; a combined Back to the Pleistocene-Fuck Shit Up message.

Defend the Wilderness, (white on black, M, L, XL, \$11, also available in long sleeves for \$13), the monkeywrencher's choice, was designed by the late Bill Turk, a bullwhipping frenzy who was killed in an avalanche last spring while skiing the backcountry near his home in Moab, Utah. Bill was a staunch defender of wilderness and biodiversity, and his message reads loud and clear on this shirt.

Don't Tread On Me, the rattlesnake rattling a monkeywrench (six colors, most of them associated with the natural coloration of a diamondback, natural organic, L, XL, \$14; the same design is also available on black shirts, L, XL, \$12). This Brush Wolf design warns would-be exploiters to back off!

A design not pictured above, but depicted in a photo on the next page is Gila Trout's ever-popular **Free the Earth** (purple and silver on teal, M, L, XL, \$12).



Susan Van Rooy's beautiful Grizzly with Cub design, in six colors on a light blue shirt, proclaiming "American Wilderness—Love It or Leave It Alone."

Free the Earth, a design by Gila Trout, is available in a purple and silver design on either lavender, fuschia, or teal t-shirts.

The Earth First! Tools design is available in a black design on tan or light blue.

The Earth First! Fist design is available in a black design on green or red.

Canyon Frog's American Wilderness—Love It or Leave It Alone design is available in four colors on light gray.

Don't Tread On Me, the rattler with monkeywrench, is available in a six-colored design on melon or tan.

Big Sale on all Small t-shirts! \$6 each!

It seems like nobody is small anymore, or maybe everyone just expects their shirts to shrink, or maybe skin-tight shirts just are no longer the latest rage, but anyway, we have a bunch of adult size small t-shirts, and we want you to buy them for the reduced rate of \$6 each, no matter the design or color. If you are a smaller person, or want to get a shirt for a smaller person, jump now! All shirts pictured in the photo above

please let us know if you prefer no substitute if what you really wanted runs out of stock. Believe it or not, we also have four Earth First! Fist sweatshirts, size small, green design on gray, that we are also selling for \$6 each to whomever asks for them first.

Factory Seconds Sale!

We have a bunch of black Earth First! Fist designs on both red shirts and green shirts that have a glitch somewhere or another, and we're selling them for \$6 each. Available in M, L, XL. Unless you specifically indicate to the contrary, we will freely substitute on your order of factory seconds. So let us know any size or color substitutions you will accept.

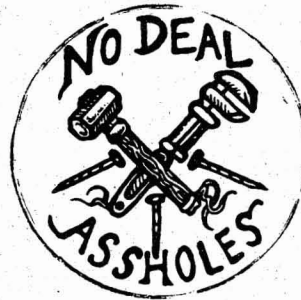
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Earth First! Caps

Pictured on the Previous Page

(tan & woodland camo shown)

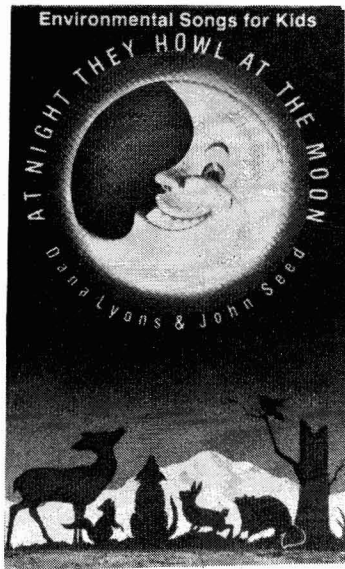
\$10 postpaid

all Cotton twill, no mesh in back;
Tan, woodland camo, desert camo, and
that Norman Schwartzkopf camo.

(Norman, interestingly, is a Big Wilderness advocate)

Earth First! Books

John Seed, Bahloo & Friends "Earth First!"
From Australia, John has done more to launch the global rainforest movement than has any other single person and has become one of the leading developers of the Deep Ecology philosophy. His first album of Aussie music includes: *Extinction, Handful Of Timber, Ballad Of Mt. Nardi, The Water Song, Tonka Toys, Solomon Island, Killing Of The Trees, The Future Is In Our Hands*, and more. \$9.



John Seed "Deep Ecology"
John's second tape combines his words and music with those of many others, such as Dakota Sid, Greg Keeler, Dana Lyons, Lone Wolf Circles, and Bahloo. Includes: *Invocation, Animal Spirits, Expanding Universe, Earth First!, Magic Forest, Subvert the Dominant Paradigm, Make Bucks, Burning Times, Gaia Meditation, I Am An Animal, Earth Am I, The Rainforest Within, Tribesmen of Penan, Angel of Sunshine, Leave It In The Ground, and Everyone Is Everyone.* \$10.

Jon Sirkis "The Wild West"
Jon showed up on our doorstep recently with another tape of his socially conscious folk-rock tunes. This high-quality production might be mistaken for a product of the corporate music offices in L.A. if you missed the words. With compassion and wit, he exposes the American Dream and pokes fun at both liberal and conservative know-nothings while making pleasant bouncy music. Includes: *Solar Kills, In Jamaica, Roseville Fair, The Wild West, Think For Yourself, New Morality, and Aztlan.* \$9.

Gary Snyder & Paul Winter "Turtle Island"
Pulitzer Prize-winning poet and bioregionalism advocate Gary Snyder reads from his poetry to the backdrop of music from the Paul Winter Consort, with *Prayer for the Great Family, Maggie's Song, True Night, Tomorrow's Song, Songs to Gaia, Toward Climax, Mother Earth: Her Whales, As for Poets, The Blue Sky, For the Children, For All.* \$12.

Walkin' Jim Stoltz "Spirit Is Still On The Run"
Walkin' Jim's powerful voice and wilderness-inspired lyrics will send shivers up your spine and launch a howl in your heart. Includes: *All Along the Great Divide, Lone Lion Runs, Followin' the Rainbow Trail, Yellowstone Tales, Sweetwater,* and more. \$11.

Walkin' Jim Stoltz "Forever Wild"
Walkin' Jim Stoltz has walked 15,000 miles across the wilds of the West. These songs were written in the wilderness and are sung with his incredibly deep and resonant voice. Jim's second album includes: *The Brand New Grand Canyon Suite, The River Song, Just A Part of the Sky, Let Me Listen To The Wind, Wolf Song, Old Cisco, Follow Your Heart, I Walk With The Old Ones, Green and Growing, Forever Wild.* Includes liner notes. \$11.

Walkin' Jim Stoltz "Listen to the Earth"
Walkin' Jim has put out another classic, full of Earth-music. His passionate lyrics and deep voice put you straight out into the wilderness, or remind you of why you should go. Includes: *River Runnin' Through It, Listen To The Earth, Man Of The Mountains, I'm Goin' Back To Idaho, Montana Moon In The Pines, The Sacred Buffalo,* and more. \$11.

Walkin' Jim Stoltz "A Kid for the Wild"
With this, Walkin' Jim has put his remarkable voice to work for younger people. This is a tape full of kids' songs about wilderness and wild things, big and small. Besides the title song, this includes: *Manfred the Mopey Moose, Slugs & Bugs, River Run, It Ain't Easy Bein' An Ol' Grizzly Bear, If I Were A Tree, Come Walk With Me, You Don't Need Ears To Listen, Wild Things Need Wild Places, Pika Pika, Whole Earth Harmony.* \$11.

Glen Waldeck "Wreckin' Ball Waldeck"
Longtime star of the campfire circuit and frequent accompanist to Bill Oliver (his humor makes Bill look like a straight man, a real accomplishment), this guitar-swingin', styrofoam-hatin' musician's cassette includes: *With My Friends, Tulsa Rag, N.O.L.A., Inspired By You, It's Apparent, Every Dog Has Its Day, Them People, Sign of the Times, Yellowstone or Bussed, Wreckin' Ball.* \$10.

The Wallys "Rainforest Roadshow '89"
After years of playing second fiddle to John Seed, the Wallys recorded a tape of their own. If you've seen them at the Rendezvous, you know these cocky kids can match any of our established old fart musicians for energy, commitment, and clever lyrics! Imagine an environmentally concerned garage band from the Australian rainforest and you've got the Wallys. Includes: *Once Upon A Planet, Lay Down Your Whopper, Planetary Flag, That's Auker, Expanding Universe, Tonka Toys, Use It Up, Apeman, Leave It In The Ground.* \$10.

Numerous musicians "Only One Earth"
We're glad to offer this sampler tape, with powerful activist songs from 14 contemporary eco-musicians (incidentally, this cassette includes the only recording of Greg Keeler's "Manly Men" available). If you don't know these folks, here's a nice introduction. This tape has studio recordings of: Ken Lonquist - *Waking Up*; Bill Oliver - *In These Ancient Trees*; Fred Small - *Heart of the Appaloosa*; Cecelia Ostrow - *Warrior of the Earth*; Kelly Cranston - *Bright Ocean Waters*; Alice DiMichele - *Julie's Song*; Scotty Johnson - *Century of Fools*; Dana Lyons - *Animal*; Joanne Rand - *Koyannisquatsi*; Ned Mudd - *Living on Borrowed Time*; Greg Keeler - *Manly Men*; Dakota Sid Clifford - *We Want the Whole Thing Back*; Walkin' Jim Stoltz - *Forever Wild*; Susan Grace Stoltz - *The Love We Carry Within.* \$12.

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Wilderness On The Rocks

by Howie Wolke
Ned Ludd Books, 240 pages \$15

Earth First! Reader Edited by John Davis, Gibbs Smith Publisher, 272 pages \$14.95

Waste of the West: Public Lands Ranching by Lynn Jacobs, 602 huge pages, \$28

Citizen Action Guide by Save America's Forests, 50 pages, \$2
We also have primers available, 8 pages each. Free or donation.:
Killing Roads, A Citizen's Guide to the US Forest Service, and a basic introduction to Earth First!

Patches



Earth Police \$3
Earth First! Fist (not shown) \$3.50

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Announcements

Blind Monkeywrench Art Project

NEEDED: Ideas, designs, text, materials, artists, organizers, and fundraisers for and Educational Display (8 feet by 20 feet) on "The History of Human Development/Ecological Destruction and the Resistance" (Protests, civil disobedience, monkeywrenching and New/Old Tribal culture). We will do a mock-up and when funds are found, do it up nice; take it to schools, events, concerts and demonstrations (riots?) HELP!HELP!HELP!

To contribute materials (plywood, particle board, paint) or talents or cash write: POB 3412, Tucson, AZ 85722 or call (602) 884-8007.

Nonviolence Training

Training Workshop for Nonviolence Trainers led by George Lakey. February 19-21, 1993 in Philadelphia, PA. For more info and application contact: Training Center Workshops, 4719 Springfield Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19143 phone: (215) 729-7458.

500 Years of Resistance Workshop in Manitoba

The Critical Path Student Group is organizing a conference entitled "500 Years of Indigenous and Popular Resistance," to be held at the University of Manitoba Drake Centre, November 12-14, 1992. Speakers from the US and Canada are scheduled to lead discussions and workshops at the conference. Included are:

Winona Laduke, President of the Indigenous Women's Network.

Ward Churchill, Co-ordinator of the Colorado American Indian Movement and vice-chair of the American Indian Anti-Defamation Council. Author of *Marxism and Native Americans* and *Agents of Repression*.

Hans Koning, author of some twenty books, including *Columbus: His Enterprise*.

For more information contact:
Paul Burrows (204) 786-8681
Viktor Vrsnik (204) 772-0758
Michel Lavergne (204) 257-1532



Activist Conference

The Earth First! activists' conference will be the last weekend of January, 1993, in the Shawnee section of southern Illinois.

Activists should note that no outside funding has been secured to finance travel costs to the conference, so activists from around the bioregions are advised to start raising money now to send representatives from your bioregion to the conference.

For more details on the specifics of the conference, just check out the Yule edition of the Journal, due out on the Winter Solstice.

CONCERNED SINGLES NEWSLETTER links compatible singles who care about the earth, the environment, and a healthy society. National and international membership. All ages. Since 1984. Free sample: Box 555-B, Stockbridge, MA 01262.



Parole Denied for Mark Davis

Mark Davis, who was up for a 30 month parole, and recommended by the parole board, was denied by the Board of Prisons, as is currently serving his full six-year term, send your support to mark #23106-008 FPC Dorm 8 PO Box 1000, Boron, CA 93516

Now White Boys Can Be Tribal Too!

New Book: *Anglo-American Biocentric Tribalism* \$21; free information: Thorz Hammer!, Box 15503, College Station, TX 77841

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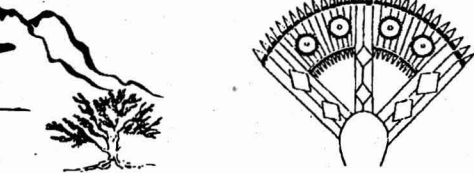


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Don't Know What to Get Your Favorite Hunt Sab for Channuka?

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Talking Leaves is a monthly journal of deep ecology, inspired personal activism rooted in earthen spirituality. Past issues have featured articles by Gary Snyder, Starhawk, John Seed, Joanna Macy, Bill Devall, Lone Wolf Circles, Barbara Mor, etc.

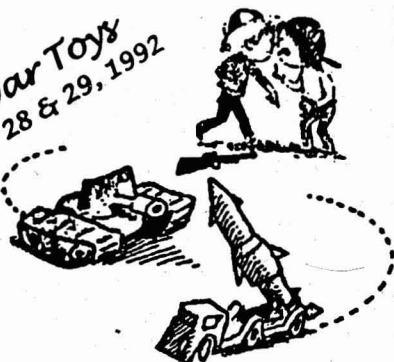
Talking Leaves speaks for the natural world and for the rekindling of our own wild spirit.

Subscriptions are \$18.00 one year/ \$24.00 outside U.S. \$30.00 two years/\$48.00 outside U.S.

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Protest War Toys
November 28 & 29, 1992

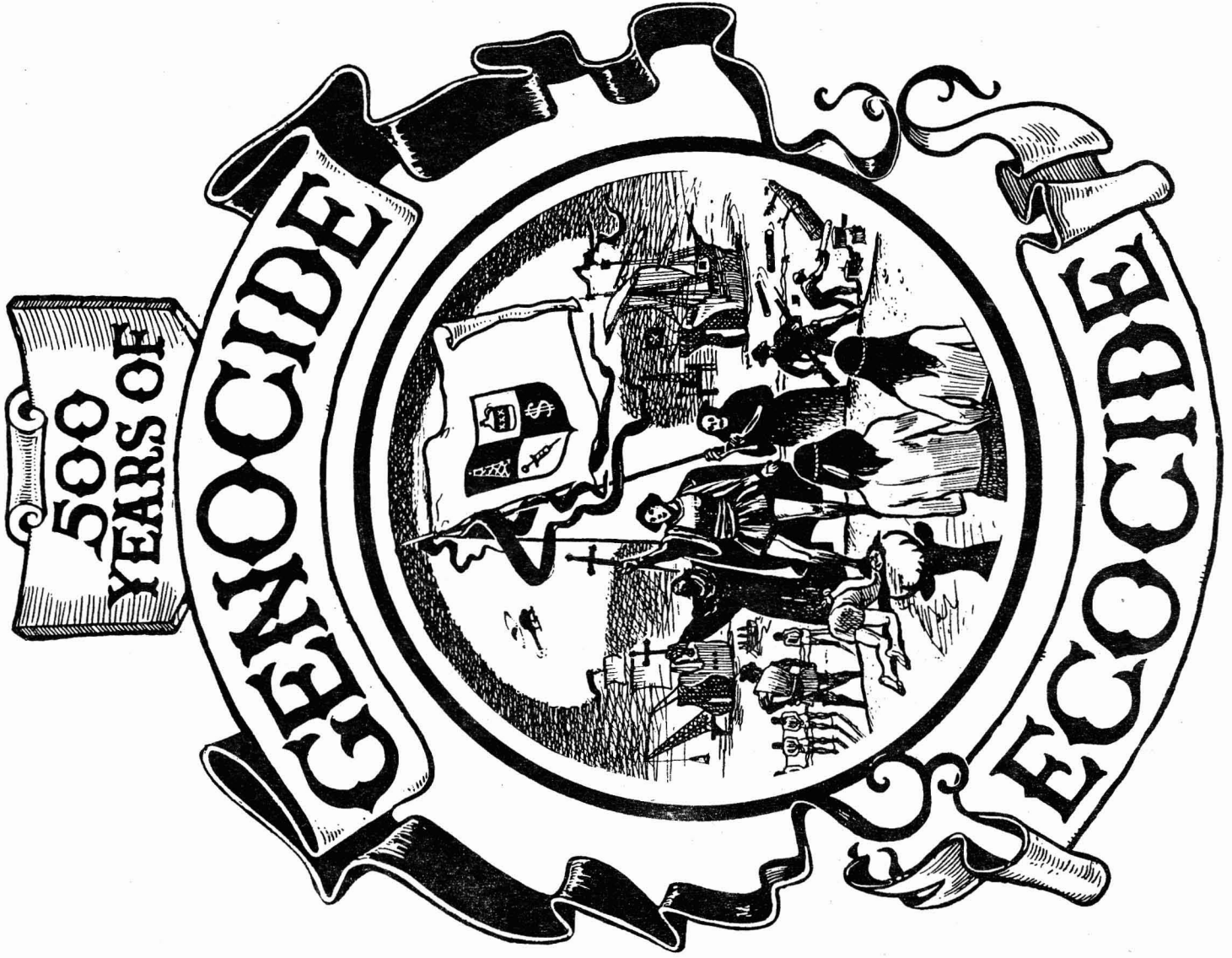


Children & Nonviolence Campaign/
WRL, 339 Lafayette St., NYC 10012,
or call (212)228-0450.

Earth First

Samhain 1992

Three Dollars

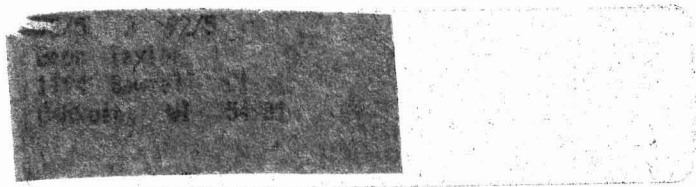


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