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Nuclear Madness · Sonoran Desert Storm · Exposing Green Corps · SHAC 7 Arrested

# Earth First!

Lughnasadh

July-August 2004

The Radical Environmental Journal

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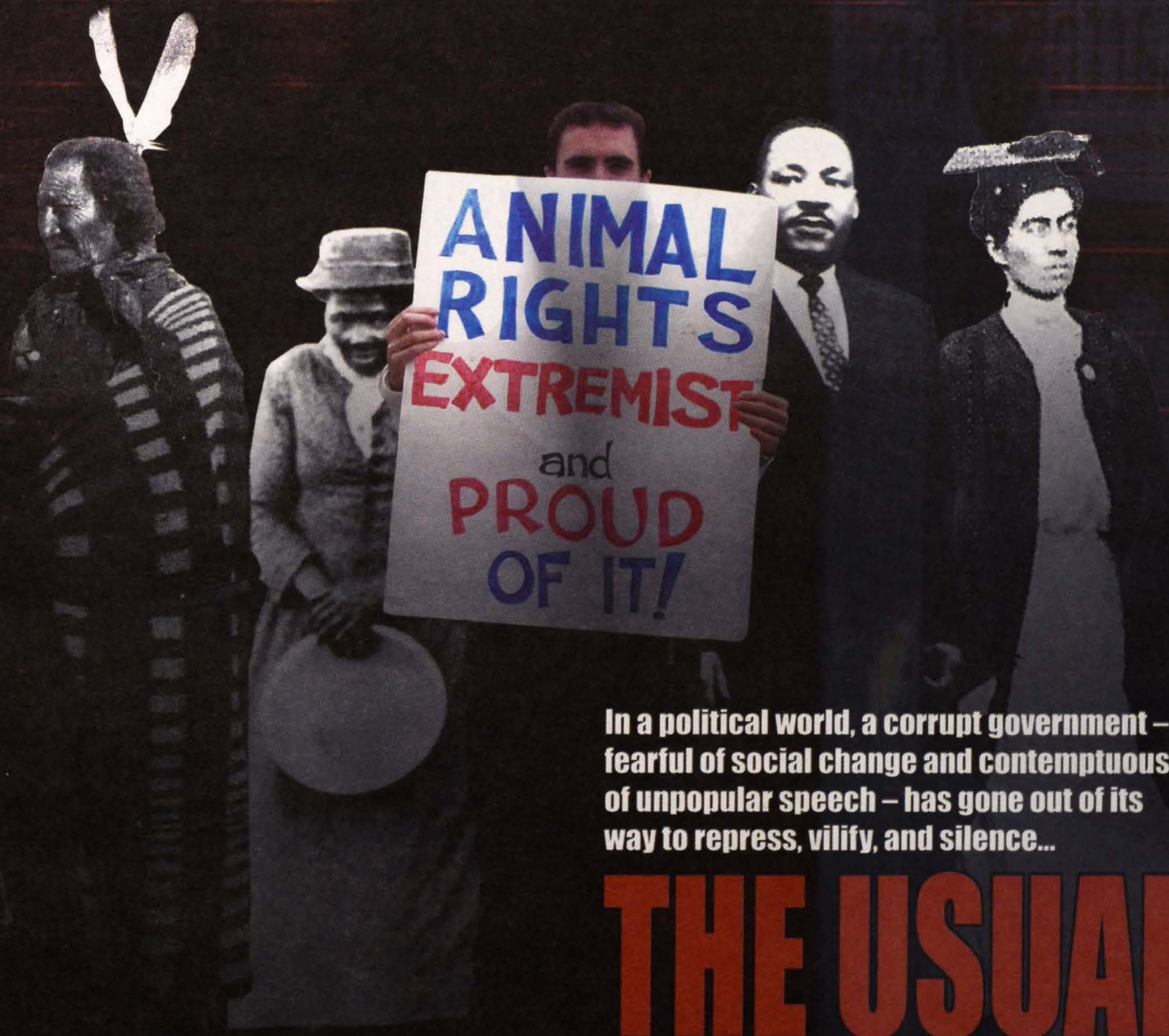
**AMERICAN  
INDIAN  
MOVEMENT**

**UNDERGROUND  
RAILROAD**

**ANIMAL  
RIGHTS**

**CIVIL  
RIGHTS**

**THE  
SUFFRAGETTES**



**In a political world, a corrupt government – fearful of social change and contemptuous of unpopular speech – has gone out of its way to repress, vilify, and silence...**

# **THE USUAL SUSPECTS**

On May 26th, 2004, seven activists (allegedly) campaigning to close Huntingdon Life Sciences were indicted on federal charges under the Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act. Those indicted join a noble and historical few who have stared down government intimidation and beaten back unconstitutional charges. The case of the SHAC 7 is fraught with First Amendment violations that jeopardize all political activists, no matter what their cause. This fall, please join us as we square off in one of the biggest free speech cases of this century.

**We need your voice. We need your presence. We need your support.**

**[www.SHAC7.org](http://www.SHAC7.org)**

[www.INSIDEHLS.com](http://www.INSIDEHLS.com) [www.SHACAmerica.net/indictments](http://www.SHACAmerica.net/indictments) [www.HLSCustomers.com](http://www.HLSCustomers.com)

# Earth



# First!

The Radical Environmental Journal

Lughnasadh July-August 2004



## *Mark Rey Runs Away*

A US Forest Service officer prods at protesters at the Ashland, Oregon, meeting of the Society of American Foresters in an attempt to clear an escape route for a flustered Mark Rey, the Bush administration's undersecretary for natural resources and the environment (see article, page 3).

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# The Lessons of SHAC

While we were working on this issue of the *Earth First! Journal*, the FBI came to town—not to investigate, but to scare researchers at the University of Arizona with the specter of “animal and ecological terrorism.” Special agent Phil Celestini listed the FBI’s top domestic terrorist priorities as the Animal Liberation Front (ALF), the Earth Liberation Front (ELF) and Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty (SHAC). A few weeks later, the FBI arrested seven visible SHAC activists in four states.

The inclusion of SHAC with the likes of the ALF and ELF seems strange at first. In terms of raw economic damage, the smashed windows and the spraypainted cars and homes of SHAC targets are “kid stuff” next to the actions of the ALF and ELF. Yet the FBI has singled SHAC

out with more than words—the recent arrests reflect a classic nab-the-leaders decapitation strategy.

The targeting of SHAC is a reminder that the single greatest crime a movement can commit is effectiveness. SHAC’s inspiring campaign has driven more than a hundred companies away from Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS), and even Celestini admits that government money is the only thing keeping HLS on its feet.

SHAC has taught us that to win, we must wage our war on all fronts: at the homes of Earth abusers, as well as their offices; at the businesses that prop up the system, as well as the ones doing the destroying. SHAC has shown us the value of psychological warfare, sabotage and popular outrage, and how an onslaught of di-

verse direct-action tactics really does get the goods. Because SHAC is winning—because SHAC is showing us *how* to win—the COINTELPRO cops have come knocking.

In an attempt to frighten university researchers, Celestini recounted some heartening facts: Very few ALF or ELF activists have ever been caught. As reasons for this, Celestini cited careful planning, a culture of solidarity and secrecy, and “security consciousness second to none.”

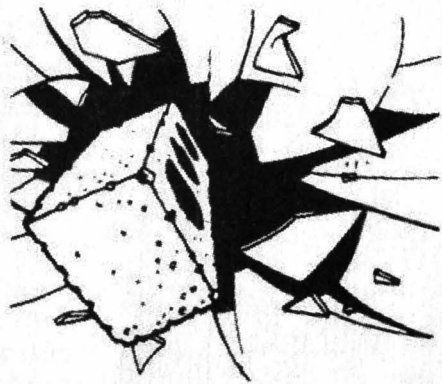
Celestini admitted that the FBI has almost no idea how to catch underground activists. Discussing the FBI’s strategy to compensate for its failure, he vaguely alluded to the targeting of above-ground groups with surveillance, infiltrators and other forms of disruption. In

other words, COINTELPRO.

SHAC activists arrested on flimsy charges; Tre Arrow and Billy Cottrell facing decades in prison based on dubious evidence; grand juries harassing activists on weak pretexts—these are signs of the system fighting back. From this increasing repression, we must take heart. We cannot win without first drawing the wrath of the powerful, so we must learn how the FBI and other secret police operate and learn how to neutralize their methods. Above all, we must not be intimidated. We must learn the tactics they fear, and pursue them with renewed vigor.

They’re afraid of our power—let’s prove them right.

—LENNY



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We welcome submissions of articles, letters, poetry and art that put the Earth first, aid in healthy debate shaping the growth of the movement and advance the creation of a world free of speciesism, classism, racism, sexism, violence, exploitation and oppression.

Article submissions should be typed or clearly printed. Art or photographs are desirable to illustrate articles and essays. We encourage submissions on Macintosh disks or via email. Send a SASE if you would like submissions returned. If you want confirmation of receipt of a submission, please request it.

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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# Death by a Thousand Beestings

BY TIM REAM

Word is getting around that southern Oregon and northern California will be this Summer's hotspot for on-the-ground forest defense. After last month's Society of American Foresters (SAF) meeting in Ashland, Oregon, even the Bush administration is in on the news.

The foresters meeting at Southern Oregon University did not come off quite as they had planned. Attendees were greeted by a myriad of wheat-pasted posters telling them to go home and reminding them that "Logged Land Burns Hot." A tressit was assembled on campus sporting a large "Save the Wild Siskiyou" banner, which was shown repeatedly on local television. The Oxygen Collective parked its 40-foot, biodiesel bus on campus and set up a "truth station" for outreach to foresters and students.

Several weeks earlier, the Oxygen Collective had burst in on the offices of a trembling Dr. John Sessions. Sessions is the Oregon State University "scientist" who provided the justification for increasing the Biscuit Fire logging plan from a 90-million-board-foot timber sale to a record-setting 518-million-board-foot sale (see *EF!* January-February 2004). To quell the intrusion into his office, Sessions challenged the environmental community to a public debate about planned salvage logging in the Biscuit burn.

That well-attended debate, held during the SAF meeting, became front-page news for several days. Sessions' opponent, Dominick DellaSala of the World Wildlife Fund, carried the day by unraveling many myths of fire ecology and salvage logging.

The week's crowning event, however, was an appearance by the Bush administration's Undersecretary for Natural Resources and the Environment, Mark Rey. Rey is a widely despised, decades-long timber industry

lobbyist who is now in charge of the US Forest Service (USFS). Rey recently presided over the elimination of protections for aquatic habitat and for 58 million acres of roadless forests, as well as the elimination of surveys for rare species in logging project areas.

Despite the fact that Rey was a public official speaking at a public university about public lands issues, the public was barred from the talk. George Sexton, conservation director at the Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center, challenged the ban and was promptly arrested and



Protesters block US Undersecretary for Natural Resources and the Environment Mark Rey's escape

removed from Rey's talk. Soon after, 50 protesters stormed the hallway outside Rey's talk, chanting, "Mark Rey, go away."

But when Rey tried to go away, quickly slipping out a back door after his speech, it appeared that the people had changed their minds. Protesters streamed around the frazzled Rey as USFS law enforcement officers shoved him through the crowd and into a waiting SUV. Protesters surrounded the vehicle, which then drove through those blocking Rey's escape while the Feds used batons to clear the path. Although Rey's vehicle broke free, the federal agents who quickly piled into a second vehicle were forced to abort their escape attempt.

Rey cancelled his private breakfast with southern Oregon timber operators. Fearing more protest, the Ashland Ranger Station was shut down for several hours. The bathrooms around the

SAF meeting were scrawled with "Rey Go Home" graffiti. Activists stopped an SAF tour through the Biscuit Burn with a blockade of logging slash piled across the road. The locks to all of the student union doors were glued shut, costing the university \$2,500—that's more than the SAF paid the university to rent the space.

Corporate media coverage throughout the week revealed a textbook case of successful protest. Rey and the SAF were reduced to talking about the confrontation while protestors stayed on message, hammering away at salvage logging, the Bush administration and the erosion of democratic rights.

This is just the beginning of a wild season to save the Klamath-Siskiyou bioregion. In addition to the Biscuit logging plan, there are numerous green tree sales set to be cut this Summer: the Kelsey-Whiskey Timber Sale, located in the largest forested Bureau of Land Management roadless area in the country; private company helicopter pad logging in the public Condrey Mountain Roadless Area; the Silver "replacement volume" sale

left over from the salvage rider days of 1996; and geothermal drilling on sacred lands at Medicine Lake.

For all of these greed-based plans, there is a lot of love in the works to protect the Klamath-Siskiyou bioregion. Greenpeace is beginning a US forest defense campaign with the opening of a southern Oregon "Ancient Forest Rescue Station" in June. Resulting actions will undoubtedly bring national attention to the region and to the issue of public lands logging. The ongoing Biscuit campaign will also be stepping up the heat.

To keep up on news and events from the area, visit [www.rogueimc.org](http://www.rogueimc.org); [www.o2collective.org](http://www.o2collective.org). Great information on the bioregion can be found at [www.kswild.org](http://www.kswild.org); [www.siskiyou.org](http://www.siskiyou.org).

*Tim Ream, a member of the Oxygen Collective, will be defending the Siskiyou this Summer.*

# Dear Shit Fer Brains . . .

Dear SFB,

Some of you may recall Rodney Wade and I were visited approximately a year and a half ago by an agent of the FBI—because of letters that were written to supporters of Huntingdon Life Sciences. Well, today Rodney told me that the facilities investigator paid him a visit. The topic of discussion was the FBI coming here talking to inmates and staff about him. The Feds seem to be really reaching for something to pin on him, specifically him being a “terrorist.”

What unnerved me was that none of these inmates who were questioned approached Rodney and told him what was up. The latest development is this inmate came up to him at work with a story that was sketchy at best. What he was trying to get Rodney to say is, well, I don’t know. I do know that this harassment continues ad nauseam for no real reason. His mail—both incoming and outgoing—is being monitored. Things being sent to him by Earth First! were removed from a letter and he never received them.

I’m not sure what can be done to discourage the Feds from their continued barrage of clandestine investigation. I do know that Rodney could use some encouraging support from the outside world. Write to Rodney at: Rodney Wade #38058, PO Box 14, Boise, ID 83207, ISCI 13-A.

—PRISONER OF THE SYSTEM

Dear SFB

This “Amiqui ocelot” is a second year subscriber and a seven-year “clawing at the bars of my steel cage” angry primate. I really appreciate the job *EF!J* does.

Your revista is a valuable educational tool to the Mexica of Michigan concerning the environmental

struggle and that of our animal relations. I also especially enjoyed the '04 March/April issue, specifically “Reframing the Forest Movement” by K. Coulter.

It is very important to teach us young ones about the long history of environmental destruction which has brought us to this critical point in history. A movement has to be just like our leafy relations—it has to have roots or it won’t flourish.

My reason for writing is to comment on the point that was made early on, “The rum killed more native people than all the wars and diseases.”



artwork by Jessica Lamsdon

Native peoples, especially my tribe, were largely killed off by the war machines of colonialism. Adolph Hitler, in fact, modeled his policy of extermination after the USA’s model. In the Catholic Missions of the Southwest, indigenous Tribes were literally worked to death.

We are talking about over 10 million natives in the continental USA alone that died from war and disease. The “Indian Wars” were wars of extermination overseen by George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, etc.

While alcohol didn’t help Native People, and continues to claim thousands of lives every year to this day, it was the least of our worries.

The quotation KC cited by Chief Sitting Bull (CSB) was accurate. But it might be helpful to share with us the circumstances around it. CSB said it to the president of the USA—to his face!! This courage should inspire us all

in the face of our enemies! The Lakota were robbed of everything except their pride and SpiritWays by imperialist “Manifest Destiny.” CSB understood that greed was the enemy of Indigenous peoples/Mother Earth. That destructive greed had one face to CSB: White people. The *EF!J* is very encouraging to those of us who have been fighting for Mother Earth for the last 512 years. We welcome you with open arms to the war from the depths of time.

However, I don’t agree with using quotations out of context ... if they could be divisive. Now more than ever, it’s time to come together. I’m 1/2 Sicilian but I know CSB wasn’t wrong ... because I know the circumstances involved. The rich ruling class (RRC) was celebrating the completion of the railroad crossing the “USA.” They wanted an “Indian Chief” to give a speech at the event where the “President” would be in attendance.

CSB understood the mockery of the speech and the stolen land used to build the railroad, yet agreed anyway. CSB got up and “said it all” to the RRC and the “President!” This is the courage I read about in the *EF!J*. If anyone would like to learn about what really killed most of the Indigenous people, read “A Little Matter of Genocide” by College Professor/Big Time Activist Ward Churchill, \$19.95 from City Lights Books, San Francisco.

P.S. I am up for parole in October 2004 and can’t wait to get active! I do a little in here but am real limited. They listed me as a “gang leader” because of my activism in here.

—AMIQUI OCELOTL, MEXICA  
TRIBE, MICHIGAN

Hey folks,

I’d like to say you don’t have to be a vegan or an animal rights activist to be a hunt saboteur. Anyone new to the idea reading the Brigid issue of the *Journal* might think so. Plenty of us *EF!ers* are subsistence hunters, scavengers of roadkill and small scale livestock farmers (e.g. chickens), but we recognize the repugnance of killing for sport, in particular where ecologically significant populations of animals are threatened. Many of us non-vegans (or reformed vegetarians) feel the call to protect wild wolves, grizzlies, buffalo, bighorn sheep and other endangered species. But when someone holds a barbeque and serves farmed buffalo, Alaskan salmon and some chicken from their backyard coop, save a plate for me!

For some of us, it isn’t all about protecting touchy-feely-cute-cudly little critters that we feel a romanticized, egotistical attachment to. The writer might have added a

word or two on choosing your target wisely. Just going out and willy nilly sabotaging any hunt, without any idea of what you're really trying to protect, isn't going to do shit for anybody. I like to go to the mountains and fish for the introduced Eastern Brooktrout. (Mind you, I don't feel any obligation to buy a license, which would only increase the problem by encouraging the Squish and Maim to plant my favorite lakes with more of these non-natives.) The fields around where I live are heavily populated with deer and introduced turkeys.

And maybe I'm starting to resemble a hill-billy hippy, but if any of you city slicken anarchists comes up here and tries to stop my bullfrog hunt—an introduced species that is decimating the native frog population in my neck of the woods—I will throw your arse in the pond for the tadpoles to eat.

Love,

—A BULL FROG EATING NEW AGE  
RED-NECK HUNT SABBER

EF!J,

Holy Bologna! (soy bologna of course) I've been a broke hippie for so long I could almost take being called "bourgeois" as a compliment. (Re: Nassim Mobasher SFB, EF!J Beltane '04) Not quite though. I will concede that Mobasher does have one good point in saying, "The *Journal* deserves its share of the blame for the sorry state of education among its readers and its staff." It seems to me a few good articles on non-violent tactics, philosophy, and history within the movement or beyond, etc. would be timely.

—PEGGY THE PEACENIK

Dear Bison-Guts for Brains,  
That "Bison Action Group" article you ran in the "Blast

from the Past" segment of the Beltane 2004 issue was annoying the first time it ran. It was very disappointing to encounter that piece of self-gratifying ego-masturbation a second time. Beyond that, the EF!J looks great...

For the Earth,

—OSPREY

Dear Earth First! Editors,

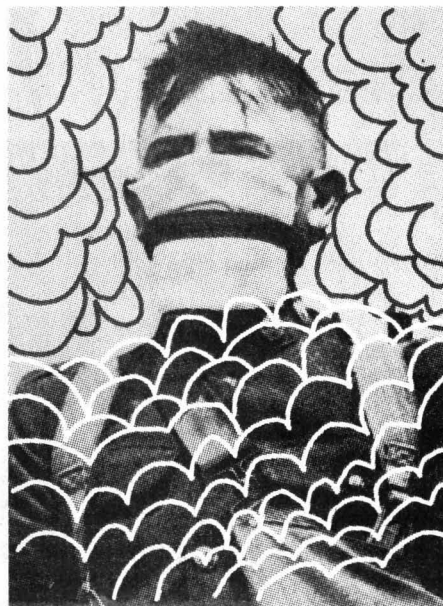
Thank you for your vital role in minimizing the impact of humanity on our planet. I would like to bring up something you surely have not considered, a macro-systemic crisis that affects each and every American on a micro level. You may have heard of the principle "as above, so below," which means our universe is reflective in nature; that "cause and effect" ripples change through seemingly unrelated events.

You are likely aware that the Gulf of Mexico has a vast 12,000 square miles of "dead water," the result of America's modern farming methods which pollute the Mississippi with pesticides, petrochemicals and nitrogen fertilizers. However, these same dead spots are now appearing in the human body. "As above, so below."

Most Americans care little about environmental protection in light of the many worries in today's world. I would suggest to you that the issues you fight for can hit closer to home if we realized how connected we are to the planet. Most Americans know *this*—they are severely constipated ... and it's getting worse on a broad scale.

I have collected news articles and statistics which demonstrate that Americans are getting diseases other "less civilized" nations don't get. For example, we supplement calcium in our diet more than

any other nation, yet we have the highest osteoporosis. Half of Americans over age 45 have some form of diverticulitis, infected pockets in the colon. This internal congestion creates mass markets for medical/pharmaceutical companies because internal poisons lead to symptoms of all kinds



artwork by Jessica Lamsdon

from skin conditions to depression to cancer.

Three years ago, I began to practice as a colon hygienist, which means clients come to me to receive a flushing of water into their colons for relief of impacted fecal matter. What amazed me was the volume of "stuff" which comes out—often five to 10 feet. Then I became aware of news articles about the environment and modern farming methods, and the causal connections became obvious.

What is occurring on a national level is that we are ingesting chemicals in our food and water. These chemicals must be filtered by the liver to be removed or stored. The same way that a river (or an ocean) becomes toxically

overloaded, so the body cannot cope with the assault. The liver adds bile to digesting food, but a toxic liver cannot break down fats properly, so those undigested fats combine with minerals (calcium, for one) in the food and form rock hard stools. These stools cannot pass from

the body and the internal poisoning increases.

On the micro level, our digestive tracts are home to trillions of micro-bacteria beneficial to our health. Studies have shown that most Americans possess a fraction of this internal life critical to health and well-being. Digestion is actually a form of composting, and we are no longer composting our food because the beneficial bacteria have been de-

pleted. The same "dead spots" in the Gulf of Mexico exist now within the internal life-systems of our American population. Furthermore, depression is a result—the feeling that you just don't "give a damn." For a nation, this spells disaster as people in this state can be easily controlled and manipulated.

Thank you,

—SCOTT W. WEBB

Dear Folks,

The last two issues of the *Journal* have been the best in many years. A few months ago I was wondering if I should resubscribe or not. Now the *Journal* has resumed its role as a vital, radical link to the world. Keep it up!

—BRIAN TOKAR

... Letters to the Editors  
(Keep your letters to 300 words or less, please.)



# Bringing Home the Halli-Bacon

## Raucous Protest Greet Halliburton Shareholders

BY STOP THE WAR PROFITEERS COLLECTIVE

On May 19, activists from across the country converged in downtown Houston, Texas, to bring justice to the war profiteers at Halliburton's annual shareholders meeting.

Houston-based Halliburton differs from many corporations, in that much of its profits are generated directly from war. Halliburton and its subsidiary KBR, formerly known as Kellogg, Brown and Root, have played an integral part in the destruction, occupation and reconstruction of Vietnam, Panama, Bosnia, Kosovo and Iraq. Their current drive to privatize the occupation and reconstruction of Iraq has led to the death of thousands of innocent Iraqis, hundreds of US and coalition soldiers and many of their own employees.

The oil and gas service company has benefited from its relationship with Vice President Dick Cheney, who served as Halliburton's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) from 1995 to 2000 and still receives \$178,000 annually from the company. In return, the Bush-Cheney regime has given Halliburton nine billion dollars in no-bid contracts.

Halliburton management hoped to have a quiet, uneventful shareholder's meeting at the Four Seasons, a lavish, five-star hotel. The Stop the War Profiteers mobilization had other ideas. Kicking off a national outreach campaign using the satirical theme of "corporate pigs at the trough," organizers set out to expose Halliburton's war profiteering and send a message to the shareholders. "We're going to tell the shareholders and CEO of Halliburton to bring their employees home from Iraq and stop ripping off US taxpayers and Iraqis," said Scott Parkin of Houston Global Awareness, one of the groups that organized the protest.

Film screenings, a teach-in, activist workshops, a report by Corpwatch and Global Exchange called "Houston, We Have a Problem," political theater and media events all over town preceded the protest and gave a preview of what to expect at the shareholder's meeting. On the morning of May 19, 500 pig-snouted activists clogged downtown streets

on their way to the Four Seasons. Outside the hotel, a 30-foot-long inflatable pig dubbed "Hallibacon" and several costumed "corporate pigs" greeted shareholders as they entered the meeting. When the march arrived, 20 activists quickly staged an occupation of the driveway and held the



Corporate pigs at the public trough

Photo by Lee Taylor

space until Houston police gave an order to clear it. From there, the affinity group blocked traffic, generated a bigger crowd in the streets and sparred with horse-mounted police, who recklessly charged into protesters legally occupying the sidewalk. Later, the march moved two blocks down to Halliburton headquarters, where activists staged a die-in until police attempted to trample them with their horses and attacked several other demonstrators.

Inside the hotel, five protesters drenched in fake blood disrupted the meeting as they handcuffed themselves to railings. They were arrested and charged with trespassing after chanting, "Halliburton, Kellogg, Brown and Root, Go to Iraq and Loot, Loot, Loot!" and "Corporate Invasion is Not Liberation!"

During the events unfolding in the lobby and on the street, two CODEPINK activists barricaded themselves into their rented Four Seasons room and dropped a banner that read, "Cheney's in Bed With Halliburton and We Got Screwed!" Security eventually broke through and escorted the activists out of the hotel.

In order to boost its deteriorating public image, Halliburton initiated a press campaign that included paid television spots featuring their CEO speaking "frankly" to the public. It even assigned a public relations spokesperson to deal solely with protest and criticism. However, Halliburton's attempts to improve its public image failed as antiwar and global justice messages dominated the media around the shareholders meeting.

After the meeting ended, activists returned home to continue organizing local grassroots actions and campaigns against Halliburton's atrocities and corruption.

For more information, visit [www.codepinkalert.org](http://www.codepinkalert.org); [www.globalexchange.org/halliburton](http://www.globalexchange.org/halliburton); [www.houstonglobalawareness.org](http://www.houstonglobalawareness.org).

# Sonoran Desert Storm

## Homeland Security Ramps Up the War at Home



photo by Ofelia Rivas

*Mexican soldiers enter the community of Cu:Wi I-gersk, Tohono O'odham Nation*

BY LENNY

In June, unmanned spyplanes began to fly over the Tohono O'odham reservation in southern Arizona. Two thousand US Border Patrol agents have been deployed in the Tucson sector of the US-Mexico border, driving off-road vehicles through wilderness corridors, wildlife refuges and other public lands. A five-foot-high metal fence is going up in Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. Federal agents are breaking into O'odham houses and detaining people without cause.

For the people and wildlife of the Sonoran Desert, the war has always been at home.

### Arizona Border Control

On March 16, Asa Hutchinson—Undersecretary for Border and Transportation Security of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS)—announced the Arizona Border Control Initiative, a \$10 million plan to seal the Arizona-Mexico border against drug traffickers and immigrants. The initiative provides funding for extra Border Patrol agents and high-tech military weaponry and surveillance. In addition, it allows the Border Patrol to drive all-terrain vehicles on federally protected land.

Militarized crackdowns in urban areas of California and Texas have pushed 40 percent of undocumented Mexican immigrants into the Arizona desert, often into the most remote wilderness. Immigrants continue to die in the Summer heat—more than 2,000 people have died since 1998—and the US government has responded with efforts to make this crossing even more deadly, all the while expanding their military control over border communities and natural areas.

### Militarizing Public Land

At Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, which spans 31 miles of the Mexican border, park officials have allocated part of their limited budget to hiring law enforcement officers and building a five-foot high, vehicle-resistant fence to aid DHS's efforts. The fence is constructed out of railroad ties and is expected to span the entire length of the monument's southern border.

The barrier's effects on wildlife will be severe. The Sonoran bioregion is home to a number of unique species that have historically ranged across the political border. A wall would fracture the populations of these animals, placing them at greater risk of extinction on both sides of the border. For example, although the range of the jaguar is now limited to Mexico, it once extended into Arizona. In recent years, jaguars have been spotted in the US, but a wall would prevent their return. All in all, the Arizona border region is home to 107 threatened, endangered or other specially managed species.

Nonetheless, Organ Pipe Cactus officials have chosen to embrace the militarization of public lands rather than defend the bioregion's wildlife. Entire areas of the monument are currently occupied by DHS agents and are closed to the public. Once militarized, these lands are removed from public control and the realm of "the commons" where they belong. Does anyone believe that they will ever be returned for the people's use once taken?

The military seizure of our public lands continues. In the bordering Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge, refuge officials are struggling to prevent the destruction of the desert by off-roading federal agents. Off-roading is devastating to the precarious existence of desert plants and to the habitat of highly endangered animals such as the Sonoran pronghorn. But with the government demanding that refuge managers focus on "fighting crime" rather than protecting wildlife, refuge managers have become subservient to the Border Patrol and DHS.

Roger DiRosa, manager of Cabeza Prieta, is trying to persuade the Border Patrol to use horses instead of motorized vehicles and to rely more on high-tech monitoring than on physical manhunts. But as the wall around Organ Pipe Cactus pushes more immigrants toward Cabeza Prieta, DHS is not likely to accept even this more limited militarization.

### The Indian Wars Continue

"They're breaking into houses, doing random drug stops, cutting fences and making their own roads. They chase people down. They are not on the border—they are on the

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reservation," said Tohono O'odham Ernest Moristo on Indigenous People's Day in Phoenix, Arizona, in March.

Moristo recounted that up to 100 Border Patrol agents camped on the sacred mountain Baboquivari—home to the O'odham Creator, I'itoi—in May 2003, while Moristo was in New York, pressing the United Nations for the mountain's protection. The agents, driving jeeps and vans, claimed to be acting under the direction of DHS. "They set up camp on sacred ground right below I'itoi's home," Moristo said.

More recently, DHS announced that military surveillance of the border region—including the Tohono O'odham reservation—will increase under the Arizona Border Control Initiative. Extra helicopters and airplanes are being deployed above the reservation, as are two unmanned aerial spyplanes. Electronic ground sensors and remote video cameras are being placed throughout the region. DHS appears unconcerned about the effects of low-level helicopter flights on wildlife and local residents. DHS also ignored the risks posed by the spyplanes, which have a crash rate 100 times greater than piloted aircraft. Tohono O'odham tribal members already live in danger from frequent aircraft crashes due to military maneuvers and patrols on their land. On May 20, an F-16 fighter jet crashed on the reservation during training exercises.

Because the Tohono O'odham Nation stretches across the US-Mexico border, US Border Patrol agents regularly stop residents at gunpoint and demand that they produce papers proving their citizenship with one of the occupying powers. Sacred bundles are regularly inspected when traditional O'odham travel between villages for their ceremonies. Border Patrol vehicles race recklessly down reservation streets, and in April 2002, a young O'odham man was struck and killed.

As if this weren't enough, the government is moving forward with plans to bisect O'odham territory with a 225-mile-long wall that will run nearly the entire length of the Arizona-Mexico border. The fence will be lit 24 hours a day, disrupting the natural cycles of bats and other nocturnal creatures. O'odham families already separated by the border will be entirely cut off, and sacred ceremonies will be made nearly impossible.

Plans to build the wall were stalled due to a flawed environmental impact statement, but a new statement on the same plan is expected in September. DHS is telling the O'odham that the wall is meant to protect them from Al Qaeda.

But many of the region's residents believe that "homeland security" is only a pretext to continue the repression of the Southwest's indigenous people. Moristo claims that the government is actually using the Border Patrol to look for minerals on O'odham land, since Baboquivari lies 22 miles north of the border and is not on a common migration route. Tohono O'odham people in Arizona and Mexico allege that DHS is using the same tactics that the Mexican government employs to monitor and control

indigenous people struggling for sovereignty in places like Chiapas.

In fact, the border activities of DHS fall neatly into the pattern of "low intensity conflict," a model utilized by US-supported regimes throughout Latin America to remove the support bases of groups seeking social change. In this type of military offensive, civilian populations are deliberately targeted with tactics that destroy their quality of life and

create a climate of fear and intimidation. Low-level helicopter flights, random searches and detentions, home invasions and abuse by law enforcement are all crucial parts of low intensity conflict strategy. More sinisterly, the strategy often relies on armed paramilitary groups that operate with impunity—chillingly similar to the vigilantes in southern Arizona that terrorize immigrants and border communities, and who the authorities refuse to prosecute.

Law enforcement activities on the border are coordinated by Joint Task Force-6, a military operation composed of Army and Marine forces who aid local police in the "war on drugs." The task force is the largest domestic use of military force since the Civil War. It engages in construction of border roads and walls, as well as the training of local law

enforcement in surveillance, intelligence and military tactics—another frightening parallel to the Latin American paramilitary model.

Rather than just hunting for immigrants or smugglers, DHS is making a concerted effort to intimidate the O'odham and other border residents out of challenging government policies. Perhaps the government hopes to drive the O'odham from the border region altogether, destroying their indigenous identity once and for all.

## Resisting the War at Home

Resistance to US border policy is growing. Humane Borders, a nonprofit organization based in Tucson, Arizona, maintains water stations in the desert and organizes "Samaritan patrols" to provide food and water to desperate migrants. On May 28, the No More Deaths Coalition kicked off a Freedom Summer to stop the deaths in the desert by bringing in volunteers from across the country, raising awareness, and taking direct action against checkpoints and other human rights abuses. The O'odham Voice Against the Wall, a coalition of traditional O'odham communities in the US and Mexico, is working to mobilize youth against the border wall. They are also looking for legal observers to travel to the reservation and document abuse by Border Patrol agents.

More action is desperately needed on all fronts. Whether against the walls or the vehicles, the checkpoints or the land invasions, the people and wildlife of southern Arizona need your help today.

For more information, contact The O'odham Voice Against the Wall, POB 1835, Sells, AZ 85634; uyarivas@hotmail.com. To learn more about Freedom Summer, visit [www.nomoredeaths.org](http://www.nomoredeaths.org).



photo by Scott Silver

Only 200 Sonoran pronghorn remain in existence

# Reclaimed Freedom

## Activist Community Beats FBI Repression

BY KEVIN VAN METER

On May 20, in a packed courtroom filled with family and supporters, Long Island activist Conor J. Cash was acquitted of charges that have been a constant shadow over him, his family and the activist community for more than three years. Cash, who has always maintained his innocence, was one of the first individuals charged as a terrorist after September 11, 2001. In total, Cash faced charges that could have imprisoned him for more than 60 years.

While the government ultimately failed to portray Cash as the leader of the "Suffolk Cell" of the Earth Liberation Front (ELF), their attempts to jail him and disrupt the local activist community have broad implications. In light of the recent arrests of seven Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty (SHAC) activists (see page 12) and the violence protesters may face at the Republican and Democratic National Conventions this Summer, it is important to gain an understanding of the tactics used by the government to throttle local activism.

Early in the morning of February 15, 2001, members of the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, and the Suffolk County Police entered the Cash home in South Beach, New York, to arrest Cash, then 19 years old. Walking through the unlocked door, they found no one at home. Though they did not possess a search warrant, they proceeded to empty drawers and overturn the beds of Cash's two young sisters.

Cash was arrested at gunpoint later that day at his girlfriend's Brooklyn apartment. He was charged with conspiracy to commit arson, aiding and abetting a terrorist organization and interfering with interstate commerce. Additionally, on September 19, 2001, Cash was charged with providing material aid to a terrorist organization and extortion. These final two charges were dropped as his trial began.

### Interfering With Interstate Commerce

The charge of interfering with interstate commerce was used to tie the first two charges together, and it brings to light an important issue. On May 18, as *US v. Conor Cash* was coming to a close, John E. Lewis, deputy assistant director of the FBI's Counterterrorism Division, testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee about the "domestic terrorist threat." Lewis mentioned both the SHAC campaign and Cash's trial, highlighting the need to expand the interstate commerce law to address the actions of both aboveground and underground activists.

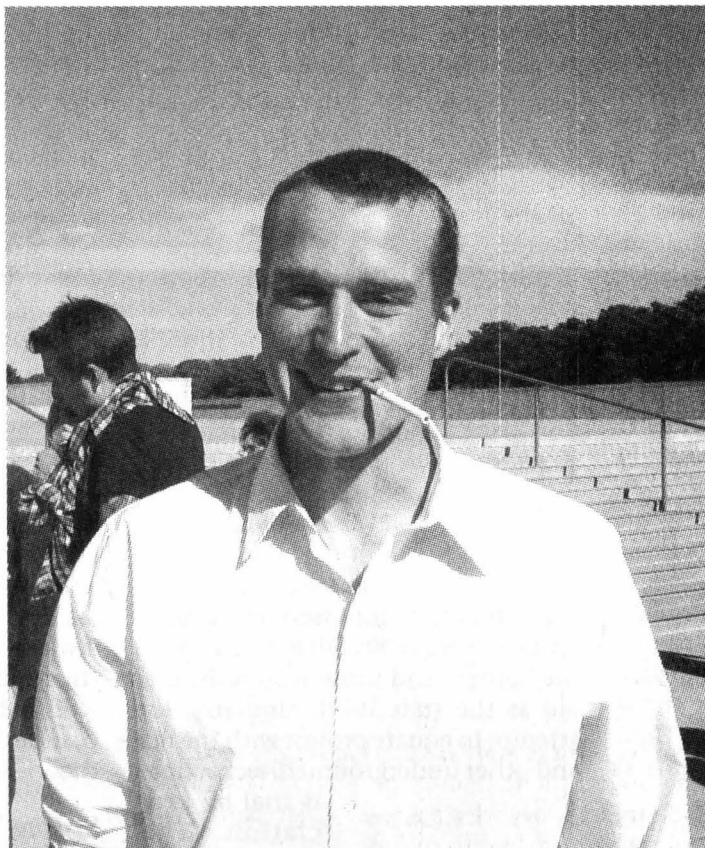
The interstate stalking charges currently facing three of the SHAC defendants focus on interference with the "use of a facility in interstate or foreign commerce." Similarly, the testimony given by prosecution witnesses in Cash's trial attempted to highlight how he allegedly interfered with interstate commerce. These recent cases call attention to a new avenue the government is pursuing to disrupt activist campaigning, and activist communities will need to address these tactics in the SHAC case and in any new statutes that are to come.

### Increasing Scrutiny

Prior to Cash's arrest, he was being surveilled by the Suffolk County Police and FBI in an investigation that began in response to a May 2000 Reclaim the Streets-style protest that was sponsored by the now-defunct Modern Times Collective (MTC). Cash, a member of the collective, participated in the action by sitting atop a 20-foot tripod. At this point, he came to the attention of the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force and Suffolk County's Career Criminal Squad. Their scrutiny intensified following his arrest at the Republican National Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in August 2000.

During this period, law enforcement targeted MTC and the local chapter of the Animal Defense League (ADL),

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Conor Cash, free at last

photo by C.J. Jensen

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which were the only direct action-based, radical organizations on Long Island at the time. Members of ADL were regularly harassed, and the FBI approached a member of MTC to become a paid informant on radical activities on the island. When ELF actions began taking place on Long Island in late November 2000, it was these two organizations that the FBI tried to link directly to the ELF.

### **FBI Tries to Connect the Dots**

"If you build it, we will burn it" was the slogan spray-painted at housing developments in northeastern Suffolk County as homes under construction were vandalized and set ablaze during November-December 2000 (See *EF!* January-February 2001). All of the destruction was claimed by the ELF as actions against suburban sprawl.

Cash was charged with aiding the ELF with the final fire, which occurred on December 29, 2000, at the Island Estates in Mount Sinai. He was also charged with planning an action to liberate ducks from the Titmus Duck Farm in Moriches. Although Cash was never involved in any ELF actions, the FBI targeted him for his aboveground activist activity. Cash is well known for his solidarity work with the day laborer community, participating in numerous actions against local racist groups and attending demonstrations at the homes of deadbeat contractors. He is an outspoken advocate against

of his civil disobedience activism. Furthermore, Metzinger admitted to testifying before a grand jury that Cash was an anarchist who wanted to start an Earth First! chapter on Long Island. Metzinger stated that he equated these factors with being a member of the Earth and Animal Liberation Fronts.

Metzinger collected information regarding Cash from "cooperating witnesses," including Jared McIntyre, Matthew Rammelkamp and George Mashkow III. McIntyre and Rammelkamp, both minors at the time, were turned in by Mashkow and soon entered into cooperation agreements with the government to testify against Cash, who the government targeted as the "adult leader" of the "Suffolk Cell" of the ELF.

The prosecution's case focused around several strategies: criminalizing non-criminal protest, criminalizing cultural practices and symbols, blurring the lines between ELF direct actions and civil disobedience, and identifying both of these types of actions with terrorism and violence.

The theories employed by the prosecution were not new: Persecution of the "other" and those who resist is as old as the state itself. Similarly, the attempt to equate protest with the ELF and other underground direct actions

is trial by association. This tactic is meant to erode the public's support for civil disobedience and their understanding of underground actions. The prosecution attempted to show that the MTC and ADL

are the same as the ELF because they are all groups without leaders. Furthermore, they attempted to show a similarity between ELF arsons—which they claimed "risk life"—and protesting, which the prosecution claimed also "risks life." The government is now identifying all resistance—beyond

the ineffective avenues that it sanctions—as terrorism.

The prosecution's case included the testimony of McIntyre and Ram-

*During cross examination at Cash's trial, FBJ agent Joseph Metzinger admitted that Cash was targeted because of his civil disobedience activism.*

melkamp and the observations of Detective John Vohns, who was assigned to surveil Cash. A video of the Reclaim the Streets protest was also allowed into evidence, even though it showed no illegal activity. The government attempted to show a relationship between an anarchist "circle-A" tattoo on Cash's arm, a circle-A on the banner Cash unfurled from atop the tripod, and a spray-painted circle-A at one of the ELF actions. A video tape that captured Cash entering a Hess gas station and showed a red object that appeared to be a five-gallon gas can in the bed of his truck was the *only* presentation of material evidence. Finally, the testimony of Metzinger, who was willing to obtain a conviction at any cost, addressed both the government's theories and the fabricated evidence.

### **Shifty Evidence and Counter-Narratives**

Rather than confronting the state on its own terms, the defense created a counter-narrative to discuss radical politics, civil disobedience and social change. Professor and activist Steven Duncombe testified in regards to the circle-A, its cultural significance, and the history of punk rock and Reclaim the Streets. The prosecution attempted to prove that anyone who would wear a circle-A as an anarchist symbol was obviously a terrorist. Duncombe completely destroyed this viewpoint.

Both McIntyre and Rammelkamp testified in a scripted manner, stating that they had conversations about "arson" with Cash. McIntyre testified that Cash filled up the gas can that was used in the December 29 ELF action. During

*Rather than confronting the state on its own terms, the defense created a counter-narrative to discuss radical politics, civil disobedience and social change.*

neoliberalism and has participated in civil disobedience. It was these activities, and his work in forming the island's network of Food Not Bombs chapters, that were of concern to the FBI.

During cross examination at Cash's trial, FBI agent Joseph Metzinger admitted that Cash was targeted because

cross-examination, however, Rammelkamp said that he had been “coerced” by the government into signing the cooperation agreement and that he did not recall any conversations with Cash about arson. McIntyre was questioned about an Instant Messenger Internet conversation that he had with an ADL activist in which he stated, “Conor is SOOO innocent, he is as guilty as my mother when she drove me to a thrift store to buy shoes that I used.” McIntyre has been remanded into custody pending sentencing for this conversation, which suggests perjury by contradicting his testimony against Cash.

The government’s case focused on another element: the Hess gas station videotape. Stills of Cash’s truck, of Cash entering the gas station store and a shot of one or two figures pumping gas were all shown during the trial, and the video was subsequently entered into evidence. Before the jury could view the tape, it came to light that it differed from the tape given to defense attorney Frederick Brewington. Both tapes appeared to be doctored, and the prosecution’s version showed figures that did not appear in the defense version. The defense video was also extremely grainy and dark, making it difficult to discern scenes and details. In one of the only moves favorable to Cash during the trial, Judge Platt excluded the prosecution’s version from evidence, and neither tape was shown to the jury.

### Community Conquers

After deliberating for a little more than a day, the jury came to a verdict. As 100 supporters filed into the courtroom, Cash looked out the window of the monstrous federal court building that had become his tomb for the past two weeks and saw a hawk perched on a lamppost. Cash, a lover of birds, later said that this gave him tremendous hope and the feeling that he “couldn’t help but cry for joy.” This joy exploded in the



Cash and his supporters celebrate outside the courtroom following his acquittal on May 20

form of tears as the verdict of “not guilty” was read three times, once for each count.

Since Cash was arrested more than three years ago, solidarity and a sense of family have grown in our community. Numerous benefit shows raised funds for Cash’s defense. Commu-

*This joy exploded in the form of tears as the verdict of “not guilty” was read three times, once for each count.*

nity members came together to cook vegan meals for the Cash family. Massive court support included not just activists, but the entire DIY punk and hardcore scenes, older progressives and artists, members of the religious community and local university professors. All of these factors contributed to the “not guilty” verdict and the survival of the community during this time. Here, the issues of suburban sprawl and neoliberalism were secondary to relationships and community bonds.

This created the base for the counter-narrative woven by the defense. It is these substantive relationships, counter-narratives and community recompositions that can be utilized as a tactic to defend activists facing similar situations.

Upon exiting the court room, Cash stated, “Through this, I got to see what we really have, and how very successful we’ve been in creating the community we talk about, and that the alternative we strive for is alive and well between us. I got to see us all realize our best and most loving selves, in fear and in celebration, and I want you to know—my gratitude is eternal.

... This is not only the family that I want to belong to—it’s a glimpse of the future that we’re creating, and it’s fucking beautiful.”

*Conor Cash is employed by the Long Island Freespace, Inc., a non-profit organization that will open Long Island’s first activist social center at Summer’s end. He is spending plenty of time exploring the last few wild places on the island.*

*Kevin Van Meter is a member of a collective of writers and speakers that came together to publicize the situation surrounding US v. Conor Cash. He is employed by the Freespace.*

# SHAC Attacked

BY ANDREA LINDSAY

The "War on Terror" was officially launched against the animal rights movement on May 26, when FBI agents stormed the homes of seven Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty (SHAC) activists across the country and took them into custody for "animal enterprise terrorism." For three of the seven, it did not stop there. The trio was also charged with four counts of interstate stalking and conspiracy to commit interstate stalking.

It started early in the morning. Armed FBI agents raided the home of New York activist Andrew Stepanian at 6 a.m. and whisked him away, stating that he was being arrested for animal enterprise terrorism. Nearly simultaneously, activists John McGee and Darius Fullmer were taken into custody on the same charge in New Jersey. FBI agents entered the California

home of Lauren Gazzola, Jacob Conroy and Kevin Kjonaas hours later with guns drawn, arresting them on charges unknown at the time. Shortly thereafter, agents arrested Joshua Harper at his Washington home. The seven were released on personal recognizance bonds later that day.

Their crime? In addition to speaking out in support of controversial protest tactics, they reported the actions of others on a website as part of a campaign to close down Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS), a notorious animal experimentation lab located in East Millstone, New Jersey. In addition to the seven arrested, SHAC USA was also indicted for animal enterprise terrorism.

The terrorism charges could mean a maximum of three years in prison and a \$250,000 fine for each person. The charges of interstate stalking and conspiracy to engage in interstate stalking could mean an additional five years in prison and \$250,000 per count.

## The Campaign

The campaign against HLS got its start in the UK and has been raging in the US since 2001. Several undercover investigations have revealed video

themselves from HLS because of activist pressure. Tactics have ranged from leafleting, office disruptions, and phone and fax blitzes to home demonstrations and economic sabotage.

While SHAC's approach has been controversial, it has hardly amounted to terrorism. Yet that is exactly what the 28-page indictment handed down by a New Jersey federal grand jury argues. The document alleges that SHAC USA and the seven defendants violated the Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act. It "proves" this by rattling off a long list of

Internet postings on the SHAC USA website that describe actions taken by other, anonymous activists. The indictment then describes an incident at a demonstration in Boston, which two of the defendants were arrested for. However, it conveniently neglects to mention that the two were acquitted of the charges in a Massachusetts court after the judge acknowledged that they

were exercising their First Amendment rights. In sum, the indictment fails to pin any serious criminal acts on any of the defendants.

The Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act was passed in 1992, in an effort to further penalize individuals arrested for economic sabotage against animal abuse industries. Specifically, it applies to individuals who "physically" disrupt the functioning of an animal-related business by "intentionally stealing, damaging, or causing the loss of any property (including animals or records) used by the animal enterprise, and thereby [causing] economic damage exceeding \$10,000 to that enterprise, or



Christopher J. Christie, US Attorney for New Jersey, announces the arrest of SHAC activists

photo by Marko Georgiev

footage of HLS workers cutting open conscious primates, punching six-week-old puppies in the face and falsifying scientific data. Overall, the company is responsible for the deaths of 500 animals every day.

SHAC is well known for its rapid successes in convincing companies to disassociate themselves with the lab, as well as for its controversial tactics. Activists have not only targeted the laboratory directly, they have also taken on its investors, customers, insurance brokers and anyone else who has ties to HLS. Companies like Merrill Lynch, Charles Schwab, Stephens, Inc. and the Royal Bank of Scotland have all dissociated

[conspiring] to do so." The indictment itself describes no actions by any defendant that could remotely qualify under this act.

According to FBI testimony before Congress in May, the FBI has been plotting how to take SHAC USA down since before the campaign spread to the US. During that same hearing, the FBI's assistant director on ecoterrorism testified that the Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act *did not apply to the activities of SHAC USA or its supporters*. Less than 10 days after that hearing, the indictments were handed down. The FBI's testimony only further underscores the fact that these charges are totally unfounded.

## The Campaign Continues

Within hours of the arrests, the message was already hitting the media: For those involved in the campaign to close HLS, it would be business as usual. There would be no silence or cowering. With or without the seven who were indicted, the torch would be carried.

Within days of the arrests, reports of home demonstrations against HLS targets were coming

in, including 11 activists arrested in Pennsylvania. The message is clear: A few indictments cannot stop a broad-based, committed movement.

In addition to the battle to close HLS, activists are now fighting for their freedom in the courts. SHAC sees this as an opportunity, not an obstacle. The court room, the media and the focus will all be harnessed to draw attention to the animals inside HLS and to the blatant attack on our eroding civil liberties.

## Who's Next?

The goal of the government, many believe, is not necessarily to win this

case. It is to intimidate, and these prosecutions are undoubtedly a pilot project. If the charges stick, other social movements had better watch out. In John Ashcroft's America, no activist is safe.

Ultimately, this case is not about vivisection or animals, it is about free speech. It is about the government taking out anyone who is effective in their use of the First Amendment. It is about criminalizing dissent.

It may start with the animal rights movement, but there will be a domino effect. Everyone who cares about free expression has a responsibility to stand up now and put a stop to this repression. If this domino falls, yours will soon follow.

## Take Action and Never Back Down!

One of the most exciting aspects of the campaign to close HLS has been its widespread, independent nature. Activists from around the world are working daily to close the lab down forever, and there is always room for more!

Spread the word about these indictments through speaking events, letters to the editor and creative uses of public forums.

New Jersey-area activists can get involved with demonstrations at the federal courthouse. And, of course, SHAC USA can always use financial support to deal with these outrageous indictments.

Government repression is never as effective under scrutiny. We all have a responsibility to shine a light on this case—and watch the feds run for cover.

For more information, visit [www.SHACAmerica.net](http://www.SHACAmerica.net); [www.SHAC7.org](http://www.SHAC7.org).

*Andrea Lindsay is a volunteer on the SHAC 7 legal support team. She can be reached at [andrea@nocompromise.org](mailto:andrea@nocompromise.org).*



# BARE BONES

## San Luis Folks Get Tough

In December, the Colorado Supreme Court guaranteed 700 families in San Luis, Colorado, access to the land they've used for generations. Lou Pai bought the 80,000-acre Taylor Ranch that locals call "La Sierra" in the mid-1990s. The court's decision ordered Pai to negotiate terms for livestock grazing and subsistence wood harvesting.

Pai, a former Enron executive, quickly filed motions to limit access to just seven families.

However, according to Ray Otero, founder of the Land Rights Council, "For 44 years, we have jumped all the hurdles they have thrown at us. I don't think the people of this community can take it any longer." Addressing a 100-person protest gathered at the locked ranch gate on March 28, Otero said, "The next time the people gather at this gate, we will be going back up on the mountain."

## Email Monitoring Arrests

An email message intercepted by the US National Security Agency (NSA) in February led to the March arrests of nine people in Britain and one person in Canada on charges of facilitating a terrorist act and being part of a terrorist group. This is the first time that routine US monitoring of email traffic has led to an arrest.

Internet traffic is chopped up into data packets, which are transmitted along with a header that records the individual Internet Protocol addresses of every computer a packet touches. The NSA analyzes millions of email messages and phone calls each day, looking for certain keywords, addressing information or traffic patterns.

US authorities are uniquely positioned to monitor international telecommunications traffic because many of the world's high-volume Internet connections are located in the US. Once electronic traffic touches a US computer, it is within the jurisdiction of the NSA.



# Released but not Free

## Nuclear Whistleblower Mordechai Vanunu

BY FELICE COHEN-JOPPA

After 18 long years, most of them spent in solitary confinement, nuclear whistleblower Mordechai Vanunu emerged from Israel's Ashkelon Prison on April 21. Immediately, he walked up to the gate and waved, hands raised high with signs of victory and peace, in acknowledgment of those of us gathered outside to welcome him to freedom. Then he turned to the throng of international reporters assembled just inside the prison compound. For the first time since he revealed the existence of Israel's "secret" nuclear arsenal in 1986, Vanunu was allowed to make a statement to the media.

The just-released prisoner of conscience told the press in English, "To all those who are calling me traitor, I am saying: I am proud, I am proud and happy to do what I did. ... I will continue to speak against all kinds of nuclear weapons, against all democracies' nuclear weapons. ... I said Israel

[doesn't] need nuclear [weapons,] especially now that all the Middle East is free from nuclear weapons. ... My message today to all the world is: Open Dimona reactor for inspection.

"I said to the Shabak Mossad, 'You didn't succeed—you didn't succeed to break me. You didn't succeed to make me crazy.'"

When asked about being a hero, Vanunu replied, "All those who stood behind me, and who supported me for 18 years, are the heroes. I am a symbol of the will of freedom. You cannot break the human spirit."

### And Who is Vanunu?

Vanunu's large Moroccan Jewish family emigrated to Israel in 1963. As a

young man in the mid-1970s, he served in the Israeli army and then, while attending university, took a technician's job at the Dimona Nuclear "Research Center." Over time, Vanunu grew increasingly troubled as he realized that Dimona held an underground factory and that his work was part of Israel's secret nuclear bomb program. In 1985, before leaving Dimona, he took nearly 60 photographs inside the factory in

agent lured him from Britain. When they arrived in Italy, he was drugged and chained by other Mossad agents and taken by boat to Israel.

Vanunu was convicted of espionage and treason in a secret trial, and through the years, all of his appeals and parole applications were rejected.

### Outside Ashkelon Prison

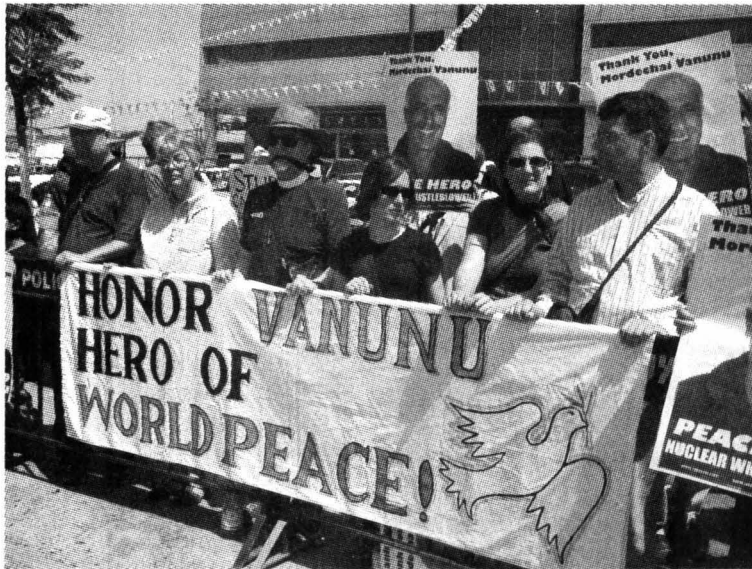
On April 21, nearly 100 peace, anti-nuclear and human rights activists from more than 10 countries joined hundreds of Israeli supporters to greet Vanunu upon his release from prison.

Outnumbering our group of supporters was a mob of ultra-right-wing Israelis holding black roses. They threw eggs and rocks at us and burned and ripped up our signs, which read, "Thank You, Mordechai Vanunu—Peace Hero, Nuclear Whistleblower." Their shouts of "Death to the Traitor" and "Kill Vanunu" were drowned out by a group of Israeli activists with a bullhorn chanting, "Vanunu—Yes,

Nukes—No" and "Vanunu is a Hero."

Vanunu's brothers drove him straight to St. George's Anglican Cathedral in Jerusalem so that he could pray and give thanks for his freedom. During the prison press conference, Vanunu had told reporters "[I] suffered here 18 years because I am Christian, because I was baptized into Christianity." Many Israelis consider his 1986 conversion as no less traitorous than his nuclear revelations.

An apartment in Jaffa had been quietly arranged for Vanunu, but the media publicized its location. With no privacy and public threats on his life, Vanunu was granted sanctuary at St. George's by the Anglican Bishop of Jerusalem. Bishop Riah invited the



On April 21, Mordechai Vanunu was released from prison after spending 18 years in solitary confinement for exposing Israel's nuclear weapons program.

order to document the truth for his fellow citizens and the entire world.

Vanunu made his way to Sydney, Australia, where he found companionship in an Anglican church social justice community and was baptized a Christian in July 1986. He shared with the community the story of his nuclear background. A British newspaper, *The Sunday Times*, learned of his story and sent a reporter to Sydney. Vanunu was flown to England, where British nuclear scientists confirmed his photos and concluded that Israel was a major nuclear power, with perhaps 200 weapons of advanced design.

Israel got early wind of Vanunu's intentions. A week before the publication of the story, a female Mossad

international supporters there to celebrate that evening.

Upon meeting Vanunu, we were struck by the strength, dignity and warmth of this long-imprisoned man. He greeted, hugged and kissed us all, and thanked us for our support throughout his years in prison.

### Restrictions and Threats

Vanunu has been released, but he is not yet free. Claiming that he remains a threat to the security of Israel, authorities delivered an oppressive package of restrictions to Vanunu during his last week behind bars. Based on 1945 British Mandate emergency regulations, the restrictions forbid him from leaving Israel for at least one year. In addition, Vanunu is not allowed to approach embassies, ports and borders; he is not allowed to travel within Israel beyond the city of his residence without advance permission; he is forbidden to speak about his work at Dimona and from communicating with the foreign press; and his phone and Internet use will be monitored.

The Association for Civil Rights in Israel is representing Vanunu in an appeal of these draconian restrictions to Israel's High Court, which it filed in early June. The restrictions have the effect of "banning" Vanunu from participating fully in civil society, putting him at risk of further imprisonment. At a prison vigil and press conference at Ashkelon Prison on the eve of Vanunu's release, many supporters tied black cloths across their mouths in protest of these restrictions, which have been denounced by Amnesty International as a human rights violation.

The injustice of such banishment is compounded by the fact that Vanunu is in danger in Israel. One extremist,

who threw himself on the hood of the car as Vanunu left the prison, told a reporter in front of the church the next day, "We will pursue Vanunu wherever he goes. ... Wherever he goes, we'll be there. He'll never be able to walk free until the last day of his life." Two days after his release, an Internet poll by *Maariv*, an Israeli newspaper, asked, "What should be done with Vanunu?" and "killed" was one of several responses to choose from.

If Vanunu's appeal to the High Court is unsuccessful, other diplomatic means to get him safely out of Israel are being pursued, including petitioning Norway to grant him a passport on humanitarian grounds.



Photo by Carmel Martin

*Over time, Vanunu grew increasingly troubled as he realized that Dimona held an underground factory and that his work was part of Israel's secret nuclear bomb program.*

### How to Help Vanunu

The international campaigns are raising money to help Vanunu rebuild his life. Needing to remain at St. George's because of safety concerns and with his immediate future uncertain, Vanunu very much needs your financial support. Checks made payable to the US Campaign to Free Mordechai Vanunu can be sent to POB 43384, Tucson, AZ 85733, USA. Please write "for Mordechai" on the memo line.

You can also donate online at [www.vanunu.com](http://www.vanunu.com).

Mordechai would love to hear from his friends and supporters. You can write to him at: Mordechai Vanunu c/o Cathedral Church of St. George, 20 Nablus Road, PO Box 19018, Jerusalem 91190, Israel. Email him at [vanunumvjc@hotmail.com](mailto:vanunumvjc@hotmail.com).

For more information, and to sign an Internet petition calling for an end to the restrictions against Vanunu, visit [www.vanunu.com](http://www.vanunu.com).

*Felice Cohen-Joppa is the coordinator of the US Campaign to Free Mordechai Vanunu and co-editor of the Nuclear Resister newsletter.*

## BARE BONES

### Everything's Peachy

On February 4, Bush campaigners sent an email to the press secretaries of all US Republican congress members, advising them how to respond when questioned about the environment during the US presidential election campaign.

The email claims that "We are fighting a battle of fact against fiction. Republicans can't stress enough that extremists are screaming 'Doomsday!' when the environment is actually seeing a new and better day." It alleges that global warming has not been proven, air quality is "getting better," the world's forests are "spreading, not deadening," oil reserves are "increasing, not decreasing," and "water is cleaner and reaching more people."

The email's "facts" are taken from contentious sources, including the Pacific Research Institute and a climate-skeptic scientist, both of whom are known to receive money from the fossil-fuel industry.

### Ocean Dead Zones Growing

According to a report by the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP), there are nearly 150 ocean dead zones around the world, and the number is increasing.

Dead zones are caused by an excess of nitrogen from agricultural fertilizers, industrial emissions and human sewage. The pollutants trigger the growth of microscopic algae, which consume oxygen and suffocate marine life. Dead zones are especially dangerous to fisheries because they afflict coastal waters where many fish spawn.

On March 29, UN scientists warned that dead zones are one of world's greatest environmental problems. During the past 10 years, these lifeless areas have doubled in number, with some extending more than 27,000 square miles.

Dead zones are spreading to new areas, including the Baltic Sea, the Black Sea and the Yellow Sea. They are also appearing off South America, Japan, Australia and Thailand.

# Nuclear Madness

BY ABIGAIL

The Bush administration has implemented a dramatic shift in US nuclear policy, and plans to produce a new generation of nukes are already underway. The US is gearing up for the biggest nuclear weapons buildup since the Cold War—only this time, with a more “usable” arsenal. According to the World Policy Institute, Bush’s national nuclear policy “represents the triumph of a small circle of conservative theorists who have long pressed for expanding the role of nuclear weapons as a guarantor of US military superiority and a tool for exerting political and strategic influence.”

The administration embraces a Nuclear War-Fighting Doctrine that includes the possibility of “fighting and winning a nuclear war.” Its *National Strategy to Combat Weapons of Mass Destruction*, released in December 2002, announced a policy of nuclear pre-emption, in which the US may strike first against countries that may be trying to obtain “weapons of mass destruction.” By threatening non-nuclear countries with nuclear attack, the administration is setting a dangerous precedent and may re-ignite a global arms race.

Among the administration’s brave new weapons programs are low-yield (less than five kiloton) nuclear weapons, aka “mini-nukes,” and the Robust Nuclear Earth Penetrator (RNEP), a high-yield “bunker-buster.” In May 2003, Congress overturned the Spratt-Furse restriction, a decade-old ban on the development of mini-nukes (three of which would contain the same explosive force as the bomb that destroyed Hiroshima). The National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), a semi-autonomous agency within the Department of Energy (DOE), now has the go-ahead to develop these new weapons, which

are considered “usable” by the Bush administration, though no decision to deploy them has yet been made. RNEP is currently in its developmental stage and has already received \$15 million in funding. NNSA’s Fiscal Year 2005 budget anticipates spending \$567 million on these two programs over the next five years, reflecting the administration’s aggressive nuclear posture.

South Carolina. The National Ignition Facility (NIF), newly constructed at Livermore, is the single most expensive stockpile stewardship program. NIF will attempt to use 192 lasers to ignite a radioactive fuel pellet inside a reactor vessel; this will further research on the thermonuclear stage (fusion reaction) of an exploding nuclear weapon. DOE has told Congress that NIF construction costs will be limited to \$1.1 billion; however, the General Accounting Office estimates costs at \$4.2 billion.

NNSA is also planning to build a new, Cold War-sized plutonium bomb production plant called the Modern Pit Facility (MPF). The MPF would produce up to 450 plutonium “pits” per year; these pits produce a fission reaction and act as the primary, or trigger, for modern thermonuclear weapons. The Bush administration’s infamous 2002 Nuclear Posture Review called specifically for the construction of the MPF in order to have “the flexibility to produce pits of a new design in a timely manner.” The NNSA is already establishing stockpile production at Los Alamos National Laboratory capable of producing 80 plutonium pits a year, and the agency has not explained why that level of production is insufficient for a nuclear arsenal that is supposedly undergoing reductions.

Possible sites for the MPF include the Savannah River Site, Los Alamos National Laboratory, the Nevada Test Site, the Pantex Plant and the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in New Mexico.

All this new weapons development may lead to the resumption of underground nuclear testing at the Nevada Test Site. Not surprisingly, the Bush administration thinks this is a fine idea, despite an eleven-year moratorium on nuclear testing and the restrictions of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), which the US has signed but not yet ratified.

All DOE and NNSA programs to produce new or modified nuclear weapons are also in clear violation



artwork by Maya Petropauli

New nukes are also being produced under the auspices of NNSA’s “Stockpile Stewardship Program” (SSP). Under the guise of maintaining the “safety and reliability” of the US arsenal, this program carries out nuclear weapons refurbishments that give existing weapons new military capabilities. Several DOE facilities around the country participate in refurbishments and “life-extension upgrades,” including Lawrence Livermore National Lab in California, Los Alamos National Lab in New Mexico, the Y12 National Security Complex in Tennessee, the Pantex Plant in Texas and the Savannah River Site in

of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), which requires the original nuclear weapons states to negotiate the elimination of all nuclear arsenals.

Instead of working to reduce the military's reliance on nuclear weapons, as is required by international law, the Bush administration is making the threat or use of nukes a central part of its national strategy. And, after Bush and Russian Prime

Minister Vladimir Putin signed the "Moscow Treaty" in the Summer of 2003, Bush announced that the US had "concluded negotiations" on disarmament. The Moscow Treaty requires the US and Russia to reduce their nuclear arsenals to 2,200 or fewer deployed strategic (long range) warheads by 2013 (down from the current 7,000 warheads in the active US stockpile). The treaty doesn't include tactical (short range) weapons, and it doesn't require the destruction of a single warhead or delivery system. DOE's ambitious new weapons programs demonstrate that the US has no intention of honoring its disarmament commitments under the Moscow Treaty, the NPT, the CTBT, or any other international efforts to control the arms race.

Rather, the Bush administration is blurring the line between nuclear and conventional weapons, lowering the "nuclear threshold" and increasing the number of scenarios in which nuclear weapons might be used.

The Western States Legal Foundation (WSLF) in Oakland, California, a nuclear disarmament advocacy group that monitors the nuclear weapons labs, reminds us that the Bush administration's nuclear doctrine is not entirely new. According to WSLF Executive Director Jackie Cabasso, "It is a continuation and an expansion of programs and policies carried out by every administration, Republican or Demo-

The Bush administration is blurring the line between nuclear and conventional weapons, lowering the "nuclear threshold" and increasing the number of scenarios in which nuclear weapons might be used.

crat, since President Harry Truman—a Democrat—authorized the US atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945." In fact, in 1997, Clinton signed a Presidential Decision Directive reaffirming the threatened first use of nuclear weapons as the "cornerstone" of US national security and contemplating an "expanded role" for nuclear weapons to counter nuclear, chemical or biological weapons. And it was the

Clinton administration that made a massive reinvestment in the nuclear weapons infrastructure by establishing the Stockpile Stewardship program. These policies and programs laid the groundwork for the Bush administration's unilateral and aggressive foreign policy, in which the use of nuclear weapons by the US is becoming "thinkable." According to Cabasso, "Whoever occupies the White House next, we must challenge

the notion that our national security can be protected with nuclear weapons. Instead, we must fundamentally redefine security in human and ecological terms."

The adoption of a nuclear war-fighting doctrine has resulted in billions of tax dollars being funneled out of education, health care and other necessary programs. The nuclear weapons budget for Fiscal Year 2004 exceeds spending levels from the height of the Cold War by fifty percent, even when adjusted for inflation. For the first time since World War II, the US government views nuclear weapons not as a deterrent or a weapon of last resort, but as a tool to be actively used to further its foreign agenda. The nuclear threat has never been greater.

For more information, visit [www.anuclear.org](http://www.anuclear.org); [www.wslfweb.org](http://www.wslfweb.org) or read *The New Nuclear Danger* by Helen Caldicott.

## BARE BONES

### Greenpeace Wins Free Speech Case

Citing insufficient evidence, federal Judge Adalberto Jordan dismissed the US Department of Justice's criminal prosecution of Greenpeace USA on May 19.

The government accused Greenpeace of violating an 1872 sailor-mongering law when activists boarded a ship in April 2002 as it "was about to arrive at the place of her destination." The boat was loaded with illegal Brazilian mahogany (see *EF!* March-April 2004).

Greenpeace lawyer Tom Wetterer said the statute failed to define what "about to arrive" meant, and the judge agreed that it was too vague.

This was the first time that an entire organization faced prosecution by the US government for the free-speech related activities of its supporters.

### Monsanto Beats Schmeiser

On May 21, Monsanto narrowly won its gene patent case against Canadian farmer Percy Schmeiser. The Canadian Supreme Court's 5-4 decision—the first of its kind in the world—held that Schmeiser had illegally planted the company's genetically engineered (GE) canola seeds.

In 1997, Schmeiser found that his homegrown, conventional canola seeds were polluted with genes from Monsanto's patented, herbicide-resistant GE canola.

The court's ruling called it "common sense" that saving and planting seeds containing the modified genes deprived Monsanto of the full benefits of its patent.

According to Andrew Kimbrell with the Center for Food Safety in Washington, DC, "[Monsanto officials] may be high-fiving today, but they'll be regretting it tomorrow because if the patent follows the gene, so does the liability." At least one organic grower group in Canada is seeking damages from Monsanto for organic crops contaminated with modified genes.

# Southern Appalachia Under Attack

## A Call to Form Alabama Earth First!

BY MATT JONES

The threat of weapons of mass destruction comes not from Iraq, but from here in the US. Ask anyone living near the eight US chemical weapons (CW) stockpiles in Colorado, Oregon, Utah, Arkansas, Alabama, Indiana, Maryland, and Kentucky to point them out.

As a result of CW incineration, Southern Appalachia is being poisoned by chronic toxic emissions. These emissions do not stop at the state line; I live downwind from the Anniston Army Depot (ANAD) in Anniston, Alabama, as does most of my family here in Georgia. More than 80 known waste products are released into the air we breathe by CW incineration, including dioxins, heavy metals and PCBs. These emissions, through bioaccumulation or simple exposure, can lead to cancer and immune system damage, as well as reproductive and developmental problems in humans and wildlife.

In 1963, ANAD began storing VX nerve gas and GB sarin and mustard gas munitions in concrete and earthen igloos without informing the locals. It was not until 1988, when the Army broke ground on its Anniston incinerator, that many residents discovered that they lived next to a time bomb. Munitions began leaking because of faulty manufacturing, causing toxic clouds. In 1997, the US ratified the Chemical Weapons Convention, setting a 2007 deadline for the destruction of all CW stockpiles with an optional five year extension. Out of the eight remaining stockpiles in the US, four are slated for incineration; others will be destroyed using a safer neutralization process.

Anniston residents are claiming environmental discrimination, considering that 44 percent of the population is African American. More than 24 percent of the city's population is living below the poverty line. Thirty-five thousand residents live within nine miles of the incinerator.

Anniston officials have called it a patriotic duty to burn CW, and it became a state's rights issue with the state losing. The Federal Emergency Management Agency didn't support the incineration plan, deeming evacuation out of Anniston impossible. In the end, compromises between politicians, the Alabama Department of Environmental Mismanagement (ADEM) and the Army bought "Maximum Protection" with sheet plastic, duct tape, scissors, and cheap plastic gas mask "Scape hoods" and CW education by Centech, a private contractor distributing hoods and information to Anniston residents. A six-county-wide drill was conducted on March 10, including all of the surrounding Alabama counties' Emergency Management Agencies (EMA) and first responders. No citizens were involved.

ANAD has a permit for a dangerous practice called "chop and drop." CW incinerators were designed to burn liquid forms of mustard, sarin and VX agents. Problems arose when it was discovered that many munitions agents had gelled or crystallized due to age or faulty manufacturing. Liquid agent is drained and burned separately from the munitions casings, but with gelled agent, the rocket is just chopped and burned. This can lead to incomplete destruction of the live agent, because liquid agent vaporizes much faster when exposed to flame than a large piece of metal exposed to the same flame.

The Tooele, Utah, incinerator is allowed to chop and drop one munition per hour. ADEM, however, granted the ANAD permission to chop and drop between nine and 34 rockets per hour. Production or destruction is the only objective in the minds of the Anniston incinerator crews, leaving area residents as unwilling guinea pigs during this "ramping up" to the top speed of 34 rockets per hour.

ADEM and the Environmental "Protection" Agency (EPA) set up smoke-stack monitors after a 760-hour, unmonitored trial burn for each chemical agent, even though many potentially unknown agents—such as EA 2192, which is formed when VX and water vapor mix—are un-monitorable by this method. For one to two weeks, the agencies monitor emissions levels based on furnace temperature and the



duration of the burn. Meeting ADEM and EPA air quality standards allows the ANAD to burn indefinitely and without oversight until they start burning a different CW. Passing or not passing these tests obviously has no effect on whether the incinerator still burns. Recently in Anniston, the incinerator failed its PCB trial but was allowed to continue burning above EPA levels until it was able to pass a second trial.

Furthermore, the Army is using outdated 1982 technology to monitor for mustard, sarin and VX nerve gases only. As agent is burned, the pollution plume drifts over a monitor and

is collected in air tubes. If an alarm sounds, a worker analyzes the tubes in a laboratory, testing only for live agent. This process takes at least 20 minutes.

Congress and the National Research Council continue to suggest that the Army needs to update its monitors to new infrared spectroscopy that can detect multiple toxins, including EA 2192, simultaneously over a large area. The response time for these monitors is approximately 10 seconds. But the Army is stubbornly refusing to change its monitors and continues to burn these hellish Cold War weapons. In addition, it is using 1972 chemical exposure levels set for

healthy male soldiers to decide if a live agent release is high enough to warrant sounding an alarm. These levels are far above the EPA's Federal Register of Acute Exposure Guidelines and were criticized as too high by a 1994 Department of Defense report.

On February 4, two workers were exposed to GB sarin gas inside an observation deck of the incinerator, causing an evacuation of the complex. No gas was supposed to be in that part of the plant, and representatives said it might have come through the air filtration system—exposing another persistent, unresolved problem. The Anniston EMA was not notified until three hours later. This is not an isolated event.

Georgia's population and government officials are turning a blind eye to the incinerator directly upwind. Floyd and Carroll counties are only 40 miles east of ANAD; neither county was included in the March emer-

gency drill. Floyd County's EMA has no plans for dealing with agent release and the hysteria that will ensue. People in Georgia say that it is the problem of those Alabama folks.

Many groups have sprung up in response to the Army's abuse of the environment and local residents. The Chemical Weapons Working Group (CWWG), based in Berea, Kentucky, has been a leader in opposing the Army's flawed CW disposal plans. CWWG totes that "no emissions are good emissions," favoring neutralization over incineration because it doesn't risk releasing unmonitored toxic emissions.

I propose opening a new front of attack against the as-of-yet-untouched Washington Group International, which is based in Boise, Idaho. The Earth-hating corporation owns and operates three of the four incinerators in the US and one neutralization plant in Colorado. Its website boasts a good working relationship with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration in the areas of ergonomics, hearing and crane safety while totally ignoring the danger to their workforce inside malfunctioning incinerators. Its environmental destruction days must be stopped.

Monsanto's PCB pollution in Anniston, chip mills, continued logging of Alabama's national forests and EMA's hazardous waste dumps are only a few of the issues de-facing Alabama's future. Do we have to wait until people die from exposure to CW or its emissions? This is a call against the unsafe destruction of arms. I am looking for like-minded folks to form an Alabama Earth First! collective. As a resident of southern Appalachia, I realize that these toxic chemicals need to be destroyed, but I also demand recognition and use of safer alternatives similar to the ones being used at other CW stockpiles in this country. Give us clean air, not chronic toxic emissions.

For more information, visit [www.cwwg.org](http://www.cwwg.org); [www.wgint.com](http://www.wgint.com). If you are interested in starting an Alabama Earth First! group, contact [mattlandon2001@yahoo.com](mailto:mattlandon2001@yahoo.com).

*Matt enjoys riding his bicycle and cooking with Food Not Bombs in opposition to the military/industrial complex and police state.*

## BARE BONES

### Monsanto Drops GE Wheat

On May 10, Monsanto announced that it has discontinued all research and field trials of its genetically engineered (GE) wheat. The wheat, which was modified to resist the company's RoundUp herbicide, has faced worldwide opposition.

In fear of contamination, Japan said it would not purchase any US wheat if GE varieties were commercialized. North American food companies released statements pledging not to use GE wheat in their products. In response to European opposition, Monsanto announced in 2003 that it would not commercialize GE wheat in Europe.

According to Juan Lopez of Friends of the Earth International, "This must be one of the most rejected products ever developed. This is another major financial blow to Monsanto, and the corporation should get out of this unwanted GE crops business once and for all."

### Extinction is Forever

More than 100 species became extinct during the first 20 years of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), according to a recent report from the Center for Biological Diversity (CBD). Ninety-two of those species never received protection under the ESA. Eighty-eight of those 92 species became extinct during lengthy listing delays. More than half of all extinctions happened on the Hawaiian Islands.

"Virtually all of these species could have been saved if the ESA was properly managed, fully funded and shielded from political pressure," said CBD Executive Director Kieran Suckling.

The Bush administration has asked Congress for just \$17 million for the ESA over the next year. The US Fish and Wildlife Service requested \$153 million to list all species waiting for protection.



Illustration by Jessica Lanson

# We're Not Gonna Take it Anymore

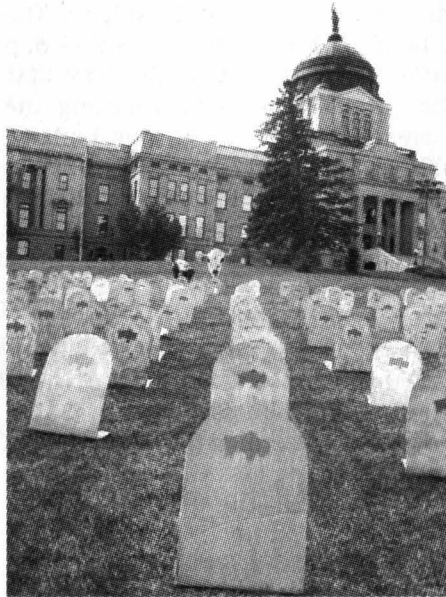
## Buffalo Advocates File Federal Lawsuit over Government Harassment

BY BUFFALO FIELD CAMPAIGN

In March, the Buffalo Field Campaign (BFC) filed a civil rights lawsuit against agents of the Montana Department of Livestock (MDOL), as well as the Gallatin County Sheriff's Department and one US Forest Service officer. BFC asserts that officials have escalated their harassment of the non-profit organization, using tactics authorized by the 2001 USA PATRIOT Act to monitor suspected terrorist groups.

Since September 11, 2001, volunteers have been subjected to government spying, illegal detentions, seizures of videotapes documenting controversial bison treatment, and false arrests based on vague charges. The lawsuit maintains that the purpose of these actions has been to discourage BFC from engaging in constitutionally protected activities.

Included among the lawsuit's allegations are claims of deadly assaults by MDOL agents. In 2002, MDOL agent Rob Morton attempted to hit BFC volunteer Chris May with his snowmobile on a Yellowstone National Forest



On May 8, 50 people gathered at the capitol in Helena, Montana, to mourn the 278 buffalo killed this year by federal and state agencies

photo by Colin Berry

road, forcing May to dive out of the way. Morton then dismounted and proceeded to shove May off the road, threatening to arrest him if he did not get off "my side of the road." According to BFC Campaign Coordinator Mike Mease, it is these kinds of outrageous incidents that prompted the group to take legal action to protect its members.

A tense relationship has always existed between BFC and the agencies responsible for the ongoing slaughter of hundreds of wild Yellowstone bison. "We understand that these people have a job to do, and while we happen to believe that their mission is immoral, we have always tried to respect the humanity of the government employees involved," Mease said, adding, "Over time it has become very clear that they don't have mutual respect for American citizens who are

exercising their rights and also trying to do a job—which is to gather news and document government operations."

BFC activists are dedicated to documenting, publicizing and taking direct action to halt the trapping and slaughter

# Frontlines

## ELF Hits Golf Course Subdivision

On April 20, two houses were burned down and attempts were made to burn two others in the Lobo Ridge golf course subdivision east of Snohomish, Washington. The fires caused one million dollars in damage. A note found at one of the fire sites condemned urban sprawl and was signed "ELF."

Neighbors were reportedly confused about what the motive for the fires could be. The builder of one of the damaged homes said, "If you're against building or don't want people moving into the neighborhood, stand on the corner with a sign."

The Snohomish arson is the third action of 2004 to be claimed by the Earth Liberation Front. Bottles of flammable liquid were also found at two other housing developments in the Snohomish area.

## The Grim Reaper Visits GE Apple Trees

In March, the Earth Liberation Front destroyed 420 genetically engineered trees in the Netherlands, apparently by hand. The trees, which were planted last year in

Wagenigan by Plant Research International (PRI), had a barley gene inserted into them that allegedly promotes disease resistance.

The action set PRI's research back a year, and the company reported \$12,100 worth of damage.

## Logging Equipment Damaged

On May 28, five pieces of logging equipment were damaged in Baker County, Oregon, in protest of a controversial salvage logging operation. The illegal logging is slated to go forward under Bush's "Healthy Forests Initiative," and ongoing efforts in court have been unable to stop it.

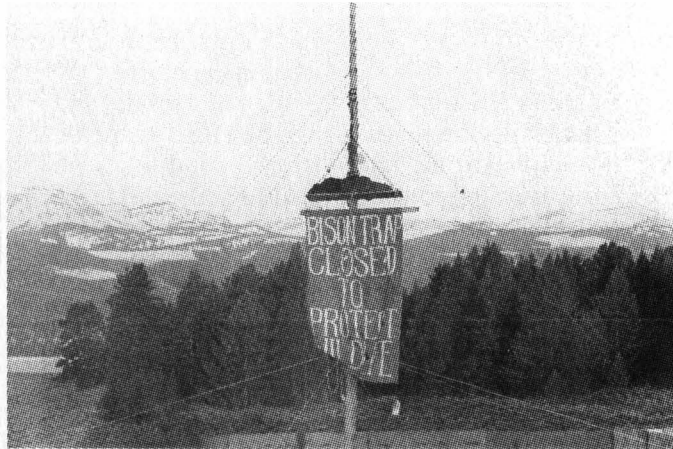
Metal shavings were poured into the engines, fuel tanks and hydraulic systems of a log loader, a de-limber, a bulldozer and two skidders; no one has claimed responsibility.

D.R. Johnson Lumber Company employees discovered the damage after the loader had filled a truck with logs and began having engine problems. The equipment is expected to be out of commission for about two

of the last continuously wild herd of buffalo in the US. In the past 10 years, state and federal agencies have killed 2,781 of these buffalo, which reside in Yellowstone National Park.

BFC was alerted to the government's attempts to portray them as a terrorist organization after a medical doctor filed a formal complaint against the Gallatin County Sheriff's Department in November 2001. According to his complaint, Dr. Stephan Fleck was on vacation from Indiana and decided to educate himself about the ongoing buffalo controversy. When he stopped to talk to Sheriff's deputies parked on the side of Highway 191 during a buffalo hazing operation, he was mistaken for a BFC advocate. His earnest inquiries were answered, with a physical assault, search and interrogation.

A few days later, Fleck visited the Sheriff's station and learned that the reason he was treated like a criminal was because his vehicle had been observed earlier at BFC headquarters. A deputy informed him that BFC was an eco-terrorist organization that killed dogs, threatened local families and evaded taxes. The deputy then attempted to reassure him, saying that since the attacks of September 11, 2001, the government has had a much better handle on "these kind of people."



*In April, an activist stopped the slaughter of wild buffalo for a week with a monopod attached to the Horse Butte buffalo trap in Yellowstone. Government officials have labeled such actions as terrorism*

photo by Chris Rotz/BFC

Fleck's experience only confirmed BFC's worst suspicions. Mease maintains that "The government noticeably stepped up their efforts to thwart our campaign and intimidate our volunteers after September 11." In response to BFC's 2002 right-to-know lawsuit against MDOL, the agency instead filed an index of documents it was withholding, including 14 "Investigative Reports" from MDOL agents. All but one of the reports were dated after September 11, 2001. MDOL also withheld 121 photographs of BFC "members, supporters and activities."

Mease concluded that, in addition to securing protection for BFC volunteers, "It is our hope that by filing this suit, we will be able to regain reasonable access to government operations so Americans can see the senseless slaughter that their tax money is being wasted on." BFC also hopes the lawsuit will set a strong precedent and protect other activists who are facing stepped-up government harassment and intimidation in the wake of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

For more information or to donate money to help cover costs of the civil rights lawsuit, contact the Buffalo Field Campaign, POB 957, West Yellowstone, MT 59821; (406) 646-0070; buffalo@wildrockies.org; www.wildrockies.org/buffalo.

weeks; local Undersheriff Ken Draze estimated the damage at \$100,000. The FBI has reportedly joined the investigation.

The company paid three million dollars in May for 30 million board-feet of timber that was burned in the 2002 Monument fire.

### **Mattole Forest Defense Stops Logging Truck**

On May 10, forest defenders in the Mattole River watershed in California stopped a Maxxam/Pacific Lumber Company (PL) truck from entering the Taylor Peak area, a coastal ridge that has been severely deforested. Activists have maintained a presence in the Upper North Fork of the Mattole to prevent PL from increasing its old growth logging, road-building and clearcutting. Actions in the Mattole continue with road blockades, backwoods forest defense, and ceremonies to honor and protect the land.

### **Activists Face Felony Charges for Banner Hang**

King County prosecutors are pursuing a felony charge of criminal sabotage against nine activists for dropping a banner off of a 240-foot crane in Seattle, Washington on February 17. The banner read, "Wake up Weyerhaeuser: Protect Forests Now."

The activists were targeted as being part of a "highly organized team of professional protesters" and face sentences of up to a year in jail and a \$10,000 fine. The banner hang reportedly cost Swinerton Builders, the company operating the construction site, \$100,000 in delays and schedule changes.

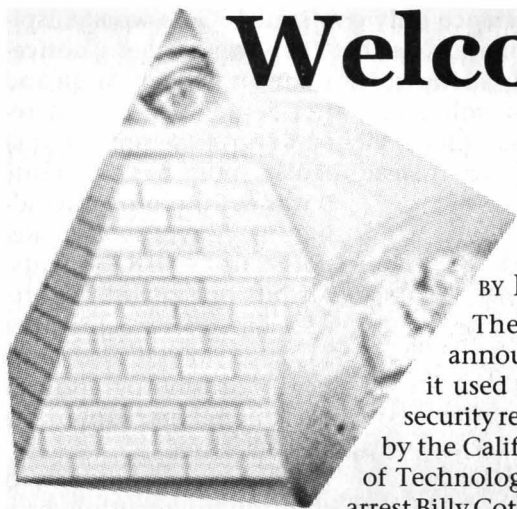
Police and prosecutors allege that the protesters were paid by the Rainforest Action Network. Authorities seized paycheck stubs for \$900 and \$1,000, though it was unclear what the payments were for and what time period they were from.

### **Guadalajara Protesters Tortured**

Thousands gathered at the end of May in Guadalajara, Mexico, to protest the third Summit Meeting of the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean. The main event was a festival-type march, while a more militant faction overturned barricades, stormed police lines and smashed the windows of multinational corporations.

Police used chemical weapons and batons to viciously attack protesters and non-protesting youth. More than a hundred protesters were "disappeared" for several days; they were repeatedly beaten, threatened and sexually humiliated, while authorities denied that they were in custody.





# Welcome to Police-State U.

BY LENNY

The FBI's March announcement that it used electronic and security records provided by the California Institute of Technology (Caltech) to arrest Billy Cottrell for alleged

Earth Liberation Front activity should set off warning bells throughout the higher education community (see *EF!* May-June 2004). Increasingly, institutions of higher learning are coming to resemble police and surveillance states.

## Students as Criminals

According to *Campus Security and Law Enforcement, Second Edition* by John Powell, Michael Pander and Robert Nielsen, "The trend toward the professionalization and growth of campus security has remained the most rapid in the private security field in recent history." This growth has been matched by a trend toward a corporate model of education, as well as the resulting attitude that students are unruly elements on campus that need to be controlled.

Some of the clearest examples of this attempt at control are the "free speech zones" now found on dozens of college campuses. These areas, which are often small and out-of-

the-way, effectively transform the rest of the campus into a "no speech zone." At an anti-sweatshop protest in March 2002, 12 Florida State University (FSU) students were arrested for "sitting in" on the lawn outside of the administration building. The students did not block access to the building; they were "trespassing" by protesting outside the school's free speech area.

Beyond free speech zones, some schools are coming to rely on the police to deal with routine disturbances that were formerly handled by college officers. Pomona College in Claremont, California, claims that it prefers to resolve disturbances with its own Campus Safety forces, but in the course of one year the college approved the summoning of riot police to break up a peaceful building takeover, called taser-wielding police to quell a fight at a party and had two students arrested for joyriding in a college golf cart. When the joyriders were charged with grand theft auto, Dean of Students Ann Quinley explained to the student newspaper why the college was unwilling to seek a reduction in charges: "My goal in all of this was to be polite and not annoying," said Quinley, citing a reluctance to upset [the college's] working relationship with the district attorney in the event of future student arrests."

## Education as Big Business

Why would FSU threaten students with up to a year in jail, a \$1,000 fine and possible expulsion for a simple

# Frontlines

## Another SHAC Victory

In February and March, Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty (SHAC) targeted Focal, the company that contracted the phone lines for Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS), and forced Focal to drop its contract. Focal received 15,000 email messages, executives' homes were painted and protested, offices were disrupted, and Focal's Chicago office reportedly received a bomb threat.

Thirty-five suppliers have pulled out of HLS so far this year. SHAC is currently targeting Bunzl Catering Supplies, which supplies HLS's vending machines.

## Chuk'shon EF! Shuts Down Game and Fish

On May 20, Chuk'shon EF! closed the Tucson office of the Arizona Department of Game and Fish due to mismanagement of local wildlife. One activist, dressed as a mountain lion, handcuffed himself to the office doors with fake cuffs while others rallied nearby dressed in masks and camouflage. He was arrested and released later that day.

The demonstration was sparked by the May 16 shooting of a mountain lion on Mt. Lemmon near Tucson, the latest example of Game and Fish's single-minded and deadly wildlife policy. Game and Fish also admitted to secretly killing another lion in early April.

In late March, after Game and Fish declared its Sabino Canyon mountain lion hunt "over," it baited a trap and caught a young lioness, which it relocated to a caged rehabilitation facility in Scottsdale (See *EF!* May-June 2004). Chuk'shon EF! is demanding the resignation of those responsible for the assault on local mountain lions, the release of the captive lioness and a wildlife policy based on sound ecological principles.

## Battering Ram Ends Office Occupation

On March 23, a demonstration and office occupation in New Brunswick, Canada, was brought to halt when police broke through an office wall with a battering ram. Activists occupied Canadian Prime Minister Paul Martin's Montreal office overnight in protest of the construction

protest? Why would a liberal arts school be interested in a "working relationship" with the district attorney? The primary reasons are monetary, but there is an ideological basis as well.

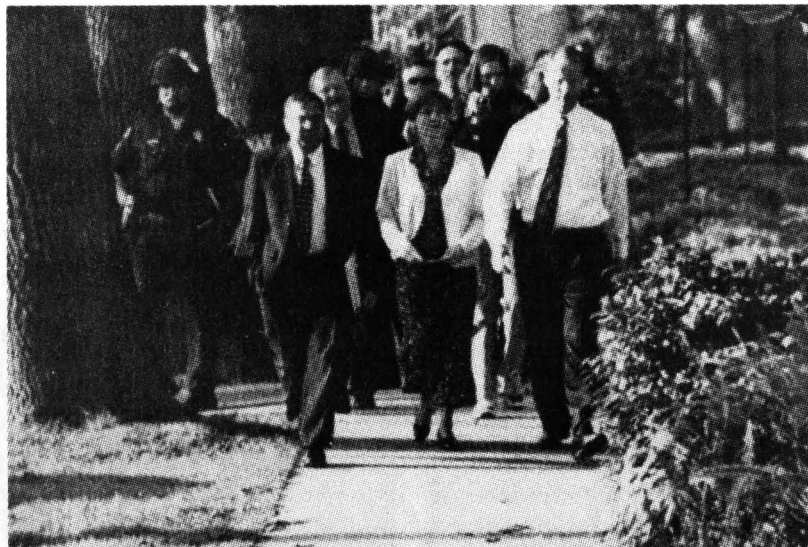
The main function of free speech zones is to keep protesters out of publicity photos and away from tourists and alumni donors. Furthermore, the FSU students were protesting the school's profitable agreements with companies that use sweatshop labor.

The quiet shift in policy at Pomona College began after the Claremont Colleges (of which Pomona is a part) experienced three building takeovers by student activists in the course of two years. Clearly, Pomona College wants a good relationship with the prosecutor in case police are used to "settle" future protests.

Increasingly, colleges are entering into financial agreements with corporations, which inevitably influence their policies. Agreements like University of California-Berkeley's deal with biotechnology giant Novartis—in which the corporation paid \$25 million to the microbial biology department in exchange for unprecedented input into research priorities and a right to negotiate

licenses on a third of the department's discoveries—can lead schools to emphasize research over education and to react with hostility toward any force that might interfere with these big-money deals.

More fundamentally, colleges are even beginning to view themselves through the lens of the corporate model. When asked in 2001 why he endorsed the construction of a biotechnology school in spite of widespread student protest, former Pomona College President Peter Stanley answered, "My job isn't to represent the students. My job is to represent the trustees." Stanley explained that he was like a chief executive officer (CEO), and the trustees were his board of directors. This was shortly before the Claremont Colleges changed the title of their senior vice president to CEO.



Brenda Barham Hill, CEO of the Claremont University Consortium, leads suits and cops to break up a student protest in March 2001

A focus on the college as a fundraising engine leads to a skewed perspective in which students are not even regarded as the school's "customers": They are the product that the college generates (along with research) in order to coax more money from alumni and other donors. Under this new model, the role of the student or even the faculty

*continued on next page*

of Bennett Environmental's new incinerator, which is slated to burn contaminated soil from the US. Police arrested seven demonstrators early that morning following six hours of negotiations; they were charged with mischief and released.

Citizens of New Brunswick and Quebec have been voicing concerns for months about the dangerous toxins that the facility will release into the environment.

According to Dr. Neil Carman, a former incinerator inspector for the state of Texas, "In licensing these incineration operations, the government is creating zones of sacrifice. When I say 'sacrifice zones' I'm not just talking about people getting sick. I've seen them die. The schools near incinerators had the highest absentee rates in the district. I've seen these children die of leukemia, brain cancer, and a host of other disorders."

### Sea Shepherd v. Angry Fishermen

On May 28, fishermen rioted at the headquarters of the Galapagos National Park, located on Santa Cruz Island off of Ecuador. The fishermen were angry that the Ecuadorian government had limited the harvest of sea cucumbers to four million, although scientists had advised that no cucumbers be harvested due to their diminishing population. In retaliation, the fishermen threatened to

kidnap or kill Lonesome George, the last surviving member of a subspecies of the giant land tortoise.

The crew of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society ship, the Farley Mowat, joined park rangers and the Ecuadorian military in defending Lonesome George and the national park offices.

On June 3, nearly 100 fishermen armed with clubs, lead pipes and molotov cocktails took control of the offices. Governor Alexandra Cedenio did not take any action to stop the fishermen.

The next day, residents of Santa Cruz marched to the park offices and held a counter protest in defense of the local ecosystem.

On June 5, six Sea Shepherd crew members were taken captive by the fishermen on Isabela Island; they were released that night following a day of negotiations.

The striking fishermen left the park on the morning of June 7, when the Ecuadorian Minister of the Environment agreed to meet with them.

Captain Paul Watson said, "The minister of the Environment, Fabian Valdivieso, rolled over like a bloated carcass and gave into the fishermen's outlandish demands ... the last of the sea cucumber sanctuaries are opened to unrestricted desecration and the already inflated quotas are discarded."

*continued from previous page*

member is clear—and if they step outside of it, they need to be hammered back in.

## You Are Being Watched

When colleges see students and faculty as subjects to be controlled, they are uniquely equipped to achieve this goal. All email messages originating from a college address are routed through a central server. Colleges can access the records of websites visited from school computers. Campus telephones are often centralized, allowing an operator to listen in. "Security cameras" are everywhere, recording every move that students and faculty make. Most colleges now require students to swipe a personal identification card or otherwise identify themselves electronically to enter buildings, eat meals or use computers.

Even when a school chooses not to act on the information it has collected, it is usually all-too-willing to turn that information over to law enforcement agencies, as seen most recently at Caltech. According to a survey by the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers, more than 200 colleges and universities provided student information to the FBI and other law enforcement agencies in the first few weeks following the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. Under the USA PATRIOT Act, however, these schools are not required to disclose what information has been provided to authorities—in some cases, the school is even barred from revealing that a request for information was made.

Since September 2001, the FBI has begun inducting campus security officers into its Joint Terrorism Task Forces to facilitate spying on students and faculty. This led to a controversial case in November 2002, where the FBI questioned a University of Massachusetts-Amherst professor after receiving an anonymous tip that he held "un-American" views.

In February, a federal grand jury demanded that Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa, turn over its records about a meeting held by antiwar activists, as well as all records relating to the school's chapter of the National Lawyers Guild. Because of the publicity surrounding that particular case, the subpoenas were eventually dropped.

## Smashing the Police State

Activists who are part of a college community need to do more than practice commonsense security—they need to challenge all manifestations of police and surveillance culture. First and foremost, students and faculty should demand to see all records that have been turned over to police and federal agencies, and they should oppose any cooperation with law enforcement. Make no mistake: It may be a drug dealer getting handed over to the feds this time, but soon enough it will be an activist.

**Activists who are part of a college community need to challenge all manifestations of police and surveillance culture.**

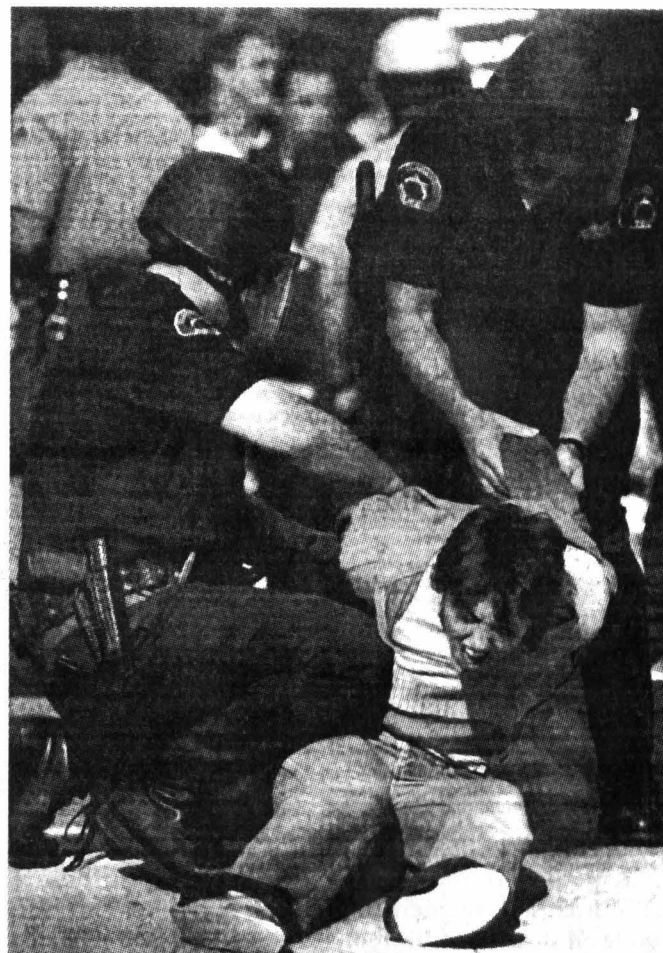


photo by Chris Urso

*The Claremont Colleges use riot cops instead of words, March 2001*

A college's vulnerability to public shame is a weakness that should not be overlooked. Colleges still depend on donations for the bulk of their income, making them especially susceptible to certain types of pressure. Never underestimate the power of a simple press release—or, in the event of arrests, a jury trial—to send a college running for cover. Negative publicity is even more effective when it gets out to alumni and other donors. And don't forget the more personal methods of shaming: Individual administrators are the ones who make the decisions, and maybe the message should be taken home to them and their neighbors.

In truly serious cases, different tactics may be called for. If a college has already turned an activist over to the feds, for example, the most appropriate response might be immediate, large-scale retaliation.

Don't be lulled into thinking that a college is a secondary or tangential target. Once an institution has allied itself with corporate or government forces—especially if it takes money from or does research for those same forces—it has joined the ranks of the enemy. All ethical tactics are justifiable against such a target.

Caltech (and *your* school) is waiting.

*Lenny figures that if you stay in school for too long like he did, then you better give 'em hell while you're there.*

# northern rockies get the axe!!

## Fire

fire is an agent of chaos  
burning  
paradigms of control  
lines on maps  
become meaningless  
to fire all is fuel  
all is wilderness  
it just burns  
man just freaks  
fire aint mild  
fire aint meek  
fire is a raging lover  
fire is passion  
burning away societies cover  
fire breaks the spell  
like a rock through a window  
like a lovers pungent smell  
fire is wild  
fire is you  
fire is me



*Highgrading large, fire resistant trees. Where are the smaller, fire prone trees? Still out there amidst the logging slash from the big trees.*

This work is a compilation of articles about some of the threats to our beloved and majestic Northern Rockies. This project was facilitated by Wild Rockies Earth First! volunteers, but the articles and work are being done by many, many others. We are blessed in this region to have so many dedicated activists working to preserve our wild areas. WREF! works to protect the wild northern Rockies, though we are currently crippled, as a dozen of us are on probation and restricted from the national forests and protesting, due to a great Summer of active forest defense of the Bitterroot National Forest in 2002. But we are really just gathering strength so that we can fight even harder when we are released from the grip of Big Brother. Thanks for reading, see you soon!

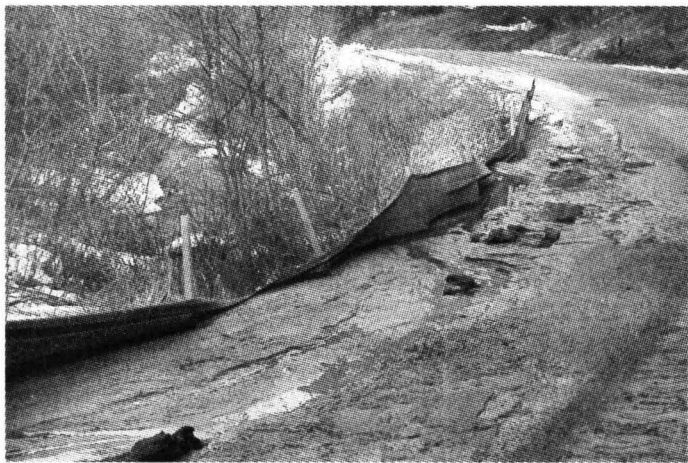
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# BITTERROOT BAR SALVAGE LOGGING PROJECT UPDATE

by Larry Campbell

February 2004 marked the second anniversary of the Bitterroot National Forest (BNF) Burned Area Recovery [sic] (BAR) Settlement, where conserva-



*A silt fence fails on Rye Creek haul road during the restoration halt*

tion groups, the Forest Service and timber industry representatives reached a court-sanctioned agreement on a deal including logging and restoration.

Recall the rhetoric coming from the Forest Service prior to the Settlement: FS Chief Dale Bosworth said, The most important thing to me is getting on with the restoration work. The idea of the whole project was fire restoration (*Missoulian*, 1/9/01). Finally, Chief Bosworth, claiming the need to hasten restoration, asked Undersecretary for Natural Resources and the Environment Mark Rey to sign the Decision and circumvent the legally required appeal process saying, It s imperative that we move forward with the project to help restore the land and prevent further environmental degradation (*New York Times*, 12/9/01). Federal District Court declared that this maneuver to bypass appeals was illegal and then ordered negotiations. Undersecretary Rey and Chief Bosworth were told and then reminded by the District Court to be present. They were apparently begrudgingly there at negotiations over two long days with environmentalists in the Federal Court-house in Missoula and they are parties to the court sanctioned BAR Settlement.

As you may remember, within a year after the widely publicized Settlement agreement, the Rey/Bosworth-led Forest Service took away \$18 million that the BNF had in hand and allocated to restoration promises made in the BAR Settlement. This restoration money \$18 million would have gone to local machinery operators. It would have been a win/win for ecological and economic health in the Bitterroot. Now BNF officials say that money is not coming back. Even with the enormous amount of restoration money gone, BNF Forest Supervisor Dave Bull says, We are not behind in our restoration work. We might even be a little ahead (*Missoulian*, 6/6/03). He also claims that the promised restoration work is still on track (*Ravalli Republic* 4/9/03). Despite all the rhetoric from the FS about the primary importance of the restoration component of BAR, only 17 percent of promised restoration has been accomplished while over 60 percent of logging is completed. In our view, the situation is like the



*A common sight after the BAR timber sale: large stumps and slash beneath smaller fire prone trees, tinder below the kindling and no more big trees to pay for rehab.*

photos by Phil Knight

locomotive displayed as a monument at Circle Square in Missoula it s on track, maybe, but not going anywhere. The BAR project is a monument to an alarming lack of accountability at all levels of the Forest Service.

Even restoration work specifically required by the US Fish and Wildlife Service in their BAR Biological Opinion has not been completed. The Biological Opinion states,

[T]he Forest must comply with the following terms and conditions. These terms and conditions are non-discretionary. The following terms and conditions shall be implemented:

4. Prior to commercial use, the Forest shall upgrade those portions of principal Forest roads that will be used during salvage timber harvest and fuel management treatments. Principal Forest roads include, but are not limited to Forest Roads 75 [Rye Creek Rd], 321 [N Fork Rye Rd], 370 and 725.

5. To ensure connectivity, the Forest shall replace those [20] culverts identified as Priority One prior to September 2003.

As of March 2004, two of the four roads specifically listed have not had BMP upgrades completed and 13 of the 20 specified culverts have not been replaced.

These are not mere technicalities. These conditions were required in order to prevent avoidable damage

to fragile watersheds and fisheries caused by log hauling on substandard roads. Most of the timber hauled off the BAR logging projects has been hauled down two roads North Fork Rye and Rye Creek roads that have yet to have required BMP upgrades completed. Much avoidable damage has been done to these two mangled streams that were already listed by Montana as impaired and unable to provide for beneficial uses. And avoidable damage is still going on. Promises don't keep siltation out of the streams or reconnect fisheries, especially broken ones. Closing the barn door after the horse is gone never makes horse sense.

The people in charge of the Forest Service, Undersecretary Rey and Chief Bosworth, pulled a blatant bait and switch game with funds and actively prevented their FS from delivering on their court-sanctioned promises. The net result of failing to provide the promised timely restoration is significant and avoidable erosion of watershed health and massive erosion of trust in the Forest Service.

The previous article refers to timber sales that were being logged in the Summer of 2000. Wild Rockies Earth First! was active throughout the public processes that preceded these sales, and was active in protesting the sales as they occurred.

WREF! staged two treesits in the forest, blockaded the Forest Service office, held a treesit at the Forest Service Region One Headquarters, hung a banner from a logging truck off a bridge as it passed through Missoula, and consistently monitored the sales and documented the timber sale violations. As a result of that Summer's

actions, a dozen activists were put on probation and prohibited from accessing the Bitterroot National Forest.



ATV trail at Tendoy Lake

In the meantime, Bob Walker Logging (the local logging company, which sent its logs to Louisiana Pacific) came away with a personal profit of millions of dollars, and Bob happily drives his new Hummer all around Darby. These sales were

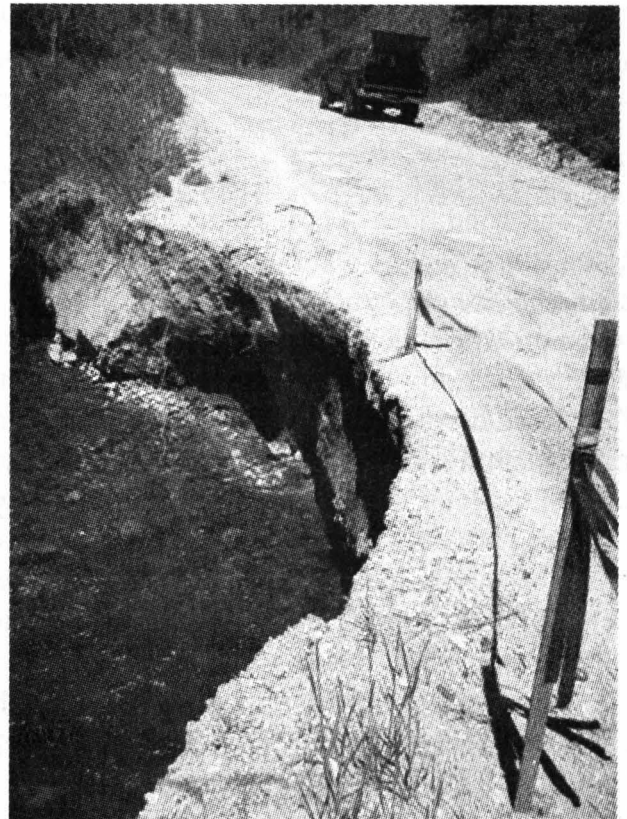
promoted as stewardship contracts and restoration. As you can see, the only thing that got restored was the marriage between the logging industry and the Forest Service.

# Protecting the Rocky Mountain Front

by Native Forest Network

Formed where the Great Plains roll out of the east and crash into the high limestone cliffs of the Rocky Mountains, Montana's Rocky Mountain Front is one of our nation's most powerful and evocative unprotected wildlands. Stretching for 100 miles from Rogers Pass to Glacier National Park, the Front is primarily on the Lewis and Clark National Forest, with significant tracts on private and state lands, and lands that are sacred to the Blackfoot Nation. The Front forms the eastern edge of the Glacier-Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex and harbors the richest diversity of large mammals left in the United States. It is home to the largest herds of bighorn sheep in the lower 48 states, the second largest elk herd in the lower 48 states, lynx, cougar, wolf, coyote, fox, mountain goat, pronghorn antelope, deer, eagle, falcon, black bear and a suite of mesocarnivores including wolverine, marten and fisher. The Front is the only place in the United States where the grizzly bear still roams and hunts on the Great Plains.

Organized resistance to development on the Front and the Bob Marshall wildlands by hunters, ranchers, conservationists, local government, and state and federal officials has been paramount in establishing the protected areas already in place. The Front has inspired local action to pro-



*North Fork Rye Road caving into North Fork Rye Creek. This major haul route was required by USFWS to have BMP upgrades done before hauling. After a tremendous amount of hauling, it still has not received BMP upgrades.*

tect this wild land, beginning in 1913 with the establishment of the Sun River Game Preserve and continuing since with dozens of wilderness additions, legal protections, and the establishment of several state and private wildlife preserves. In 1997, a moratorium was placed on all oil and gas exploration on the Front for the next 10-15 years.<sup>o</sup>

Despite this rich history of preservation and protection, and the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks finding that the Front comprises the top one percent of wildlife habitat in the nation, pressure is mounting to develop the over 50 oil and gas leases that were grandfathered in under the moratorium. Plans to conduct an environmental impact statement on drilling of the Blackleaf area of the Front for natural gas for the nation may exist if it is recoverable at all. No more than one month worth of oil and four months of gas may exist on the entire Front, with most of the oil being uneconomical to recover.

Without permanent protection of ALL of the Front as wilderness, this land and what it represents will be forever threatened with development and the onslaught of motorized recreation. And one day we may lose the battle. We need to push for wilderness designation of the Front now. We urge you to help us protect the last stronghold of the prairie grizzly, the herds of wildlife that live on the Front, and the wild spirit of the Crown of the Continent.

## What You Can Do

✳ **Write to your Senators and Representatives urging them to support wilderness designation of the Rocky Mountain Front.**

✳ **Write the Bureau of Land Management and ask them not to allow any drilling on the Front. Write to:**  
**Lynn Ricci, Blackleaf Project EIS Team**  
**Lead, BLM, Lewistown Field Office**  
**P.O. Box 1160**  
**Lewistown, Montana 59457**  
**(406) 538-1922.**

✳ **Join Frontlines, a new group dedicated to protecting the Front through direct action if it becomes necessary. Contact [frontlines@ecoethics.info](mailto:frontlines@ecoethics.info). If you would like more information on the campaign to protect the Rocky Mountain Front, contact:**

**Native Forest Network**  
**P.O. Box 8251**  
**Missoula, MT 59807**  
**(406) 542-7343**  
**[cameron@wildrockies.org](mailto:cameron@wildrockies.org)**  
**[www.nativeforest.org/rmf](http://www.nativeforest.org/rmf)**

*The following article was written by Jim Miller of Friends of the Bitterroot from the Bitterroot Valley in western Montana. The Bitterroot has been the home of the Rocky Mountain Lab since the early 1900s when the lab was created to study Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever. Since then, the Lab has expanded its area of expertise to many other diseases. The federal government's National Institute of Health recently nominated the Lab as the candidate to go under a massive upgrade to a Biosafety Level 4 Facility. This means that the Lab will be studying the world's most deadly diseases, such as ebola diseases which have no cure. Needless to say, the public is up in arms over this decision. A memo from the government itself stated that the Bitterroot was chosen due to its remote location. It is strikingly obvious that if an accident occurred, the one major highway could be easily blocked on the north and south end of the valley, leaving the valley's 30,000 residents to die. The Lab is also ridiculously located in the middle of a residential neighborhood in the small town of Hamilton. Citizens have been overflowing the public meetings since day one, demanding more accountability, but the government cronies continue to push this project forward, regardless of the public backlash.*

## War on Bioterrorism Comes to the Bitterroot

by Jim Miller

Any risk, no matter how small, of an epidemic of an incurable, fatal disease should never be dismissed as negligible. Yet this is the conclusion drawn by National Institutes of Health in the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed BL-4 bioterrorism lab. The point is, however, that the risk is not zero. Given the enormous consequences of an unchecked release or spread of a fatal bioterrorist agent in a community, it is a risk that deserves to be treated seriously.

This is where the NIH's supplemental study falls short. The fact is, despite the multi-million-dollar state-of-the-art engineering and design going into the lab, accidents will still happen. At the moment when an ebola-infected monkey bites a lab worker and draws blood, it is only the ability of our community to adequately respond that will prevent a community outbreak. Concerned citizens have long been asking NIH these questions: If the worst case does happen are we ready to handle it? Do we currently have the medical expertise, the isolation protocols and equipment, the specialized emergency training that would be needed? If we do need to bolster our resources, what are the priorities, how much will they cost and who will pay for them?

The information we received from a Freedom of Information Act request shows a history of less-than-

perfect compliance with safety regulations by the Rocky Mountain Lab staff. Repeated fire safety failures and some instances of disabling safety equipment have occurred in the last few years according to the NIH. Part of a safe operation is a set of safety procedures that the staff must follow and a mechanism to insure that they are being followed. The EIS continues to be silent on improvements in the training and enforcement of safety rules at RML.

These questions have thus far been ignored by the NIH, as have many other questions. Despite multiple requests from the public to review an emergency plan for the proposed lab, the NIH has simply responded that the plan is still in development. Yet an adequate emergency plan is essential to mitigating the risks the lab will pose to the community. Mitigating risk is exactly what an EIS is supposed to do. The public deserves to know, in detail, how we will be prepared. The emergency plan must be completed and included in the EIS before this project goes any further.

Last summer, Friends of the Bitterroot requested further information under the Freedom of Information Act, in an attempt to answer important questions that were not being addressed by the NIH, but never received the information, as required by law. On March 3, 2004, Friends of the Bitterroot filed suit in US District Court, against the NIH, for violations of the Freedom of Information Act.



# Beaverhead-Deerlodge Roadless Lands Hang in the Balance



*Tendoy Lake: This shows how the Tendoy Lake trail in the East Pioneer Mountains has become a rutted ATV road, including next to the lake outlet.*

by Native Forest Network

Since the Beaverhead and Deerlodge National Forests in Montana were combined several years ago, they comprise the largest national forest in the Lower 48, and one of the wildest, with approximately 1,871,830 acres of unprotected roadless land. Sprawling across southwest Montana, the B-D encompasses all or part of some amazing mountain ranges such as the Pioneers, Beaverhead, Madison and Gravelly ranges. The Continental Divide stretches along much of its western and southern margins and all native wildlife species are present to some extent, including grizzly bears, wolves, bison, elk, cougars, mountain goats, wolverines, martens, fishers, lynx, Yellowstone cutthroat, westslope cutthroat and bull trout, grayling, peregrine falcons, bald eagles, and boreal owls. The B-D provides the most crucial connecting corridors between the Wild Rockies three great ecosystems (Glacier/Bob Marshall, Salmon-Selway, and Yellowstone).

The B-D is revising its forest plans, and its opening salvo was greeted with groans from regional conservationists. The initial proposal may be even worse than existing forest plans in the extent of motorized recreation it allows. In southwest Montana and much of the west, motorized wreckreation has boiled up to become the number one threat to the integrity of our wild public

lands. Of the 91 landscape areas delineated in the proposed B-D plan, 81 would be open to motorized use.

Only the proposed wilderness areas in the West Big Hole, Pioneer Mountains and Mount Jefferson in the Centennial Range would be closed to motorized recreation, and the configuration of the proposed wilderness in the West Big Hole has been changed to accommodate a snowmobile corridor through the middle of the area.

In the Beaverhead Forest Plan, then-Regional Forester Overbay promised to maintain the wilderness characteristics of proposed wilderness in the East Pioneers, Italian Peaks, Hellroaring Creek, Storm Lake and the West Big Hole. His recommended management direction for these areas was for semi-primitive, nonmotorized recreation. Use of motor vehicles in these proposed wilderness areas was to require approval of the Regional Forester (Beaverhead Forest Plan, pages III-26 -29). Yet motor vehicle use has become common in the West Big Hole, Storm Lake, Hellroaring Creek and the East Pioneers.

According to the Deerlodge Forest Plan, over 150,000 acres were to be managed to provide semi-primitive, non-motorized recreation (A-4) areas. Five years and three supervisors since announcing a closure to all wheeled vehicles, the Pintler District continues to allow ATVs to drive through A-4 nonmotorized areas within the Sapphires Wilderness Study Area and Stony Mountain roadless area. Nearly every A-4 nonmotorized area in the current Deerlodge Plan is to be eliminated under the proposed plan, including the Flints, Stony Mountain, Sapphires WSA, Tobacco Roots and Cottonwood Lake-Thunderbolt Mountain.

Those who love the Beaverhead and Deerlodge National Forests are asking the Forest Service to start over on their plan revision, beginning with the basic assumption that all roadless wildlands in both forests will be protected as nonmotorized roadless and that there will be no new roads in either forest for the life of the plan.

Of course, management plans mean nothing without adequate monitoring. According to Southwest Montana Wildlands Alliance, to date, the B-D have failed to adequately monitor winter range conditions, threatened and endangered species, snags and wildlife habitat, elk habitat effectiveness, ATV/ORV abuse,

sediment production and water health, riparian zones, old-growth-dependent species and best management practices. Conservationists question how we can proceed in good faith with new forest plans without concomitant monitoring.

### **What You Can Do:**

Contact Supervisor Tom Reilly. Tell him what these forests roadless wildlands mean to you and ask him what he is doing to protect them. Mention specific areas that you may know and love. Ask that your comments be made part of the official forest planning record. Ask that he start over with the B-D plan revision and that roadless lands and wildlife and nonmotorized recreationists be given more consideration. Request that he keep you notified concerning all future forest planning in the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forests.

Ask that the standard for managing motorized use be closed unless posted as open. This makes for a clear delineation, and eliminates the problem of motorized users destroying clo-

sure signs. Supervisor Reilly recently expressed openness to this idea.

Ask Supervisor Reilly to also adopt a Management Area standard similar to the following, delineated in the Lolo Forest Plan:

**MA11 Roadless Non-motorized Backcountry**

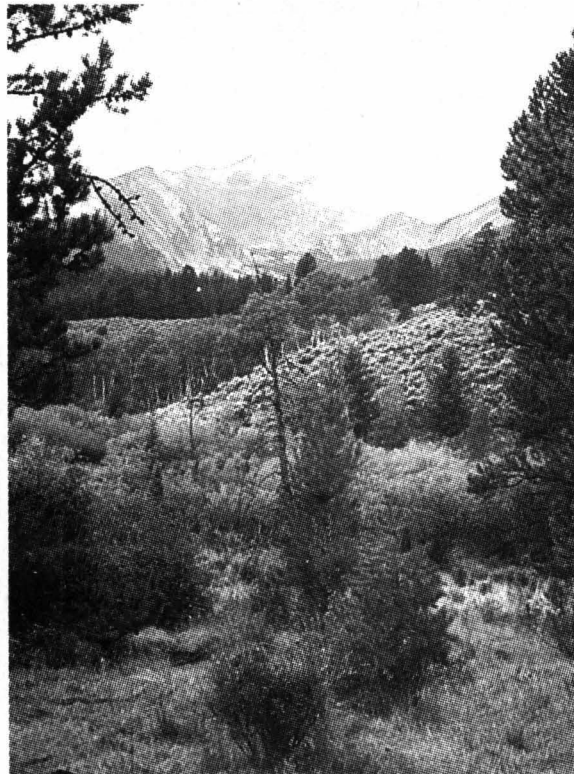
There is no motorized access permitted in this Management Area except for development of mineral resources.

**MA 12 Forest Plan Recommended Wilderness** Motorized access is not permitted except as provided for under the Wilderness Act.

Also request the Supervisor provide law enforcement necessary to stop motorized vehicle passengers who vandalize public wildlands by making their own roads. Arrest and prosecute vandals. Confiscate unlicensed vehicles.

### **Write to:**

Thomas K. Reilly, Supervisor, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forests, 420 Barrett Street Dillon, MT 59725-3572, Ph: 406-683-3900, email [treilly@fs.fed.us](mailto:treilly@fs.fed.us).



*Torrey Peak: This photo is of 11,000-foot Torrey Peak in the East Pioneer Mountains.*

## **BITTERROOT BRIEFS**

### **LYNX AMENDMENT**

In its new EIS, the US Forest Service has decided to ignore the recommendations of a team of biologists and drop important lynx protections in an amendment to the Northern Rockies forest plans. Although the point of the amendment and study was to benefit and protect the lynx, the USFS's preferred alternative is the path of most logging and snowmobiling, and practically no lynx protection.

### **LOLO/BITTERROOT/FLATHEAD REVISIONS**

The public was invited to comment this past year on new revisions to the National Forest plans for the Lolo, Bitterroot, and Flathead National Forests. These plans guide management for the next 10-15 years. Citizens are pushing for protection of Bull Trout key watersheds and critical habitat, habitat linkage corridors, major restoration areas, water quality, and wilderness additions such as the Great Burn, Sapphires, Quigg Peak, Stony

Mountain, and new additions to the Bob Marshall and Selway-Bitterroot.

### **WOLVES**

Montana, Idaho, and Wyoming rancher-backed governments are hard at work delisting wolves in their states. Montana and Idaho plans include wolf hunting, and Wyoming's plan is kill-at-will. Wolves are currently being killed at will anyway by disgruntled ranchers that dislike the fact that the native wolves occasionally prey on their invasive slow elk.

### **ROCK CREEK MINE**

The proposed ASARCO mine that would rip out the bowels of the earth under the Cabinet-Mountain wilderness, upstream from Lake Pend Oreille, found an unlikely enemy this spring, when Tiffany & Co. sent an open letter (by way of full page ad in *The Washington Post*) to FS Chief Dale Bosworth calling for the area's protection.

# Taking a Stand for the Treesitters

by Rebecca

*In case you missed the last EF! Journal issue, two Wild Rockies Earth Firsters (myself included) are bringing a lawsuit against the law enforcement officials that used torture tactics against us during our treesit in the summer of 2002. They used dehydration and starvation to make us abandon our protest of illegal logging in the Bitterroot National Forest in Montana.*

*These men cordoned off the area, climbed our trees and cut out our food and water, then actively denied community members who tried to bring us water and food. They set up high power spotlights at night for sleep deprivation and psychological torture, and kept a four-person team of cops there 24 hours a day to monitor our slow march to death.*

*Due to our ingenuity, Joel and I were able to catch rainwater and stay marginally hydrated for a while, but eventually he descended after wavering in and out of consciousness, and I stayed catatonically until, on day 14 after the first big rain, they cut me out with a cherry picker. This whole episode was flagrantly illegal.*

*Prisoners have the rights to food and water and we were only detainees!! Please join with us to set a precedent*



*that treesitters cannot be legally tortured!! We need your money! Our lawyer is trying to work for free, but there are inevitable costs, and it would be nice if we could pay him as much as possible to ensure a stronger case!!*

Please send donations to:  
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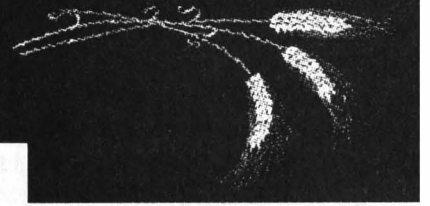
payable to the Ecology Center

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Thank You!!

# We Don't Need It, We Don't Want It ... African Nations Reject GM Food Aid



BY PIPPI THE RAT

Colin Powell has called on the Pope himself to denounce the leaders of African nations who are rejecting genetically modified (GM) food aid offered by the US. In March, Angola joined Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe, all of which require GM grains to be milled before accepting them as aid.

In 2002, Zambia imposed an outright ban on the acceptance of any GM food; a predicted famine failed to materialize and now Zambia exports non-GM food to its neighbors. In May 2003, the government of Sudan declared that it would not import GM grains, but it has granted waivers until January 2005 under diplomatic pressure from the US.

Much of this debate is driven by food that can also be used as seed, primarily corn. Farmers who are given corn for food frequently plant some of the grain. In Mexico, which bans the import of GM seeds, massive imports of GM corn (which flooded the market after the passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement) have resulted in the contamination of even backyard plots of heirloom corn.

African leaders who require milling before acceptance of GM food are trying to guarantee that this kind of contamination will not take place in their countries. Elizabeth Matos, chairperson of the National Plant Genetic Resources Center in Luanda, Angola, explains her country's insistence on milling GM corn: "We [hold] in our gene bank almost 800 different types of maize ... and we don't want this material crossed with GM."

The US provides half of the food aid delivered by the World Food Program (WFP), and this export pipeline has provided a guaranteed market for many farmers in the US. About 40 percent of corn and 80 percent of all soy planted in the US is GM. Most food available for export worldwide is GM-free; only food aid originating on US farms contains GM seeds and grains.

The WFP, responsible for distributing the vast majority of food aid to Africa, responded to Angola's recent declaration by saying that the country will face a significant decrease in food aid if it insists on milling. Sixty non-

governmental organizations from 15 different African countries have written an open letter to the WFP, asking it to "desist from presenting governments with a no-choice scenario" and to "guarantee the right of countries to reject or impose restrictions of GM food." The letter also said that the WFP must acknowledge the August 2003 recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Biotechnology and Biosafety of the Southern African Development Community that its member states mill all GM grain before distributing it.

The US Ambassador to the UN Agencies for Food and Agriculture has suggested that the African leaders who reject GM food aid should be tried "for the highest crimes against humanity in the highest courts of the world." Articles in mainstream publications downplay the potential risks posed by GM crops and food. Instead, the articles stress the starvation sweeping Africa and the possible economic repercussions from loss of trade with the EU. A July 2002 opinion piece by Dr. Luke Mumba, in *The Post*, an independent Zambian newspaper,

echoes the beliefs of many: "Unlike Europe, Africa cannot afford the luxury of engaging into debate."

But African nations have been engaging in debate for years now. Back in 1998, at a meeting of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, all African nations except South Africa declared, "We strongly object that the image of the poor and hungry from our countries is being used by giant, multi-national corporations to push a technology that is neither safe, environmentally friendly, nor economically beneficial to us."

Many African nations are holding firm to their right to determine what enters their countries. The issue of widespread famine in Africa may be similar to the issue of starvation all over the world. Raymond Bokor, a scientist from Ghana, points out, "There is plenty of food in Africa. The problem is distribution."



# Venezuela Outlaws Transgenic Crops

BY JASON TOCKMAN

In mid-April, Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez Frias announced that the cultivation of genetically modified (GM) crops will be prohibited on Venezuelan soil, potentially establishing the most sweeping restrictions on GM crops in the Western Hemisphere.

At a recent gathering of his international supporters in Caracas, Chavez condemned GM crops as being contrary to the interests of the nation's farmers. He then zeroed in on Monsanto's plans to cultivate up to 500,000 acres of GM soybeans in Venezuela.

"I ordered an end to the project," said Chavez, upon learning that GM crops were involved. "This project is terminated."

Chavez emphasized food sovereignty and security—required by the Venezuelan Constitution—as the basis of his decision. He explained that instead of allowing Monsanto to grow GM crops, the fields will be used to plant yucca, an indigenous crop. He also announced the creation of a large seed bank facility to maintain indigenous seeds for peasants' movements around the world.

When the international peasants' organization Via Campesina, representing more than 60 million farmworkers, learned of the contract with Monsanto, it brought its concerns about GM crops to the Chavez administration. According to Rafael Alegria, Via Campesina's secretary for international operations, both Monsanto and Cargill were seeking authorization to produce GM soy products in Venezuela.



Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez

Photo by Jason Tockman

"The agreement was against the principles of food sovereignty that guide the agricultural policy of Venezuela. [Chavez's decision] is a very important thing for the peasants and indigenous people of Latin America and the world," said Alegria.

Venezuela has good reason to be concerned about its relationship with Monsanto. Within Venezuela, Monsanto manufactures the herbicide "glyphosate," which is used by the neighboring Colombian government as part of its Plan Colombia offensive against coca production and rebel groups. The Colombian government sprays hundreds of thousands of acres with the herbicide, destroying agricultural farms and natural areas like the Putumayo rainforest. It also poses a direct threat to human health, including that of indigenous communities.

"If we want to achieve food sovereignty, we cannot rely on transnationals like Monsanto," said Maximilien Arvelaiz, an advisor to Chavez. "We need to strengthen local production, respecting our heritage and diversity."

Alegria hopes that Venezuela's move will serve as encouragement to other nations contemplating GM crops. "The people of the US, of Latin America, and of the world need to follow the example of a Venezuela free of transgenics," he said.

For more information, contact Jason Tockman, [tockman@riseup.net](mailto:tockman@riseup.net).

*Jason Tockman is a globalization activist in South America.*

## FBI Mistakes Anti-GE Art for Bioterrorism

BY SAMANTHA

On June 2, three artists were served subpoenas to appear before a federal grand jury in Buffalo, New York. The subpoenas are the latest installment in a bizarre investigation in which the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) has mistaken an art project for a biological weapons laboratory.

On May 11, Steve Kurtz, an art professor at the University of Buffalo, called 911 after his wife died from a heart attack. The police arrived and, after seeing the test tubes and petri dishes Kurtz was using for an anti-biotechnology art project, called in the JTTF.

FBI agents cordoned off the block around Kurtz's house and impounded his computers, books, equipment and his wife's body for further analysis. Shortly thereafter, the New York Commissioner of Public Health tested samples from the house and announced that there was no public safety threat. Still, the FBI would not release the impounded materials.

Kurtz, along with two of the subpoenaed artists—Beatriz da Costa and Steve Barnes—are members of the Critical Art

Ensemble (CAE), a collective that produces artwork to educate the public about biotechnology. The third artist, Paul Vanouse, is an art professor at the University at Buffalo who has worked with CAE in the past.

The FBI is seeking charges against Kurtz under the Biological Weapons Anti-Terrorism Act of 1989, which was expanded under the 2001 USA PATRIOT Act to prohibit the possession of "any biological agent, toxin or delivery system" without the justification of "prophylactic, protective, bona fide research or other peaceful purpose."

The equipment seized by the FBI consisted mainly of CAE's most recent project, a mobile DNA-extraction laboratory used to test store-bought food for possible contamination by genetically modified organisms.

According to Carla Mendes, spokesperson for the CAE Defense Fund, "Today, there is no legal way to stop huge corporations from putting genetically altered material in our food. Yet owning the equipment required to test for the presence of 'Frankenfood' will get you accused of 'terrorism.'"

For more information, visit [www.caedefensefund.org](http://www.caedefensefund.org); [www.critical-art.net](http://www.critical-art.net).

# GE Golf Courses? Take 'em Down!

BY BULLROARER TOOK

Just when you thought Monsanto was on the run, bailing on Frankenprojects right and left, the sneaky goblins are getting ready to trot out their latest monstrosity. In conjunction with the Scotts Company of Marysville, Ohio, Monsanto has engineered a Roundup Ready version of a non-native grass species. The reason? Creeping bentgrass is a favorite of golf courses.

Creeping bentgrass, it seems, grows nice and even—making it “perfect” for rolling a ball straight across a golf course fairway. But because other plants sometimes have the audacity to grow on these ecocidal playgrounds, Scotts and Monsanto have engineered the grass to resist Monsanto’s Roundup herbicide. This would allow the 15,000 golf courses in the US to spray Monsanto-brand poison at will, wiping out all those pesky “weeds.”

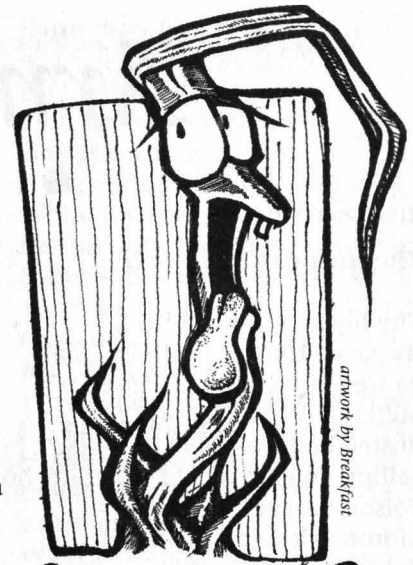
The companies applied for commercial approval of Roundup Ready Creeping Bentgrass from the US Department of Agriculture in April 2003, and a ruling is expected within a year. If given the green light for sale, it will be the first genetically engineered (GE) perennial to receive such approval. Because perennials do not die off yearly, it might be more difficult to stop them from spreading than annual plants like corn. Roundup Ready Creeping Bentgrass will also be the first purely recreational GE plant, without even a pretend benefit to anyone but the rich.

Beyond encouraging herbicide tolerance and irresponsible usage, GE grass poses certain distinct threats to the life around it—threats so alarming that even the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the US Forest Service (USFS) have come out against it. The BLM and USFS fear that GE bentgrass would spread onto public lands and then be uncontrollable.

“Our budget is already strained trying to control invasive species,” said Gina Ramos, senior weed specialist for the BLM.

Scientists are also worried that the GE bentgrass could cross-breed with other grass species, spreading herbicide resistance or other engineered genes.

At least 13 native species of bentgrass are known to crossbreed with the creeping variety.



artwork by Breakfast

## CREEPING BENTGRASS™

- GREEN!
- GRASSLIKE!
- ROUND-UP READY!

## Bioengineers and Other Baddies

Of the opposition to genetic engineering, Bob Harriman, chief research scientist for Scotts, said, “We’ve been here since the 1970s. It would be un-American to be scared away.” Oh, really?

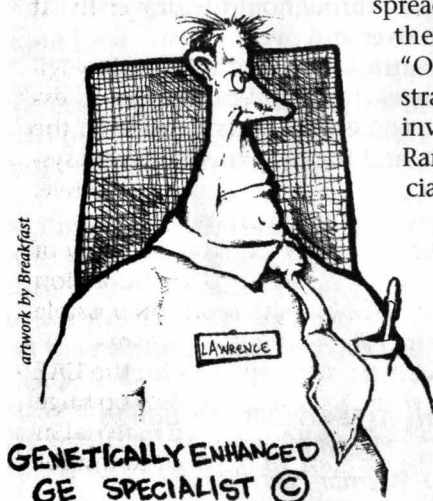
The GE grass is being tested in an unmarked site on the edge of Gervais, Oregon. Four hundred acres of the stuff are also growing in Madras, a three-hour drive away. Additionally, several experimental plots exist at the St. Louis Country Club in Ladue, Missouri, overseen by superintendent Tim Burch and groundskeeper John Reidelberger. In all, roughly 30 test plots exist at golf courses around the country—go get 'em!

Faith Belanger, of Rutgers University’s Biotech Center, specializes in engineering turfgrass and oversaw early tests of the GE grass. According to Belanger, “Turfgrasses enhance the lives of most residents in the US. We appreciate turfgrasses for their utility in erosion control, their function as surfaces for recreational sports, and their beauty in parks and home lawns.” She can be contacted at (732) 932-8165 x304; (732) 932-6535 (fax); belanger@aesop.rutgers.edu.

Unsurprisingly, the US Golf Association has endorsed the GE grass. In fact, the association provided the grant for the original research at Rutgers back in 1990. Its headquarters and museum can be found at the Golf House in Basking Ridge, New Jersey. Contact them at POB 708, Far Hills, NJ 07931; (908) 234-2300; (908) 234-9687 (fax).

Is anyone else sick of sprawling, water-sucking, chemical-laden golf courses swallowing our beloved hills and woods? It’s time to take action! I’m putting out a call to all hobbits, elves and other concerned peoples of Middle Earth: Target your nearest golf course! There are certainly enough reasons to do so. It’s time to dole out some eco-justice to the rich goblins who are destroying our planet for sport.

*Bullroarer Took is an adventuresome hobbit who invented golf when he chopped off a goblin’s head and sent it flying down a hole. He’s disgusted at what the big people have done with the game since then.*



artwork by Breakfast

## GENETICALLY ENHANCED GE SPECIALIST ©

- OBEDIENT!
- LOYAL!
- ALWAYS SUPERVISING!

# Armed with Visions

*Clear as cut glass & just as dangerous*

## *The Highway Has Teeth*

The highway has teeth.  
Its paved tongue swallows us all  
As we are digested by America.  
Metal fangs, rubber and rims.  
Rusted bolts, chrome iron boats,  
Sailing down rivers of concrete, hot tar,  
Poison burger salad bars,  
Motorcycles, trucks and cars,  
Exhausted by exhaust.  
Mesmerized, hypnotized by white lines  
Divided on both sides.  
We bump and glide through the  
Traffic of a rolling tide.  
Fuzzy bunny roadkill suicides.  
Pink guts, blood and fur  
Through the fog of a hazy blur.  
Signs fly by, metal teeth screaming  
Past my ears.  
Giant chunks of metal iron ripping  
Through the air.  
The highway has teeth. Beware.

—Arrajj 04

## *Three hours southeast of Reno NV and outside Hawthorne Lies the Gabbs Valley Range Wilderness Study Area*

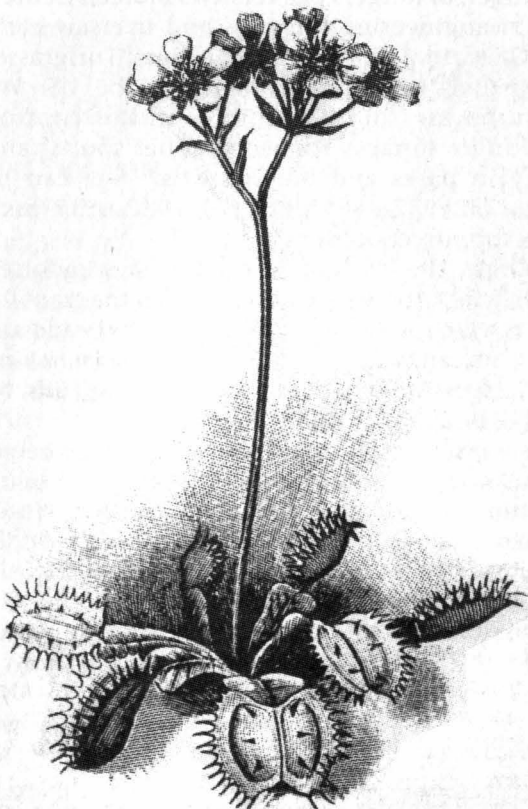
Red and black—pebbles, rocks and boulders  
Scatter the landscape for miles  
They have been sitting in the same spot  
Where they landed millions of years ago  
Blown from the earth in a realm of volcanoes and magma  
They now sit quiet in the desert sun

The vegetation sparse and not very varied  
What grows in this harsh land  
Is strong, resilient and almost fierce  
Sage, Mormon Tea, Pinyon Pine, Choke Cherry  
Tough, brittle, dry and many filled with thorns  
Patiently waiting for the next rain to fall  
It could be years

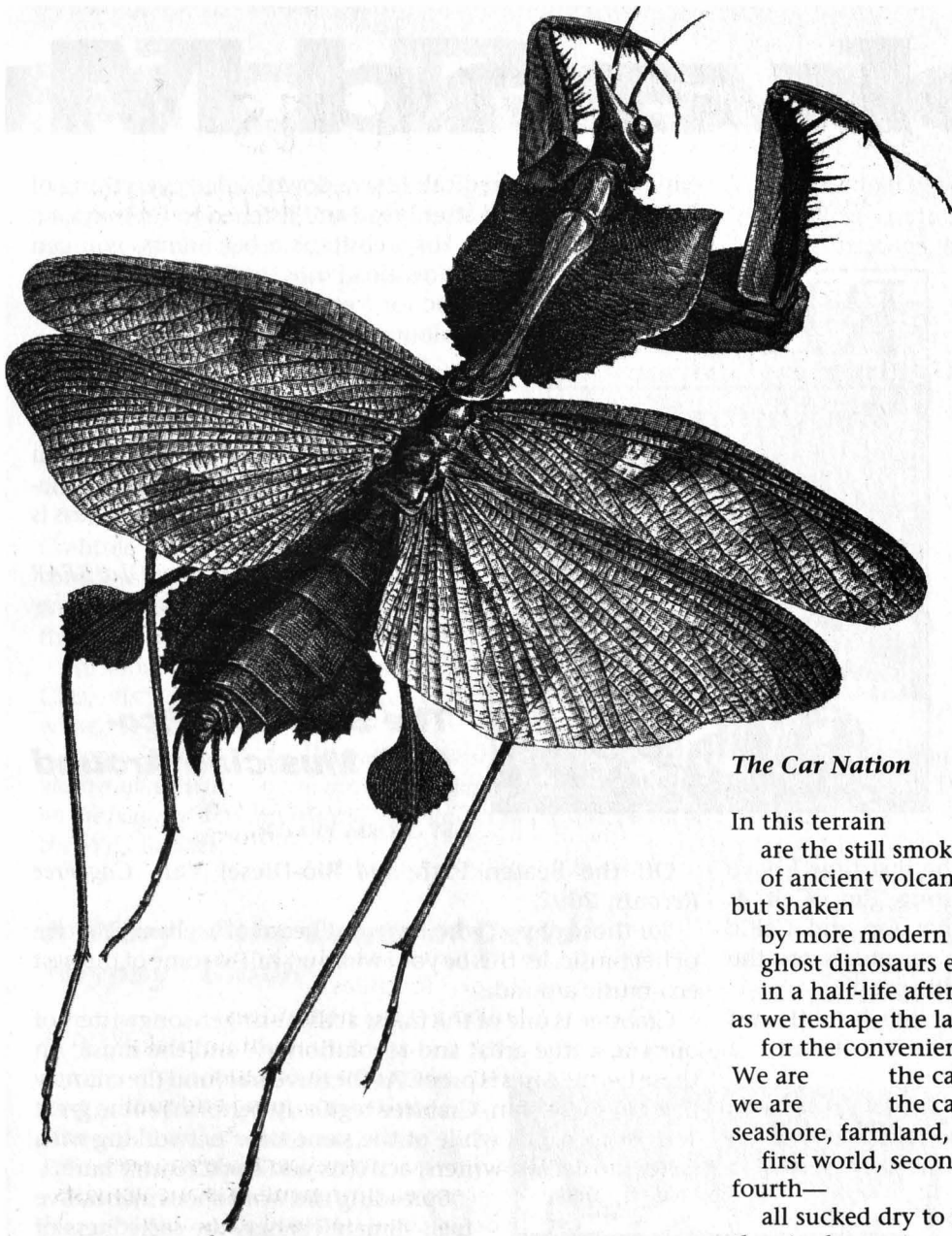
No trees except sparse Juniper at high altitudes  
Your horizon is wide open for miles  
Rounded hills, sand filled gullies, high ridges  
That lead your eyes to snow covered mountain peaks  
What is so hard close up, softens with distance  
Into a maze of pastels that soothes the mind and soul

10 people visited this place to hike, experience and see  
They call themselves hikers, environmentalists and activists  
I call them lovers, lovers of the desert and its beauty  
I call them chosen, for not many do what they do  
I call them special because all throughout the day  
They kept saying over and over and over  
Look at this—isn't this beautiful—I'm glad to be here  
Isn't this great—I love it here—I'm glad I came  
I spent a day with special people and special beauty  
Deep in the Nevada desert, and the beauty was beyond  
compare

—Graham Stafford



*All rights reserved to the authors  
Send Poems to:  
Warrior Poets Society  
POB 14501, Berkeley, CA 94712-5501*



**Due to Global Warming**

Right now,  
the ocean spills over the beaches of Tuvalu,  
rolls up the shore, eating the tiny  
atoll nation. As I stand here

reciting poetry, the families  
who live on this island flee  
their ancestral home as the  
ocean swells. The boats float  
on the fattened ocean as the island

sinks under the rising waves.  
No matter what your politics are  
this is really happening

right now

—Marc D. Goldfinger

**Extinction Blues**

Humanity strolls down  
path of least resistance  
Creeps thru night  
consuming oblivion  
While the species shops doomed  
we run out of room  
& the end comes  
Too soon?  
too late?  
who knows  
Who reads the tea leaves of fate?  
It's like we're skate-  
boarding down  
that slippery-slope  
called extinction.  
What a distinction;  
first species to  
rub themselves out.

—Dogman

**The Car Nation**

In this terrain  
are the still smoking craters  
of ancient volcanoes  
but shaken  
by more modern explosions  
ghost dinosaurs exhaust-fume-writhe  
in a half-life after-death  
as we reshape the land  
for the convenience of cars.  
We are the car nation,  
we are the car nation—  
seashore, farmland, forest, desert;  
first world, second world, third world,  
fourth—  
all sucked dry to feed  
the vinyl vampire ape  
that rides on our backs in this hearse  
demanding its daily petroleum fix  
and an ever expanding carpet of pavement  
to make smooth its path.

We are the car nation,  
we are the car nation—

*floating precariously  
on the gaudy neon-rainbow-surface  
of an oil slick.*

We are the car nation  
and we  
are a flower, too—  
are little wilted,  
synthetically dyed,  
and almost rootless  
but with a twisted beauty  
still.

—Kirk Lumpkin



# Book and M

## Celtic Hip Hop

BY JOHN CONNOR

*UnAmerican*, by Emcee Lynx, an independent release available at [www.circlealpha.com](http://www.circlealpha.com).

Conscious hip hop uses political, social, spiritual or other themes for analysis. Emcee Lynx's fourth album, *UnAmerican*, is conscious revolutionary hip hop. The International Workers of the World had their little red book with songs based on the old Christian hymns to inspire them; we have MCs like Lynx.

A lot of time went into the production of *UnAmerican*. The production quality is great—it doesn't sound "garage" at all. The lyrics are loaded with radical political content.

You can listen to Czech, Polish, Turkish, German and Mexican hip hop on the Internet. However, *UnAmerican* is the first time I have heard hip hop with a Celtic twist. The song "I'm a Celt" is pioneering with its combination of hip hop and Celtic sounds, making creative use of a harp to underscore the political history of oppression of the Celtic people.

"Dialects," the second track of *UnAmerican*, is subtle and powerful, establishing where the true racism lies in the very definition of what is "black."

Lynx denounces MTV materialism in "Throw Your Hands Up" as he spits (sings into the microphone) about meditation and revolution. In many ways, this song serves to establish the intent of the album as a whole. He sings of genetically modified crops, invasions, insurrections, cities burning—and learning what it means to move with the madness.

"I Gotta Letter" starts from the same jumping point that Public Enemy uses in "Black Steel in the Hour of Chaos." But then Lynx goes in a different direction, singing about labor history to the sound of break beats: "Reading up on the New Deal, guess what I found?/ Roosevelt gave the bureaucrats a chance to get fat/ In return they gave him a peace contract/ A promise not to strike or use militant tactics/ Instead they depend on pointless theatrics."

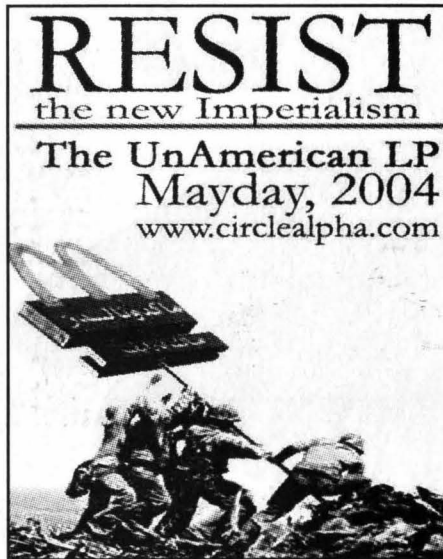
The lyrics in *UnAmerican* don't always get the mixing they deserve. The tempo is slow for some of the songs, and what could be electrifying is sometimes rendered simply intellectually interesting. There is also a lot of repetition of the same basic beat pattern. But this is a solid work. The album is better than 99 percent of what is being packaged and sold as

hip hop, and it's radical. I have downloaded everything of Lynx's I could find after I read and listened to *UnAmerican*.

His website is a big bonus, you can download most of Emcee Lynx's music for free—but you should buy the album. It's worth your time.

"Fuck the WTO, IMF, and G8/ My People movin' by the millions, billions of lives/ Are hanging by a thread, we've got to realize/ That this system ain't working, it's bringing extinction/ unless you fight back your ass is dead where you're standin'."

John Connor is an anarcho-DJ at KFar 90.9 FM. Listen at [www.kfar.org](http://www.kfar.org), Friday and Saturday nights from 8-10 p.m.



## The Best New Eco-Folk Musician Around

BY STORM WATERS

Off the Beaten Path and Bio-Diesel Van, CageFree Records, 2002.

For those of you who have not heard of Melissa Crabtree or her music, let this be your wake-up call to some of the best eco-music around.

Crabtree is one of the finest activist-singer-songwriters of our era, a true artist and revolutionary, and the music on these two releases is proof. As she travels around the country in a bio-diesel van, Crabtree regularly performs some great activist folk-rock while at the same time networking with other musicians, writers, activists and backcountry buffs.

Spreading the word about alternative fuel, climate change, the sacredness of wilderness and wildlife, the tragedy of hate and war, along with the tempestuousness of love and rage, Crabtree's eloquent lyrics and smooth guitar riffs burn themselves indelibly into the listener's psyche. With stunning vocal harmonies, each song will invariably leave you wanting to hear and understand more of the inspiration behind each poem.

She is accompanied on these albums by the likes of Rachel Garlin, Jenny Bird, Alice DiMichele, Wally Ingram, Tony Furtado, Erika Luckett, Julie Wolf and Andrea Prichett.

In *Off the Beaten Path*, Crabtree—who is an experienced river guide—leads you on river journeys, communing with wildlife, eddies, rapids and cliff-faces along the way. This compilation also includes a poignant tribute to Matthew Shepherd, a gay man who was murdered in Wyoming in 1998, and a haunting ballad of the New Mexico fires that burned through the



# sic Reviews

Los Alamos National Laboratory a few years ago. Other songs take you to the wind-swept canyons and sage country of the Four Corners, the sun-splashed coasts of Baja and the high, snowy peaks of the Colorado Rockies.

In *Bio-Diesel Van*, Crabtree is accompanied by Julia "Butterfly" Hill and Native activist Dune Lankard in two beautiful spoken-word pieces that decry fossil-fuel capitalism and the attendant devastation of all that is real and valid.

Whether she knows it or not, Melissa Crabtree is one of the best poets and composers of the new century, and we will be hearing a lot more about her in the years to come.

For more information or to purchase CDs, visit [www.melissacrabtree.com](http://www.melissacrabtree.com); [www.veggievan.org](http://www.veggievan.org).

*Storm Waters* is an itinerant activist, scientist, guerrilla videographer, writer, storm tracker and music promoter, who sits on the board of directors of Cold Mountain, Cold Rivers, based in the Wild Rockies.

## A Story of the Death of David "Gypsy" Chain

BY STEVE

A Good Forest for Dying: The Tragic Death of a Young Man On the Front Lines of the Environmental Wars by Patrick Beach, Doubleday, 2004.

People have been killed for a \$100 pair of Nikes, so wouldn't a corporate take-over giant kill for a half-billion dollars? Damn straight they would, and they did.

Patrick Beach's book, *A Good Forest for Dying*, lays out the complex issues leading up to the death of David "Gypsy" Chain in September 1998. Following the Headwaters Forest scam—in which federal and California state "politicians" allowed Maxxam/Pacific Lumber (PL) to plunder the majority of the area in exchange for a small forest preserve—Gypsy lost his life on the mountainside above Grizzly Creek. The murder was pulled off by logger A.E. Ammons, his sidekick Rhett Rheback and those at the top of PL, including PL's lackey police detective Juan Freeman.

The tone of the book is set, in part, with an introductory note that includes the following piece: "It was a story that

could and had been cartoonishly rendered. In this corner: the radical environmental movement-not-a-group Earth First!, composed of a bunch of unwashed, apocalyptic, animist forest-dwellers and self-appointed saviors of the Earth. And in this corner: Charles Hurwitz, the Machiavelian, planet-raping takeover artist from Houston, a scorched-earth businessman who had turned the bucolic Whoville of Scotia, California, into a place where both the local economy and the environment were being destroyed at blinding speed. Then there were certain law enforcement agencies that seemed itching to play the heavy in this long-running serial drama."

Beach spent six years researching and writing the book. His fact-checking is thorough, and he attempts to

avoid taking sides. He tells the story through the narratives of Gypsy's friends, as well as transcripts from the wrongful death lawsuit. Beach also gives insight into the perspective of the loggers, making this book a must-read for those idealistic environmentalists running around at industrial logging sites.

Beach missed some key facts, however. For example, Beach neglected to explain the failure of the lead lawyer to include battery in the initial wrongful death complaint. That lawyer did not want any of the percipient

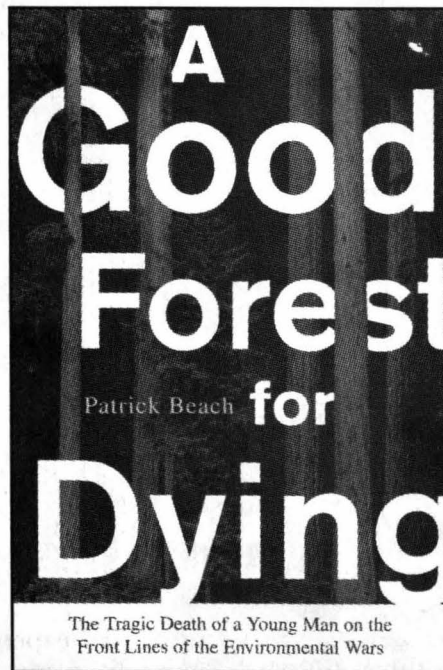
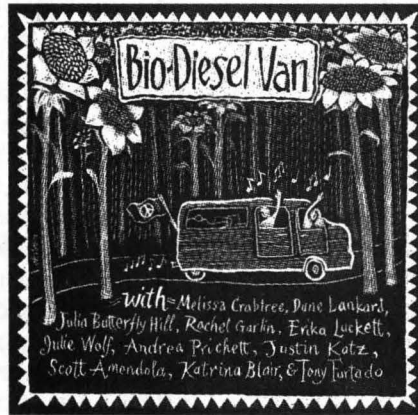
witnesses to bring their own battery lawsuits against Ammons or Rheback, because he was worried about competing interests for his own selfish reasons, namely his pocketbook. This oversight cost the lawsuit a key element, punitive damages, and is one of many factors that have allowed Maxxam to continue its rampant disregard for life.

Beach also neglected to tell the story of how Redwood Summer organizer Darryl Cherney coincidentally met PL's then-president John Campbell in a bar after the "Headwaters Deal" was settled. Campbell bought Cherney a drink and during their conversation, Campbell informed Cherney that he might not be able to control his loggers now that the enviros had gotten what they wanted. Several weeks later, Gypsy was dead.

In spite of these few omissions, veteran activists and newcomers alike will

find *A Good Forest for Dying* both gripping and informative.

Steve is a forest activist who is currently on a working sabbatical from the timber wars of North America.



# Exposing Green Corps

BY NATHANIEL MILLER

Two years ago, I accepted a job with Green Corps, the "Field School for Environmental Organizing." Green Corps claims to train and pay recent college graduates to work on campaigns with big-name environmental groups for a year, and then promises to place them in activist jobs.

During the four months I was involved with Green Corps, I saw people evaluated and purged for their political beliefs. The organization also engaged in union-busting and openly opposed affirmative action, environmental justice and other efforts to diversify the environmental movement. Other people who have been a part of Green Corps and its parent organization, the Public Interest Research Group (PIRG), have reported similar stories.

Although I had some reservations during my interview weekend, I accepted the job and traveled to Boston, Massachusetts, to begin my "Green Corps year."

Participants learned during the first few days of training that PIRG founded Green Corps in 1991 to train "environmental leaders" using a top-down organizing model that is work and democratic

Five days into the training, Dan Compton was the first person for what he believes and his interest in "Green Corps decided that Dan was not the right fit for the organization," was the official explanation. I later learned that he had been forced to pack his bags early in the morning and was hustled out of his room while everyone else was at training. This followed a pattern that would manifest itself throughout the rest of the year—people were simply "disappeared" in the middle of the night.

Natalie, another Green Corps recruit, was told by her supervisor, Naomi Roth, that she had gotten places in life solely "because of her looks." Natalie was

opposed to anti-oppression decision making.

training, Dan Compton to be out-and-out fired, was his dyed blue hair radical social change.

placed on probation for being "too process oriented," and she later decided to quit.

At the conclusion of the initial three-week training, Green Corps held an organization-wide discussion where it was implied that the "class" could speak freely. I was one of the most vocal participants, along with another organizer, Daniel Gross. We argued that to fire someone based on their political beliefs is discrimination.

We were then sent to work with various environmental organizations. I was placed with the Sierra Club in Wisconsin, and Daniel went to work in Florida with Greenpeace. Each "team" was assigned to an "organizing director" who worked out of Green Corps' office in Boston. I thought that I would have some autonomy with my work. I was wrong.

I thoroughly enjoyed working with the Sierra Club. But despite the support I received from the people there, I did not have any real control over the direction of the campaign. Green Corps trainees were required to have regular one-on-one phone calls with our organizing directors, during which Naomi and I spoke surprisingly little about the campaign. Most of her questions focused on my political analysis and how she felt it was "wrong." For example, she felt that I placed too much emphasis on direct action and anti-oppression work. She believed that this kind of work gave the environmental movement a "bad image."

This went on for a couple of months, until our class came together again for a second training session. During this

session, Daniel and I both argued for affirmative action when recruiting people for the following year in order to increase Green Corps' diversity. There was only one person of color out of our class of 31. We suggested that if Green Corps worked on more environmental justice issues, it might be a more diverse organization. Leslie Samuelich, Green Corps' executive director, responded that environmental justice was "classically self-interested NIMBYism." Naomi stated, "Racism might be



Green Corps: Training the Next Generation of Top-Down Environmental Bureaucrats

settled in a couple hundred years, but the environmental movement needs to recognize that its base of power is with the white middle class." Central staff consistently reiterated the statement, "Diversity is not part of Green Corps' mission."

Following this discussion, Daniel and I were interrogated by our respective supervisors. We were asked why we wanted to "derail Green Corps' mission." During my conversation with Naomi, she informed me that I was on "ultimatum," which meant that I was red-flagged to be fired.

Daniel and I circulated the idea of forming a union to prevent arbitrary terminations and to insure diversity. We planned to meet with a small group of people at a bar to discuss the idea. En route to the meeting, on the Boston Metro, we noticed that Naomi was following us and trying to listen to our conversation. When we saw her, she quietly got up and left.

Shortly after the second training, Kaitlin Nichols—who was told that her working-class background made her think incorrectly—quit. In response, Daniel and I continued to talk to our fellow employees about protecting our jobs. Naomi was giving me increasingly unrealistic goals, which I believed was an attempt to make me quit, so I circulated a letter amongst other employees that explained what was happening to me and asked them to sign their support. Two days later, Daniel and I were fired.

Green Corps later argued that our mutual terminations were a coincidence, but on November 25, 2002, at exactly the same moment, our supervisors arrived in the cities we were placed in to fire us. Green Corps gave us both the same explanation—that we "weren't acting in the best interest of Green Corps." We both requested more specific reasons and received none.

After being fired, I went out to have a beer with one of my interns, and while I was at the bar, Naomi called me and said that I needed to return to my office "immediately." My intern and I returned to find Naomi rummaging through my desk and personal belongings, throwing things into a box. She said that she was looking for Green Corps property, but among the

things she tried to take were newspaper clippings about my campaign and my contact list for other people in Green Corps. When Naomi demanded to search my bag, I was fortunate to be able to hide those items in my intern's backpack. Still, many of my personal files disappeared.

Those left in Green Corps wrote a letter to the organization's board of directors, recommending small changes to increase morale and prevent arbitrary firings. Every remaining member of the Green Corps' 2003 class, except one, signed the letter. Chairman of the Board Doug Phelps (also head of the National Association of State PIRGS) responded to each person with a letter

saying, "There is an inevitable negative vibe created by [writing a letter to the board]; though the Green Corps leadership seems to be willing to just move on, I myself don't like people going behind my back or over my head in an organized

fashion, and especially people I'm busting my butt to train and serve, and doubly especially if I'm paying them for the privilege!" Since almost everyone signed the protest letter, central staff could not discipline anyone.

Throughout the rest of the year, nine more people quit Green Corps because they were dissatisfied with the organization, its policies and its treatment of employees.

Unfortunately, Green Corps obscures these stories. But don't let the recruiters fool you; Green Corps is nothing but an anti-democratic front group for PIRG, an organization notorious for long hours, low pay and top-down bureaucratic structure. By getting involved with genuine grassroots groups, people interested in working for environmental and social change can gain the same skills that Green Corps teaches—without the hierarchy.

For more information, contact Nathaniel, (610) 209-1447; nathaniel@riseup.net. To read a longer version of this article, visit [www.nonprofitwatch.org/greencorps](http://www.nonprofitwatch.org/greencorps).

*Nathaniel Miller currently works on issues surrounding the effects of corporate globalization on local communities in Philadelphia. He also works with the IWW.*

We suggested that if Green Corps worked on more environmental justice issues, it might be a more diverse organization. Leslie Samuelrich, Green Corps' executive director, responded that environmental justice was "classically self-interested NIMBYism."

## Alternatives to Green Corps

- Student Environmental Action Coalition (SEAC), [www.seac.org](http://www.seac.org), is a student- and youth-run national network of progressive organizations and individuals whose aim is to uproot environmental injustices through action and education. SEAC has chapters at colleges across the country and a national office in Philadelphia with possible internship opportunities.

- EnviroCitizen, [www.envirocitizen.com](http://www.envirocitizen.com), works to build leadership, ignite youth power and replenish the environmental movement with a diverse base of innovative, emerging leaders dedicated to winning environmental and social justice victories. The organization trains student activists in campaign organizing, media, lobbying and other skills.

- Earth First! is a radical, non-hierarchical environmental network that organizes campaigns and takes direct action to defend the Earth. To get involved, hook up with your local EF! group (see directory on page 54) or contact the *Journal* for details on starting your own group.

# Five Centuries of Resistance in Argentina

BY KENDRA FEHRER AND BRAD WILL

In a dim, musty room on the second floor of a squatted synagogue, we sit on mattresses, eating homemade pizza and drinking cheap wine; the date is May 28 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. A grandmother shows us her necklace, made of old coins strung together. The necklace is a relic from a culture where silver is worn as an adornment, not used by capitalism to buy and sell. Pictured on the head of the coin is General San Martín, "The Liberator" of Peru, Chile and Argentina. Horacio points to the coin and says, "He didn't liberate us. The army came, they kicked the Spanish out, but nothing changed for us. So we will continue to fight."

Tomorrow, half of the Ava Guarani community will return home to Salta, a northern province of Argentina, after almost a month of campaigning and coalition-building in the capital. They are fighting for their ancestral land, which is now in the hands of Tabacal Sugar, a subsidiary of the two-billion-dollar multinational Seaboard Corporation.

The land where the Ava Guarani once lived, La Loma, stands out amidst the vast, monotonous fields of sugar cane and genetically modified soy. This hilly, wild stretch of subtropical cloud forest is all that remains of what was once the largest contiguous forest in northern Argentina. The provincial government is planning to develop La Loma into a recreational area for tourists.

Haydee recounts, "For years our brothers and sisters have suffered so that the sugar refinery could profit ... Why don't they leave just a little piece of land to those who have given their lives to the refinery? Why have they pushed us aside?"

## Reclaiming the Land

Under cover of night in September, 150 Ava Guarani families returned to their ancestral homeland. Despite their displacement almost five decades ago, members of the community have continued to discretely visit their land to harvest native fruits and medicinal herbs and to cultivate small plots of yucca, corn, potatoes, beans and squash. "The land is like family to us," says Haydee, whose grandparents are buried in the small, Guarani cemetery in La Loma. "My mother always told me the Earth is our mother. So we have to respect the Earth. Each time when we visited La Loma, we asked permission from the Earth."

Two days into the occupation, the community was awakened at gunpoint by local police. Everyone, including pregnant women and the elderly, was violently evicted, as ordered by Tabacal Sugar. Twenty-one community members were arrested and detained.

The provincial government pretended that nothing happened. Conscious of the old political refrain, "*Dios está en todos lados, pero atiende en Buenos Aires*" (God is everywhere, but his office is in Buenos Aires), several dozen community members began the 500-mile trek to the nation's capital to officially report the human rights violation and pursue the legal process of reclaiming the land.

In the capital, they met with various public officials who

feigned sympathy, promised support and showed them the door. To Haydee, the government is just as misguided as the sugar refinery, speaking in a foreign language of papers and regulations. "In the time of our grandparents, we didn't need papers. We didn't need titles. When they came and colonized us, they imposed papers and titles."

The Ava Guarani are fighting on all fronts. They have appeared in national media and



Members of the Ava Guarani community in Buenos Aires

have led numerous marches and *escraches* (a public shaming tactic used to defame military officers responsible for genocide and torture during the dictatorship of 1976-83). They have also joined forces with *piquetero* groups, linking two populations marginalized by global capitalism: indigenous peoples and the poor, urban unemployed.

## Allied Resistance

While coalitions of indigenous rights groups, unemployed workers movements, neighborhood assemblies, cultural centers and environmental organizations organized against Tabacal Sugar in Buenos Aires, North American activists simultaneously kicked off a campaign to pressure Seaboard at the shiny glass doors of its Boston, Massachusetts, headquarters.

Seaboard claims that it has nothing to do with the actions of Tabacal Sugar in Argentina, but when activists crashed the corporation's annual shareholders meeting outside of Boston on April 26, the corporation was forced to account for the actions of the sugar refinery.

Amid stunned looks by Seaboard Chief Executive Officer Harry Bresky and other executives, four activists dressed as waiters burst into the Sheraton conference

room. They unraveled a scroll above Bresky's head declaring him guilty of repression and displacement of indigenous peoples in Salta. The action was coordinated by Worcester Global Action Network (WoGAN). Two "waiters" were arrested for trespassing and disorderly conduct.

The action shattered business as usual as the meeting was redirected to the issue of indigenous rights. Bresky had to admit that Seaboard's land holdings in Salta span an area larger than the state of Rhode Island, and that only a small part is used for sugar production. Following the disruption, one concerned shareholder asked, "Well, if it's only a question of land, and we have so much, why can't we just give part of it back?" Another shareholder stated, "This looks like an important issue we should look into. If this is true, it could risk our financial investments."

Bresky made a desperate attempt to save face in front of the shareholders. "What do [the activists] want? For us to abandon our land? They've never been down there, they don't know the real story," Bresky complained. But it was Bresky who did not know the real story. In fact, for the last three years WoGAN has been working on the ground with movements in Argentina. Bresky tried to blame the provincial government, but it is generally recognized that the province is run by sugar barons like Ingenio San Martín de Tabacal.



*Drummers at a march against Tabacal*

## Sigue la Lucha

Latin American politicians and feudal *caudillos* (landlords) who repressed indigenous peoples and exploited the Earth for 500 years have grown into transnational corporate alliances. The names have changed, but the game is the same.

Not only have communities been displaced, but they are facing constant threats and harassment. Following a march against Seaboard in Buenos Aires, community leader Horacio Guzmán and journalist Pablo Badano were arrested while networking with other indigenous communities in Salta. On another occasion, community leaders were awakened at 3 a.m. and interrogated about their organizing meetings by a group of large men driving clearly marked company vehicles. Organizing meetings were later

crashed by more hired goons.

Although the violence against the Ava Guarani has escalated, so has the resistance. The Ava Guarani are ready to re-occupy the land. Their alliances with groups in Salta and Buenos Aires are deepening. US activists are helping to organize a Fall speaking tour in cities where Seaboard has assets or offices and in places where other communities are fighting environmental racism.

For more information, contact [saltasolidarity@wildmail.com](mailto:saltasolidarity@wildmail.com) or visit [www.alerta-salta.org.ar](http://www.alerta-salta.org.ar); [www.argentina.indymedia.org](http://www.argentina.indymedia.org); [www.wogan.org](http://www.wogan.org).

*Kendra Fehrer lives in Buenos Aires, where she teaches at an unemployed workers movement community school.*

## Seaboard in the US: Environmental Injustice

Seaboard Corporation owns assets worldwide, including sugar refineries in Argentina, flour-milling plants in the Americas and Africa, shrimp and maritime ventures in Central America and the Caribbean, power generators in the Dominican Republic and wine distribution activities in Europe.

Seaboard's hog farms in the US, scattered throughout the Midwest, are notorious polluters that have been known to discharge vast quantities of blood, grease and animal waste into nearby wetlands and community water supplies. Dead pigs, syringes, medical waste and other objects have been found floating in factory farm lagoons. There are widespread animal abuse allegations that Seaboard workers bludgeoned pigs with heavy objects, stomped on animals and picked them up by their hind legs and slammed them onto the floor.

The Seaboard pig plant in Albert Lea, Oklahoma, doubled the city's sewage needs, costing \$34 million, \$25 million of which was subsidized by the federal government. The pig waste was stored in five giant cesspits just seventy-five feet above the Ogduala Aquifer, a major source of drinking water for the Midwest.

In 1998, *Time* magazine featured Seaboard in its

series on corporate welfare, exposing the company's abuses in US-based pork production. During the 1990s, Seaboard received \$161 million in corporate welfare as it hopped from one Midwest town to another and took advantage of government subsidies to set up its facilities. Moving every few years to a new place with better tax breaks, Seaboard avoided complaints against irresponsible environmental and labor practices.

In 2000, a coalition of nonprofit organizations filed a lawsuit against Seaboard for the pollution associated with its hog production. Despite attempts to negotiate a settlement, the lawsuit is still pending.

Seaboard Corporation, 9000 West 67th St, POB 2972, Shawnee Mission, KS 66201; (913) 676-8800; (913) 676-8872 (fax); [seaboard@seaboardcorp.com](mailto:seaboard@seaboardcorp.com).

Pork Division-Seaboard Farms, Inc., 9000 West 67th St, Suite 200, POB 29135, Shawnee Mission, KS 66201; (800) 262-7907 or (913) 261-2600; [info@seaboardpork.com](mailto:info@seaboardpork.com).

Commodity, Trading & Milling Division, 9000 West 67th St; POB 2972; Shawnee Mission, KS 66201; (913) 677-5200; (913) 676-8872 (fax).

Marine Division-Seaboard Marine, 8050 NW 79th Avenue, Miami, FL 33166; (305) 863-4444; (305) 863-4777 (fax); [marketing@seaboardmarine.com](mailto:marketing@seaboardmarine.com).

# A Wildland Fire Tragicomedy

BY JAY LININGER

A wonderful, ecological tragicomedy is underway this Summer at the birthplace of Smokey the Bear. The Lincoln National Forest of southern New Mexico hosted the largest wildland fire in North America during the first half of 2004. Prolonged drought, early Spring snowmelt and chronically low woody-fuel moistures contributed to the rapid spread and large size of the Peppin fire in the Capitan Mountains, 150 miles south of Santa Fe.

A federal decision to ground the nation's fleet of fire suppression air tankers on May 10—the day the Peppin fire started—provoked a raging political firestorm of blame and recrimination. While somewhat amusing, the storm threatens to blaze over core problems in wildland fire management and to entrench the mistaken approaches of the past.

## Fighting Fire with Fire

Congressional representatives from western states crucified Undersecretary of Agriculture Mark Rey for grounding the tankers at the onset of fire season without a plan to enlist replacement aircraft. Rey then requested authorization from the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee to spend \$26 million to hire other planes. However, Representative Jeff Flake and his colleagues from Arizona are spearheading an effort to return the tankers to service this year.

The political hype over air tankers misses some core problems in wildland fire management. The tankers are part of the US Forest Service's (USFS) misguided wildfire management plan, which for decades has been to suppress all fires. This has caused forests to grow dense with small trees and underbrush, setting the stage for hotter and more destructive wildfires. Many biologists and fire experts recommend that fire control should instead focus on removing trees and brush from around homes located next to wildlands, rather than stopping large fires in remote areas.

Nevertheless, the absence of tankers necessitates changes in wildland firefighting strategy. Without tankers, firefighters rely more heavily on indirect suppression tactics, including burnout operations that intentionally ignite fires to consume fuel along containment lines in the path of an advancing wildfire.

Burnouts, however, always come with an environmental cost. According to Timothy Ingalsbee, director of the Western Fire Ecology Center in Eugene, Oregon, large-scale burnouts can completely blacken extensive areas of soil and vegetation and homogenize what might otherwise be a mosaic pattern of fire effects.

"This reduces the beneficial, diverse pattern of burned and unburned areas on both a stand and landscape level," he said. "As well, unburned pockets offer critical refugia for native flora and fauna, especially soil microfauna that provide vital sources of natural, post-fire recovery processes."

## Light It and Log It

Burnouts and backfiring also lead to increased logging in public forests. Fire suppression operations routinely char forests where the USFS and Bureau of Land Management later approve salvage logging projects. A new report from the Western Fire Ecology Center discloses that 11,275 acres in the Biscuit Fire Recovery Project on the Siskiyou National Forest in southwest Oregon were torched in the largest backcountry firing operation in history. According to the government's final environmental impact statement for the project, salvage logging would target stands that experienced 75 percent or greater mortality among mature and old-growth trees. The large number of proposed salvage logging areas currently proposed in the Biscuit burn demonstrates the severity of effects that result from fire-suppression operations.

## Withering Wilderness

The 1964 Wilderness Act established protective authority for lands characterized by "primeval influences" where "the Earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man." However, the act broadly exempted "emergency fire control" from its restrictions on human activity because, at that time, fire was widely viewed as a destructive force that deprived people of wilderness "resources." To this day, the vast preponderance of wilderness ignitions provokes crisis responses that moot every environmental law and conservation strategy on public lands.

The only way to avoid heavy-handed fire suppression operations in wilderness areas or elsewhere is for an approved fire management plan (FMP) to specify the exact conditions under which a wildland fire will be allowed to burn for "resource benefit." Without an FMP, the only option available to land managers is to suppress all fires regardless of their location, size, intensity or potential effects.

With notable exceptions, the USFS invests little time, energy or money into developing FMPs, and its personnel commonly stonewall public demands for new plans. For several consecutive years, the USFS has borrowed huge sums of money from other accounts to suppress wildfires in areas that lacked approved FMPs. This failure to plan for wildland fires undermines other priorities, including hazardous fuel reduction and watershed restoration.

*Jay Lininger is a Doris A. Duke Conservation Fellow at the University of Montana in Missoula.*



ARTWORK BY MAYA DELEPANI

# Ask an EF! Lawyer

## He's Working on *Your* Side!

BY STU SUGARMAN

Dear EF! Lawyer,

*I've heard about a court case in Oregon that gave activists more freedom to protest and diminished cops' power to arrest the protesters. Is this true? How did it come about? Can we accomplish the same thing in other states?*

—FREEDOM OF SPEECH LOVER, MICHIGAN

Dear Speech Lover,

Yes, it's true! On December 16, 1998, President Clinton launched "Operation Desert Fox," the most intense bombing of Iraq in the period between the 1991 Gulf War and the current Iraq invasion. Thousands of citizens took to the streets of downtown Portland, Oregon, to protest the bombing. Protesters were peaceful, but the police were intent on clearing the streets quickly so that normal consumer culture would not be disturbed.

"Aaron" was on a downtown street when the cops barked orders to get on the sidewalk. Aaron, a student who had never been arrested before and did not plan to start that day, looked at the sidewalk and noticed that there were too many people to even get near the sidewalk. Another cop yelled from atop his horse for people to leave the area. Aaron looked again and noticed that there was nowhere to go—the horse cops had sealed off the entire block! Maybe two seconds after the order for people to leave, Aaron asked a cop where he should go. The cop arrested him on the spot.

Twenty-three people were arrested and called my office that night. Soon 23 lawyers, who normally are paid anywhere from \$100-\$300 per hour, each agreed to represent a protester for free.

Eleven of the defendants were charged with "disorderly conduct." This particular law made it a crime for people to gather together and then fail to obey a lawful order to leave, or "disperse." Our constitutional challenge to the charge, written by Michael Rose and argued by Tim Bowman, succeeded in dismissing the charge for all 11 disorderly conduct defendants. The trial judge said that the word "lawful" was not clear, and defendants and cops alike

were not capable of understanding what that word meant. The statute section was therefore void because of its vagueness and its unlawful delegation of legislative authority to the police.

The state appealed and our volunteer appellate lawyers, Drew Chilton and Hugh Sage, argued for all 11 protesters straight through to the Oregon Supreme Court. That court ruled on March 13 of this year in *State v. Ausmus* that the statute in question criminalized Oregonians' constitutional rights to assemble for their common good and to speak freely on any subject whatsoever.

This ruling means that in Oregon, cops can not arrest protesters unless the protesters' behavior is harmful. For the first time in quite a while, a protester has to actually commit a crime to be (lawfully) arrested.

Now, we must work to ensure that every state's constitution functions to protect citizens' rights. Oregon's decision would not have happened but for its constitution, which takes citizen rights seriously, prior court decisions preserving those rights, and lawyers and judges who aren't afraid to fight for those rights.

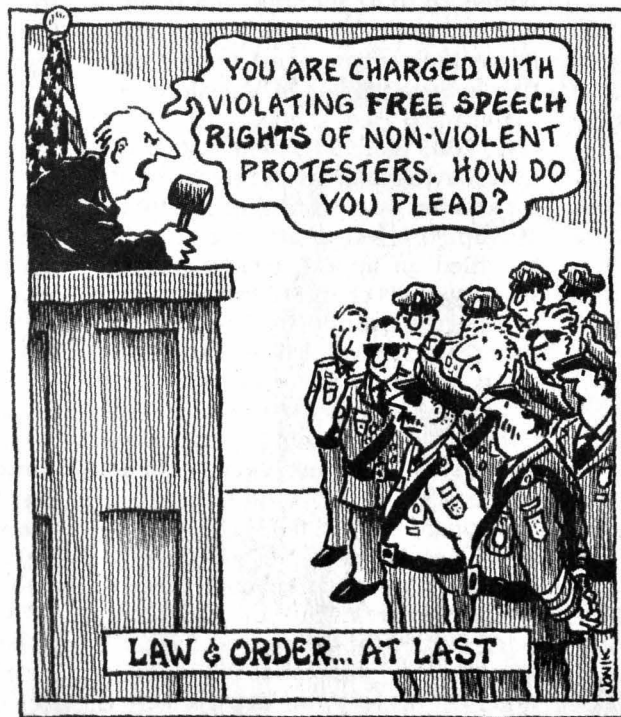
My survey of other states' constitutional provisions, cases and treatment of criminal offenses indicates that every state differs. Indiana's constitution includes a freedom of speech guarantee just like Oregon's,

but its courts have stripped the freedom to near oblivion.

Lawyers in Oregon made the freedom of speech/right to assemble argument for years before it finally succeeded. Since 1998, we have succeeded again and again. On May 27, Paul Loney—a lawyer in this office—won a constitutional rights case by arguing that the state violated the freedom of the press when it used a similar statute, "interfering with a police officer," to arrest a reporter.

We persisted because we knew we were right. Now, the law in Oregon protects our right to gather together and to speak freely. Keep fighting in your state, and so long as we work together, you will have these rights as well.

*Do you have a legal question? Contact Stuart A. Sugarman, LLC, 3430 SE Belmont #101, Portland, OR 97214; blc@hevanet.com. Please write "Dear EF! Lawyer" on the subject line.*



artwork by John Jank



# Prisoners in the Struggle: Support Them!

*Regulations for mail sent to prisoners vary according to individual prisons. Before sending monetary donations, stamps, books or packages, ask prisoners what the regulations are. Assume that the authorities read everything that you write to a prisoner. The following list is a small sample of the total number of political prisoners and prisoner support groups worldwide. The EF! Journal offers discounted subscriptions for prisoners. Please contact us for more information.*

## Prisoner and Legal Updates

•Tre Arrow, c/o Rudy Kischer, Embarkation Law Group, 609 W Hastings St, 6th Floor, Vancouver, BC V6B 4W4, Canada. Awaiting hearing on possible extradition to the US to stand trial for alleged involvement in arsons on logging trucks and an Earth Liberation Front (ELF) arson on vehicles owned by a sand and gravel company. Arrow has been denied bail and is also awaiting trial for charges of shoplifting and providing a false name in Canada. He has appealed for refugee status to prevent his extradition.

•Sherman Austin, #51565-054, FCI Tucson, 8901 S Wilmot Rd, Tucson, AZ 85706, USA. Serving one year for maintaining a website that contained links to other websites with information on how to make explosives. Austin is expected to be released in August, unless the State of California decides to file additional charges against him.

•Angela Marie Cesario, 66522-065, Federal Prison Camp Dublin, 5675 8th St, Camp Parks, Dublin, CA 94568, USA. After Jacob Sherman turned traitor and gave evidence against Cesario for arson attacks on logging trucks in Oregon in 2001, she accepted a plea bargain and was sentenced to 41 months in prison.

•William "Billy" Cottrell, #29526712, Metropolitan Detention Center, POB 1500, Los Angeles, CA 90053, USA. Awaiting trial for alleged involvement in a series of ELF actions that damaged approximately 125 SUVs. Cottrell was held for nearly three months in a temporary detention facility, where suspected FBI informants attempted to elicit a confession from him. After a

lengthy legal process, his lawyers succeeded in getting him moved to the address listed above. Cottrell's trial has been postponed until October 26.

•Ibai Ederra, Carcel de Pamplona, C/ San Roque Apdo 250, 31080-Iruñea Pamplona, Navarra, Spain. Awaiting sentencing for sabotaging a dam construction site. Ederra was captured during a routine traffic stop on March 15.

•Aaron Linas, 38448083, NEOCC, 2240 Hubbard Rd, Youngstown, Ohio 44505, USA. On April 12, Linas was sentenced to 42 months for a series of ELF actions against McDonald's and Burger King, urban sprawl, the construction industry and an SUV dealership.

•Jeffrey "Free" Luers, #13797671, OSP, 2605 State St, Salem, OR 97310, USA. Serving 22 years and eight months for arson at a car dealership and for the attempted arson of an oil truck. Free has filed an appeal, challenging the severity of his charges (three counts of first-degree arson instead of one lesser count) and his conviction of attempted arson on the basis of circumstantial evidence. The appeal also alleges violations of his Fourth and Eighth Amendment rights. Oral arguments are expected in late July.

•Leonard Peltier, #89637-132, POB 1000, Leavenworth, KS 66048, USA. Peltier, an American Indian Movement activist, is serving life in prison after being framed for the deaths of two FBI agents killed during the 1975 Pine Ridge siege. On April 19, the Supreme Court refused to review the 10th Circuit Court's decision to deny Peltier parole, in spite of the 10th Circuit's recognition that the government engaged in misconduct in Peltier's prosecution.

Peltier was recently nominated for the 2004 Nobel Peace Prize by Bart Staes, a Belgian member of the European Parliament, in recognition of his commitment to social justice work both before and after his imprisonment. Letters encouraging the Norwegian Nobel Institute to award Peltier the prize can be sent to Drammensveien 19, NO-0255, Oslo, Norway.

•Jeremy Rosenbloom, 66521-065, Federal Prison Camp Sheridan, POB 6000, Sheridan, OR 97378, USA. After

Jacob Sherman turned traitor and gave evidence against Rosenbloom for arson attacks on logging trucks in Oregon in 2001, Rosenbloom accepted a plea bargain and was sentenced to 41 months in prison.

•Sergio Maria Stefani, Casa Circondariale Regina Coeli, Via della Lungara 29, 00165 Roma, Italy. On May 20, Stefani was arrested by police investigating damage carried out against several fur stores and butchers and the discovery of an incendiary device in front of a butcher shop in March. Stefani is prominently involved with several animal rights campaigns, including the campaign to close Morini Farm, which breeds rats and dogs for the vivisection industry.

•John Wade, #38548-083, FCI Petersburg Low, POB 1000, Petersburg, VA 23804, USA. On April 14, Wade was sentenced to 37 months for the same actions as Aaron Linas.

•Kerry Whitburn LC7479, HMP Nottingham, Perry Road, Sherwood, Notts, NG5 3AG, England. Sentenced in May to four months for unspecified actions against Newchurch Guinea Pig Farm. Whitburn had only recently been released after serving one month for attempting to liberate monkeys from a pet store.

•Helen Woodson, #03231-045, c/o Bates County Jail, POB 60, Butler, MO 64730, USA. Awaiting trial for parole violations, including allegedly dumping a tin of red paint over the security apparatus of a federal court, mailing four threatening letters and making a threatening telephone call. Before her latest arrest, Woodson had just completed 18 years for disarming a Minuteman II missile silo with a jackhammer, mailing warning letters to officials with bullets inside, robbing a bank and burning the money.

## Animal Liberation

•Dave Blenkinsop, EM7899, HMP Bullingdon, Oxfordshire OX6 0PZ, UK. Serving 10 years for attacking the managing director of Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS), rescuing 600 guinea pigs from a lab supplier and planting incendiary devices under slaughterhouse vehicles.

•Hanna Ekegren, Box 1005, 718 92

Frovi, Sweden. Serving 10 months for damaging equipment at a chicken processing plant and destroying the eggs of thousands of chickens that would have been bred for the industry.

•Paul Holliday, KA9328, HMP Lindholme, Bawtry Rd, Hatfield Woodhouse, Doncaster, Yorks DN7 6EE, UK. Serving one-and-a-half years for making phone calls to animal abusers, including HLS shareholders, hunters and agricultural suppliers.

•Paul Le Boutillier, KA9326, HMP Hull, Hedon Rd, Hull HU9 5LS, UK. Serving five years for making phone calls to animal abusers, including HLS shareholders, hunters and agricultural suppliers.

### Ecodefense

•Dr. Yuri Bandazhevsky, U1. Kalvarijskaya 36, POB 35K, Minsk 220600, Belarus. Serving eight years for telling the world that the nuclear radiation around Chernobyl was worse than the Russian government reported.

•Iñaki Garcia Koch, Carcel de Pamplona, C/San Roque. Apdo. 250, 31080-Iruñez Pamplona, Navarra, Spain. Serving nearly five years for sabotaging a dam construction site.

•Craig "Critter" Marshall, #13797662, SRCI, 777 Stanton Blvd,

### MOVE

The "MOVE 9," members of an eco-revolutionary group, were framed for the murder of a cop and sentenced to 30 to 100 years each. Although many of the MOVE prisoners are listed together, they must be written to separately.

•Debbie Simms Africa, #006307, Janet Holloway Africa, #006308, and Janine Philips Africa, #006309, SCI Cambridge Springs, 451 Fullerton Ave, Cambridge Springs, PA 16403-1238, USA.

•Michael Davis Africa, #AM4973, and Charles Simms Africa, #AM4975, SCI Grateford, POB 244, Grateford, PA 19426-0244, USA.

•Edward Goodman Africa, #AM4974, SCI Mahanoy, 301 Morea Rd, Frackville, PA 17931, USA.

•William Philips Africa, #AM4984, and Delbert Orr Africa, #AM4985, SCI

•Robert Thaxton, #12112716, OSP, 2605 State St, Salem, OR 97310, USA. Serving a seven-year mandatory minimum sentence for throwing a rock at a cop at a 1999 Reclaim the Streets action in Eugene, Oregon.

•Fran Thompson, #1090915, Chillicothe Correctional Center, 1500 W Third St, Chillicothe, MO 64601, USA. Before she was given a life sentence in the early 1990s for shooting a stalker in self-defense, Thompson was active in animal rights and environmental campaigns.

### Vieques

Demonstrators celebrated the end of US military maneuvers on the island of Vieques, Puerto Rico, in May 2003. Actions taken during a victory celebration



**EN LA SOCIEDAD DE LA CARCEL POR DOQUIER,  
TIEMPO Y ESPACIO PARA SU DERROTA**

Ontario, OR 97914, USA. Serving five-and-a-half years for conspiracy to commit arson and possession of incendiary devices to destroy SUVs.

### Indigenous Resistance

•Byron "Oso Blanco" Chubbuck, #07909-051, POB 1000, Leavenworth, KS 66048, USA. Serving 80 years for aggravated assault on federal agents, escape and bank robbery. Chubbuck funneled money that he stole from banks to the Zapatista Army of National Liberation in Chiapas, Mexico.

Dallas, Drawer K, Dallas, PA 18612, USA.

•Mumia Abu-Jamal, #AM8335, SCI Greene, 175 Progress Dr, Waynesburg, PA 15370, USA. Abu-Jamal, a politically active journalist, was framed for the murder of a cop in 1981.

### Political Prisoners

•Matthew Lamont, #T90521, A-5-248 UP, Centinella State Prison, POB 901, Imperial, CA 92251, USA. Lamont, an Earth First!er, is serving three years for possession of an incendiary device.

led to the arrest and conviction of several activists, who were charged with conspiracy to destroy federal property. Although they share the same address, they must be written to separately: MDC Guaynabo, POB 2147, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00922-2147.

•José Vélez Acosta, #23883-069. Serving two years and nine months.

•José Pérez González, #21519-069. Serving five years.

•Néstor de Jesús Guishard, #21716-069. Serving one year and two months.

## Prisoner Support Groups

- Anarchist Black Cross Network, [www.anarchistblackcross.org](http://www.anarchistblackcross.org).
- Anarchist Prisoner Legal Aid Network, 818 SW Third Ave, PMB 354, Portland, OR 97204, USA.
- Books Through Bars, 4722 Baltimore Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19143, USA; [www.booksthroughbars.org](http://www.booksthroughbars.org).
- Break the Chains Prisoner Support Group, POB 12122, Eugene, OR 97440,

USA; [www.breakthechains.net](http://www.breakthechains.net).

- Critical Resistance, 1904 Franklin St, Ste 504, Oakland, CA 94612, USA; [www.criticalresistance.org](http://www.criticalresistance.org).
- Earth Liberation Prisoners Support Network, [www.spiritoffreedom.org.uk](http://www.spiritoffreedom.org.uk).
- Free's Defense Network, POB 3, Eugene, OR 97440, USA.
- Friends of Free, [www.freefreemow.org](http://www.freefreemow.org).
- North American Animal Liberation Front Supporters Group, POB 69597,

5845 Yonge St, Willowdale, Ontario M2M 4K3, Canada.

- Prison Activist Resource Center, POB 339, Berkeley, CA 94701, USA; [www.prisonactivist.org](http://www.prisonactivist.org).
- Prison Book Program, 110 Arlington St, Boston, MA 02116, USA; [www.prisonbookprogram.org](http://www.prisonbookprogram.org).
- Prison Moratorium Project, 388 Atlantic Ave, 3rd Floor, Brooklyn, NY 11217, USA; [www.nomoreprisons.org](http://www.nomoreprisons.org).



# Swiss Eco-Revolutionary Convicted of Murder



BY LENNY

On May 16, longtime ecodefender Marco Camenisch went on trial in Switzerland for murder and attempted murder, crimes which he has always denied committing. On June 4, the court found him guilty of murder and sentenced him to 17 years in prison. He was acquitted of the attempted murder charge.

Camenisch was born in Schiers, Switzerland, in 1952. He dropped out of an elite high school to apprentice as a farmer and eventually fled to the Alps in rejection of modern society. In time, he realized the need for active resistance and returned from the mountains to live life as a revolutionary.

In the late 1970s, Camenisch became active in the movement against nuclear power plants in Switzerland and took part in militant direct action, including the destruction of nuclear facilities and powerlines with explosives. In 1980, he was arrested and sentenced to 10 years in prison. In a statement at his trial, Camenisch linked his actions to the struggle against ecological destruction and capitalism. In 1981, he and five others escaped from prison.

In the course of the prison break, a prison guard was shot and killed and another was seriously wounded. For the next 10 years, Camenisch lived in hiding along the Swiss-Italian border and continued his militant direct action against nuclear power.

In 1989, a Swiss border officer was killed at Brusio. After establishing that Camenisch had been seen in the area, Swiss authorities accused him of the



Marco Camenisch

crime, alleging that Camenisch fired several shots as the guard approached to ask for his papers. Camenisch denies involvement in either shooting.

In November 1992, Italian authorities cornered Camenisch near the Tuscan town of Massa and captured him after a shootout in which both he and a police officer were wounded. Camenisch was sentenced to 12 years in solitary confinement for causing bodily harm and for targeting Italian nuclear powerlines with explosives. He completed his sentence in April 2002 and was extradited to Switzerland to complete the remainder of his original prison term. Swiss authorities also charged him with attempted murder for the 1981 prison break and with the 1989 murder of the border guard.

In addition to his new prison sentence, Camenisch has been ordered to

pay approximately \$80,000 in restitution to the guard's family. His lawyer has already announced plans to file an appeal.

Through his years in prison, Camenisch—a self-identified anarchist—has repeatedly been subjected to degrading conditions and accused of actions in which he had no part. In April, an electric powerline was blown up in northern Italy, and the police quickly began an investigation of Camenisch's supporters, claiming that he was the leader of the group responsible. Supporters see the murder charges as another part of this persecution strategy, saying, "These new charges can be seen as yet another attempt by the authorities to try and break Marco's spirit."

In spite of everything, Camenisch has continued to be active through his writings and has remained uncompromising in his beliefs. He writes:

"I continue to uphold the necessity of a radical antiauthoritarian struggle against ... [an] exploitation always more aggressive and destructive (now by technological capitalism and its total war against individuals, ... cultures and environments of the Earth community) and for *another necessary world*, necessarily based on solidarity and ... fair relationships among all ... the nonhuman and human lives that form the terrestrial community."

Send letters of support to Marco Camenisch, Hörnlistrasse 55, 8330 Pfäffikon/ZH, Switzerland. Camenisch reads French, German, Spanish and Italian. He can also receive letters in English, but does not feel confident to carry on a long correspondence. For more info., visit [www.freecamenisch.net/english](http://www.freecamenisch.net/english).

photo courtesy freecamenisch.net



## FBI and City of Oakland Finally Pay Up

### Darryl Cherney and Judi Bari Get \$4 Million

On May 7, Darryl Cherney and the estate of Judi Bari finally won their 14-year court battle against the FBI and the City of Oakland (see *EFJ* August-September 2002). The FBI and Oakland agreed to pay four million dollars for violating Cherney and Bari's First and Fourth Amendment rights.

Cherney and Bari were victims of a governmental defamation campaign to quell their political organizing in defense of the redwood forests. After a bomb exploded in their car, the FBI and the Oakland Police Department accused the two Earth First!ers of being terrorists injured by their own bomb.

"In the wake of 9/11 and Bush's assault on our civil rights, our trial victory is more urgent than ever," Cherney declared. He added, "We the people will not stand for the FBI or any government agency clearcutting the Constitution. May a thousand lawsuits bloom from this one to hold the FBI accountable for their too-many-to-count violations of the laws they are supposed to uphold."

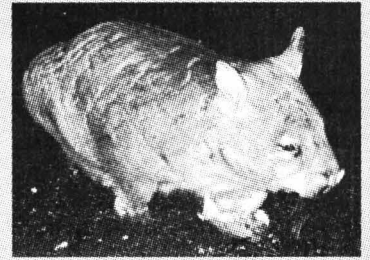
Cherney stated that no individual would net more than \$500,000. He plans to use his money to "acquire a modest home, help fund a continued investigation of the bombing, donate to worthy groups and channel energy into producing CDs of eco-music."

On May 24, Oakland honored Bari with its second annual Judi Bari Day.

# Fauna Cabala

BY FAITH WALKER

Southern hairy-nosed wombats (*Lasiorhinus latifrons*) are of eminent size (they commonly attain 60 pounds), celebrity (they are South Australia's faunal emblem) and style (they have a gorgeous waddle). Yet they keep secrets. These nocturnal, pussle-gutted burrowers are shy and nearly impossible to spy on. But luckily, they're hairy.



For the past five years, I've literally and figuratively knelt at the doorstep of wombats, suspending double-sided sticky tape across burrow entrances, and they were kind enough to make hair donations as they trundled about during the night. DNA harbored in these hairs enabled me to identify individuals, and to determine their relatedness to one another and their patterns of burrow use in various habitats. From this, I teased out the following about wombat life.

Unlike the overwhelming majority of mammals, male southern hairy-nosed wombats are homebodies, residing near their birthplaces their entire lives (about 30 years). Groups of related males live together in interconnected burrow systems called warrens, and close male relatives are even quite chummy. Females, on the other hand, venture forth to new subterranean villas and aren't particularly fond of one another, relative or not. They seem to disperse after raising young; bequeathing burrows to their fussy bubs may be a form of maternal care, since it would be problematic for a young wombat to establish a burrow on its own. In fragmented habitat, this changes. Females are unable to disperse, population density increases, and females opt to dwell with female relatives. Thus it appears that this buxom beauty, this waddling wonder, provides one of only a few studied examples of habitat fragmentation altering a social system, which is likely a harbinger of extinction in many species.

*Faith recently submitted her dissertation on southern hairy-nosed wombats, which represents one of the largest non-invasive genetic studies of wild creatures.*

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# announcements

## **CASCADIA CALL TO ACTION**

The wildlands of the Pacific north coast need you! This Summer and Fall, the US Forest Service is stepping up its attacks on the old-growth forests of the West with salvage logging timber sales. The forest defense groups of Cascadia need people willing to do direct action, campaign support, public outreach, wildlands monitoring and more—and we need you now!

For more information, contact Cascadia Rising, POB 12583, Portland, OR 97212; (503) 493-7495; [action@cascadiarising.org](mailto:action@cascadiarising.org); [www.cascadiarising.org](http://www.cascadiarising.org).

## **FERAL VISIONS AGAINST CIVILIZATION**

The 2nd Annual Black and Green Anarchist Gathering

August 1-8 • The Southern Cascades of Oregon

The gathering will focus on rewilding—physically, mentally and spiritually—including an introduction to anti-civilization thought; an in-depth forum for anarcho-primitivism and green anarchy; applying our visions to our lives; primitive skill-sharing; and swimming, hiking and foraging.

For more information, contact (866) 270-1653;

[feralvisions@greenanarchy.org](mailto:feralvisions@greenanarchy.org); [www.greenanarchy.org](http://www.greenanarchy.org).

## **ACTIVIST TRAINING CAMP**

August 1-5 • Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio

Our five-day, intensive training camp will cover all the basic and advanced skills you need to become an effective campus activist. Everyone will leave the camp with the tools necessary to fight successfully for the environment and social justice.

The camp is geared toward high school and college students and non-student youth. It will cover basic organizing, campaigns, taking action, anti-oppression, running effective meetings, and coordinator training in addition to networking opportunities and coalition building.

Costs are on a sliding scale, up to \$75.

For more information, contact Student Environmental Action Coalition, (215) 222-4711; [atc@seac.org](mailto:atc@seac.org); [www.seac.org/atc](http://www.seac.org/atc).

## **ECOTOPIA 2004**

August 9-23 • The Netherlands

Hosted by European Youth for Action (EYFA), Ecotopia

is an annual international gathering that provides a forum for exchanging skills and ideas, putting ecologically sustainable principles into practice and learning about environmental and social issues.

The focus for Ecotopia 2004 is "Water and Bread" and will address basic human needs from several different perspectives, including agriculture and water management, fair trade and the expansion of the European Union.

The Ecotopia Bike Tour (July 1-August 15) will be riding to the conference starting in Vienna, Austria and passing through the Czech Republic and Germany. Riders will share daily tasks and support local environmental and cycling groups along the way.

For more information, contact [ecotopia2004nl@eyfa.org](mailto:ecotopia2004nl@eyfa.org); [www.eyfa.org/ecotopia2004intro](http://www.eyfa.org/ecotopia2004intro).

## **CRIMETHINC. CONVERGENCE**

August 20-26 • Des Moines, Iowa

CrimethInc. is hosting a gathering in Des Moines, Iowa, that will include skill shares, music, direct action and a film festival. After the convergence, this small army of new friends will travel en masse to the Republican National Convention in New York to make sure the convention ends in total failure.

For more info., contact [heldhostage68@hotmail.com](mailto:heldhostage68@hotmail.com); [www.bestplaceever.com/crimethinc](http://www.bestplaceever.com/crimethinc).

## **TWIN OAKS COMMUNITIES CONFERENCE**

September 3-6 • Virginia

We invite people to get together and talk about intentional community of all sorts. There will be workshops and sharing circles, but also lots of time to just hang out, meet people, network and play together.

This conference is hosted by Twin Oaks, a community of 100 people living on farm and forestland in central Virginia.

For more information, contact Twin Oaks Communities Conference, 138 Twin Oaks Road, Louisa, Virginia 23093; (540) 894-5126; [conference@twinoaks.org](mailto:conference@twinoaks.org).

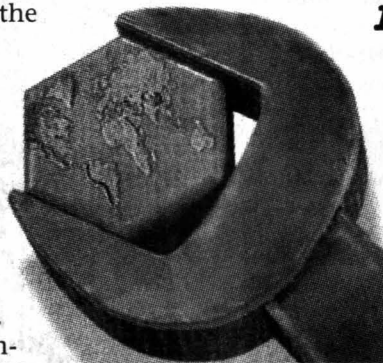
## **IDAPALOOZA FRUIT JAM**

September 15-21 • Tennessee

Idapalooza is a week-long music festival at IDA, a queer arts community in rural Tennessee. Come enjoy a week of camping, musical events, workshops and jamming, which will culminate in a day-long concert on September 20. Hike to waterfalls, explore caves, lounge in a hammock, dip in our spring-fed creek and feast on exquisite, home-grown, organic vegetarian meals.

We suggest a donation of \$25-\$100 plus \$10 a day per person (more if you can, less if you can't).

For more information, contact IDA, POB 874, Smithville, TN 37166; (615) 597-4409; [planetida@planetida.com](mailto:planetida@planetida.com); [www.planetida.com](http://www.planetida.com).



## ANCIENT FOREST ROADSHOW

Crisscrossing the Country this Summer and Fall

The Ancient Forest Roadshow is touring the US with "the Doug," a slice of the 420-year-old Douglas fir that was logged in 2002 as part of the Berry Patch Timber Sale on the Willamette National Forest in Oregon. The Doug is being used to show Americans the impacts of the Bush administration's timber policies on our national forests and to allow them to see and touch what was once living history.

For more info. or to see when the Doug will be in your area, contact (206) 675-0646; [www.forestroadshow.org](http://www.forestroadshow.org).

## DROP BEATS NOT BOMBS TOUR

Now in its second year, this tour includes music, workshops and film. The tour was initiated by Movement In Motion Art and Activist Collective from New York City in 2003 and has traveled to campuses in the US, Canada and India.



The Active Images Film Festival is the newest addition to the tour, highlighting the achievements of Latino and African American filmmakers who document the struggle for social justice around the world.

Interactive workshops on the prison-military-industrial complex, depleted uranium and using art as activism complement the music of Mental Notes and D.R. (as well as other rotating artists from the collective).

For more information, contact David Rosen, (718) 986-4449; [movementinmotion@hotmail.org](mailto:movementinmotion@hotmail.org); [www.movementinmotion.org](http://www.movementinmotion.org).

## BREAK THE CHAINS #18 IS OUT!

This issue includes "The Problem with Anarchist Ego" by Jeff "Free" Luers; "Gender Violence and the Prison Industrial Complex" by Critical Resistance and Incite!/Women of Color Against Violence; and "Statement on the Murder of Anna Mae" by the Native Youth Movement. Each issue of *Break the Chains* newsletter is packed with info on political prisoners, prisoner resistance and thoughts on how we can and must eliminate the prison system altogether.

Order now for four dollars postage-paid from Break the Chains Collective, POB 12122, Eugene, OR 97440; [www.breakthechains.net](http://www.breakthechains.net).

## MIDWEST BOOKS TO PRISONERS

We are a newly formed collective that sends much-needed reading materials to prisoners in the Midwest (we don't reject anyone). We would like you to notify your incarcerated contacts that we are eager to send them reading materials. Please ask them to send a letter with their requests and mailroom stipulations to Midwest Books to Prisoners, 1573 North Milwaukee Ave, PMB #460, Chicago, IL 60622.

For more information or to donate books or money, contact [mwbtp@riseup.net](mailto:mwbtp@riseup.net).

## SUPPORT RADICAL FEMINIST PUBLISHING

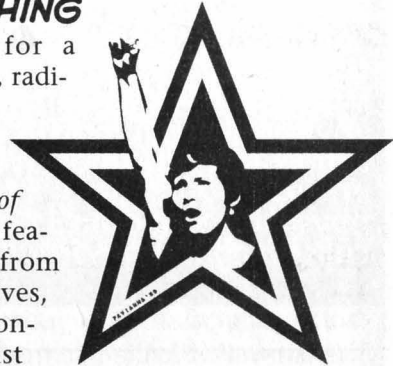
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For more information, contact Rain and Thunder, POB 71883, Oakland, CA 94612; [rainandthunder@yahoo.com](mailto:rainandthunder@yahoo.com); [free.hostdepartment.com/r/rainandthunder](http://free.hostdepartment.com/r/rainandthunder).



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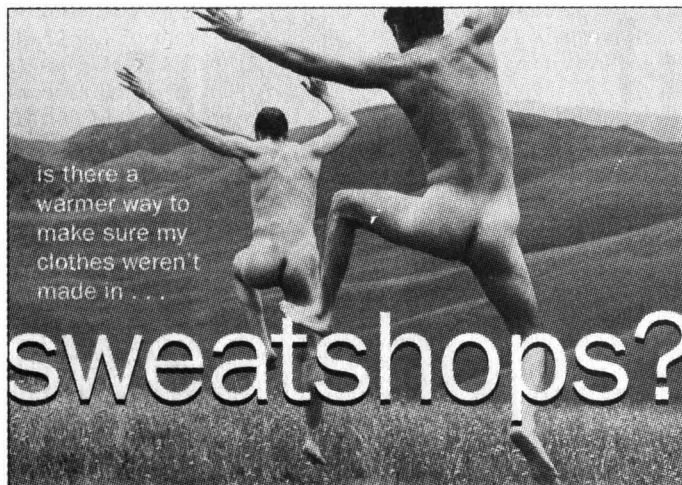
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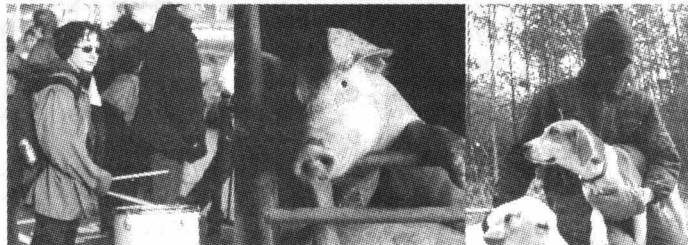
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## Directory

### ARIZONA

**Chiricahua-Dragoon Alliance**

POB 76, Elfrida, AZ 85610

(520) 824-3201; asante@vtc.net

**Chuk'shon EF!**

sabthebastards@hotmail.com

**Flagstaff Activist Network**

POB 911, Flagstaff, AZ 86002

(928) 213-9507; flagact@infomagic.net

**Phoenix EF!**

2238 N 24th St, Phoenix, AZ 85008

phoenixef@excite.com

**Tucson EF!**

az\_earth\_first@hotmail.com

### CALIFORNIA

**North Coast EF!**

POB 28, Arcata, CA 95518

(707) 825-6598

**Orange County EF!**

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94103

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### FLORIDA

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(561) 547-6686; littleprince1@juno.com

### ILLINOIS

**Autonomous Zone**

1573 N Milwaukee PMB 420, Chicago, IL

60622

azone@azone.org

### INDIANA

**Boxcar Books and Community Center**

310A S Washington St, Bloomington, IN

47401

(812) 339-8710; boxcar@boxcarbooks.org

**Buffalo Trace EF!**

POB 3503, Bloomington, IN 47403

**Kekionga EF!**

1015 W Creighton St, Ft Wayne, IN 46807

### MASSACHUSETTS

**Mass Direct Action**

POB 484, Somerset, MA 02726

**Mass EF!**

takeaction2001@hotmail.com

Lawrence Grassroots Initiative

POB 43, Lawrence, MA 01642

(978) 688-3569

### MAINE

**People's Free Space**

POB 1582, Portland, ME 04104

peoplesfreespace@riseup.net

### MICHIGAN

**Massasauga EF!**

POB 44173, Detroit, MI 48244

massasaugaeearthfirst@yahoo.com

**Popular Power**

POB 374, Traverse City, MI 49685

### MINNESOTA

**Church of Deep Ecology**

POB 16075, St Paul, MN 55116

(800) 862-7031;

contact@churchofdeepecology.org

**Forest Ecosystems Action Group**

2441 Lyndale Ave S, Minneapolis,

MN 55405

paarise@mtn.org

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7908 Minnetonka, St Louis Park,

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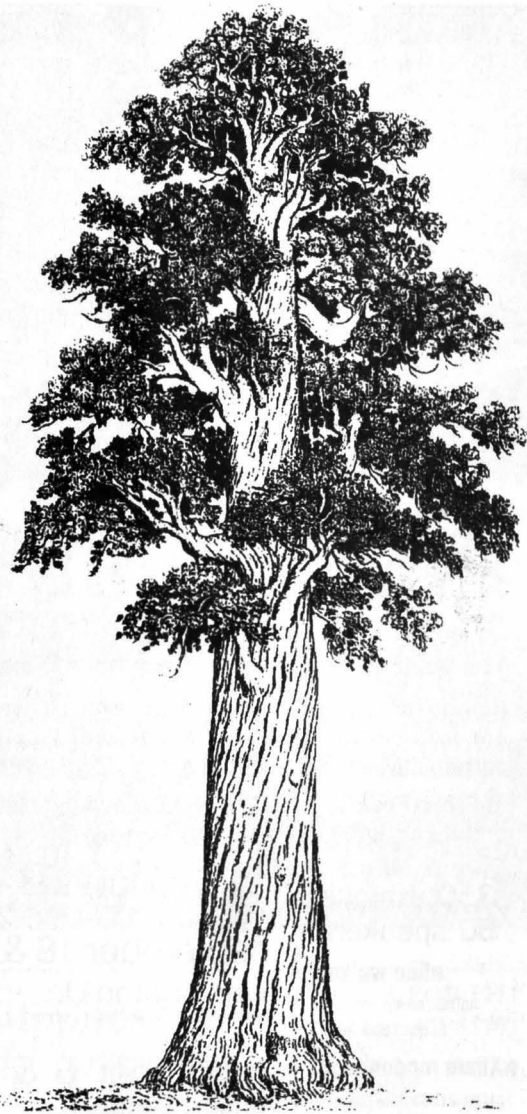
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# Wolves and Poodles

A fearless, colossal wolf sinking its teeth into the bloody carcass of Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS) to the 17 Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty (SHAC) activists who were arrested at demonstrations during Memorial Day weekend. The arrests followed just days after seven other SHAC activists were indicted on terrorism charges for anti-HLS campaigning.

Ten activists and one legal observer were arrested at a demonstration that took place at the home of Forrest Sheffy, president of J-M Pharmaceuticals, an HLS customer in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania.

The demonstrators were charged with disorderly conduct, criminal conspiracy and harassment—all for standing outside Sheffy's home and calling attention to his bloody work.

Two other SHACers were arrested in Long Island, New York, at a business demonstration, and three were arrested at a home demonstration in Los Angeles, California.

The brave wolves of SHAC vow to persevere in their battle against HLS and refuse to be intimidated by government persecution.

**A not-taking-this-shit-anymore wolf, baring its fangs and ready to sink them into the first SUV tire that rolls by to Ashley Carpenter, who, armed with only a sharpened screwdriver, slashed 1,728 tires on 548 different motor vehicles. A lifetime of frustration at the way cyclists and pedestrians are mistreated by the car-driving majority coalesced one day after a car almost knocked him off the road and another one splashed him with a puddle.**

Before being apprehended 11 days into his spree, the cyclist managed to accomplish \$460,000 of damage in what even the sentencing judge admits was an "astonishing and extraordinary campaign." Carpenter was sentenced to 16 months in jail for his attempts to bring down car culture.

**A fecund, ancient mama wolf to the elm tree in Princeton, New Jersey, which is the progenitor of a whole generation of trees resistant to Dutch elm disease. In the 1930s, Dutch elm disease wiped out 77 million elms in the US. Roger Halloway, a wholesale nursery supplier in Atlanta, Georgia, searched for years to find the tree responsible for parenting the disease-resistant trees. The tree he claims is the ancestor—and molecular biologists back him up—is about 100 feet tall and has been gracing a prominent spot in a Princeton cemetery since before the plot became a graveyard in 1757.**

**A lone, unarmed wolf with an oily coat howling at the powers-that-be to the country of Venezuela, which recently ceased training soldiers at the US's notorious Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (WHISC)—better known as the School of the Americas.**

Never one to mince words, Vice President José Vicente Rangel told a delegation of US human rights activists that WHISC is a training school for dictators, torturers and terrorists. President Hugo Chavez echoed Rangel's sentiments, saying, "This school has deformed the minds of many Latin American soldiers."

Meanwhile, Venezuela also spurned the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and its murderous structural adjustment programs. Venezuela's Minister of Finance, Tobias Nobrega, rejected an IMF report that outlined "urgent measures" that the country needed to take to "restore financial stability." According to Nobrega, "Venezuela is overcoming its financial difficulties independently of the IMF, and it is doing this by applying the opposite of what is recommended by the well-known but limited IMF recipes." He added that Venezuela's economic successes show that "the whole framework and policies of the IMF can be dispensed with."

**A gargantuan, oozing, liver-encrusted poodle to California state Senator John Burton for offering a compromise on his anti-foie gras bill. The bill, SB 1520, would make it illegal to force feed ducks to produce pate de foie gras. With the compromise, however, it would not go into effect for seven and a half years—so that Sonoma Foie Gras can have enough time to explore other ways to inflate a duck's liver or close its business.**

Well, the bill passed the Senate—big wup. Seven and a half years of ducks getting food shoved down their throats so that rich, decrepit yuppies can eat a piece of flaccid, diseased liver ain't no victory. Hopefully, some helpful hands will reach out to the ducks and give them good homes. Wink, wink!

In related news, **a not-afraid-to-let-it-all-hang-out wolf to Sarahjane Blum, a spokesperson for GourmetCruelty.com, who was arrested after screening an anti-foie gras video at a conference at Syracuse University in New York. She was charged with felony burglary for the open rescue of ducks from the Hudson Valley Foie Gras farm in Liberty, New York. Blum was released the next day on bail.**

**A drooling poodle tangled in dense scrub and ripped apart by robber crabs to the Seychelles Island Foundation, which plans to build an upscale eco-lodge on Aldabra, the world's largest raised coral atoll. Aldabra is home to thousands of giant tortoises and the world's largest terrestrial crabs, which climb palms and rip open coconuts with their pincers. The white throated rail, last surviving flightless bird in the Indian Ocean, also calls this atoll home. The human population on Aldabra consists of 10 rangers and a warden who patrol for poachers.**

In efforts to raise the \$500,000 the Seychelles government spends every year to administer the atoll, the foundation has struck upon a gloriously destructive idea: Why not charge rich people \$2,000 a night to experience the wonders of Aldabra? Negotiations between the government and Wilderness Safaris, a South African adventure-travel company, are already underway. The luxury resort would cover an area of 50 acres.



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May 11, 2004

Wari, New Zealand

Ronald McDonald is arrested for locking himself to the gates of the McDonald's distribution center. He was protesting his employer's use of chicken fed with genetically engineered (GE) soy.

On May 19, McDonald's in New Zealand announced a switch to non-GE chicken feed.

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