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Earth First!

Eostar March-April 2010

No Compromise!

\$4.50 US & Canada

Dakota People Defiantly Occupy Land

BY WAZIYATAWIN, PH.D

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is trying to exploit a legal loophole in order to, once again, unjustly seize indigenous held land as the US Government has done by various methods countless times before. The Dakota people need support and solidarity to save what's left of their land from yet still more government theft. Crow Creek Land is not for sale.

Brandon Sazue's camper sitting in the middle of the prairie presented a lonely but inspiring image as we drove up Wednesday afternoon. Despite the bitter cold and wind, the young Crow Creek tribal chairman was taking a stand against the United States' theft of any more Dakota lands, telling us, "Crow Creek land is not for sale and it never will be."

Symbolically placing his camper under a wind data tower, Sazue has committed to remain on this parcel of land as long as it takes to achieve justice. The land is part of the 7,112 acres recently stolen by the US government in what amounts to a 21st century land grab. Because the land is not currently held in trust, on December 4, 2009, the IRS claimed it and auction it off as a means to settle what it asserts is a delinquent \$3,123,790 tax bill. Though most of the Crow Creek reservation is situated within the poorest county in the US, the land under dispute happens to contain world-class sites for the harnessing of wind power. As the world's fossil fuels dwindle and alternative energy sources are increasingly sought after, Crow Creek lands have become increasingly attractive to outside interests. Whoever develops the site for wind-energy stands to make a fortune. This connection is not lost on Chairman Sazue.

Anyone who understands the history of the Dakota people since invasion and conquest cannot help but be stunned by this attack on the tribal lands of people who have already suffered so much. After the US Dakota War of 1862, the US federal government and the state of Minnesota initiated policies of genocide and ethnic cleansing against Dakota people in our beloved homeland. White Minnesotans hanged 38 Dakota warriors, rounded-up and force-marched our populations to concentration camps in Mankato and Fort Snelling, then forcibly removed us from Minnesota to fulfill Governor Alexander Ramsey's genocidal call for extermination or forced removal. Dakota people were loaded onto boats that went down the Mississippi River and then up the Missouri River on a journey that was so horrendous, a missionary at the time compared it to the Middle Passage of the slaves. Under gun and bayonet, our ancestors were brought to Crow Creek in 1863. Thus, Crow Creek began as a concentration camp.

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Tribal Chairman Brandon Sazue

photoscourtesy www.catalystcollective.com

Decolonizing, Destroying Borders and Attacking Infrastructure *What side are you on?*

A question that all past revolutionaries have had to ask themselves at critical moments in humyn history: Which side are we on? Down with Borders, Up With Spring!—Panagioti (EF!) July-August 2006).

BY SURVIVAL SOLIDARITY

On January 16, Diné, O'odham and Anarchist/Anti-authoritarian (DO@) people answered a call-out from the O'odham Solidarity Across Borders Collective and Phoenix Class War Council to form the DO@ Bloc. The bloc, consisting of anarchists and Indigenous people, converged on occupied Akimel O'odham Pi-Posh land (Phoenix) to take part in what was a larger march against Maricopa County, Sheriff Joe Arpaio. Arpaio is well known for his racist border politics and strict prison regulations. However this time people were confronting his repression on those who take situations into their own hands and defiantly cross the border without permission.

No deportations, relocations or foreclosures.

The Bloc's masks and hoodies were not the only points of contrast between them and other march participants. The DO@ bloc represented the distaste in many people's mouths from endless banal discussions and approaches to the border. It brought the unwillingness to ignore the nightmare of capitalism that socially reinforces the walls that divide us. The DO@ bloc consisted of those who chose to no longer acquiesce to the displacement of people due to capitalism, colonization and invasive infrastructure projects.

From the original call:

Who?

"We are an autonomous, anti-capitalist force that demands free movement and an end to



Banner From Anti-Arpaio March

forced dislocations for all people. We challenge with equal force both the systems of control that seek to occupy and split our lands in two, as well as the organized commodifying of every day life that reduces the definition of freedom to what can be produced and sold where and to whom, and compels our social relations to bend to the

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Earth First!

The Radical Environmental Journal

Eostar March-April 2010

Up the Action, Not the Propaganda!

When I started on this issue of the Earth First! Journal, I came into it thinking about what I was doing a year ago, and what insight I have gained. This last year, we have had many blows: we have had loved ones locked behind bars, comrades indicted on trumped-up charges and friends subpoenaed to grand juries. It is really difficult to write about this past year in a positive manner. But I have been inspired by those who, even under the pressure and intimidation of years in jail, refused to cooperate with governmental officials' fishing expeditions; by those who did not get away, but after years of incarnation are getting out anyway; by those who have dedicated their lives fighting for the wild, be it strategic and effective paper-wrenching or well planned monkey-wrenching.

After arriving in Tucson, I started doing some homework; I read past issues of the journal dating back as far as the late 80s, and what was available of the Do or Die publications put out in the late '90s, and early 2000s. After reading those publications, I realized there was something

missing in what is published now. Action reports recently have been missing fierce honesty. I want to read candid news that is exciting,



not propaganda. Are we so caught up in a cycle of civil disobedience that we can't think past it? (Or before it, for that matter, i.e. grassroots organizing.) The past indicates that we have the means to be creative in our endeavors. We don't need to be delusional about our actions; they should speak for themselves.

I don't think I could put it better than Rod Coronado

when he said, "This resistance is not about remaining true to civil disobedience, it's about preventing the wholesale destruction of our one and only life support system. Our greatest strategic assessment should be whether our actions are effecting the financial bottom-line of the destroyers of Earth."

"Live wild or die" should not just be something that we write in e-mails, letters and books. It should be something we take to logging roads, slaughter houses, coal mines, vivisection labs, prisons, detention centers, border walls, and pipelines. Let us remember what we are struggling for and who we are fighting against. Because "Earth First!" should not roll off the tongues of our enemies with ease, they should choke upon it, like a fishbone stuck in their throats.

From struggles in Scotland to Mexico, from Arizona to West Virginia there is resistance to that which is killing us and Earth. So lets live wild and be fierce as fuck. Ante Up!

— Yyks!

Earth First!

Eostar

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

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.

Submission deadlines are the tenth of every odd-numbered month in the calendar year. Articles should be typed or clearly printed. We encourage submissions via email. Art or photographs are desirable to illustrate articles and essays. 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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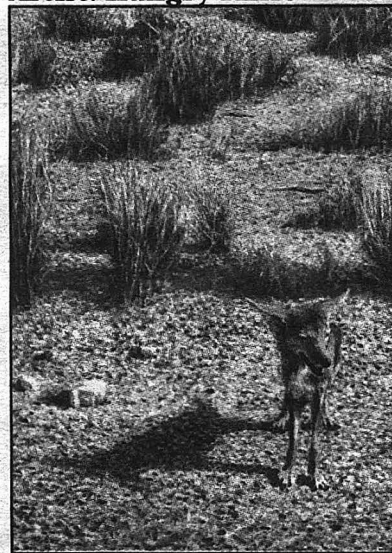
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Front Cover: Hungry Knife
Back Cover: Yyks!

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Artist: Hungry Knife



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DAVENPORT GRAND JURY EXPANDS ITS INVESTIGATION

While Carrie Feldman Remains Incarcerated and Scott DeMuth Awaits Trial

BY THE SCOTT AND CARRIE
SUPPORT COMMITTEE

On Tuesday, November 17, 2009, Carrie Feldman and Scott DeMuth of Minneapolis were called before a federal grand jury in Davenport, Iowa. The grand jury is investigating an unsolved Animal Liberation Front (ALF) action at the University of Iowa in 2004, in which research equipment was damaged and hundreds of animals were liberated and placed in loving homes. Carrie and Scott were subpoenaed in one of the most recent uses of Green Scare tactics in Minnesota—the government's desperate attempt to obtain information about activists, grasp at straws to file charges against them, and disrupt radical animal-rights and environmental movements both above and below-ground. Rightfully, Carrie and Scott refused to cooperate and testify.

At the request of Prosecutor Cliff Cronk, District Judge John Jarvey found them in contempt of court and had them taken into custody immediately. Two days later, Scott was charged with conspiracy under the Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act (AETA), becoming the seventh person charged under this dangerous law passed through shady procedures in 2006. Once he was facing a criminal charge, his charge of civil contempt was dropped, and he became eligible for release. Cronk tried to keep him locked up by arguing that his political beliefs and associations make him a "domestic terrorist," but these ridiculous arguments failed and Scott was released after about two weeks. Since then, and with the tremendous generosity of scores of people and a personal loan, we made the \$10,000 retainer payment for Scott's lawyer, Michael Deutsch, an experienced lawyer from the People's Law Office in Chicago.

Carrie's situation has been drastically different. She remains locked up in Iowa as the government punishes her for her political beliefs and resistance to the grand jury process. She could be held for the duration of the grand jury—another nine months. In early December 2009, her lawyer filed a motion to have her released, but it was denied, on January 22, after a series of dirty tricks by the prosecutor and judges. The appellate judges made a rare request for the prosecutor to file an additional reply to the appeal; that showed the judges felt they needed extra convincing to substantiate the decision they wanted to make—to keep Carrie in custody. They also allowed the prosecution to file secret evidence that not even her lawyers can see.

In early January, Leana Stormont, currently a lawyer in Virginia, was subpoenaed to appear before the grand jury. An outspoken animal rights activist when she was a law student at the University of Iowa, Leana

experienced overt harassment by the FBI after the ALF action in 2004. Her lawyers are fighting the subpoena, and there is no indication that she is cooperating with the state. We're currently working on establishing a relationship with her to keep our solidarity strong.

Scott and Carrie are being targeted because they are committed radical activists who refuse to be intimidated into cooperating in the repression of dissent, not because the Feds believe they actually had anything to do with the 2004 University of Iowa incident. Despite the empty nature of the case, the Feds have enormous power, and Carrie and Scott need our support—financial, personal, and political—at every step of this process. This is one of countless examples of the ways that the State utilizes the court system to subvert and disrupt movements for social change; we owe it to our friends and our movement to fight this battle.

Grand juries have historically been used to repress dissent and disrupt social movements by intimidating people into abandoning their activism, unjustly incarcerating them and separating them from their communities, and conducting fishing expeditions for information about movements. Despite the government's claims that grand juries are necessary to uphold the law and create a just society, their true purpose has been demonstrated in the persecution of people ranging from journalists who refused to identify their sources, to five of the Black Panthers known as the San Francisco 8, to activists involved in the Puerto Rican independence movement to earth- and animal liberation activists.

Unlike the "petit" jury, which is used to determine guilt in a trial, a grand jury consists of 16 to 23 jurors who are not screened for bias. The purpose of the grand jury is not to determine guilt or innocence, but to decide whether there is probable cause to prosecute someone for a felony crime. The grand jury operates in secrecy and the normal rules of evidence do not apply. The prosecutor runs the proceedings and no judge is present. Defense lawyers are not allowed to be present in the grand jury room and cannot present evidence, but may be available outside the room to consult with witnesses. The prosecutor and the grand jury members may not reveal what occurred in the grand jury room and witnesses cannot always obtain a transcript of their testimony.

Because of their broad subpoena powers and secretive nature, grand juries have been used by the government to gather information on political movements and to disrupt those movements by causing fear and mistrust. The grand jury lends itself to improper political investigations due in part to the prosecutor's ability to question witnesses without regard for rules that prohibit

irrelevant, unreliable, or unlawfully obtained evidence. Those called before the grand jury may be compelled to answer any question, even those relating to lawful personal and political activities. That information has been used by the government as a basis to conduct further surveillance and disrupt political dissent.

When used against political movements the grand jury causes fear and mistrust, because those who refuse to answer questions about their First Amendment political activities, friends and associates may be jailed for the life of the grand jury: up to 18 months. If a witness asserts her Fifth Amendment right to remain silent, she may be forced to accept immunity or go to jail for contempt, which is what happened to Carrie. Even a witness who attempts to cooperate can be jailed if minor inconsistencies are found in her testimony. Such a perjury charge may stand even if the grand jury fails to hand down any indictment for what it was ostensibly investigating.

As if using a grand jury wasn't bad enough, Cronk pulled a conspiracy charge under the AETA out of his bag of dirty prosecution tricks to pressure Scott into giving him the information he wants (and thinks Scott knows). The AETA qualifies interference with and protest of animal enterprises, including First Amendment-protected activities, as terrorism. The AETA is a frightening expansion of an already outrageous and undemocratic piece of legislation, the Animal Enterprise Protection Act. Pushed through Congress by animal industry lobbyists and passed with only a handful of Congress members present, the AETA is a testament to the desperation of animal enterprises in an era of growing popular support for animal rights causes. Matthew Strugar, a cooperating attorney with the Center for Constitutional Rights, points out that the AETA could even criminalize such traditional protest tactics as economic boycotts if they endanger profits for an industry benefiting from the exploitation of animals. The AETA is a dangerous piece of legislation whose very existence threatens not just animal rights activists but anyone with an interest in effecting meaningful social change in this society. To date, only seven people have been charged under the AETA. In addition to Scott, they are: California activists Joseph Buddenburg, Maryam Khajavi, Nathan Pope, and Adriana



Stumpo (the AETA 4); and Utah activists Alex Hall and B.J. Viehl.

The legal battles that Carrie and Scott are fighting are some of the most recent instances of the systemic repression that the State has used to disrupt, weaken, and destroy movements for justice and liberation. Their struggles are thus tied to the struggles of radical activists from many movements and eras, and the outcomes of their struggles will affect all of us for however many more years the Empire retains its power. We strengthen our movement when we stand in solidarity with those the State has stolen away from us by demonstrating our refusal to allow its repressive actions to destroy our efforts at creating a better world, a world built on liberation for all and mutual aid. We also directly help our comrades when they need us the most.

More funds are needed to help pay for ongoing legal costs for both Scott and Carrie, so you and your friends can continue to donate online through PayPal by visiting WWW.DAVENPORTGRANDJURY.WORDPRESS.COM or by mailing checks or money orders made out to Coldsnap Legal Collective with "EWOK!" in the memo line to Coldsnap Legal Collective, P.O. Box 50514, Minneapolis, MN 55405.

For more updates, you can email supportcarrieandscott-subscribe@lists.riseup.net to join our announcements listserv. (Announcements will no longer be going out over the Earth Warriors Are OK! (EWOK!) listserv, but you can visit WWW.MIDWESTGREENSCARE.ORG for more information about activists targeted by the Green Scare.) You can also join the "Support Carrie and Scott! Resist State Repression!" Facebook group to stay informed and get involved in supporting them. Anyone can host a fundraiser, print and distribute the flyers available on the support website, and talk to their friends and families about the issues and why we all must fight back and stand in solidarity with Carrie and Scott.

Additionally, Carrie needs support from folks in the form of letters. You can write to her at:

Muscatine County Jail Inmate
c/o Carolyn Feldman
400 Walnut Street
Muscatine, Iowa 52761

Some of this information on grand juries came from WWW.GRANDJURYRESISTANCEPROJECT.ORG and some of the information on the AETA came from WWW.AETA4.ORG. Check out those websites for further information.

Dear Shit Fer Brains....

Dear Professor Stone,

Reading the *EF!* piece "Weather or Not..." I thought you would be interested in Georgia's "wholesale clearcutting." And the fake environmental protection provided by state agencies that are fronts for industry.

You are on target about the need to address deforestation. Emissions are a distraction to smokescreen more deadly issues like species extinction, toxic trash (depleted uranium, obsolete nukes dumped into the Atlantic) and deforestation. That most holy of Grails, *growth*, must remain untouchable. Justice William O. Douglas' statement rings true: "The main purpose of the Corporation State is to turn all the riches of the earth into dollars."

Another major issue avoided—the major issue the impossibility of progress while the G8 wages incessant war on "rouge nations." First, it was communism; now it is terrorism—Both strawmen justifying Mr. Big's number one moneymaker and crowd-controller. Douglas writes, "...The contraption of war has perhaps been the easiest of all things to sell to people." Especially easy when those who make the contraptions own the media.

Far from saving earth, their passion is for conquest, profit and destruction. They are consistent; clearcutting forests and the genocide of people.

Our mission: wonkeywrench the mega-death machine. In every possible way, doing all in our power to defend the "riches of the earth."

Sincerely,

—CHARLES WIGGIN

Dear Earth First! Folks:

I was transferred back to WERDCC way long ago, but am only now out of Da Hole and getting back to business. So here's my Change of Address.

Sorry to be so slow. And *thank you!* I got my September-October issue last night. Now I can feel "kept up" on everything! *smile*

Can I ask for sortuva special favor? I think it was in your May-June issue, though it might have been March-April, darn it... There was an ad for Vegan shirts that was so neat I wanted

to write to the company. But I wasn't quick enough, and they made me get rid of your magazine before I did it. I'm wondering if you will look for me and forward their address? If it sounds like a lot of work, please just forget it! But if you don't mind, well, the only way I can identify it is by telling you: there was one *super-neat* shirt that had a picture of a cow saying "How about I eat you, fucker?" *I love that!!*

Respectfully,

—FRAN THOMPSON

On the MOVE

Earth First! Journal,

Revolutionary Greetings to all active in the work needed to bring about a better day for all of life free of the oppression of this rotten system! For whatever holidays you celebrate and whatever your beliefs, we in the MOVE Organization send our very best to all and that everyone stays safe by continuing to be revolutionary! Long live true Revolution! To all those locked away in these unjust hell holes away from their families and loved ones yet for another year, we can only state that we will never tire of working to gain the release of you all! Working in unity and solidarity we know that everyone can be brought home where they belong! We will never cease till that is a reality for all!

We also hope that everyone possible does their very best to come to Philadelphia on May 13, 2010 to show their support for the release of the MOVE 9, and all political prisoners! We are starting work on this project early because it is truly need for a massive show of support concerning this issue of political prisoners being denied parole from this system's prisons long after they should have been released! Only in unity will this system bow to the demands of the people! For all who have comrades, loved ones, family, in these hell holes it is a must that you come out! All those who support the right of "justice for all," it is a must that you come out to demonstrate your commitment to that information to find out what you can do to help, as there is always something for everyone to do in this revolution! This system has shown that without pressure being applied to force it to bend to the will of the people, it will continue to serve the will of the super rich that controls it. For more information on how people can be of

help contact MOVE

at 215-387-4107

or write to The

MOVE Orga-

nization, PO

BOX 19709,

Philadelphia,

PA 19143. As al-

ways we love y'all

and thank you for

your continued sup-

port. In unity we will

bring about a world

free of this rotten sys-

tem and a better place

for all of life! As always

take care and stay strong!

John Africa explained: "war is a concept, peace is real, prison is conceived, freedom is realized, hatred is a philosophy, love is the reality." Long live John Africa!

Ona Move!

Your Bro In Revolution,

—PAM AFRICA

Dear Snitches for Brains (pt. two),

I wrote a controversial letter about snitches, which appeared

in the Journal a few issues ago. Since then, I have changed my mind about what I said at the Round River Ronly (RRR) and what I wrote in that letter, and since I changed my position, a trusted friend thought I should write another letter.

While I fully expected to catch some shit over my statements (about remaining friends with one of the informants once they were released), I did not expect a threat of bodily harm or being "blackballed" by people in my own community as a "security risk," and a "future snitch." Just to say it again, *I do not now nor have I ever had any communication with any of the informants.* What I said at the RRR was not well thought out, and I shouldn't have said it, certainly not at a well-attended discussion about prisoner support at the RRR. My intent was just to jump-start a discussion, and, boy, did I.

Another thing I did not anticipate was that my letter being printed in the *EF!* would prevent some prisoners from receiving it (sorry!), so I have

withheld defendants' names from this letter hoping that this *EF!* will make it past the BOP censors.

After much thought and communication with others, I have decided that being a good friend of one of the non-cooperators means that I cannot remain friends with my former friend (the informant I referred to). For most people who were never friends/lovers/housemates/coworkers with the informants, and for many who were, this was a no-brainer, but I do not give up my friends easily. This is uncharted territory in our movement and is difficult for all of us, the people in prison most of all, but also for those of us on the outside.

I encourage others to continue to discuss the importance of prisoner support and movement solidarity in regards to people who cooperate with the government to do damage to the effectiveness, reputation and goals of the radical environmental movement. Solidarity with my good friend is what led me to my decision.

For me, the worst part of this discussion has been hearing about people who shunned me and labeled me a security risk without having the backbone to talk to me first or to even attempt to change



my mind before writing me off. As a movement (and not a cult), I think we need to be able to discuss and debate controversial ideas openly. In this case, I was convinced to change my thinking. My thanks to those who communicated with me directly, supportive and not.

Lastly, if you have not recently, write to the non-cooperating prisoners, even the ones you don't know. I'll bet Winter is a very dark time to be in prison. Their addresses are in the back of the Journal and on their support websites.

—JIM FLYNN

Hello,

I'm not going to tell you my name, I will tell you that I am a male, 25 years old, and have grown up in a hard working family revolving around the timber industry. In particular, Humboldt county. My father has been a commercial truck driver for the last 28 years, hauling from every mill in the area that you have a problem with. My family, like many, rely on this industry as a source of income, a way to

live. It's bred into us. I have gotten older and accessed these situations that I grew up watching and hearing about (i.e.: headwaters fiasco.) Why does this happen?

You fight so hard, yet all in all it doesn't work. Or if you

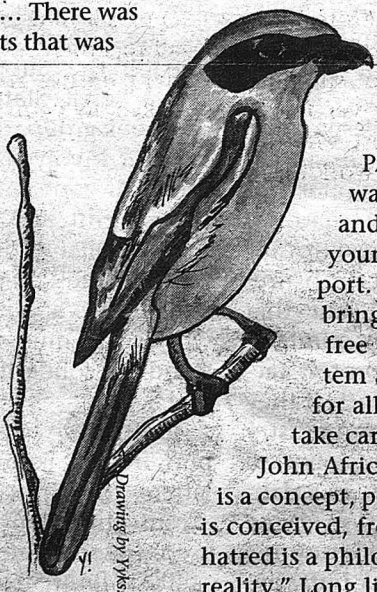
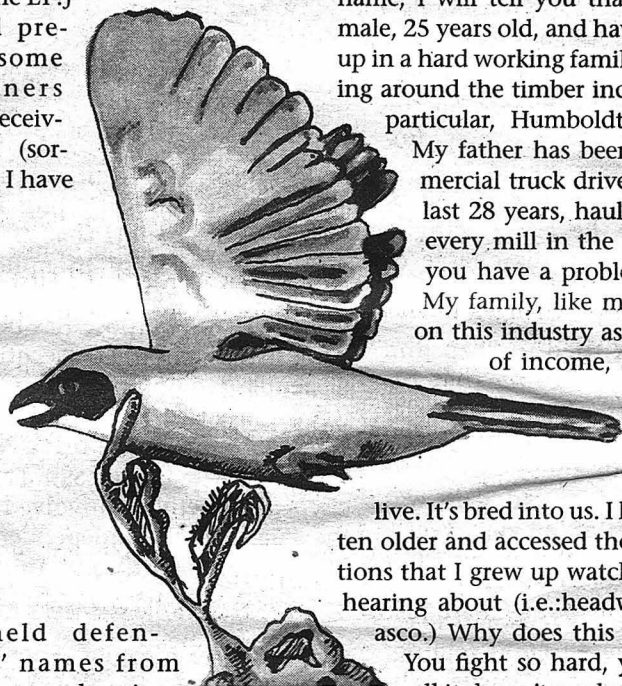
fight hard enough you simply piss people off. Do you study? I'd like to give you the benefit of the doubt and think you do. Or do you simply waste all your time protesting? If not, you would realize that the timber industry has been alive and well for way over 100 years. Its what makes the area what it is, everywhere you go.

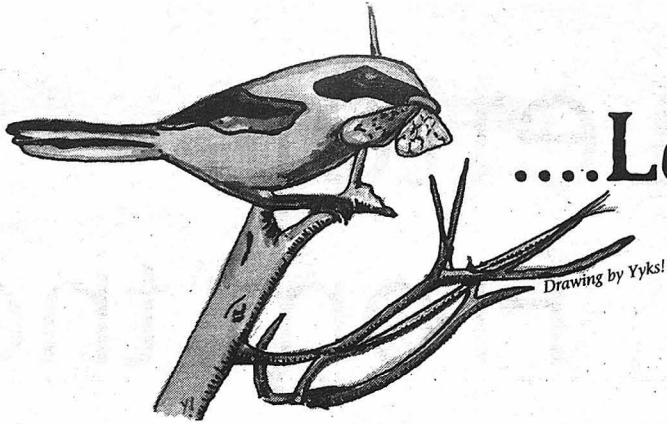
Now what really bothers me is this, half of you aren't even from the area. You decide to move here for great schooling, good. Well somewhere along the line you get sideways and four months down the road you end up sitting in a tree on palco land. How is it right that you feel that its ok to trespass onto someone's property? Just because you live in a communal home and anyone can come on in, doesn't mean that you can go walking and live on any land you want.

I'm not trying to ramble on and on, but sometimes that's the way it goes. Just remember Sierra Pacific, Simpson Redwood they've been around for over 100 years and they'll be there for another 100. They're not going anywhere and neither are we.

Sincerely,

—TIMRRRRRRRR





....Letters To The Editor

Dear Earth First! Journal,

Knowing your work and your commitment on environmental issues and climate change, I want to invite you very kindly to Peoples' World Conference on Climate Change and Mother Earth's Rights to be held from 20 to 22 April, 2010 in Cochabamba, Bolivia. This conference is called by Bolivian President Evo Morales, as a response to the failure on climate change negotiations in Copenhagen with the following objectives:

1) To analyze the structural and systemic causes that drive climate change and to propose radical measures to ensure the well-being of all humanity in harmony with nature.

2) To discuss and agree on the project of a Universal Declaration of Mother Earth Rights.

3) To agree on proposals for new commitments to the Kyoto Protocol and projects for a COP Decision under the United Nations Framework for Climate Change that will guide future actions in those countries that are engaged with life during climate change negotiations and in all United Nations scenarios, related to: climate debt, climate change, migrants, refugees, emission reductions, adaptation, technology transfer, finance, forest and climate change, shared vision, indigenous peoples.

4) To work on the organization of the Peoples' World Referendum on Climate Change.

5) To analyze and develop an action plan to advance the establishment of a Climate Justice Tribunal.

6) To define strategies for action and mobilization to defend life from Climate Change and to defend Mother Earth's Rights. More information can be found on the web site www.cmpcc.org. Adhesion should be done info@cmpcc.org. People in the EEUU interested to participate on this event contact to Carla Esposito, Bolivian Mission to the United Nations, Tel 212- 682-8132. For any additional information not hesitate to contact us.

With the highest considerations,

CARLA ESPÓSITO

—BOLIVIA

Dear Earth First!

Thank you for:

1) The wild and wonderful places I have had the privilege to camp at and visit at Earth First! gatherings. From Northern Idaho wilderness, to old growth on the west coast—to the best camps here in Appalachia. Being involved with EF! has enabled me to see and live in some of the most beautiful natural areas in America.

2) The wild and wonderful people I have had the privilege to camp with and visit while organizing with Earth First! I have met and gotten to know some of the most

amazing folks who are attracted to the struggle and resistance for the Earth.

3) No national office or leadership telling me what to do, what issues to work on—and how to organize from afar or near.

4) The consensus based model in EF! meetings.

5) Getting to sleep in the canopy of forest on the west and east coast for days at a time.

6) Being affiliated with decades of direct action and resistance for the Earth.

7) Typically getting involved with campaigns *years* before any of the big-staff enviro organizations. Getting to organize and work on issues before grant driven groups get involved and screw it all up.

8) Hearing directly from the opposition that *we* are the ones they fear and think are the clowns under their beds at night—even when sometimes a half dozen national organizations are involved.

9) Being part of a movement whose artwork should someday be available to view in museums. Movements are often judged historically by their art—just what has been in the Earth First! journals for decades is stunning in its detail and beauty.

10) All the amazing songs and the history that goes with those songs and the musicians who sing them and keep them along. Especially dancing on the ruins. *Ha ha ha ha ha!*

11) The intellectual diversity of Earth First!

12) The whole rednecks for wilderness thing.

13) The entire discussion and place in Earth First! that deep ecology carved into its niche.

14) Being affiliated with a movement that boast such historical figures as Dave Foreman, Peg Millet, Daryl Cherney, Judy Bari and Mike Roselle and Paul Watson. All of them are my heroes—flawed humans that they are.

15) The amazing parties.

16) Facing threats of a thousand years in prison having folks who refused to cooperate and said, "fuck you," to the state when offered a deal to squeal.

17) When living in West Africa hearing on the news about Earth First! here in Tennessee blockading a nuclear power plant.

18) Having friends in Earth First! that still organize after decades as Earth First!ers despite the negative Nancy's and the "you can't do that!" sayers.

19) The amazing friends—I remember when locked down with one other person after an RRR in Colorado my friends showing up and spontaneously locking arms and joining me saying, "if your'e going, we are going." Friends who "ante up."

20) Meeting my beautiful and amazing wife Paloma through my

Earth First! organizing. I just wanted to take a moment to thank those in Earth First! who made all of this possible. It's for these reasons I hope to be organizing with Earth First! to my last dying gasp of breath. I am so grateful this movement existed during my lifetime and I have had a chance to be part of it, and will continue to in the future.

For the Earth!

—CHRIS IRWIN

Dearest Crap-filled Craniums,

Imagine my surprise to find an excerpt from my zine "Exploring Surface Mines" gracing the pages of the EF! Journal.

I'm happy to see it reprinted, it's important info, you stressed the safety warnings, and I love all you piratical fuckers.

But a couple things annoy/bother me: It's usually considered proper (mutual respect yo') to consult an author prior to printing an article for permission, updates (bear warning), corrections (no bear warning), feedback (funny bear stories), etc. I know I forgot to put an address on the back, but the person who gave it to you knows me. It would have taken two phone calls max to track me down... So I could add a bear warning.

I definitely would not have wanted this placed in the Ned Ludd column. You know perfectly well that I wrote it for Mountain Justice and associated campaigners, who all have a no monkey-wrenching policy. The proper place for this article would have been as a zine review.

As for the statement "...I don't know where you can get a copy..." what about the small pile I gave you? Or how about copying yours? Maybe scan it to the Journals website? D.I.Y.? Stick out your wrists!—SLAP!!

—SILLY BILL

P.S. Watch out for bears in the woods around mine sites! If anyone wants an updated version send a request to sillybill49@gmail.com or drag yer butts up to Rock Creek, West Virginia to help out the hard working folks

at Climate Ground Zero—call 304-854-1937 for directions.

Dear srMme,

Your patience is requested as I delicately find words for the special animosity I reserve for your "journal" and the moral superiority oozing from every tree-slaughtered page, issue after issue after issue. I have issues. Issues with you, particularly. *And* your moral superiority. Patience, I repeat myself when I'm riled up.

Where do you get off, claiming "no compromise" in "defense" of Mother Earth? As if she gives a *shit* whether or not you have the gumption to pull it off, pull off anything at all.

Don't you realize the more you do "for her," the more you fuck it up? The more trees you sit in, the more they want to shake you off.

Don't you see that the forests, the deserts, the seas, the lakes, the clouds, the prairies, the mountains, they all want a chance to fight for *themselves*? They don't need your proselytizing, sandal-wearing asses getting in the way.

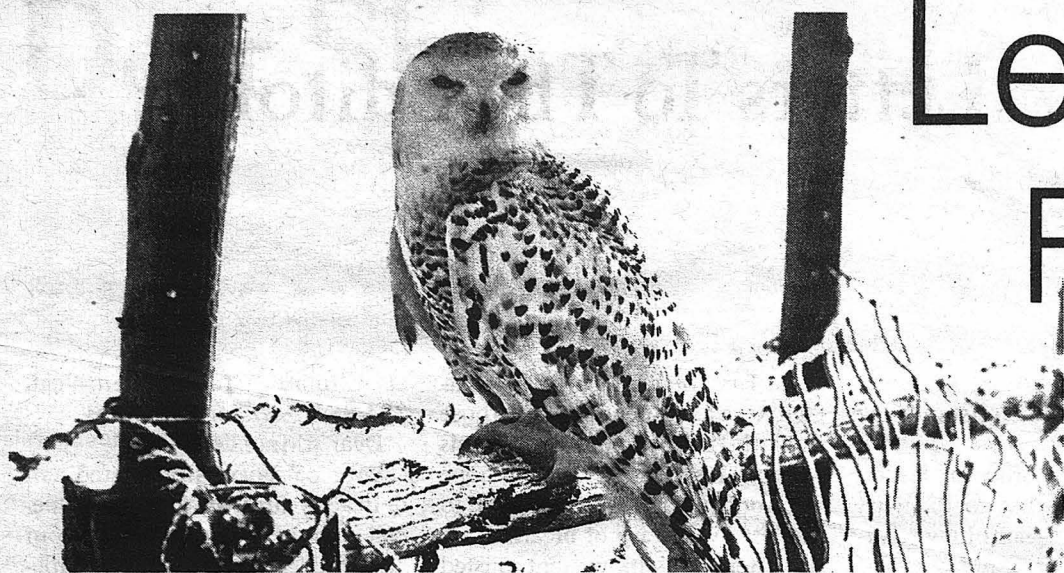
Until you learn how to *unchop* a tree, stay out of the woods. Until you learn how to *undig* a hole, stay away from the underground. Until you learn how to take care of yourselves and your own relationships at home, don't hit the road. Let the fucking road hit *you*! If you stopped shouting and writing all the time, you'd be able to actually *listen* to whom you claim to "support."

Note: the caves (if you even care) have spent a long time building its own defenses against those who try to enter: miners, tourists, park rangers, activists, whoever. What do you think those stalactites above and stalagmites below are for? Draperies, growing ever closer to each other for our aesthetic pleasure? No, shit fer brains. Those are teeth. Quit speaking *for*. Quit speaking all together. Let the Earth feed off her parasites at last.

Rabidly yours,

—BRAINS FER BRAINS





Letter From the RNC 8

BY THE RNC 8

Dear friends, families and supporters,

The last time that we wrote, we were only weeks beyond the 2008 Republican National Convention (RNC), and still figuring out how to navigate our case with a sense of collectivity and integrity. Now, more than a year after the fact, we find ourselves in a sort of limbo. Day to day, we don't feel the intensity of repression that we did in the weeks surrounding the RNC, yet the trial looms somewhere in the distance and we're not really free to move on. We return to court on February 2 and may come out of the hearing with a trial date certain. While it's hard to remain upbeat about the prospect, we hope to make the final push towards trial energizing for ourselves and our supporters alike, and we feel certain that a strong show of court solidarity will make a huge difference in the outcome of our case.

"As we look towards what could be the final stage of our own case, we're left to ponder the impact of our work. It is our hope that our supporters also support every person named in this letter, and every target of State repression left unnamed."

The past year has been difficult, both in dealing with our own situation and in watching as the State's attempts to subvert and disrupt anarchist movements gain steam, following well-established patterns of repression against dissident political movements throughout history.

In late 2008 and 2009, Ramsey County, Minnesota, prosecuted more than a dozen felony cases resulting from the RNC. Abusing their unchecked power to slap on charge after unfounded charge as a way of coercing people out of exercising their right to trial, and with the constant threat of terrorism enhancements, prosecutors extracted numerous plea agreements from individuals who came to the RNC protests outraged at this oppressive system and willing to take a conscientious stand against it.

During the fall of 2008, well-known and controversial radical activist Brandon Darby was outed as a paid FBI informant. This happened as a result of his entrapment of Brad Crowder and David McKay, two young men who traveled from Texas to Minnesota for the RNC protests. Though Brad and David both

eventually plead guilty to federal charges of making and possessing Molotov cocktails, facts surrounding the case and testimony given during McKay's initial mistrial make it clear that Darby went out of his way to create the unlikely scenario in which the crimes were committed. Darby, whose crimes of conscience will go unpunished, has already robbed two people of their freedom, but the extent of his cooperation and the damage it has done to our community remains to be seen.

In April of 2009, Indiana residents, Tiga Wertz and Hugh Farrell, were arrested and charged with racketeering as a result of their work organizing against Interstate-69 (I-69), the US segment of the NAFTA Superhighway. I-69 will displace small farmers, wreak environmental destruction and facilitate the movement of goods and capital at the expense of the continent's poor and working people. Tiga and Hugh are still awaiting trial, which will likely not start before 2011.

Late this fall, two friends and comrades of ours in Minneapolis, Carrie Feldman and Scott DeMuth, were subpoenaed to a federal grand jury in Davenport, Iowa, which is investigating a 2004 Animal Liberation Front action at the University of Iowa. Scott and Carrie were teenagers in Minnesota at the time of the raid claimed by the Animal Liberation Front, and though they have no information to give about it, they refused to cooperate with the grand jury on principle. They were both jailed on civil contempt on November 17, 2009, and two days later, Scott was indicted under the Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act (AETA). He is currently out awaiting trial, while Carrie remains jailed in Iowa, where she may sit for another nine months. Carrie and Scott's involvement in RNC organizing, their affiliation with known anti-RNC organizers, and materials seized in RNC raids, have all been used so far in prosecutorial attempts to vilify them and their politics.

Scott is only the seventh person ever charged under the AETA. In February of 2009, four people in Santa Cruz, California, became the first AETA indictees, accused of First Amendment protected activities including leafleting and chalking sidewalks. Last spring, BJ Viehl and Alex Hall in Utah were also charged under the AETA in relation to mink liberations. BJ recently plead guilty, citing the improbability of a fair trial in such a heavily conservative state, and was sentenced to two years in February. Alex is still awaiting trial.

The same day that we go to court here for our next hearing, Jordan Halliday will start trial for felony contempt of court, a charge he is facing after months of incarceration on civil contempt for refusing to testify before a federal grand jury in Utah.

This fall, comrades from the Tin Can Comms Collective sustained a raid and two arrests at the G20 mobilization in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. After returning to their home in Brooklyn, New York, the two arrestees were subjected to yet another raid,

this time on their house. State charges related to the G20 were subsequently dropped under circumstances that suggest the existence of an active federal investigation of Tin Can's activities.

Needless to say, anarchists have taken quite a few hits this year. Yet these cases are only one manifestation of the systematic repression of movements for social change. Even as anarchists have yet again become a primary target of State repression, the US continues its war on Black and Puerto Rican revolutionaries, and their allies.

In January 2007, charges were brought against eight former Black Panthers—the San Francisco 8 (SF8)—for the 1971 murder of a police officer. The case, re-opened with post-9/11 anti-terrorism funds, is based on information extracted through torture. Several of the SF8 are former or current political prisoners. By summer of 2009, most charges had been dropped or drastically reduced in plea agreements. As of this writing, the last remaining conspiracy charge was dropped, leaving a single charge against Cisco Torres.

In recent months, the State of Pennsylvania has engaged in a new push for the execution of Mumia Abu-Jamal, falsely convicted of the murder of a police officer in 1982 and held on death row ever since. His supporters across the globe are mobilizing, yet again, to prevent this. Our movements have kept him alive thus far, and it falls on us yet again to prevent his State-sanctioned assassination.

Meanwhile, the Puerto Rican independence movement—which has won the release of most of its political prisoners over the past decades—is preparing a final push for the release of two of the remaining three, Carlos Alberto Torres and Oscar Lopez Rivera.

At this moment, dozens of political prisoners sit in US prisons and jails, many of them having been there for decades and some who may never get out. The State would have us believe that political prisoners do not exist in this country, which holds a full quarter of the world's incarcerated people in its prison plantations. It is our common commitment to a radically transformed world that they intend to subvert with every new arrest, detention and prosecution, and our only defense is an acknowledgement of the fact that this is happening day in and day out, and making a commitment to fight it at every step of the way.

As we look towards what could be the final stage of our own case, we're left to ponder the impact of our work. It is our hope that our supporters also support every person named in this letter, and every target of State repression left unnamed. Whether we're acquitted or convicted come trial, the greater measure of our success will be the extent to which our case builds the movements to which we belong.

See you at trial,
the RNC 8

If you wish to see more information on the RNC8, please visit www.RNC8.ORG

A Letter from

Climate Prisoners

BY CLIMATE PRISONERS

This is a letter written by friends who are still imprisoned in Denmark. Also check out the prisoner support website—[WWW.COP-ENHAGEN.NET](http://www.COP-ENHAGEN.NET)

Something is rotten (but not just) in Denmark. As a matter of fact, thousands of people have been considered, without any evidence, a threat to the society. Hundreds have been arrested and some are still under detention, waiting for judgment or under investigation. We want to tell the story from the peculiar viewpoint of those that still see the sky from behind the bars.

A United Nations meeting of crucial importance has failed because of several contradictions and tensions that have shown up during the COP15 (see *EF!* January/February 2010). The primary concern of the powerful was the governance of the energy supply for never ending growth. This was the case whether they were from the over-developed world, like the European countries or the US, or from the so-called developing countries, like China or Brazil.

At odds, hundreds of delegates and thousands of people in the streets have raised the issue that the rationale of life must be (and actually is) opposed to that of profit. We have strongly affirmed our will to stop anthropic pressure on the biosphere.

A crisis of the energy paradigm is coming soon; the mechanism of the global governance has proven to be overwhelmingly precarious. The powerful failed not only in reaching an agreement on their internal equilibrium, but also in keeping the formal control of the discussion.

Climate change is an extreme and ultimate expression of the violence of the capitalistic growth paradigm. People globally are increasingly showing the willingness to rebel against that violence. We have seen that in Copenhagen. Hundreds of people have been arrested without any reason or clear evidence, or for participating in peaceful and legally legitimate demonstrations. Even mild examples of civil disobedience have been considered a serious threat to the social order.

In response, we ask: What order do we threaten and who ordered it? Is it that order in which we do not own our bodies anymore? The order well beyond the terms of any reasonable "social contract" that we would ever sign, where our bodies can be taken, managed, constrained and imprisoned without any serious evidence of crime. Is it that order in which the decisions are shielded more and more from any social conflicts? Where the governance belongs less to people, not even through the parliament? As a matter of fact, non-democratic organisms like the World Trade Organization, the National Bank, the G-whatever rule beyond any control.

We are forced to notice that the theater of democracy is a broken one, as soon as one approaches the core of power, which is why we reclaim the power to the people. We reclaim the power over our own lives. Above all, we reclaim the power to counter pose the rationale of life and of the commons to the rationale of profit. It may have been declared illegal, but still we consider it fully legitimate.

Since no real space is left in the broken theater, we reclaimed our collective power (actually we expected it) to speak about the climate and energy issues. Which for us, involve critical nodes of global justice, survival of man and energy independence. We marched with our bodies.

We prefer to enter the space where the power is locked dancing and singing. We would have liked to do this at the Bella Center; to disrupt the session in accord with hundreds of delegates. But we were, as always, violently hampered by the police. They arrested our bodies in an attempt to arrest our ideas. We risked our bodies, trying to protect them by staying close to each other. We value our bodies; we need them to make love, to stay together and to enjoy life. They hold our brains, with beautiful bright ideas and views; they hold our hearts filled with passion and joy. Nevertheless, we risked them. In fact, what would be the worth of thinking and feeling if our bodies did not move? Doing nothing and letting it happen is the worst form of complicity with the business that wanted to hack the U.N. meeting. At the COP15 we moved, and we will keep moving.

Exactly like love, civil disobedience can't just be told, we must make it with our bodies. Otherwise, we would not really think about what we love, and we would not really love what we think about. It's as simple as that. It's a matter of love, justice and dignity.

How the COP15 has ended proves that we were right. Many of us are paying what is mandatory under an obsessively, pervasive and repressive governance: to be found guilty at the cost for nothing (along with the crime perhaps).

We are detained with absurd accusations of violence, (which actually did not take place) conspiracies and organizing actions.

We do not feel guilty for having shown, together with thousands, the reclamation of the independence of our lives from profit's rule. If the laws oppose this, it is legitimate to peacefully break them.

We are just temporarily docked, ready to sail again, with a wind stronger than ever. It's a matter of love, justice and dignity.

Signed,

—Luca Tornatore, from the Italian social centres network "see you in Copenhagen"
—Natasha Verco, Climate Justice Action
—Stine Gry Jonassen, Climate Justice Action
—Tannie Nyboe, Climate Justice Action
—Johannes Paul Schul Meyer
—Arvip Peschel
—Christian Becker
—Kharlanchuck Dzmitry
—Cristoph Lang
—Anthony Arrabal



People protesting the colonialising countries increasing CO2.



Activists halted rail traffic leading to the world's largest coal port.

"DOING NOTHING AND LETTING-IT-HAPPEN IS THE WORST FORM OF COMPLICITY... AT THE COP15' WE MOVED, AND WE WILL KEEP MOVING."



Bare Bones

Ecuadorian Police Attacked and Killed Shuar Protesters

Recently, Ecuadorian police attacked and killed peaceful Shuar protesters near the town of Macas, Ecuador, in the Amazon. The Tribal people were protesting against a new Water Law and Mining Law. Both laws ignore their rights as stated in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People and in the International Labor Organization's Convention 169. The encroachment of logging, mining and oil companies, construction of hydroelectric dams, and the privatization of water are all large concerns to them as well.

Argentinean Campesinos' Land Taken by Force

Campesinos are demanding recognition of their rights and calling for an end to logging and violence after a family was violently evicted from their land in the Argentine Province of Jujuy. Employees from the company KRAMSA, which is owned by a relative of the Argentine Ambassador to Bolivia, illegally evicted them to make way for a new transgenic soy plantation on their land. The family was jailed and released, while their water and livestock was poisoned.

Nevada Rounds Up 2,500 Wild Horses

Despite the fact that more than 34,000 wild horses and burros are currently being kept by the federal government in "short term corrals," this winter, federal officials began rounding up wild horses with helicopters from their Nevada habitat. The Bureau of Land Management claims the round ups are necessary for the rangeland because they fear the land cannot support so many horses, but they only offer solutions of kidnapping and putting them up for adoption in the Midwest. In spite of a popular outcry, the roundups have proceeded, killing over 30 mustangs already.

Indigenous Peoples Caucus

In a statement from December 7, 2009, a broad coalition of indigenous communities demanded to be included in climate change negotiations and that the new climate treaty honor the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous

Peoples. The International Indigenous Peoples' Forum on Climate Change states:

"The protection of the collective rights of indigenous peoples must be guaranteed, including the recognition of our roles and contributions to climate change mitigation and adaptation through our traditional knowledge, innovations and practices."

Oregon Hosts Gruesome Coyote Killing Derby

Hunters in southeast Oregon hosted a killing derby, giving prizes to people for killing "as many coyotes as possible." Some prizes included rifles, binoculars and scopes. According to a January Big Game notice, the derby ran from January 16-17 throughout several counties. For a fee of \$50, teams of two were permitted to kill as many coyotes as humynly possible. Winners of this cruel game were determined by the amount of severed ears hunters were able to acquire.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Being Sued Over Delay in Protecting Vital Panther Habitat

Late December 2009, the US Fish and Wildlife service recently had a formal 60 day notice of intent to sue brought to them by The Center for Biological Diversity, Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility, and the Council of Civic Associations. This comes after the agency failed to respond to a scientific petition to designate critical habitat for the endangered Florida panther. The petition, presented on September 17, 2009, provides evidence to US Fish and Wildlife that 4,860 square miles in southern Florida must be spared from further development in order to save and begin to recover the Florida panther.

Oil Spill in Texas

On Saturday, January 23, an oil tanker collided with a smaller vessel in the Houston ship channel, gashing a hole in the cargo hold. Anywhere from 2 to 11 thousand gallons of oil spilled in Port Arthur, marking the largest oil spill in the area in at least a decade. Luckily, reports have it that the spill occurred in a long, linear part of the channel with

cement lining the sides, so the spill caused about as much damage as a choking victim inhaling smoke. The town of Port Arthur was briefly evacuated, as evaporation from the spill caused illness amongst residents. Meanwhile, an unknown amount of oil washed into the Gulf of Mexico. Authorities reported only two "oiled" birds, one of which flew away to an undetermined place (probably Sedition Books.)

US Navy Wants to Build Training Ground on Vital Whale Habitat

The Southern Environmental Law Center and 13 other conservation groups recently challenged the United States Navy's decision to build a Undersea Warfare Training Range between Jacksonville, Florida and Kings Bay, Georgia. This project would be built in the North Atlantic Right Whale habitat, and is precarious, because it would introduce multiple threats such as ship strikes, entanglement, and noise disturbances, causing high amounts of stress to the whales, especially mothers and calves. The Navy plans on laying cables through 500 square nautical miles for a training area, and plans on conducting 470 annual exercises that would deploy torpedoes, parachutes and sonobuoys, sonar waves and other noise pollution.

Arizona Land Swap Bill Passes through the Senate

December 17, 2009 the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee's decided to vote in favor of the Southeast Arizona Land Exchange and Conservation Act of 2009 bill (see *EFJ* November-December 2009 Confronting Resolution Copper). The bill next approaches the house.

Arizona Representative. Raúl M. Grijalva is questioning the bill and has joined a lawsuit calling for a full investigation into Rio Tinto's (international mining company) Human Rights Violation Record. Some of the allegations that have been brought against Rio Tinto are: paying native workers less than whites that helped contributed to Papua New Guineas' violent civil war, which killed about 10 percent of the population.

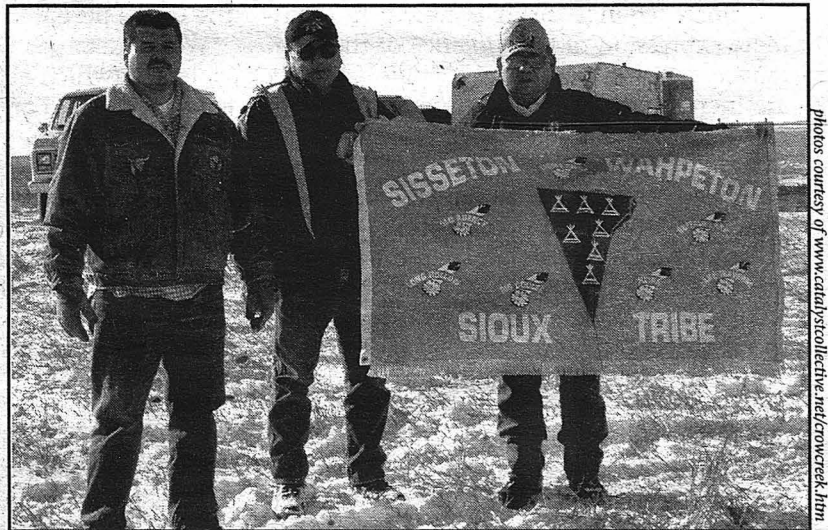
The current proposed bill would destroy sacred land of the San Carlos Apache tribe. It would also be the largest copper mine in North America.

Crow Creek is Not For Sale

continued from page 1

The trauma of Dakota people only continued there. Within the first few months of arrival at Crow Creek, hundreds of Dakota people died from the dreadful conditions. After 1862, the United States government left our people with so little. In fact, the missionary John P. Williamson wrote "Nearly all the small children died in 1863." The heartbreak from those events are still felt today. The people of Crow Creek live with that legacy, as do the rest of us with ancestors who were subjugated on these lands. Now, even what little we have is under attack again.

Sazue's stand in defense of the land is a rallying cry to the rest of the Oceti Sakowin (Seven Council Fires) of the Dakota Oyate (Nation). Though fierce winter weather has so far kept supporters from camping out next to Sazue, a steady stream of allies offering prayers, songs, food, supplies and encouragement continues throughout each day, and even more people show their solidarity

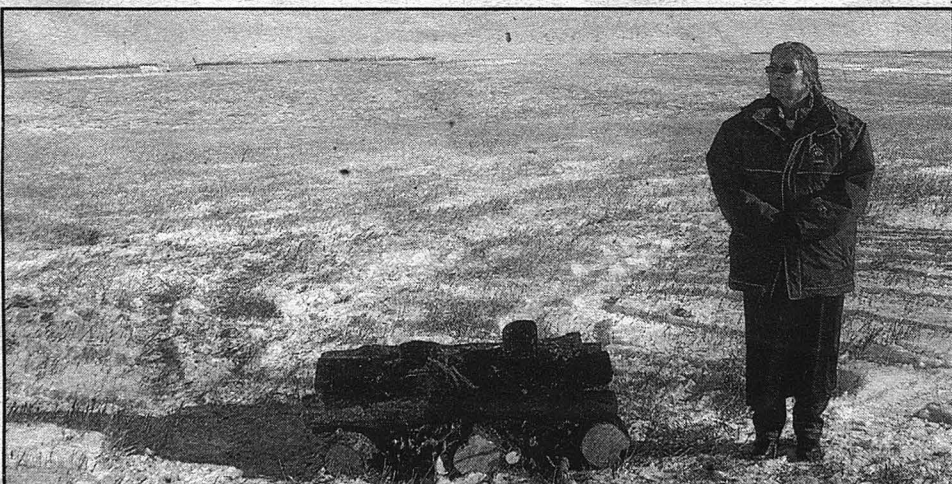


Tribal Chairman Brandon Sazue, Mike Simon and Clifford Canku Presenting the Tribal Flag

through phone calls and emails. We know more of our people will be coming. Like Chairman Brandon Sazue, we will not allow these lands to be taken. We will stand with him.

In addition to your presence and prayers, we need supplies at the encampment site. The first objective at the site is staying warm. We need people to help cut, haul or donate wood to keep a fire going, lumber for building windbreaks and shelters, sandbags, blankets, sleeping bags (especially those made for below zero degree temperatures); hats, scarves, mittens, boots, tarps and tipis. Oceti Sakowin and other Indigenous relatives, please bring flags from your communities to show solidarity with the Crow Creek Oyate. Everyone bring banners—7,100 acres is a lot of ground on which to maintain our presence. In addition, we need food, flashlights, cookware, tools (shovels, axes, saws), concrete blocks, matches and water containers.

We also need people who have other gifts to encourage these resisters to US land theft. Drummers and singers, your presence and support would be most welcome.



Phyllis Roberts standing by a fire near the occupation

EARTHQUAKE, EXPLOITATION ECO-CRISIS: DISASTER CAPITALISM IN HAITI

BY REALLY?

On January 12, a 7.0 magnitude earthquake broke out in Léogâne, Haiti, shaking the streets of the capitol city, Port-au-Prince into rubble. The earthquake has affected 3 million of the country's 10 million people, leaving hundreds of thousands dead. With people suffering, starving and tortured by the disaster, international aid flew into the country on corporate jets. Bill Clinton even made a cameo appearance at the airport, but beneath the veneer of assistance lurks the specter of exploitation.

Taking advantage of the twisted and writhing capitol, corporations invested their energy in wresting business from the weakened grasp of a devastated country. Citigroup, the corporation that coined the term "plutonomy" to describe an ideal economic structure, as well as earth-destroying Caterpillar and the cruise-line Royal Caribbean, have invested heavily in the financial restructuring of Haiti. Kathy Robeson, a Fortune 500 executive, summarized big business's policy "The business leaders I have been meeting with have seen enough disappointment and suffering. What Haiti needs is economic development and the building of a true middle class... There is much we are planning as far as creating new and innovative ways of using international aid and government support to promote private investment." The goal

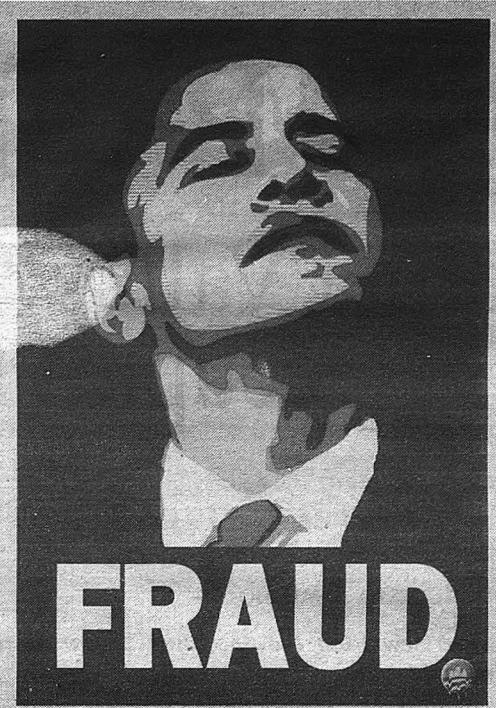
of US aid is not to benefit the people of Haiti, but to take over the Haitian economy. The US military and private security firms have been sent in to back up foreign "peacekeeping" forces who have historically performed the violent task of instilling a capitalist order safe for multinational corporations.

While the corporate media have sensationalized reports of violence in Haiti, the real reason for military involvement remains economic conquest. The military and security forces have created "security zones," restricting the non-profits' involvement with Haitians and distancing the recovery effort from the people. While corporate contractors flood in, the U.S. military has deliberately turned away shipments of medical supplies on several occasions, leading French authorities to denounce the U.S. as an 'occupation' force.

The largest source of finance to Haiti, the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) \$100 million comes as a special extension to a previous loan granted to Haiti under conditions of privatization and austerity. In other words, the conditions of the loans point towards further relinquishing of state power over economic interests in Haiti, including relaxing of environmental regulations and the dismantling of labor standards as well as any plans for genuine public assistance. As the conservative

think tank, the Heritage Foundation commented, "In addition to providing immediate humanitarian assistance, the U.S. response to the tragic earthquake in Haiti earthquake offers opportunities to re-shape Haiti's long-dysfunctional government and economy as well as to improve the public image of the United States in the region." In other words, the Heritage Foundation's strategy to transform the political economy of Haiti manifests selfish interests of the worst kind.

The exploitation of Haiti's crisis by global business presents just one more stage in the opportunist history of US engagement with Haiti. Founded through a slave-led revolution against French colonists, Haiti's popular tradition tells a different story than its official history, which the US military has wrought with dictatorship and economic control. The racial inequality that has rendered Haiti subject to white imperialism is represented today by the division between non-profits functioning under the auspices of disaster relief and the people subjected to their control. Female bodied people are especially subjected to the heavy hand of imperial



Haiti's Earthquake: Obama's Katrina

picture courtesy of foodfreedom.wordpress.com

'aid,' as food and material sovereignty has been left in the hands of patriarchal US military. Several EF!ers have moved to Haiti to provide assistance to the starving and poor. They should be lauded for their compassion. In many ways, as they seek to help people, they are up against a military invasion. For how long and to what extent this racist occupation takes hold is unknowable, but if the future of Haiti repeats its history, this militarized, corporate interference will not be extirpated without a fight.

Insurrectionary Mexico Celebrates Black Christmas

BY BOOTLYG

In the bleak landscape of modern Mexico, rebellion turns into insurrectionary action. Where 80 percent of the population live in or below the poverty line and the wealthiest man in Latin America, Carlos Slim, prevails over politics and telecommunications, corporations plunder the ecologically diverse waters, lands, and skies in spite of public outcry. On January 1, the rage of the repressed exploded in coordinated strikes throughout the nation. This rage stormed not simply for better wages and less poverty, but for total liberation of the earth and humyn as well as non-humyn animals. From Tijuana to Mexico City, the mythical pyramids of Teotihuacan to the metropolis of San Luis Potosi, riots and sabotage sent ripples of insurrection through the night. The following outlines the autonomously co-ordinated insurrection, and attempts to explain its rational.

Attacks focused on December 31, 2009, New Years Eve. Members of the anarchist group, Conspira 1970 executed two ATM bombings in the central state of San Luis Potosi. Conspira 1970 chose Bancomer and Banamex ATMs, owned by BBVA and US Citigroup, respectively, because the two banks manifest the largest capitalist operations in Mexico, and are invested in ecologically destructive practices as well as the exploitation of animals. In the city of Ecatepec, Mexico State, activists from the Earth Liberation Front (ELF) and the Animal Liberation Front (ALF) set explosives outside of branches of BBVA and the earth destroying construction company, Kenworth. An anonymous communiqué read, "The loud explosions echoed in the ears of those who sustain power and authoritarianism, gained at the

cost of the destruction of the planet we live on." The actions in Ecatepec, which caused significant damage to their targets, occurred on the same avenue as a gas canister attack against a Banamex Bank only two weeks prior to the ELF/ALF actions by a group named the Unforgettable Vengeance Eco-Sabotage Brigade. Incendiary attacks targeted 10 more ATMs around Mexico City as well as a Telemex branch office, while firebombs torched a police car, a slaughter house, and set ablaze three auto showrooms as well as the governmental palace of Milpa Alta. In a communiqué released on the Conspiracy of Fire webpage, the Propaganda of the Deed Brigade explained, "although we do not believe in absolute dates, 2010 will be the year of struggle and a platform of preparation for what is to come." Declaring that 70 militant organizations have united for co-ordinated insurrection in 2010, the Conspiracy of Fire page hosts other co-muniqués from different organizations professing influences of Ricardo Flores Magon, Emiliano Zapata and Ukranian-born Simon Radowsky.

In Tijuana, an autonomous affinity group of anarchists opened fire on three private police cars with machine guns, symbolizing the beginning of their own Black Christmas. Claiming the attack in the name of incarcerated animal and earth liberationists, the anarchists followed up with expropriations of consumer money from seven OXXO convenience stores. The group chose OXXO stations, because the stores represent the fastest growing convenience store chain in Latin America—a blight on the land, which sells commodities gleaned from the earth through slavery and environmental devastation. "All capitalist businesses are our objective," the group's anonymous communiqué reports, "All



popular Mexican stylization of insurrectionary subject

courtesy of www.insurrection.info

government installations are our objective as well... All of the headquarters of all of the political parties, and Unions. All churches of all denominations. All authority and its representatives are our enemy. Insurrectionist and anti authoritarian fire to all authority!" Although the expropriators killed one police officer, who attempted to defend an OXXO station, the communiqué expressed regret over his death. According to the author, the police forced the insurrectionists into life or death combat, leaving no other option.

For its part, the Mexican government has stepped up raids against environmentalists and animal rights activists. One 16 year-old kid was arrested for allegedly possessing molotov cocktails, and put on house arrest after admitting to ELF-related arson. Although he was able to escape and is now on the run, three other people, arrested in another police raid against the ELF, are not as lucky. Two of them, aged 16 and 17, are currently incarcerated after being snatched on by the third. One persyn has been arrested in Tijuana for the alleged possession of a gun. Even still, the anarchist struggle continues and will not stop until total and complete liberation.

OCCUPY EVERYTHING!

California Valley Miwok Tribe Occupies Foreclosed House in Stockton

BY MODESTO ANARCHO

Interview from the upcoming 3 year anniversary issue of Modesto Anarcho!

In mid-2009, Modesto Anarcho Crew (MAC—about our biznas) became aware of the decision of the California Valley Miwok Tribe (CVMT) to occupy their foreclosed home in Stockton, located in the Californian Central Valley about 20 miles north of Modesto. We contacted them and the next day three of us drove out to meet them. We found their house, which is the only thing that the tribe owns, with its gates welded shut, guard dogs on patrol, and the occupants firmly situated inside. Although we couldn't get onto the property due to the occupation, we talked to a tribal member about their struggle and offered some food and copies of our magazine. We traded emails, and soon after, this interview was conducted.

Modesto Anarcho: Many people do not know the history of the Native peoples in the Central Valley, can you tell us a little about the history of the Miwoks?

California Valley Miwok Tribe: Previous to Rancherias being created in California, the Miwok People's territory covered 10 counties. Now our Tribe is fighting to retain its Tribal Property that consists of one and a half acres, located in Stockton, California.

MA: How does your tribe use the house that is located in Stockton?

CVMT: The Tribal Property at 10601 Escondido Pl. Stockton, California 95212 has a multi-purpose function. Since our tribe is a landless tribe, the piece of property, including the building, is considered to the Tribe to be its reservation and is utilized as such. Until such time as the tribe is able to acquire a large tract of land for the benefit of future tribal members (the house is all we have). The Tribe conducts official Tribal "governmental" business, day-to-day office duties, Tribal Programs, Tribal Meetings and a portion of the building is used for housing.

MA: What brought your house to foreclosure?

CVMT: Our PL-93 638 Mature Status Contract (BIA) has been illegally withheld for two years and our Indian Gaming Revenue Sharing Trust Fund (RSTF) monies have been illegally stopped since the end of 2005. Without any funds coming in, the Tribe had no way to pay its mortgage on the only piece of property, the place the Tribe calls "home." Please see our DOT US website for further info: www.CALIFORNIAVALLEYMIWOKS.US

MA: Why did people physically occupy your house? How did you go about making sure that people were not going to be able to easily get into the house?

CVMT: The Tribe decided to stand its ground when it was threatened with eviction. We had no choice. Where were we supposed to go? Our monies have been illegally withheld for no good reason, our jobs lost, our medical benefits lost with our jobs. We tribal members have been using own personal money to keep the Tribe going, to keep the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food Program

open for the people in need to still be able to get their monthly rations of food. We had to make our point clear that we were no longer going to be pushed out and forgotten like yesterday's trash! We are human beings. We are not just names and/or numbers on a piece of paper. We needed the Department of the Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs in Washington, DC, to take notice of what was being allowed to happen to our Tribe. We were pushed in a corner and had no other choice but to go into survival mode and stand our ground. The Tribe went into a vote and decided to go in to lockdown and barricade itself in until the Department of the Interior would be forced to take notice of our devastating situation and agree to sit down at the table with us to resolve our immediate problem that had been ignored up until we decided to stand our ground.

I can't answer the second part of your question, because our crisis isn't over yet. We are still negotiating.

MA: How have the state and their police responded to your situation? How have other people and/or institutions tried to hinder your efforts?

CVMT: Well, the state still hasn't released the Tribe's money. I would say that the sad part to this dilemma is seeing some of the people believing the negative stuff that had been going out on blogs. It hurts our hearts to see people say such cruel things when they don't know the whole truth behind the situation. We are confident that the truth will prevail, so we don't follow the blogs. Although we do want to thank those who stood by us and still stand with us today...

MA: In what ways have other Tribes and communities/groups offered you support?

CVMT: We are thankful for the internet radio talk shows, TV hosts, Veteran Affairs, some pocket members of the American Indian Movement (AIM), legal services, individual concerned citizens (Indians and non-Indian peoples), universities, special interest groups, Canadian Indians, doctors, Calaveras Band of Mi-Wuk Indians, Calaveras County Mountain Miwuk, Historical Shingle Springs Miwok Indians, Modesto Anarcho, Ghost Machine Group, United Native Americans Inc., WPFW Nightwolf, and Onnnativeground. Recently, Chairperson Burley did a presentation at the Consumnes River College in Sacramento in which they have asked how they can help show their support for the Tribe. Also, UC San Diego has passed a resolution in support of the California Valley Miwok Tribe, and they have continued to be strong advocates to help our tribe get justice.

MA: Anything you would like to add?

CVMT: We ("The Tribe") are asking for help from the general public. Please help our tribe survive. Help us protect not only our history/culture but the native history that is a big part of California and the United States. For more information, please visit our websites at: WWW.CALIFORNIAWOKTRIBE-NSN.GOV and WWW.CALIFORNIAWOKTRIBE.US

For more from Modesto Anarcho, visit WWW.MODESTOANARCHO.ORG.

JUSTICE FOR THE MIWOK TRIBE

EAGLE ROCK IS SACRED!

BY JOHN SCHERTOW

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), has shamelessly and underhandedly given its final approval for Kennecott's proposed Eagle Mine project: a nickel and copper sulfide mine on the Yellow Dog Plains in Michigan's upper peninsula.

In issuing the approval, the MDEQ overstepped the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community's (KBIC) treaty rights and dismissed a 2009 ruling by Administrative Law Judge Richard Patterson, who found that Eagle Rock is a place of spiritual importance to the Anishinabe People and should be protected. Judge Patterson, in his ruling, had stated that both Kennecott and the MDEQ "did not properly address the impact on the sacred rock outcrop known as Eagle Rock" and suggested that they move the mine's entry point to a place somewhere "away from the rock."

The Yellow Dog Watershed Preserve, who works along side KBIC, and others opposed to the mine explained how the MDEQ unilaterally decided that the judge's ruling was unnecessary, "...because it pertained to Eagle Rock as a place of worship. They believe that a place of worship must be a building and therefore negate comments that were not in favor of the mining company."

However, the MDEQ did much more than dismiss the ruling and deny the sacredness

of Eagle Rock. It handed the matter down to a Senior Policy Advisor, who made the decision on his own just two days before the MDEQ was formally dissolved. In doing so, it completely overstepped any sense of judiciary propriety.

Cynthia Pryor, Campaign Director for the Yellow Dog Watershed Preserve, comments:

"What just happened here? The MDEQ, as party to a State of Michigan Administrative Contested Case process, just unilaterally bypassed both the legal process and Administrative Law Judge Patterson in making a sweeping declaration and finding of law. This sweeping "judgment" was made not by Judge Patterson, not by past MDEQ Director Stephen Chester, not by the interim MDEQ Director Jim Sygo, but by a Senior Policy Advisor within the MDEQ. This was done as a final MDEQ action on the matter—on the day before the MDEQ was to be dissolved and the new MDNRE Director was to take office.

"How blatant can this be? This is the dramatic action of a DEQ that hopes as a last ditch effort to resolve the Kennecott issue and allow this mine on the Yellow Dog Plains—before their authority is superseded by a new agency. The delegation of MDEQ Director's final decision on the matter, was given to Senior Policy Advisor Frank J. Ruswick, Jr. two weeks ago. There was no known correspondence from Judge Patterson to the DEQ, Kennecott or the petitioners during

this time frame. But out of the blue, a day before MDEQ dissolution, this MDEQ policy advisor made a judgment, ruling and order granting Kennecott both a Part 632 mining permit and a ground water discharge permit and vacating a remand order made by then Director Stephen Chester concerning Eagle Rock as a "place of worship." A policy advisor of the MDEQ became a Judge and a MDEQ Director and has so ruled—and we must accept that?

"This is an egregious act that now will absolutely require appeal to a higher court, and should require an appeal to the new DNRE Director Rebecca Humphries and the Governor of this state. We should not sit by and accept such action as the accepted mode of "lawfulness" in this state."

KBIC is also urging the public to become more involved in the effort to protect the Great Lakes, stating, "You, however, can make a difference in protecting, restoring, and guarding our most precious natural resources and the gift of water—our Great Lakes. We ask that you continue to become involved and educate yourselves to find out all that you can about sulfide acid mining and the proposed mines for the Upper Peninsula, especially the Eagle Project in the Yellow Dog Plains.

For more information, please visit: www.SAVETHEWILDUP.ORG, WWW.LAKESUPERIORMININGNEWS.NET, WWW.YELLOWDOGWATERSHED.ORG. To lodge a complaint against the MDEQ's actions, contact Michigan Governor Jennifer M. Granholm.

Klamath Justice Coalition Halts Logging on Karuk Sacred Sites

BY AHNI

The Klamath Justice Coalition organized a blockade in northern California on December 19, to stop a U.S. Forest Service logging contractor from damaging any sites held sacred by the Indigenous Karuk Nation.

Before daybreak on December 16, members of the indigenous-led coalition gathered at Orleans Mountain Lookout Road within the Six Rivers National Forest and set up a large fire in the roadway. Fortunately, the logging crew took the moral and legally responsible path, and turned back without involving the police.

"This morning's small but important victory marks the beginning of our campaign to defend Karuk sacred sites and protect the health of our forests," said Karuk Ceremonial Leader Leaf Hillman in a press release issued after the protest.

According to the The Klamath Justice Coalition, the company was initially supposed to be part of the Orleans Community Fuel Reduction and Forest Health Project (OCFR). The OCFR, which actually stands for the "Orleans Culture and Forest Reduction plan," says Hillman, "is a plan to reduce the

threat of wildfires and increase forest health, while preserving the cultural sites associated with the Panamnik World Renewal Ceremonial District."

For generations, the Karuk People have held a semi-annual ceremony where, as Jennifer Huang from the Sacred Land Film Project notes, "a priest travels through the forest on the tribe's traditional trails to locations where various dances and prayers are held. This is the same area that was the subject of the historic G-O Road case in the 1980s, in which the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that Native Americans did not have a First Amendment right to stop a Forest Service logging road from penetrating their sacred High Country."

Following almost three years of consultation, the U.S. Forest service finally reached an agreement with the Karuk Nation and other non-native residents in the Klamath Basin on how to proceed with the OCFR. In the end, however, the Forest Service Supervisor betrayed the agreement and the public's trust by "recklessly" granting a U.S. logging company rights to harvest 914 acres of the forested land, held sacred or not.

"This is not the first time that (Forest Service Supervisor Tyrone Kelly) has shown a particular insensitivity to Tribal cultural issues," explains Klamath Justice. "Last year he oversaw the bull dozing of... land disputed to be Indian Trust Land. The act not only destroyed a home, but destroyed a nearby archeological site and a contemporary dance ground."

Also, during last years' wildfires, Kelly directed the construction of firebreaks and the use of heavy equipment that destroyed sections of "medicine man trails" and high country alters used during annual World Renewal Ceremonies. Representatives from the Karuk Tribe urged Kelley to build the breaks in areas that were less sensitive, but the concerns were ignored.

"Its like Kelly is hell bent on destroying our sacred areas one step at a time," says Hillman. Nevertheless, the Kaurk, along with the Klamath Justice Coalition are committed to protecting the culturally sensitive region and compelling the US Forest Service to honor its word.

For more information, contact: Craig Tucker, Karuk spokesperson, cell 916-207-8294; or Leaf Hillman, Karuk Ceremonial Leader, 530-627-3710.



By ATTILA

We were pacing around outside of the Greenville County Jail in the early darkness of late Fall. Four of our fellow eco-defenders were still locked up inside. Boredom and impatience were starting to get to me, sucking away the tremendous energy of the amazing action we had pulled off that morning. But things were looking up. I was still up to no good.

"Ten years after WTO. Not too bad," commented another Earth Firster standing outside with me. Oh, yeah. N30. It had almost slipped my mind. A decade ago, when many of us were fighting global capitalist institutions, we thought that a new world was just around the corner. Here in North Carolina, we may not have stopped the construction of the coal plant that we have been fighting for several years, but the movement against coal has never seemed stronger.

A grin came across my face. We had just pulled off one of the most positive, cheapest and media-savvy actions in my history of fighting for a wild planet. Everyone was excited. Earlier that Fall, we were tipped off that the generator to the Cliffside, North Carolina, coal plant was being shipped through South Carolina. This giant metal beast had come across the ocean from Japan and landed in Charleston, North Carolina. From there it would slowly make its way across the state. Once it was loaded onto a transporting rig, this monstrosity weighed 1.9 million pounds and was 300-foot-long. It required several trucks in the front and some in the back to move it along at a lumbering pace of 5-20 miles per hour. The transport contractors had to reinforce bridges and raise power lines in its path.

We codenamed the generator Death Star, as we thought this was an appropriate name for a large, slow-moving, planet-destroying object. Croatan Earth First! and the newly reformed Asheville Rising Tide decided that the best way to stop the ongoing construction of the Cliffside plant was to deny it its cold, steel heart.

The first step was to find the damn thing. This was the first time that the shipment of a key component of a coal plant would be blocked. We had no idea what it looked like, because the pictures taken of it could not capture its entirety. Lucky for us, the Death Star was a spectacle to the people of South Carolina. Nothing so large had ever passed through their towns, and so many news outlets covered its movements.

The movement of the Death Star turned out to be much less reliable than we had anticipated. Saturated ground after rainy days would delay it, as would the terrible communication between transportation officials and the contractors. The move across South Carolina ended up taking three months instead of the 30 days we had initially heard. We went on a number of wild goose chases throughout the state, looking for the generator in places where it would not arrive for weeks. Our initial plan was to stop it near the North Carolina border, only a few miles from the construction site. Because the shipment took so long, we got impatient and decided on a location much further into South Carolina.

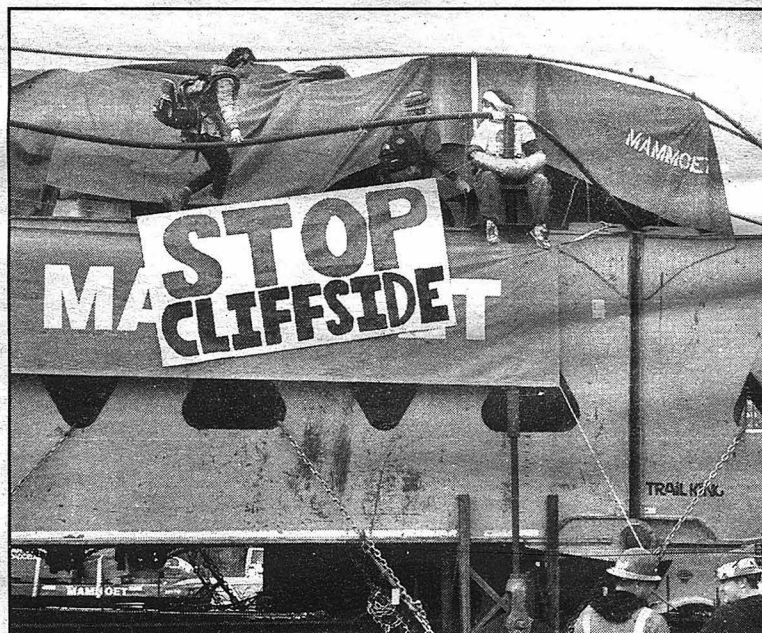
We decided on the least number of lockdowns we would need to prove our point, get press and insure the safety of those people risking arrest. These people would climb onto the generator and lock down to highly visible but hard-to-reach places. Our devices were simple "black bears" made of PVC elbow joints. In our experience, few police departments are taking the time to cut people out anymore, so the integrity of the device seems less important. (Instead, cops force people to unlock using pain holds, pepper spray or tasers.)

With everything in place, we deployed on November 30, a day when climate activists were planning to demonstrate and shut down streets in a number of cities across the country. The site where the Death Star was parked that morning had minimal security, so our folks had time to climb around and arrange themselves in ideal positions. We draped a few banners around the area and then waited for a response. The police did a lot of head-scratching that day.

Our people were just high enough they had to call in the fire department to get them down. The generator was a tourist attraction already, so now we had curious on-lookers wondering why people were locking themselves to this giant piece of steel. During this time, our media team got rolling, and we managed to get coverage in 150 media outlets, including the New York Times.

The occupation of the site lasted about two hours, and four people were arrested. While the police were generally calm, they got folks to unlock by threatening them with tasers, going as far as shooting one off into the ground underneath a person who was locked down.

The increased use of tasers is something that we as a movement need to look at. It is difficult to tell someone to stay strong when there is a chance that they will be electrocuted. Pain holds and chemical weapons might hurt a lot, but they do not paralyze your nervous system in the same way that tasers do. If we continue using blockades and lockdowns as a tactic, we need to think about the effect that tasers have on the length and safety of these actions.



People locked down to the Cliffside coal generator.

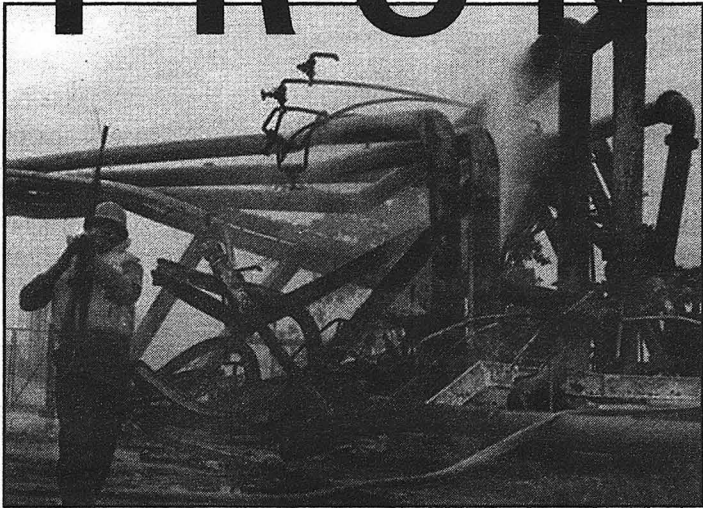
"[...]the best way to stop the ongoing construction of the Cliffside plant was to deny it its cold, steel heart."

Our folks were released from jail without having to post bond, and have since gone to trial and were given credit for time served. That means that we spent zero funds on legal costs. Everyone is itching to figure out how we will next strike at the Cliffside plant.

Cliffside might get built. It may even open. Construction has run over budget already, but Duke Energy, the builder of the plant, has unfortunately passed the costs on to citizens through a controversial rate hike. But even as the generator reached the construction site, Progress Energy, the other large electricity provider in North Carolina, said that it would shut down 30 percent of its coal capacity in the state within eight years. This has only come about because of a concerted, system-wide approach by ecodefenders.

It is empowering to know that, while we are fighting a coal plant in North Carolina, there are folks fighting plants in Ohio and Virginia. About 100 amazing activists with Climate Ground Zero put their bodies on the line in West Virginia last year, raising awareness about the fight against mountaintop removal mining and suffering arrests and repression in the process. Elsewhere, people are attacking coal financing, and it's all paying off. The coal industry is just about to get buried in that giant grave that it has dug for itself in West Virginia.

FRONTLINES



Oil lines sabotaged in Nigeria

photo from upnews.in



protesters confront their oppressors in Brighton, UK

photo from smashedo.org.uk

Oil Lines Sabotaged, MEND Ends Ceasefire

After a three month long ceasefire the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND) is back in the game. On January 8, unknown militants attacked one of Chevron's major oil producing lines of the Niger Delta. Statements that were released the next day reported that Chevron's 20,000 barrels per day of crude oil came to a screeching halt.

The group of gunmen reported, "This attack was sanctioned by MEND but did not involve our fighters."

Armed saboteurs in the Niger River delta, home to Africa's largest oil and gas industry, have shut down more than 25 percent of Nigeria's crude production over the course of the four years through 2009.

January 30, the day of MEND's announcement of ending their ceasefire, another sabotaged oil line was discovered on one of Royal Dutch Shell's pipelines.

MEND has made pretty clear their desire for "control of its resources and land." Due to infrastructural nightmares destroying their land they've yet to obtain this.

New Year, New Lives!

As we entered a new year others give new lives to 150 hens. The hens were released from their battery cages in the UK. The liberators proclaimed, "happy new year to all prisoners."

Gettin Grilled With the ELF

Dedicated to Earth Liberation Prisoners Nicu, Robbi, Andrea and the Brigata Garibaldi Antifascista.

Eight liters of gasoline and five camping gas canisters were used to perform the perfect arson to the electric cabin and the kitchen of the Roadhouse Grill in Reggio, Emilia (Italy). Up the revolt! ELF

Up in Arms at the Arms Factory

More than 300 protestors converged on the Brighton, UK, EDO/ITT to remember 2009's catastrophic 22 day bombing of Gaza. Protesters met up at a park equipped with coffins and a banner with a thousand handprints representing the lives that were lost during the attacks on Gaza. Everyone was dressed to impress (all black with masks of course).

Protestors marched from the park to a junction in the road that meet with the road

that the factory is located on. At this point many protestors split off to race to the rear of the factory. Other protestors chose to conveniently stay behind to block access to the road and read the names of those 1417 victims of the Israeli bombings.

As the protestors approached the factory many went inside of the fence. After leaving that area and repeatedly evading the police around 100 protestors attempted to go onto Barclays Bank property. Unfortunately riot police headed the protestors off. At the end of the day five arrests were made. For more extensive coverage of this smash EDO demonstration as well as past actions and background on the campaign please visit www.smashedo.org.

HLS Investors Feel the Heat

Deutschland M.E.A.H. brought the ruckus to the vice president of Fortress Investment (FI), the main investor of Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS). Arsonists demanding that FI withdraws the loans they supply to HLS set fire to VP Karim Bohm's car.

In a communiqué, they stated, "There's nothing that can stop us from making this the worst nightmare in the whole Fortress Investment Group history."

Apparently, the fire rescue team couldn't make it through to the home due to the smallness of streets and excess of cars blocking in the way. The team of arsonists asked, "What do you think will happen when we set fire to your house and you are off to work? No fire brigade for you we guess."

ALF Versus Pig Slaughter Near Paris, France

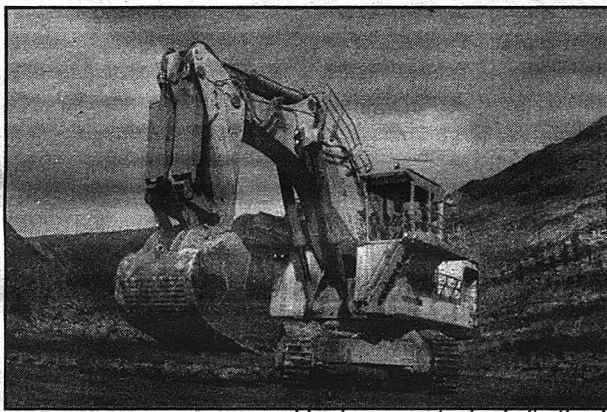
Late November 2009 the ALF made a special visit to a pig slaughterhouse in Houdan, France. Despite difficult weather, the saboteurs were still able to set multiple trucks on fire. They signed their communiqué, "Nothing can stop the ALF."

Non-Stop-Action Against Coal Mining in Scotland

In early January, the Pennile opencast mine in Scotland was host to a band of saboteurs. In all, 13 destructive pieces of machinery were

damaged. One giant earth mover, six dump trucks, four standard earth movers and two flood light generators were all demolished. The site of the open cast mine had already been mined and the machinery was supposed to be transported to the Mainhill area nearby. Fortunately, that area was still occupied by the Mainhill forest camp.

On January 13, at the Mainhill Woods site in another action, a drill rig was sabotaged. The machine was part of a duo of earth destroyers that was operating on a different opencast mine planned for South Lanarkshire.



machine in opencast mine in Scotland

photo from smashedo.org.uk

For a further list of actions that has taken place over the course of recent resistance to coal mining in Scotland, see page 16.

Mexican ELF and ALF go Tag Team to Bring the Heat

On January 17, both the Mexican ALF and ELF visited a Coca Cola factory in Ecatepec, Mexico city to strike. The group placed two packages of explosives in the front window of the plant, completely destroying the windows.

The action was dedicated, "with all our desire for freedom to the prisoners Victor, Emmanuel, Abraham, Fermin and Socorro of Tijuana." The activists also conveyed their hope for further actions, saying "We hope that direct solidarity multiplies in clandestine actions, for their unconditional liberation."

The group's reasoning for their action was also very eloquently worded in their communiqué, expressing frustration with humyn exploitation, the privatization of resources and environmental deterioration. They were also clear about their desires to focus on quality actions, strengthening themselves to sabotage with renewed zest and creativity: "It is 2010," they declare, "a new year with new strategies and new tactics but with the same courage to act."



"What do you think will happen when we set fire to your house and you are off to work? No fire brigade for you we guess."



photo from lenwestende

Militant Feminism:



BY COMRADE BLACK

Juliet Belmas was arrested in January 1983, at the age of 19, and was sentenced to 20 years in prison for her involvement in the militant Guerrilla groups Direct Action (DA), and The Wimmin's Fire Brigade. DA claimed responsibility for the bombings of the Cherokee Dunsuire Hydro substation on Vancouver Island, and the bombing of Litton Systems, an Ontario company that was building guidance systems for the nuclear cruise missile; other smaller actions included paint bombing of AMEX offices, and they had plans to sink an icebreaker being used to push forth plans for offshore drilling, as well as bombing the military base at Cold Lake.

The Wimmin's Fire Brigade fire bombed three stores of the pornography chain Red Hot Video (RVH), after a failing long term campaign by mainstream feminist groups to stop the chain from selling films of womyn and children being violently and repeatedly beaten and raped.

Juliet now has a degree from art school and makes independent films, and does work around the issues faced by womyn in prison. I was lucky enough to meet Juliet and hear many of her exciting stories recently—she had so much to say that needed to be heard by others. I took this opportunity to ask her about the connections between anarchism, feminism, punk rock and militancy.

Comrade Black: So now that you are not blowing shit up anymore, what are you doing? Are you still a revolutionary?

Juliet Belmas: I film shit blowing up all the time now, as a camera technician in the film industry, and over the past few years I've been talking—mainly with young people eager to know what it's like being a revolutionary, about how it all began for me and what it was like. I tell them time, don't wait for nobody, it goes just like that, so listen up!

As for being a revolutionary—a parrhesiast is what I am. I don't suck-hole to anybody! I tell the truth, despite the risks, and my fidelity to truth is pivotal to my self-examination and maturation as a human being. I choose frankness instead of persuasion, truth instead of falsehood, the risk of death instead of life and security, criticism instead of flattery, and moral duty instead of self-interest or moral apathy.

CB: During the trials, a prisoner support group put out some bulletin claiming you had "ratted" out the others. Was there any validity to this? How did that rumor start? How did it affect your time in prison and relationship to your co-defendants?

JB: It all began with an article carried by the "Leftist Press," entitled "Julie Rats Out," dating back to the mid 1980s. It's not surprising that the article was not signed. Writers with journalistic integrity always sign their articles (except in some countries like Mexico, Colombia or Algeria where their lives could be threatened by what they write!). But I can see why the person who wrote that article didn't sign it; it is full of lies and partiality. They depicted Brent Taylor like some demigod and steered the reader into concluding that Julie was the Judas who betrayed the group for self-interest; while the others, the true believers, must now suffer a worse fate. They take the fact that I pled guilty and appealed a 20-year sentence and make it seem that, because I did that, I automatically "ratted out"—damn! If you only knew how the whole place was wiretapped and what people said, like the cops would learn anything from me or anybody else for that matter. Weird, seems like whoever wrote that article had to find a scapegoat to elevate the others—I don't know, but what I do know is that I was lucky I wasn't the lone woman in the group, otherwise the

optics would be so much worse. History is so unforgiving!

Also, I can't believe they wrote an entire article about Julie Belmas without even talking to Julie Belmas, or her lawyer. Who were their sources? Never once mentioned in the article! It even slid into low-level gossiping, insinuating I was a rat because of a "slide into religion" or because I "left Gerry." Not a single word about the fact that he let the others threaten the life of the women he said he loved, which was unbelievable!

I believe the reason why the "Leftist Press" singled me out, and labeled me a rat says more about the dogma-laden Left. I didn't know anybody. I came right out of the suburbs with revolutionary zeal like no other. I never took the state's evidence, blamed or "ratted" on any one of my ex-comrades. I was a pawn and couldn't make a move; I watched helplessly as reporters from both the mainstream and the Left began pitting me against the others to sell their stories. Media sucks, and the truth is that the huge sentence I got is proof that I never hid behind anyone's skirt and I even tried to protect some people. I got a heavier sentence because of that, but it was much harder with that "rat" label, especially in prison; so you can see why I'm not on the best terms with the four others and even some of their most ardent supporters. They had a responsibility, especially my boyfriend (at the time), to remove that "bad jacket" and they never did. They would've had to admit they were wrong and obviously they weren't capable of that. They chose to be rigid politically, instead of being human.

CB: What does Militancy and Direct Action mean to you?

JB: Militancy means a constant preparedness for the point of no return. Direct action means big tent action by committee.

CB: Is property destruction and sabotage violent? How do you define violence?

JB: Property damage and sabotage are violence if aimed at the epicenter of an intended target; I define violence as a natural part of being H-U-M-A-N.

It's obvious; politics is violence: politics needs force, politics needs Christ, politics needs money, politics needs ignorance, politics needs fools, politics needs poverty—you get the progression—politics is violence.

CB: What was the goal of using militant direct action? Why did you choose militancy over other tactics? And how did you choose your targets?

JB: The goal was not to anger people but to scare them, to wake them up. Picketing seemed like a waste of time; nothing ever changes. I targeted Red Hot Video because it was doing business near my family home in Port Coquitlam, and I was very disturbed by it. All I wanted to do was destroy it—smash it up and burn it down! Actually, I wanted to blow it to smithereens with the dynamite we stole, but the others wouldn't go along with that. Red Hot Video was the only action I chose and the only action I never regretted—not one bit!

CB: Many people in the mainstream and those who work for the state, such as the pigs, often call you a terrorist. Do you feel what you have done was terrorism? How do you feel about being called a terrorist? What does that word mean to you?

JB: When people label me a terrorist it hits two birds with one stone; first, I get to claw back the representational dynamics of a word that continues to misinform our understanding of history throughout the ages; secondly, it makes me feel special. For instance, when I tell stories highlighting my exploits, people always say to me: "Really? Why were you in prison?" and I always take

the opportunity to explain it was for political extremism; if I use the word terrorism, they are always surprised and say, "Ah yeah? And she overcame this?" and somehow I see in their eyes that what I had just said to them kinda gave them hope. I read it in their faces something like: "If a person can have a good life after serving six and a half years in prison for worst acts than those I have done, I sure can have a good life too." You can do something, and you can make a difference by making the best of it. That's the way people think, and if you have an influence on one person's perceptions then you're doing all right.

CB: Mistakes were made at Litton Systems causing serious injuries to some of the security and staff, could these have been avoided?

JB: Days before the Litton bombing, a problem was discovered with the bomb's digital timer, it wasn't cycling down to zero properly. We should've aborted the action right there and then, but we didn't. Instead, a decision was made to contact the individual who built the timer back in Vancouver before proceeding. It was all beyond me, to tell you the truth, why we continued.

But moreover, to this day I believe it was a miracle no one was killed, we should never have attacked a civilian target (a place where people worked) with 550 pounds of dynamite; it was wacko crazy.

The way we transported and stored the dynamite and the blasting caps was just as irresponsible; there was little consideration for the public's safety, not to mention mine. The others had previous experience handling dynamite, whereas, I did not. It had been a common misconception that I did the Cheekeye Dunsmuir bombing. I never did. Anyways, I was asked to do the telephone bomb warning for the Litton action, because the person originally involved crapped out. As it turned out, the dynamite contaminated my clothing (which was bagged and used as evidence in court), it entered my bloodstream, and it made me real sick.

Get one thing straight, I'm not making excuses or looking for sympathy at this point in the journey; it took me a long time to be able to look back at events with clarity (due to post traumatic stress). But given the facts, it's clear I suffered nitrate poisoning during the days leading up to the bombing. Nitrate poisoning usually occurs when people are in close contact with dynamite for two or three days. I slept beside it for two full weeks (while the blasting caps were with Ann and Brent); I complained of particles flying in my face while packing it from place to place. Mistakes definitely could've been avoided!

CB: So often, when you talk about militancy, it is often perceived as macho, or sexist, and many feminists have even argued that "violence" is an inherently male trait. However, you, a strong feminist, were involved in a militant group. Does this disprove the theory held by some feminists?

JB: I believe violence is a human trait that has nothing to do with gender.

I think most feminist theories fail to explore the way most girls' actively construct their own gender, and they make big mistakes in focusing on socialization, rather than on girl resistance to socialization. And the big problem with academia is so much gets lost in translation.

CB: So what then is the connection between Militancy and Feminism?

JB: The connection between Militancy and Feminism for me was girl resistance and DIY gun empowerment. In other words, guerrilla irreverence for patriarchal institutions and power.

For my seventeenth birthday, my oldest sister gives me a book called "The Women's Room" by Marilyn French. It was a feminist

novel that featured a radical militant feminist as central character and for me, it ignited new perspectives on female passivity and male domination. When a friend got me a job at a door factory punching holes in aluminum eight hours a day, five days a week, I remember trying to talk to her about the book's ideas during coffee breaks and lunch hours. She was too busy suck-holing and trying to impress floor boss—she was a hard working asshole like him.

Luckily, I was listening to female rock icons at the time like Patty Smith, Polystyrene of the X-Ray Spex, and guitarists like Ellen McIlwaine, who were taking on male traits in their music, and I was attracted to that new rhythm generating. Soon after, I told the floor boss to shove it (under my breathe), and made a b-line directly for the Vancouver punk scene in bondage trousers, combat boots and a ripped shirt. I was not trying to be sexual or indecent, but mocking female sexuality (social norms) through parody. My entry into punk rock moved me from a position of victimization, as an assembly line worker from the suburbs, to one of agency, as a person in control of my self-presentation.

Militant parody in the form of punk rock was girl resistance to subservient, fucked up roles for young women. I was more afraid of doing nothing to combat that, than being patted on the head and falling into line as a "good girl."

CB: *How does anarchism work into all this? What is the connection between anarchism, and feminism, or anarchism and militancy?*

JB: Well after that job in the Port Coquitlam piss factory, I didn't much care for work place rules and regulations anymore—or any rules for that matter. I sensed that I would remain subjugated for the rest of my life if I remained complacent and let fucked up people tell me what to do, and on and on it would go. I wanted to seize the time and express my femininity in a way that smashed other people's ideas of how I should behave.

I grew up with a lot of freedom, being the youngest of six. My siblings grew up in the over-controlling 50s, while I was all freedom-loving 60s and wanting to be a "hippie" right off the bat. My parents had seen it all and tolerated me expressing myself through any imagery I desired, not to mention the uncompromising four-four beat of British punk rock.

So I started fashioning my own punk rock, anarcho-feminism style: ripped fishnet stockings, safety pins, skin-tight black leather, spiked hair and wristbands. I drew anarchy symbols on everything I wore. I even wore a Mickey Mouse cap around the house with Nazi symbols for ears that made my Mother laugh. I found refuge in the music of the Sex Pistols and other British bands whose records I was collecting at the time, because just expressing any deviation from the norm in the suburbs (where I grew up) drew staunch repression. I would soon learn the same to be true, and even worse in downtown Vancouver. Punk was really out there back then, not like it is now.

So then, while I was staying at a punk house off Commercial Drive, I got violently attacked in broad daylight by baseball bat-wielding fascists. After that, something in me changed drastically. At first I returned to Port Coquitlam and dropped out of the scene for a while; suffering post-traumatic stress in quiet desperation. Then I started reading newspapers (having never been interested in news), and identifying with media accounts of paramilitary death squads operating with impunity in the Third World, trapping and massacring women and children in churches! The realization that it almost happened to me here hit me like a ton of bricks.

I started my own DIY punkzine, called *Opposition* (I criticized punks for doing nothing but sitting on their asses), I joined a punk band called No Exit and penned "Nothing New," one of the best punk anthems that came out of the Vancouver punk scene. At the same time, I was making anti-war and anti-fascist posters using clippings of images of guerrilla fighters from *Time* magazine. It was a big time of connectivity, channeling my anger into creative energy, and that's what lead up to my slide into militancy.

CB: *Some people today feel that feminism "has gone too far," that womyn are now equal to men, and that there is no need for feminism anymore. How do you feel about this, do you see a need for feminism today?*

JB: Level playing field, hah! I see a dire need for feminists (both male and female) to unite around truth-telling and self-empowerment, whichever way they choose.

CB: *What do you say to all those people that*



Juliet Belmas one hour after being arrested.

think feminists hate men?

JB: I say, the 80s called and wants its dogma back.

CB: *Second wave feminism was very anti-porn, where as third wave feminism adopted a pro-sex stance. Was the fire bombing of the Red Hot Videos was this based on a anti-porn stance? Would an action like this have been a product of the feminism of the time, or would it have still happened if the entire situation occurred 10 years later when Little Sister's was fighting against censorship, if a store like RHV was selling rape and snuff films in the height of the pro-sex feminist movement?*

JB: We were all radical militant second wavers who believed that video porn should be prohibited (censored) because it was dangerously desensitizing to the viewer and correlated with increased levels of violence against women and children. Also, mainstream feminist groups did such a good job picketing the shops and setting up the issue of snuff pornography in the collective consciousness that direct action was able to spring board into public discourse.

I don't think it would have the same galvanizing effect today, because Third Wave feminists express themselves differently. They are reclaiming their personal journeys out of the ashes of censorship and re-constructing female identity through empowering labels previously defined and censored as "unfeminine" such as prostitution and pornography. Today, feminist third-wavers are choosing to control their means of production rather than smash them. It's so cool, because the forty, fifty year olds like me did our thing, now the

twenty, thirty year olds are interested in doing their thing, and on and on it goes.

CB: *Why did you choose the spelling you used of Wimmin?*

JB: The Brigade as a collective chose "wimmin" as the spelling, because some comrades thought that by using the term we'd build solidarity in other areas of the movement (outside Canada). In other words, we chose the word thinking it would make our Direct Action message more accessible. Today, our target audience wonders "what's up with that word?"

CB: *How did your actions affect the overall movement? Did you have any support from the mainstream anti-war and feminist moments?*

JB: Our actions caused sorrow, tears, confusion and the regular trademarks of repression. At the time, we did not have widespread support, but the individual people who knew us within those movements supported us passionately, and still do. Conversely, I barely knew anyone in the movement when I was arrested and as a result, I did not get the same sort of support as the others.

CB: *What about race? As mainly white, heterosexual, activists, and largely from middle class backgrounds did your privilege play into any of this? How did this work in solidarity with People of Color, especially indigenous people who's land we are fighting on?*

JB: I had a hunch that there was more to life than my white bread dysfunctional culture when I started hanging out at the Smiling Buddha and other punk venues in the inner city. I was from the suburbs, right away my family and friends started making a case for violence and homelessness saying that it wasn't safe for me to be downtown. They pointed to local newspaper stories that linked indiscriminate violence with homelessness and Native people in the area. I remember arguing with them and challenging them to read between the lines of stupid media messages I was hearing, like the way women were supposed to dress and be subservient to men. I knew I was privileged and that it was my responsibility to rebel by seeking truth—the uncompromising truth of injustice, poverty and violence—everything that I was supposed to be swallowing in the media, that is how my white, privileged background played into all this.

How this worked in solidarity with First Nations was awesome! One time, we (me and my DA comrades) were heading to the Stein River Valley for a week of R&R and we had to pass through First Nations territory to get there. There we were moving slow in the stolen four wheel drive—our eyes were on the winding road ahead—when suddenly about twenty First Nations youth appeared out of thin air and blocked the road in front of us with logs and trees so we could not pass. We realized that this was a campaign of non-white direct actions aimed at an aggressive logging company in the area that had marked the last natural watershed for clear cut logging, so we raised our fists in solidarity; we made a peace offering with a cassette tape of John Trudell talking about his life experiences. By respecting Native road blocks, whites can work in solidarity with People of Color to protect the earth. *That's how solidarity works!*

This interview was conducted by Comrade Black, who is a genderqueer green anarchist feminist from Victoria BC. They are a founder of the Victoria Anarchist Bookfair collective, Victoria anarchist reading circle, as well as a member of the Camas Collective Infoshop. This is only half of the interview; the other half will appear in the next issue (Beltane May-June) of the Journal.

MAINSHILL SOLIDARITY CAMP

By COAL ACTION SCOTLAND

The Mainshill Solidarity Camp was situated in Mainshill Wood, the site of a proposed open cast coal mine in South Lanarkshire, Scotland. The occupation came to an end when it was forcibly evicted on the January 25, 2010, after seven months of intense activity in the area.

South Lanarkshire is one of the most heavily mined areas in Europe, with four active open cast sites already encircling the nearby village of Douglas. Coal Action Scotland started the campaign with actions at coal terminals and open cast sites around the country, which led to the occupation of the site at Mainshill in June 2009. Since then there have been at least 30 different blockades, digger dives and acts of sabotage on coal sites across Scotland's central belt.

One of the main focuses of the Mainshill campaign has been the physical defense of a small community from the greed of a major national coal company, in this case Scottish Coal and the aristocratic landowner Lord Home. The local opposition to the open cast was completely disregarded, despite more than 600 objections being lodged from a population of around 1,000. As a result of this, local support has been incredible, including donations of food almost everyday. This helped us throughout the brutal winter with temperatures reaching a low of zero degree's Fahrenheit.

The campaign connects direct action against heavy industry and climate change with the people who suffer immediately from its causes. Instead of the carbon reductionism currently being proffered as a solution at the global political table, the campaign at Mainshill seeks to build an alternative of community self-determination and genuinely participatory democratic processes.

Mainshill Wood was home to an abundant variety of wildlife, including roe deer, badgers, bats, voles, moles, owls, buzzards, orchids and pine martens. The 343 acre site has now been cleared of all the trees; bulldozers and diggers have moved in to destroy the remaining habitat.

The camp had been preparing for the eviction since it was set up. The eviction lasted five days with 70 people resisting and a total of 45 arrests. Fourteen tree houses, three sky rafts, and many ground defenses—including a tunnel and a multi-layered fort were evicted. In the UK, protest sites are evicted by a private company called the National Eviction Team who in this case was hired by Scottish Coal.

On Monday January 25, a team of around 100 climbers, tunnellers, bailiffs and police descended on the camp to begin the eviction process. Communal structures and ground defences were torn down as climbers began the difficult task of removing rowdy protesters from the trees. Many people came from local areas and further afield to show their support. Also a contingent of local youth caused havoc by stealing the eviction teams tools and roaming about the site.

For the duration of the eviction, the site was unsecured; this allowed other supporters to get in and cause problems. Barricades were built, chainsaw work was brought to a halt on-site, with one person wrapping herself up in rope and "throwing herself", at the chainsaws.

For five days the National Eviction Team traversed the entirety of the site, systematically removing clusters of defenses. On day three they were surprised to find out that a small village of protesters (known as the "Ewoks") were hiding in the small plantation. Due to bulldozers crushing trees just meters from their defenses, their plans to stay hidden were abandoned.

Many people were shocked at the brutality inflicted on them by both the police and the eviction team. In some cases, protestors hands and feet were cable tied as climbers attached them to a rope and lowered them down. Another example of their complete disregard for safety occurred on day three as protesters in sycamore trees—who had climbed higher to evade capture—had the treehouses below them removed and burnt, along with all their bedding. They were then left overnight with no shelter in freezing temperatures.

The last person to be evicted was forced to reveal himself after being surrounded by five bulldozers, with dozens of terrified deer around him. All 45 arrestees were held overnight and charged with Aggravated Trespass, apart from two people who were held over the weekend—one who was arrested simply for taking photographs on the site.

All five days saw the violence inflicted by the state on those who try to create positive change, and the collusion between the courts, police and corporations.

The campaign against a new opencast mine at Mainshill is by no means over. Pressure is expected to be put on the contractors operating at the site, and the campaign will also begin looking to other communities and areas affected by coal projects in Scotland. This will include hosting protest site skill shares, gatherings to link community environmental struggles and the occupation of more threatened land.

This eviction is being seen not as an end, but as the beginning of a campaign of community-based radical direct action sweeping Scotland's central belt. If the vast expansion of the coal industry in the UK is to be stopped, it will require more places like the Mainshill Solidarity Camp.

More information and a full round-up of actions at WWW.COALACTIONSCOTLAND.NOFLAG.ORG.UK



All pictures courtesy of Coal Action Scotland. From top-to-bottom: **Top:** a climber is suspended from a skypod with cops below. **Second:** Two action campers locked down to a digger. **Third down:** A climber is locked down to a drill rig. **Fourth A** face-to-face look with a skypoder. **Bottom right:** A climber uses traverse lines to evade the eviction team

DIRECT ACTION

HALTS MOUNTAIN BLASTING

"Coal River Mountain was the last mountain around here that hasn't been touched and they could've been using it for windmills...But Massey wants to get that coal. It seems like they just don't care about the populace. Just the land and their checkbook." – Richard Bradford

BY KIM ELLIS

West Virginia protestors associated with Climate Ground Zero and Mountain Justice halted blasting on January 21, at Coal River Mountain with a three-person tree-sit. David Aaron Smith, 23, Amber Nitchman, 19 and Eric Blevins, 28 occupied platforms approximately 60-feet-up two tulip poplar trees and one oak tree. The location was next to where Massey Energy is blasting to build an access road to the Brushy Fork Impoundment on its Bee Tree Strip Mine. Their banners state: "Save Coal River Mtn.," "EPA Stop the Blasting" and "Windmills Not Toxic Spills."

"Massey Energy is a criminal corporation with over 4,500 documented violations of the Clean Water Act, yet the government has given them permission to blast next to a dam full of toxic coal waste that will kill 998 people if it fails," said Blevins.

This action comes at the heels of a rigorously peer-reviewed study, published in *Science Magazine* which states, "Mining permits are being issued despite the preponderance of scientific evidence that impacts are pervasive and irreversible and that mitigation cannot compensate for the losses."

The sitters are calling for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to put an end to mountaintop removal and encourage the land-holding companies to develop clean energy production. The lack of EPA enforcement in mountaintop removal encouraged Josh Graupera, 19, a member of the support team, to take part in this action. "I knew that until I took an active role in the struggle to end MTR (Mountain Top Removal), I was passively condoning the poisoning and displacement of countless communities and in the obliteration of one of the oldest and most diverse ecosystems on this continent," Graupera said. Nitchman added, "I act out of personal concern for the safety of water from toxic sludge, air from smog, and mountains from annihilation."

The Brushy Fork Impoundment is permitted to more than nine billion gallons of the toxic coal waste and currently contains 8.2 billion gallons. Brushy Fork's foundation is built on a honeycomb of abandoned underground mines. If the foundation were to collapse, the slurry would blow out from all sides of the mountain. According to Marfork Coal Company's emergency warning plan regarding

the impoundment, in case of a frontal dam breach, a 40-foot wall of sludge, 72-foot at its peak height, would engulf communities as far as 14 miles away.

"Brushy Fork sludge dam places the downstream communities in imminent danger. The threat of being inundated by a wall of toxic sludge is always present. Blasting next to this dam increases the risk as well as destroying the opportunity for renewable wind energy," said Coal River Mountain Watch's Vernon Haltom.

According to the Coal River Wind Project, the wind energy produced by a turbine farm on Coal River Mountain could power 70,000 homes, provide more permanent jobs for local residents and, annually, bring over a million more dollars in tax breaks revenue to Raleigh County than coal currently does.

After blocking Massey Energy's operations on the Bee Tree Permit for nine days, Amber Nitchman, 19, and Eric Blevins, 28 descended from their respective trees. They had occupied the two oak trees—originally accompanied by a third tree sitter, David Aaron Smith, 23—to protest mountaintop removal and the blasting of Coal River Mountain. Upon descent, they were immediately arrested by West Virginia State Troopers.



Photo courtesy: Climate Ground Zero

Treesit Halting Coal work in West Virginia

Forest Occupation in Catalonia

BY DESDELBOSCOS.BLOGSPOT.COM

Since October 17, we have been occupying a piece of forest that was meant to host one of the hundreds of electrical towers that form the new Very High Voltage (MAT) power line, which will eventually interconnect France, Spain and perhaps, Africa. The place we now call our home is in an area called Guilleries (Girona Spain), near Sant Hilari Sacalm village. It is about 3,000-feet-high and surrounded by mountains in a fairly isolated environment.

The reasons for this occupation are many. We won't accept without fighting yet another gigantic infrastructure that will solve absolutely nothing and, in fact, will make things worse. We have to choose which side we're on: either we stand for western civilization, or we fight against it. It's time for action! This is an attempt to show that some people still have what it takes! Challenging the establishment is a condition for living in this world.

Some of the "problems" this MAT line hopes to solve include securing electrical power for the tourist villages of Girona, supplying electricity for the TAV/AVE and avoiding electrical blackouts like the 2007 blackout in Barcelona, Spain.

We're not going to enter the debate arena

in which one side shows an "independent study" that states how much this power line is needed and the other side comes with yet another study that shows the opposite. It's obvious which side we're with, but we state that it is imperative to actually *fight* this power line.

In the meantime, we're trying to build the foundations of a new world starting right here and now: reconnecting with the Earth, living what our instincts tell us, hurting the empire and putting pressure on its fissures.

Here, from the forests that have always hid the rebels, maquis, conspirators and plotters, we can still be invisible and feel protected. They've sold us the idea of progress and science as a nostrum/panacea that will free humanity of its fears and will give us commodities we never dreamed of before—commodities that, on the other hand, we never get to catch, because progress has to create new gadgets every single minute. What we're able to see is that progress reduces us to totally useless people full of insecurities and passivity. Every moment we spend in this world, we lose knowledge about how life would be without all these commodities they sell to us.

The occupation has been successful so far. In these two months, a lot of structures have been built: many beds on the trees, a communal "chill"

house in between three trees to read and plot, a communal kitchen, an information point, a "warehouse" to store materials and keep things dry and many resistance structures that will keep police busy for some days as they try to evict us.

Also very important has been the help and involvement of many people we didn't know until some weeks ago. Local people from the nearby villages as well as people from Barcelona and other cities show up and help. Some people decide to stay for days, or even want to live with us and passers-by are curious about what we're doing.

One communication strategy has been to try to speak directly with people instead of letting mass-media portray us and manipulate us as they please. No work has been done with them. We have used our own means: texts, flyers, posters, face-to-face talking with people of the villages, social movements and our own blog. Mass-media is never impartial. That's why we invite everyone to show up with no cameras or microphones. From the forest, a big hug to all people trying to get rid of this capitalist-industrialist system and struggling to create a world without any kind of domination.

For more information on this camp visit www.desdelboscos.blogspot.com and for other European *EF!* News, visit www.earthfirst.org.uk.

Diné, O'odham

Autonomous/Anti-Authoritarian Bloc

continued from page 1

very same pathetic formula of production and consumption. Capital seeks to desecrate everything sacred. We hold lives over laws and human relations over commodity relations."

"We recognize what appears to be an unending historical condition of forced removal here in the Southwestern so-called US. From the murdering of O'odham Peoples and stealing of their lands for the development of what is now known as the metropolitan Phoenix area, to the ongoing forced relocation of more than 14,000 Diné who have been uprooted for the extraction of natural resources just hours north of here, we recognize that this is not a condition that we must accept, it is a system that will continue to attack us unless we act."

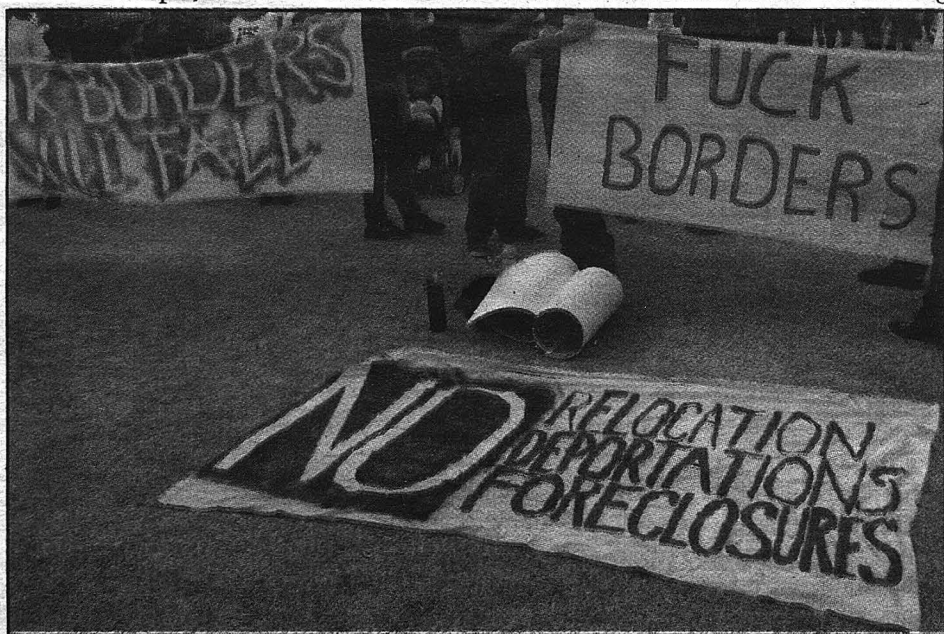


The bloc moving through the streets

"Whether we are migrants deported for seeking to organize our own lives (first forced to migrate to a hostile country for work) or working class families foreclosed from our houses, we see the same forces at work. Indeed, in many cases the agents of these injustices are one and the same."

Members of the bloc addressed the march from the stage of the initial meet-up point. Shortly after, the bloc merged together with black flags and banners and began howling chants. As allies of the bloc emerged from the mingling crowd, the energy grew to nerve tingling proportions—the bloc advanced forward, it worked its way through the streets of Phoenix.

The DO@ bloc was under the eye of the Phoenix police for the entirety of the march. The Police eventually erupted into a violent response to the bloc. Within seconds of bloc members advancing



Banners from the march

forward around an encroaching cart, screams broke out as the air became saturated with pepper spray. An officer on horseback began recklessly thrashing through the crowd, and in the midst of the blurry encounter, five people were stolen from the bloc and arrested. Amongst bloc members taking the brunt of the police violence, many others were disoriented by the situation and a two-year-old marcher was pepper sprayed in the face.

A standoff between officers and the bloc ensued after the arrests. Other marchers also felt the urge to confront the cops. The standoff lasted nearly an hour and a half.

As Saturday night stretched into Sunday morning all five arrestees were released. One arrestee was released on their own recognizance and the others were served with an assortment of bail costs and charges related to assault. Local Phoenix attorneys and cop-watchers are assisting those facing charges from the march. Some of the arrestees are going

to appear before a Grand Jury because of the charges being a class 2 offense.

"Queremos Un Mundo" (We Want One World) "Sin Fronteras" (Without Borders!)... Chants from both sides of the border at the 2007 No Borders Camp—Resistance Against the Wall (EFJ January-February 2008).

An abundance of responses to the border have developed in recent years. Many have strived to break out of popular mundane thought patterns of looking toward politico figureheads for the answers.

North America has seen a distinct surge in radical responses to borders and colonization through the expansion of capitalism. Anti-olympic organizing in Vancouver, British Columbia, has become full-on volatile. From burning barricades on native land, to shattered windows in Santa Cruz, the message has become clear—the olympics are not welcome on stolen native land.

From November 7-11, 2007, the Mexicali border was occupied as people established an autonomous zone for a No Borders Camp. Prior to the No Borders Camp people in California and San Diego were organizing and sabotaging the efforts of the Minute Men (an armed, anti-immigrant group that patrols the border).

Insurrectional actions have sprouted up throughout the US, threatening the security of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention facilities. Funders of detention centers have also become the target of sabotage. Open organizing against these racist prisons and capitalist institutions, such as Wells Fargo, has been a commonly employed tactic amongst Smash ICE groups of the Northwest US.

Across the Atlantic ocean, Europeans have established the no border network to facilitate their desires to confront the violence perpetrated by borders in their area. Through their networking, they've organized numerous No Border Camps. A No Borders Camp was held in Calais, France, from June 23-29 2009. In late August, No Border Activists held a No Borders Camp in Lesvos, Greece. Activists were able to communicate with prisoners of the Pagani prison that were involved in hunger strikes and provide peripheral support for those imprisoned. Toward the end of the camp, 10 activists occupied the roof of the prison. One day of camp was dedicated to inspiring Harbor actions. Forty campers deployed small rubber boats and instigated interactions with the Coast Guard. They were met by attempts of the Coast Guard who attempted to capsize them. One boat was even harpooned by the Coast Guard. One can only imagine what waits on the wings of future European camps.

Many European detention centers have felt tidal waves of resistance from migrants rioting there. In February, migrants set fire to a detention center in Lampedusa, Italy, in response to the threat of 107 Tunisian migrants being deported to Tunisia. In September, migrants rioted and set fires in a Greek prison yard for more than five hours.

"Borders are scratched across the hearts of men, by strangers with a calm, judicial pen, and when the borders bleed we watch with dread the lines of ink along the map turn red."—Marya Mannes

The DO@ bloc knew that at the end of the day, the tables had not only been turned but literally taken from beneath the noses of any one attempting to keep border discussions within frames of the past.

For radicals in southern Arizona, the reality of the border stares at us eye-to-eye. If you are not directly affected by the border, someone you know is. Chances are you have done work with No More Deaths, and witnessed the violence of the border and tried to process the cruelty of constant deaths and deportations—a result from capitalism's pressure on those migrating north. Further north on both O'odham and Diné land, the border and relocations have an even more omnipresent effect on everyday life. On O'odham land, people are frequently harassed by border patrol. These confrontations often escalate into extreme forms of intimidation and violence for O'odham people. These actions are not only carried out by border patrol, but also homeland security. For years, Diné people have been relocated due to infrastructure projects. (Note, this doesn't come close to delving into the continuous actions both the Diné and O'odham face due to colonization.)

The border is merely one point of contention in this debate. The onslaught of capitalism and the unceasing violence of infrastructure must be brought into the light within these debates. It is also eminent that we move past alone and into attack mode now! Pleading for change in the stagnant water of past approaches will only leave us drowning. Developing approaches to support people in the struggle, defending our communities and land while attacking the perpetrators of these acts of violence is the next step. So step it up!

If you wish to fuel your intellectual fire, try visiting some of these sites: WWW.SURVIVALSolidarity.wordpress.com, WWW.OODHAMISOLATIONBLOCBOT.COM, WWW.FRESNEVEREXTINGUISHED.BLOGSPOT.COM, WWW.BLACKMESAIS.ORG, WWW.ROOTFORCE.ORG, WWW.UNSETTLINGMINNESOTA.ORG. Or, try talking to someone in your community about the next steps to decolonizing and destroying local infrastructure projects.

"We hold lives over laws and human relations over commodity relations."

BY BLACK MESA INDIGENOUS SUPPORT

Although there's been a recent victory against the reopening of the Black Mesa Complex, the Kayenta mine is still operating! Elders on the front lines fighting the continued impacts of coal mining and forced relocation efforts are still requesting support. We are writing with a request for direct, on-land support on behalf of families of traditional resistance communities of Black Mesa, Arizona. One of the Big Mountain elder matriarchs, Blanche Wilson, the mother of Mae Tso, who hosted the 2008 caravan, passed away on January 17. Please hold her and her family in your thoughts and prayers. Mae and Samuel, two of Blanche's children, and elders themselves, are living alone at their homesite. They are in need of support—they will need to take four days away from basic necessities and work for the traditional funeral. Additionally, Mae injured her back on Christmas day and has been in pain for the last three weeks and at a limited work capacity; Samuel has been working double what he normally does.

Furthermore, after this year's Caravan/Fall Wood Run to Black Mesa, Black Mesa Indigenous Support has received an unprecedented amount of direct requests for on-land support from elders—we usually have about 2-3 per month, and this month we have *nine* requests, besides Mae and Samuel Tso. There are several shearers on-land right now, but nearly all of them are leaving soon. February is a difficult month for the elders to live out in the vast canyonlands of Black Mesa in such high altitude in the cold and snow without paved roads and supporters are much appreciated. One of the elders is undergoing knee surgery at the end of January and will be out of commission for several weeks. If you contact us we will give you details.

It is extremely important that we try as hard as we can to have supporters up there to honor these requests and make sure that we continue our support beyond the caravan. If you have come on a caravan or spent time on the land before, please consider reconnecting with the struggle and staying with a family requesting support. If you can't come out, put the call out to your community and offer to talk to interested sheep herders about your experience before getting them in touch with us. This is vital to remain connected to the struggle and to show our solidarity. Please consider coming out if at all possible. Let us know, and let anyone else who could possibly come out know.

Many Thanks,
Black Mesa Indigenous Support Collective
WWW.BLACKMESAIS.ORG

Black Mesa Update



Durwin White Lightning Passes Into the Spirit World. Independent Investigation Underway, You Can Help!

BY NORTH COAST EARTH FIRST! FIRST!

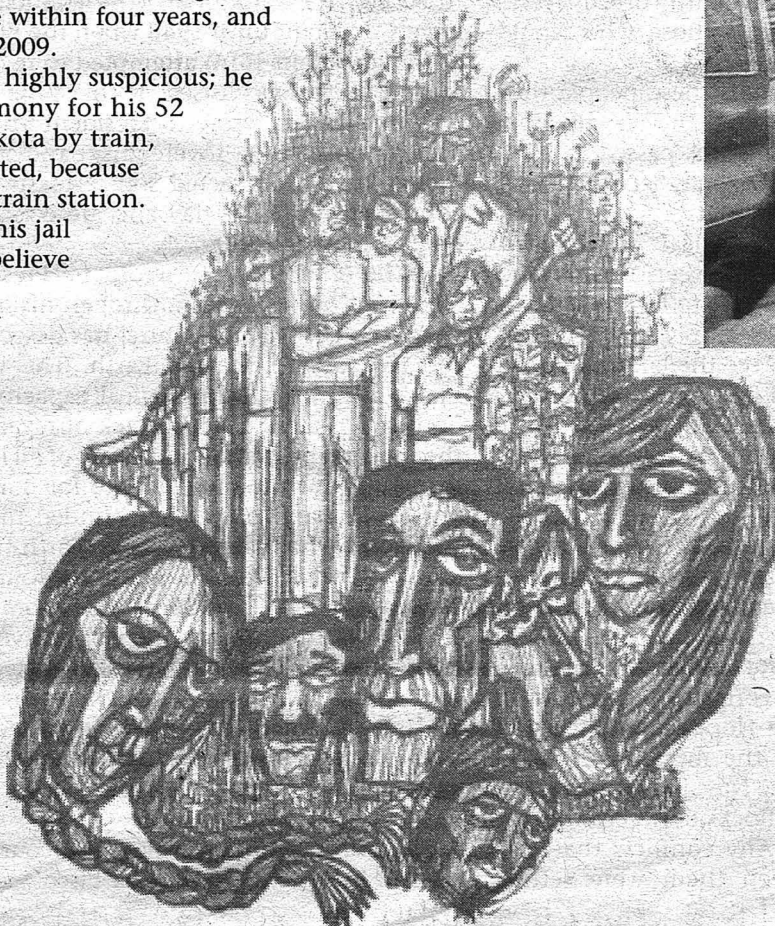
Durwin White Lightning passed into the spirit world on December 9, 2009. Durwin hosted many native ceremonies, in the tradition of the Dakota people, all up and down the West Coast of the U.S. In 2005, he dedicated a Sun Dance ceremony to the preservation of the ancient redwoods and the people working to protect it. He said that things that people pray for in the Sun Dance can come true within four years, and the old growth on former PL land was saved by 2009.

The circumstances around Durwin's death are highly suspicious; he had just been on the West Coast doing a ceremony for his 52 birthday. He and a friend traveled to North Dakota by train, and his medical marijuana must have been detected, because there were officers waiting to arrest him, at the train station. He was then taken to jail and found hanged in his jail cell a few hours later, allegedly by suicide. Few believe that Durwin would ever commit suicide, and especially not over a pot ticket; he had his 215 medical marijuana license, so it may have been a court battle, yet certainly not something worth committing suicide over. Many believe that foul play was involved, and an independent investigation is underway.

Durwin's family is not wealthy, and is accepting help with legal fees. You should be able to go into any Well's Fargo bank and make a donation to the "Durwin White Lightning account." If you make a donation, or need more information, please contact us and let us know. Durwin was very supportive of Earth First! and Earth Firsters, dedicating a lot of prayers and ceremonies to the forest and the people putting their lives on the line for it. The reality of the risks being taken was not wasted on Durwin, he realized how much was being sacrificed to save the ancient ones, and did all he could to help, in his own good way.



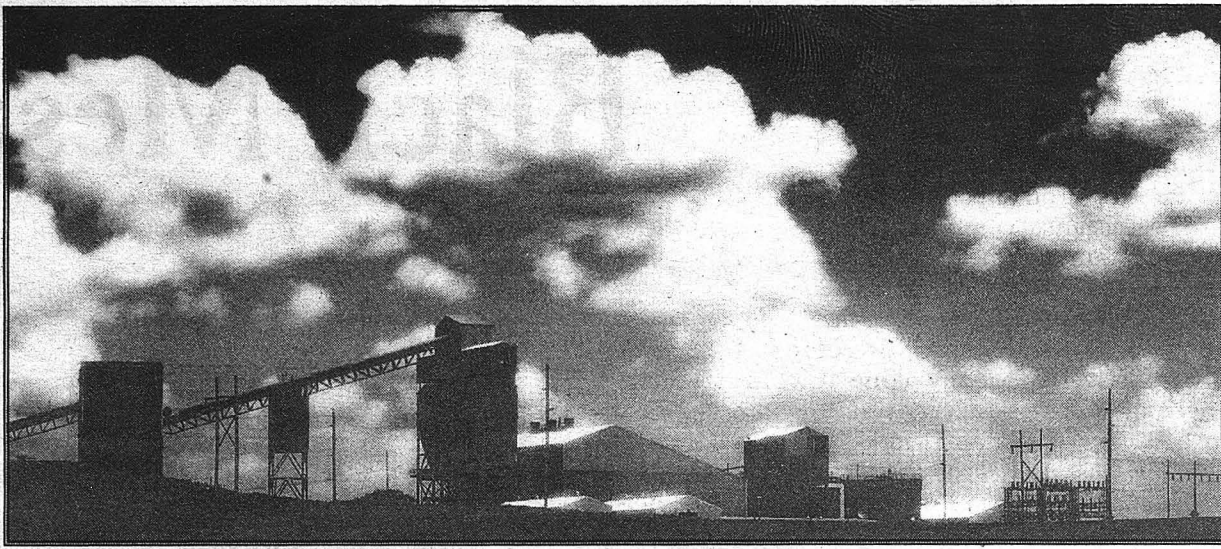
Durwin on a walk in 2002



"It's a time for us to fill our channupas and pray for the family and each other's health, happiness and help to deal with these trying times"

Michael Two-Feathers

Blast from the Past: The Navajo—Hopi Relocation



One of Peabody Coal's mines on Black Mesa

In Navajo language, the closest word for relocation means to vanish altogether.

By ERIC HOLLE

In modern industrial America, the natural world is something apart from our everyday existence, an isolated pocket, museum-like, that one visits all too rarely. Returning home after the annual ten-day "wilderness experience," many of us no doubt wish we could live in a way that would integrate our daily lives more into the natural world. We live, essentially, apart from the Earth.

Most of the indigenous peoples of the world, before their cultures were so heavily impacted by contact with European "civilization," lived in tune with Earth. The concepts of parks or wilderness areas were foreign and unnecessary because they lived in harmony with their environment, and wild nature was a part of their daily existence. Native people no more needed National Parks than eagles need air traffic control.

In parts of the Navajo and Hopi reservations in northern Arizona, native people still live in the old ways, where rocks, trees, springs, and animals are sacred, and the ties to the land are so strong that to leave the land is to vanish altogether. Medicine women like 82-year-old Irene Yazzie pray and offer yellow and white corn pollen for all living things, including vegetation, humans, four leggeds (animals), birds and insects.

Pressure from the US government and white society (the Mormon church, in particular) has caused the loss of much traditional homeland, creating poverty, overcrowding, overgrazing, and other hardships. But the people remain tied to the land, still speaking their native tongues, and refusing to yield to harassment by the US government. The traditional Dine' (Navajo) and Hopi have never signed treaties with the US and remain sovereign nations. Their culture could teach us a great deal about living lightly on Earth and defending Earth against those who would exploit it.

Public law 93-531 tells these people they have to leave. Also called the Navajo-Hopi Land Settlement Act, it was passed in 1974 and promoted by Arizona Senator Barry Goldwater and Representative Morris Udall. On the surface, the law deals with a supposed "land dispute" between Navajo and Hopi People, and pretends to form a just settlement. In reality, it is simply an attempt to force the people to leave the land and open it up to massive and destructive miners exploitation. It will, if carried out, be one of the largest forced relocations in history, removing some 13,000 people from their ancestral homeland.

To begin to understand the situation, we must study the history of land grabbing in the Four Corners area, and the imposition of tribal councils on the people. Political boundaries and private land ownership have always been foreign concepts to the Navajo and Hopi tribes. The Hopi maintained permanent villages on the mesas with small farms nearby, and the Navajo were pastoral, traveling with their flocks between summer and winter homes. Any conflicts that may have existed between them were settled

peacefully. Trading and intermarriage were common.

In 1892, the US government drew a rectangle on a map one degree long and one degree wide, and called it the Hopi reservation. The reservation boundaries did not consider traditional land use or topography, and excluded the original Hopi homeland and the farming villages of Moencopi. Evidence exists that the Hopi reservation was created in part to allow legal action against white people who were helping the Hopi resist kidnapping of their children by Mormons and the US government for "Americanization" at boarding schools. In any case, the reservation was clearly established to give the US legal power over the Hopi and their land.

As federal troops arrived and traditional leaders were arrested, a split occurred among the Hopi. A few wanted an agreement with the white, while most made no concessions. Originally called "friendlies" and "hostiles," the two groups today are called "progressives" and "traditionals." The wealthiest and most powerful Hopi family today are decedents of Emory Sekaquptewa, who was kidnapped as a child and "Mormonized."

In the 1930s, President Roosevelt's commissioner of Indian Affairs, John Collier, chose Oliver La Farge to persuade the Hopi to adopt a constitution and establish a tribal council. Although voting was alien to the Hopi—their Kikmongwi (spiritual leaders) used a type of consensus decision making—and they showed little interest in forming a council, a bogus vote was held and the constitution and tribal council were established. This imposed form of government completely ignored the role of spiritual guidance in Hopi culture and was boycotted by more than 80 percent of the people. Never recognized by the traditionals, the council was largely dormant until 1948 when the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) attempted to revive it to sign oil and gas leases. At that time Hopi religious leaders wrote to President Truman proclaiming their sovereignty and refusing to lease their sacred soil. Protests have continued until this day and are certain to continue in the future.

In 1970, the Hopis wrote to President Nixon, "The white man, through his insensitivity to the way of Nature, has desecrated the face of the Mother Earth. The white man's advanced technological capacity has occurred as a result of his lack of regard for the spiritual path and for the way of all living things. The white man's desire for material possessions and power has blinded him to the pain he has caused Mother Earth by his quest for what he calls natural resources... The path of the Great Spirit has become difficult to see by almost all people, even by many Indians who have chosen instead to follow the path of the white man." In spite of such protests, the BIA reorganized the tribal council with pro-development "progressives" who signed mineral leases with Peabody Coal Company.

The history of the Navajo tribal council is similar. In 1921, Standard Oil discovered oil

on Navajo land and proposed a lease deal. Seventy-five Navajo elders unanimously rejected the deal, so the BIA created a "tribal council." When three men were persuaded to sign a lease they were made the tribal council.

The tribal councils of the Navajo and Hopi have continued to this day as puppet organizations maintained and funded by the BIA for the principal purpose of signing mineral leases with energy companies. The councils do not have the support of the majority of the people, but the US government has shown no interest in listening to traditional leaders.

The reservation system imposed on the Navajo and Hopi people included a large shared section of land known as the Joint Use Area (JUA). It was in the JUA, on Black Mesa, in 1950 that Peabody Coal discovered the richest coal field in Arizona.

At that time, John Boyden, former archbishop in the Mormon church, and a lawyer from the US Attorney's Office in Utah, appeared on the scene. Although five of the ten Hopi villages refused to hire him, the BLA made him the attorney for the Hopi nation in 1952. Boyden worked diligently for years, convincing the tribal council to sign leases with energy companies. When Peabody signed a lease with the Navajo in 1964 to mine coal on Black Mesa, they needed a lease from the Hopi as well, and Boyden successfully railroaded one through. While representing the Hopi tribal council, he also did legal work for Peabody.

As a subsidiary of Kennecott Copper Company, Peabody was controlled by the Mormon church. Influential members of the church played key roles in the leasing game—Stewart Udall, as Secretary of the Interior, signed the Peabody leases, and Morris Udall (his brother) introduced a bill to exempt Indian lands from environmental protection laws.

Black Mesa is a sacred area to the traditional Dine and Hopi. The Hopi use it as a burial ground and believe that its destruction will set the stage for the destruction of Earth. The Dine' call Black Mesa the Female Mountain, a symbol of the balance of nature which it is their duty to protect. But Black Mesa has been desecrated almost beyond belief; the juniper and piñon covered sandstone has been drilled blasted, and bulldozed into a huge scar. Mining has devoured 65,000 acres. Much of the coal is sent in a slurry pipeline to the Mojave Plant in Bullhead City, Arizona. The extensive water required by the slurry pipeline (3 million gallons per day) has caused Hopi and Navajo wells to go dry, and the situation is worsening as the water table drops. Use of Black Mesa coal in Southwest power plants has reduced atmospheric visibility to about one half of what it was 15 years ago. Three hundred and fifty tons of sulphur compounds and 210 tons of nitrogen compounds are released each day by the Four Corners Power Plant alone, causing a tremendous increase in acid rain and acidification of ground and surface water. Reclamation of such arid lands is virtually impossible, leading the National Academy of Sciences to propose declaring the

Joint Use Area and other Four Corners lands a "National Sacrifice Area."

The wealth from mineral exploitation goes to people like John Boyden, who received a million dollars from the Hopi tribal council alone. The tribes are paid only a few cents per ton for their coal, and many traditional people living near the mines suffer the environmental consequences but don't have electricity themselves. The electricity is consumed by the sprawling neon cities of southern Arizona and southern California.

Peabody Coal was the only energy company able to get mineral leases in the JUA. Neither tribal council alone was legally allowed to lease it. This created years of legal hassles for the BIA and energy companies. John Boyden began in the 1950s to find a way to get around this obstacle, and essentially created the Navajo-Hopi "land dispute." Boyden also filed a land claim, supposedly on behalf of the Hopi, which resulted in a loss of millions of acres for very little money. Both the traditionals and progressives have, to this day, refused to touch this money, saying that their homeland can never be sold.

In 1974, Boyden lobbied in Washington, DC, for a bill to divide the JUA and proceed with mineral leasing. At the same time, Evans and Associates, a Salt Lake City public relations firm, fabricated a range war on the reservation and wrote speeches for Hopi tribal councilmen about the "land dispute." Evans and Associates also represented WEST, a consortium of 23 utility companies with interest in Southwest power plants. All the sleazy activities of Boyden and his accomplices paid off: Congress passed PL-93-531, which split the JUA in half and ordered a barbed wire fence constructed to separate the Navajo and Hopi. It also mandated a 90 percent reduction in livestock, which for many traditionals was their only livelihood. This stock reduction was supposedly to protect Hopi lands from overgrazing, but where else in the West has the US government shown any concern about overgrazing?

The law also placed a freeze on construction or building improvement on property within the JUA. Residents can actually

be arrested for simply patching a hole in their roof. The traditional people have no recourse, because all lawsuits have to go through the tribal councils. Morris Udall recently admitted that the stock reduction and construction freeze were instituted to "persuade" the Navajos to leave their land.

As fencing proceeded, about 100 Hopis and 10,000 Navajos were told (by the Relocation Commission established by the Act) they had to move. The traditional Navajo refused, saying that the land was their sacred homeland. In Navajo language, the closest word for relocation means to vanish altogether. In 1979, they sent a letter to the US government saying, "The Dine' Nation of Big Mountain wishes to inform the various Federal agencies that the sacred laws of the Dine' give no authority for the Federal Government and its related agencies to intrude and disrupt the sacred lands of Big Mountain. We demand that the Federal Government remove all Government and its related agencies to intrude and disrupt the sacred lands of Big Mountain by November 16, 1979. Any equipment left or that is in the Big Mountain area is subject to confiscation by the Independent Dine' Nation..." The Navajos also stated, "We further declare our right to live in peace and harmony with our Moqui (Hopi) neighbors, and cooperation between us will remain unchanged."

The BIA's attempt to enforce livestock reduction have met massive resistance, as have their attempts to complete the last five miles of fence. Even 80 and 90 year old women and men have been arrested while defending their homeland. The Relocation Commission's job is to force or coerce the Dine' to leave their lands. The few who have done so have found life exceedingly difficult in racist border towns. Many are swindled out of the housing promised to them, and are prohibited from returning to their homelands. This results in high rates of alcoholism and suicide. The Relocation Commission is currently the object of Congressional investigation regarding their fraudulent dealings with relocatees. More than one commissioner has resigned in disgust at the unworkability of

the Act, and its severe impacts on the people.

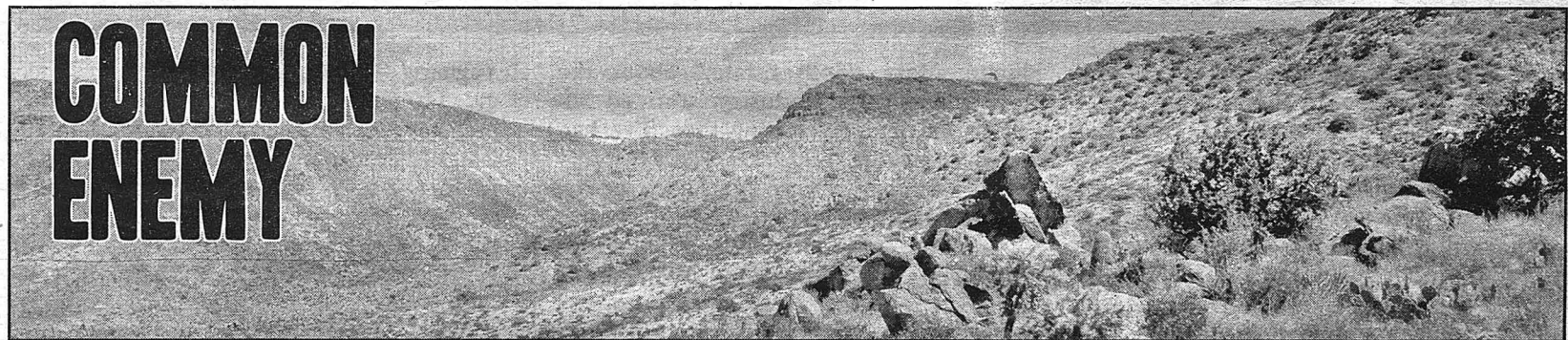
PL-93-531 requires all those who refuse to move to be forcibly removed by July 1986. This will prove to be a difficult task for the government. In the words of 62 year old Ruth Bennally, "We won't stop (resisting). I've lived here all my life. Big Mountain is sacred to us. It is where we collect our herbs and medicines [...] When the time comes, if we don't have any other choice, we are going to use our fists. No matter how small I am, I'll fight all the way to the end." Pauline Whitesinger says "I will never leave this land. If they come to move me, they can shoot me right here."

A military solution to the government's problems enforcing relocation is a very real possibility, recalling the events at Wounded Knee in 1873. President Reagan's personal emissaries to solve the "dispute," William Clark (Secretary of Interior) and Richard Morris, have stated that those refusing to leave would "be declared as trespassers [...] the eviction could be enforced by US Marshals and the US military."

This article originally appeared in the EF! December 21, 1985 edition of the Earth First! Journal. Back issues of the journal are available for \$5 each. Order our near-complete, 29-year set for \$500.

We won't stop (resisting). When the time comes, if we don't have any other choice, we are going to use our fists. No matter how small I am, I'll fight all the way to the end."

—Ruth Bennally



North side of Black Mesa

COMMON ENEMY

BY BLACKFIRE

D D#-F-D D#-F
Arm yourselves with the truth, we're marching out of 500 years of lies.
D D#-F-D
Burning that bridge to the ground, it's been crossed one too many times.
D#-F(D-D#-F-F#) X2

There's no money in our culture for your system,
so all eyes turn to the youth.
Their minds imprisoned, their thoughts convicted in schools
D#-F(D-D#-F-F#) X2

D D# F F#
The voice of reason is sore from screaming,
Tolerance mutes the cries now no ones listening.
How can you live in the shadow of these lies?
Your life is outweighed by the greed in their eyes!
(D-D#-F) X3, D-D#

D D#-F-D D#-F
They fear you so they shelter you with lies, to keep you from the truth of liberty.
Kept us in the dark, now we got a light, we got a common enemy!
The voice of reason is sore from screaming, Tolerance mutes the

cries now no one's listening
How can you live in the shadow of these lies?
Your life is outweighed by the greed in their eyes in their
D-C-D#-D in thier eyes D-C-D#-D in thier eyes D-C-D#-D in thier eyes...
D C D# D D CD# D
Its written in blood and on the walls.
The bigger they are the harder they fall.
What good is action when you only react.
How can you tolerate the lies when you know the facts?
D D* D D*
Unify, Defy!
D# (D-D#-F-F#)X4
We got a common enemy. (repeat X2)
(verse chord)
Why do we settle for lies? When we know the truth?
Why do we step aside? When we witness the abuse.
Why do we compromise? When they've taken everything.
Unify, Defy! We got a common enemy.
D C D# D X4
Unify, Defy! (Repeat X4)
D C-D# D
Unify!

The Coming Uranium Boom

BY 'COBO

I remember a feeling of foreboding and a sense of coming doom as I entered the Uranium Expo held in Grand Junction Colorado almost five years ago. My name badge had a false name and said that I was an investor. Throughout the expo there were dozens of companies with slick booths and glossy literature. Many of the companies had recently formed and had begun buying mineral rights and old uranium mines throughout the American Southwest. The organizers touted the riches that were sure to come as uranium prices continued to rise.

While the uranium mining boom that many speculated would be coming hasn't quite manifested itself, they continue to push on. From 2004 until today, many mines have opened and closed as the price of uranium fluctuated between \$43.50 to \$140 per pound. Mines have traded hands. Many have been readied to go into production, but currently sit waiting for higher prices and, more importantly, a mill to process the ore.

Currently, there is only one uranium mill in operation in the entire United States. The mill is owned and run by Denison Mines and is located just outside of the small town of Blanding, Utah. The mill has been running at a limited capacity. Until recently, the mill mostly processed nuclear waste from the US and Canada, but at the end of De-

ember, Denison Mines started pulling ore out of its Arizona 1 mine just north of the Grand Canyon. This is the first uranium mining activity in Arizona in more than 20 years. The company plans on reopening as many as five additional mines in the Arizona Strip geological formation—all near the north rim of the Grand Canyon. The Denison mill currently has a monopoly on U.S. produced yellow-cake uranium ore, and is not eager to mill other company's ore.

This bottleneck in the supply-chain has kept the full effects of the "Third Uranium Boom" to a minimal. However, if the mining corporations have their way, this bottleneck will be eliminated and the boom will be on in full-force. Opposition to the "Nuclear Renaissance" (see January-February 2010 *EF!*) needs to take place at the source to keep the ore in the ground, because every step, from mining to milling to refining to reactors to storing waste, is toxic to all living things.

Energy Fules Inc., a Canadian company, is leading the charge with their proposed Piñon Ridge Mill in a little-known but amazingly beautiful Paradox Valley, Colorado. The mill is well on its way to being permitted to break ground. If this happens, inactive uranium mines in Colorado, Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico will start pulling the toxic ore out of the ground in earnest for the first time in decades. "If the proposed mill in Paradox Valley is approved and constructed, the

Division anticipates a surge of mine permitting and exploration activities," states a Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety report on uranium mining.

Energy Fules owns at least 40 uranium mines that would jump into production. The proposed mill is claiming that new technological advancements would make this mill environmentally sound, but every other uranium mill that has ever gone into production has ended up as an Environmental Protection Agency Superfund site. To make things worse, the mill is to be situated on top of not one, but two active faults that have had more than 4,000 recorded seismic events since 1991, according to documents filed by Energy Fules with the state.

Five years ago, when I infiltrated the Uranium Expo, the biggest player in uranium in the southwest was Cotter Corporation, a subsidiary of General Atomic. At that time, Cotter had four mines in operation in Western Colorado and a mill in Cañon City Colorado. Due to fluctuations in the price of uranium and pressure in the form of lawsuits from environmental groups, the mill ceased operations in 2006. Between the years of 1999-2006, Cotter was found guilty of 90 different environmental and toxic waste violations, and the mill has been listed as a Superfund site for over 22 years with little to no clean-up taking place. Cotter announced last year plans for a \$200 million dollar refur-



Cotter Uranium Mill

bishment and plans to begin milling again by 2014. Cotter has sold most of its Colorado mineral holdings and is instead focusing on its Mt. Taylor mine in northern New Mexico. The Diné, the Acoma, Laguna and Zuni peoples consider Mt. Taylor a sacred place, and it was listed on the New Mexican State Register of Cultural Properties in June of 2009. But the protection of the mountain as a sacred site starts at 8000 feet in elevation, and Cotter's mine is just below that cut off. If Cotter is able to get their mill operational again, the ore will come from this sacred mountain.

There are two other mills that could potentially, reopen and begin processing ore again if the price of uranium rises: one in Wyoming, owned by Rio Tinto, and another in Utah, owned by Uranium One Utah, Inc. These two mills are not actively trying to reopen, but the mining corporations are waiting like vultures for the price of uranium to rise to the point of profitability. This new uranium boom can be stopped if we can organize widespread grassroots resistance to the mills and keep this ore where it belongs: in the ground.

Photo Courtesy of The Red Pill

Wolves & Poodles

Considering the breadth and effects of the Green Scare here in the states a **Surprising Wolf** goes to a **British Court**, which found that it was justified for six Greenpeace activists to deface property in order to prevent the much greater damage that will result from rampant carbon emissions and global warming. The activists were arrested while they were painting a chimney at the Kingsnorth coal fired power plant. The activists were painting a message to Prime Minister Gordon Brown to phase out the plant and to not replace it with a new one.

One of the witnesses called in defense of the Greenpeace activists, **James Hansen** is the recipient of a **Direct Action Wolf** for his vocal and physical support of direct action and civil disobedience for climate justice. Hansen, a NASA climate expert, openly called for a collapse of the negotiations in Copenhagen. "This is analogous to the issue of slavery...on those kind of issues you cannot compromise. You can't say let's reduce slavery, let's find a compromise and reduce it 50 percent or reduce it 40 percent." In an interview with the Guardian Hansen said that "the democratic process doesn't quite seem to be working," and that direct action is the only way to tackle climate change. Not just a talker like Al Gore (who should get a poodle every issue) Hansen was arrested on June 23rd protesting Mountain Top Removal in West Virginia.

A **Super-Big-Gulp Wolf** goes to former Colorado Oil and Gas Association, PR hack **Kathy Hall**, who in the recent

documentary, "Split Estate," about the oil and gas industry, stunned audiences by stating that "I've had fracking fluid taken right out of a fracking truck. I've had it in my mouth. I've tasted it, and I'm just fine." Fracking fluid is an undisclosed cocktail of chemicals that are forced into the ground to break up pockets of natural gas. Hall has since resigned from the COGA and disappeared from public life. Rumors about her failing health. Community organizers opposing oil and gas development in Western Colorado described her as "the perfect shrill for the industry—she could be deceptive and misleading with a smile." We hope the oil and gas barons and their henchmen will follow her lead and down a big steaming cup of fracking fluid, and then disappear.

Arizona has a long history of really dumb politicians, John McCain topping the list, but this **Who's Stealing from Who Poodle** goes to State Senator **Sylvia Allen** who is giving McCain a run for his money. Allen worked hard to get a ponderosa pine from her district cut down and set-up at the State Capital. Sounds innocent enough, but not considering that Allen has accused all of tree-kind of "stealing Arizona's water supply."

This **Lead Poodle** goes to **the government of China** which, instead of cleaning up ten villages in Henan province that have been heavily contaminated with lead from

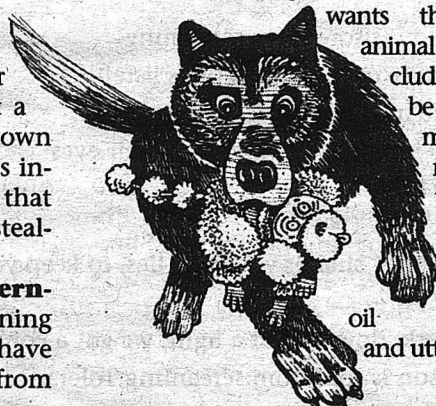
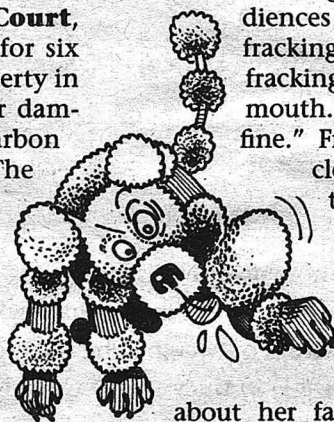
Yuguang Gold and Lead smelters, has decided to move the villages. Children in the area have lead in their blood more than 50 times higher than what is considered safe. At first the Chinese government forbade anyone from getting blood tested, then they closed down a few smelters closest to the impacted villages, and their newest plan is to forcibly relocate 15,000 people at the cost of \$150 Million, and reopen the closed smelters.

"They just want to protect the plant, which pays a great deal of tax every year," explained local resident Huang Zhengmin.

Green Washing is the new trend and new buzz word that has become ubiquitous in modern America but the **Ultimate Green Washing Poodle** goes to the website co2isgreen.org.

"CO2 is not a pollutant. CO2 makes the Earth green because it supports all plant life. It is Earth's greatest airborne fertilizer. Even man-made CO2 contributes to plant growth, that in turn sustains humanity and ecosystems."

The website goes on to declare: "No one wants the plant and animal kingdoms, including humans, to be harmed if atmospheric CO2 is reduced." As you wise *EF!* readers can guess the site is funded by big coal and oil and is complete and utter bullshit.



END:CIV the Movie

An Interview with Radical Filmmaker Franklin Lopez

BY 'COBO

The Earth First! Journal was recently able to catch up with radical filmmaker Franklin Lopez about his current film project End:Civ. We took the opportunity to ask him a few questions about the film, Derrick Jensen, and the idea of End:Civ.

Earth First! Journal: What inspired you to start making the movie End:Civ?

Franklin Lopez: When I was working for Democracy Now! I went to a peak oil conference in New York City to see if there was a story there. That's where I heard Derrick Jensen speak for the first time, and I was blown away. All the other speakers did presentations about solar panels, or sustainable living, all things that interest me; but Derrick's talk was brutally honest, funny, heartbreaking and inspiring. He fleshed out things I had been feeling for some time, but could not find the words to say. After the talk, I made a b-line to the table where he was signing books; and told him we needed to bring his ideas to the screen.

EF!J: Can you give a brief rundown of the film?

FL: END:CIV is mostly based on the premises Derrick put forth in his *Endgame* books. In the premises, Derrick breaks down the major ideas of his books up front. For instance the first premise is, "Civilization is not and can never be sustainable. This is especially true for industrial civilization." I take that premise, show it to the audience and then let people like Derrick, Lierre Keith and John Zerzan explain why that is so. But instead of having a bunch of talking heads yapping away, I layer a collage of imagery to make the point. I will do this with five or six premises of END:CIV, and also use a few real life examples to bring the point home. For instance, the tenth premise of *Endgame* is, "The culture as a whole and most of its members are insane. The culture is driven by a death urge, an urge to destroy life." I use the tar sands project in northern Alberta to hit people over the head. Yes, we are making mud into oil while destroying millions of acres of boreal forest, polluting pristine rivers so that we can drive to Walmart, our culture is insane. Next!

EF!J: When did you start making this film, and when can we expect to see the final product?

FL: I officially started making END:CIV in January 2009, but filming began in 2007. I brought Derrick to Vancouver and filmed him in front of a green screen so that I could place him in front of all types of backdrops, while he explained his ideas. My plan was to complete the film in February, but it's looking more like May of this year.

EF!J: How can folks help you get this film done?

FL: I looked for money in a few spots and was unsuccessful. But from the outset, I knew that funders would be weary of financing a project that advocates the dismantling of civilization. (Heh!) So I need money, not a lot of it, just enough to keep me from doing bullshit work to pay the bills.

Another way people can help is by volunteering. Folks can email me if they want to screen the film when it's completed. Also, spreading the word when the film comes out would be a huge help. Transcribing it

and translating the final product will also be helpful. But now, money is the biggest help. There's a donation button on the film's website WWW.ENDCIV.COM

EF!J: How are you going to distro the film?



Franklin and Derrick at work on End:Civ.

FL: I plan on touring heavily when END:CIV is completed. Hopefully, I will hit most of North America and maybe Europe. I also plan on having a streaming version online. A few distributors have shown interest in putting out the DVD, which is encouraging.

EF!J: The end of civilization scares the hell out of a lot of people, but others are cheering its demise. Why is the end of civilization a good thing?

FL: Derrick Jensen wrote about a thousand pages to explain this away, but I'll try in a few sentences. We only have one planet. This is it folks, this is the only strip of dirt we get. Civilization is destroying our home through the hyper-exploitation of finite resources. If we want to have a place to live and have a home for who's coming after us, we need to stop this murderous machine. Time is running out, the end is near. How's that?

EF!J: If civilization ended tomorrow, would you be ready? How can others get ready for the collapse? What do you think is going to collapse first: oil, economy, fisheries, land-base, etc?

FL: The reality is that civilization is collapsing all around us right now, but we're too busy working to notice. Me personally, I am not ready; I am too busy making a film to tell people about why we need to bring it down. The problem is that civilization is speeding up its exploitation of nature as it runs out of resources. Here in British Columbia, the salmon fisheries are collapsing, and next door in Alberta, they are desperate to destroy an area the size of the UK to extract oil. My personal hope is that we bring it down and save what's left of nature before civilization sucks it all up on its way out. If people don't want to get their hands dirty by bringing civilization down, then they need to support those that do by getting ready for the collapse.

EF!J: This isn't your first film. What else have you done, and how have you grown as a filmmaker?

FL: I've been making films since I was seventeen, but I think I came into my own when I started making anarchists' films. I interpreted a couple of Crimthinc. essays into film. In 2008, I co-produced a film with Pepperspray productions about the rebellions at the DNC and RNC called *Ground Noise & Static*. I also

make political video mash-ups and a foul mouthed anarchist news show called "It's the End of the World as we Know it and I feel FINE".

EF!J: What is it going to take to stop the advance of civilization and put it into retreat?

FL: We need to figure out what powers civilization, and put a stop to it. Many peak oilers have been saying that "without oil, civilization will collapse." Well then, let's stop the oil from flowing. We can't afford to wait for the oil to run out. The "civilized" will try to extract oil from dirtier sources like shale and the tar sands. Also, coal seems to power a huge chunk of this civilization, so coal production needs to be stopped.

EF!J: What are the connections between anarchism and End:Civ?

FL: Part of the problem with civilization is its systematic and hierarchical use of violence to keep the powerful at the top. The greed of those at the top, a.k.a. the ruling class, is what's destroying the planet. Historically, many so-called uncivilized cultures existed within more anarchic, non-hierarchical frameworks, lived in harmony with the land (i.e. they would not fish the salmon to extinction, for instance), and had a more egalitarian way of dealing with problems. The short answer is, the only way we are going to get through this ecological crisis without starting the cycle of patriarchal hierarchy is to build the society that comes during and after the collapse in an anarchist framework.

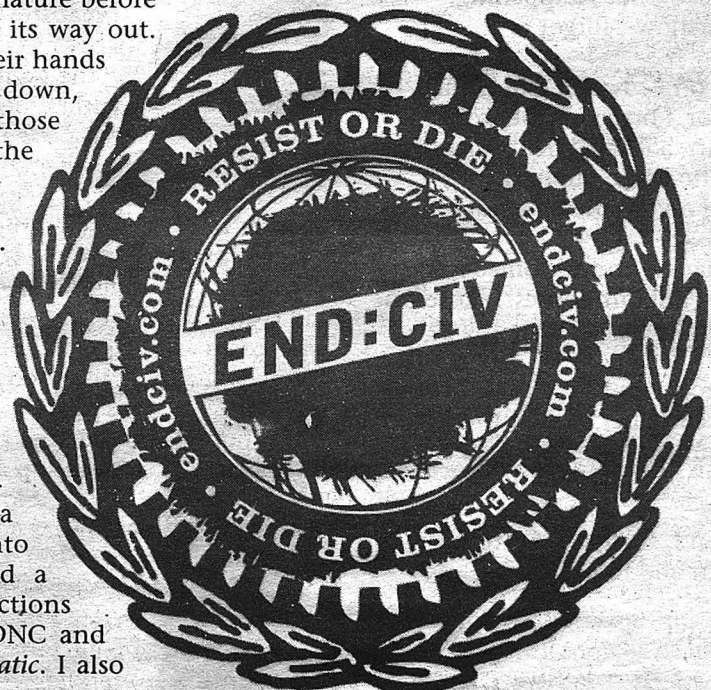
EF!J: How was working with Derrick Jensen?

FL: Derrick is an amazingly busy person who cranks out books faster than I can read them. With that said, he has always been supportive of my visual treatment of his ideas, and has been very responsive to my requests. In short, it's been a pleasure working with him and getting to know him over the years. If I were a nationalist, I would say Derrick is a national treasure.

EF!J: Do you have anything else you'd like to say about your film?

FL: Nope, that's it. This has been an awesome exercise, thanks again.

EF!J: Thank You.



WHEN YOU COME TO A RIVER BRIDGE

Stop.
 Leave your machine.
 Spend an hour in the shade
 of willows and cottonwoods,
 walking barefoot in cool mud,
 letting holly leaves stick tiny holes of pain
 in your feet,
 and loving the river—for it is so much
 older than you.

But if you cannot stop,
 then do this:

Take your foot off the gas
 put it in neutral
 let it coast
 turn off the radio
 take off your glasses
 take off your hat
 put your head out the window
 breathe river air
 and know eternity.

But hear the river as you drive away:

“Running, running
 Out of time.
 Eternity,
 Eternity,
 No longer runs
 With me.”

And never turn off
 the river song.

—Richard Arnold

MOTHER EARTH, HER WITNESS

East of the sporting goods store:
 a once-neglected patch of shortgrass prairie.
 Powerlines crackle on humid mornings,
 people pass on the bicycle trail.

Year after year, corner of Conifer
 and Redwood, the prairie dogs
 have raised their pups in the neighborhood.

They take walks and squeak and bark,
 groom each other, stretch and graze,
 keep watch for hawks and foxes.
 Tunnel their underground homes,
 pile up the dirt, run across the street.
 A busy life. So much to do.

Sometimes I see them standing
 upright to observe the close of day,
 the purpling of Rocky Mountains in shadow,
 the wind in the cottonwoods and grass.

The smog, the traffic, the FOR SALE
 sign on the lot in spring—such things
 as I haven't the heart to witness
 myself—they too observe.

Past few weeks, I've been hiking
 into town using alternate streets.
 I cannot bear to see what's happening;
 but today I—somehow—forgot.

East, then south on Redwood, old habit.
 Realizing my error, I brace for the worst:
 mounds of fill dirt, a leveled field, alien
 trespass of gigantic white dump trucks,
 prairie dogs dead on the road. Already

I resent the humans who will someday
 occupy the as-yet unbuilt houses, whose true
 costs they'll never know. I blame the developers,

especially this morning: I see a prairie dog
 standing on the curb, her back to the street,
 watching the dumped dirt fall from a truck
 with a rattle and earth-shaking thump;

braver by far than I, she faces the terror
 head on—upright and full of grace.

—Sue Ring deRosset

ITINERANT BOTANIST

Turn over a new leaf—
 Extend your circle of concern
 To the plant world.

Ah, if I were a man
 I know who I'd be:
 The itinerant botanist
 Hopping freights
 And studying plant geography
 What a story, what a trail
 I would see.

Purple coneflower twirling her skirt
 Baptisia scooping its white cream into a waterfall

Daylight is not long enough
 To know all the green mysteries
 That wed it.

—Jenny McBride

INTO THE WILD

A dragonfly keeps running its head into the glass
 instead of flying around the window
 When I try to steer it with my cane
 to the left & freedom
 it just gets more agitated
 But when I hold the cane still
 it lands on the tip for a rest
 & gets a short ride out the entrance
 Once the dragonfly senses it's outside
 it instantly departs into the wild

Later as our path turns left along the ocean front
 we see a dog charging us
 from the picnic table area
 Only it's not barking because it's not a dog
 but a wide-eyed raccoon & it isn't charging us
 but being pursued by nine aroused & raucous crows
 The raccoon wastes no time running
 into the brushy patch below
 the sewer treatment plant
 disappearing completely into the wild

Two crows land on the very bush
 where the raccoon was last seen
 The rest settle in various trees
 Falling speechless they wait with amazing patience
 Fifteen minutes go by & then thirty
 but that cunning raccoon is not about
 to break into the open just yet
 & the crows can't wait forever
 Still in silence they fly away
 together into the wild

—Steve Toth

GREEN POLITICS

112

Straight lines seem wise
 but depending on intent
 they can be bent.

Zigzags surprise.

—Art Goodtimes

ARMED WITH VISIONS

Clear as cut glass & just as dangerous

DANCING THE FANDANGO

Driving through Tulsa, the sun shone through a breach
 in the clouds illuminating tract houses on a hillside
 rowed like tombstones in a graveyard empty of the living.

Inside people are hypnotically glued to computer monitors
 to travel the information highway that leads into
 the cloud of unknowing.

Who lives in these houses? Are they the fearful people
 we have become? People ensconced in homes with
 electronic barricades of sight and sound that keep life at bay.

Nature clamors at the gate trying to breach our barricades.
 We respond by treating her like a hungry vagabond as we insist
 we stepped out of nature long ago and no longer need her.

Nature is an abstract concept, more a video
 presence than a real entity, that is never
 known by touch or smell.

A future awaits of diminished lives in a diminished world
 with diminished possibilities. We can still wear shoes with
 corporate logos as signatures of our freedom of choice.

We dance the fandango in the twilight of freedom unaware
 that this may be our last dance. We clack the castanets
 loudest as we come

closest to the
 end.

—Sid Bridges

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➔ Earth First! Seasonal Calendar ➔

Issue Explanation

Eostar: Festival of Achievement

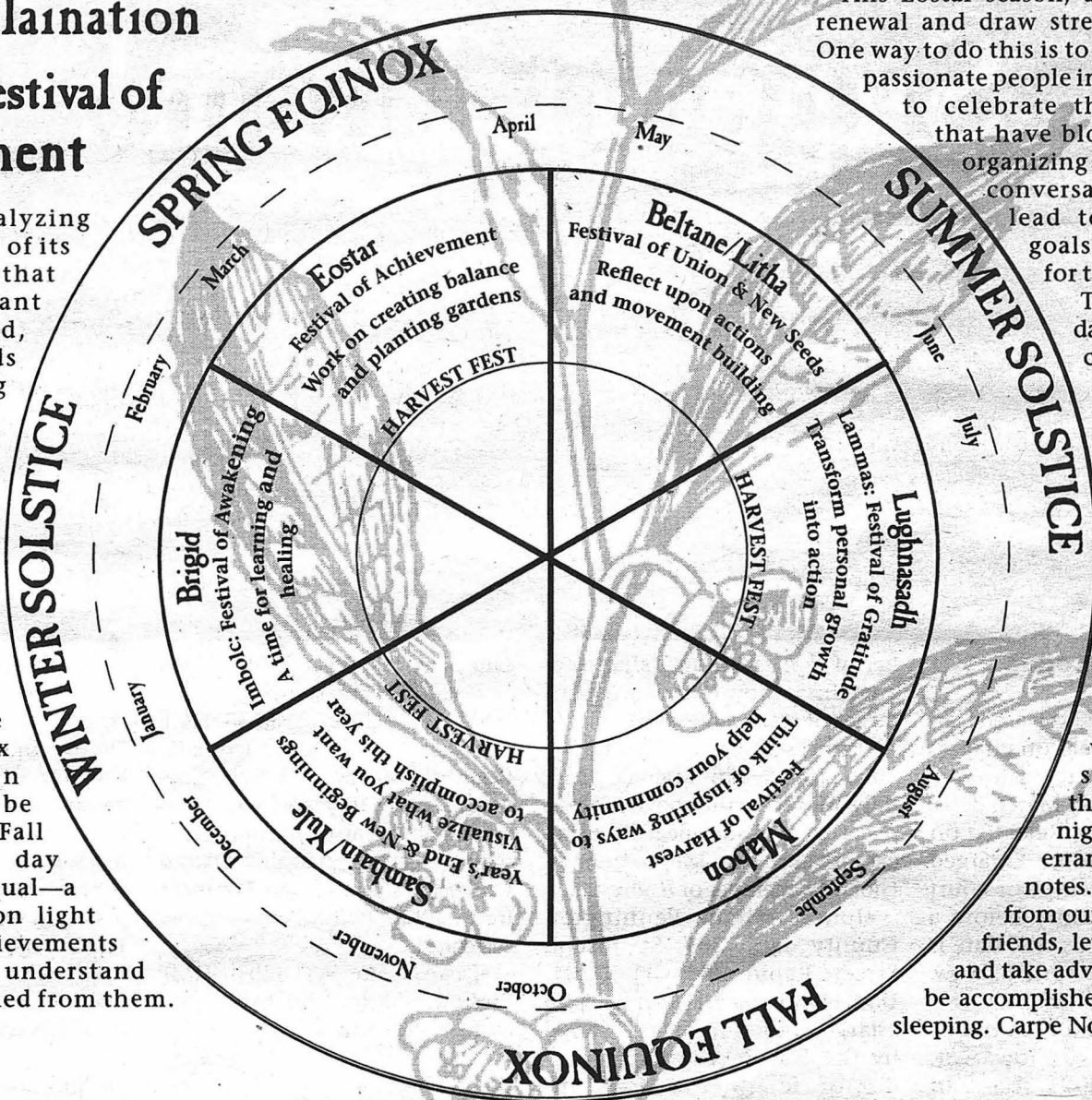
Nature is catalyzing the regeneration of its seeds—all those that have been dormant during the cold, dark Winter. Birds are migrating and preparing fresh nests, this is the time of Eostar—the primal force of life renewing.

Around March, those of us in the northern hemisphere can take time to embrace the Spring Equinox (our friends in the south will be enjoying their Fall Equinox), when day and night are equal—a time to reflect on light and dark, our achievements and failures, and understand what can be learned from them.

This Eostar season, aid the powers of renewal and draw strength from them. One way to do this is to get together with passionate people in your community to celebrate the achievements that have bloomed from your organizing and actions. These conversations can easily lead to brainstorming goals you want to set for the rest of the year!

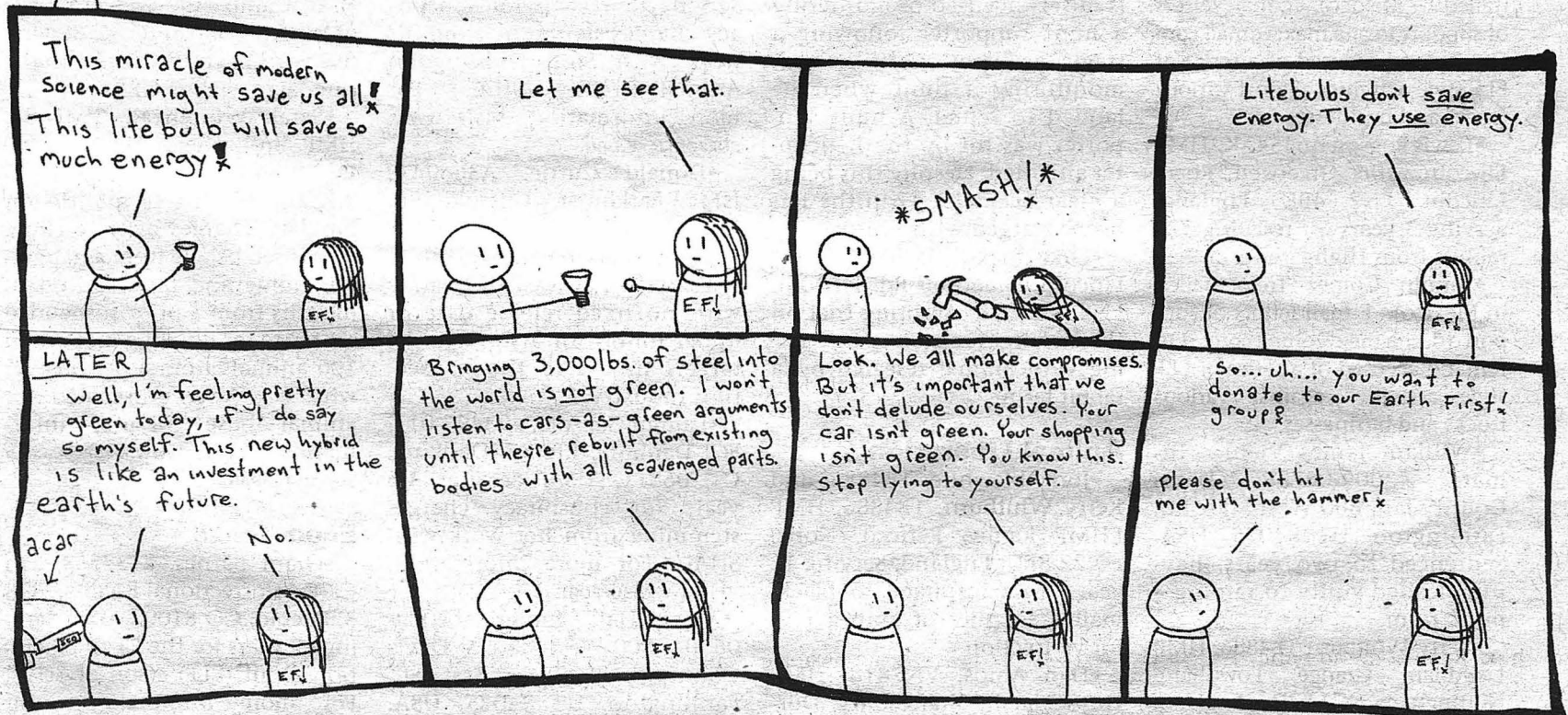
There are many daytime projects that can be initiated to build needed connections within your community. Gardens—be they public or guerrilla projects—can strengthen the solid, successful actions.

During the coming of Spring we sometimes see “hares dash through the fields at night on mysterious errands,” as Starhawk notes. Taking inspiration from our fast-running furry friends, let us seize the night and take advantage of what can be accomplished while others are sleeping. Carpe Noctem!



Editor's Note: We originally included the Earth First! Seasonal Calendar last issue, this reprint includes a few corrections. Please send your words of wisdom to add to our seasonal calendar!

domsday mountain earth first!



Shorts

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service must revisit a Bush-era decision to strip the Sacramento splittail of its endangered species status, after losing a lawsuit brought by the Center for Biological Diversity.

- A NASA funded study will be dosing 28 squirrel monkeys with massive amounts of radiation to see how radiation poisoning affects performance of certain tasks.

- The National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration

has used its influence to have a marine scientist fired for being an “advocate” for environmental protections.

- On January 27, Howard Zinn (anarchist, historian, writer and activist), died of a heart attack. He will be missed.

- Bolivia has joined the growing list of countries that have banned the use of wild animals in circus performances; the Bolivian law went one step further and banned the use of even

domesticated animals.

- The Denver Post reported that large wind farms are causing the National Weather Service to receive false doppler radar readings of tornados. False warnings have been issued in Dodge City, KS.

- The Civil Liberties Defense Center has filed a lawsuit against the City of Eugene, the chief of police and the officer involved in an incident where Josh Schlossberg was violently arrested

while tabling outside of an Umpqua Bank.

- The German government has earmarked over two million Euros to fight far-left and Islamic extremism; stating that “the level of brutality in the left-wing scene has gone up steadily.”

- The federal government has proposed bringing in snipers to kill 80 percent of the estimated 1023 White-Tailed deer in Valley Forge National Historic Park, Pennsylvania.

Prisoners in the Struggle Support Them!

The following list is a small sample of the total number of political prisoners and prisoner support groups worldwide. 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 you write to a prisoner. When prisoners are awaiting trial or sentencing, it is best not to discuss their cases or related topics with them. Although some prisoners are listed together, they must be written to separately. Prisoners can obtain a discounted subscription to the EPI Journal by sending a book of 10 42¢ stamps to POB 3023, Tucson, AZ 85702. Individuals who want to sponsor a prisoner's subscription should send \$20 to the same address.

Prisoner and Legal Updates

•Linda Greene released on bail. Was being held on charges of stalking related to protesting. Trial will resume on March 3

•Jordan Halliday, Released on Pre-trial Probation. Charged with felony contempt of court for refusing to testify before a grand jury. Jordan's trial date is currently set for April 8. www.supportjordan.com

•Carolyn Feldman, Dubuque County Jail, 770 Iowa St. Dubuque, IA 52001, USA. In jail for up to nine months for resisting grand jury investigation. For more information, visit [DAVENPORTGRANDJURY.WORDPRESS.COM/](http://davenportgrandjury.wordpress.com/)

•Abraham López Martínez (Jailed in Mexico). E-mail letters of support to cna.mex@gmail.com On remand accused of a series of ELF style activities against various trucks and businesses.

•Lewis Pogson A6454AK, HMP Lincoln, 106 Greetwell Road, Lincoln, LN2 4BD, England. Serving 3 years for rescuing 129 rabbits from Highgate Farm.

•Fermín Gómez Trejo (Jailed in Mexico). E-mail letters of support to cna.mex@gmail.com On remand accused of a series of ELF style activities against various trucks and businesses.

•William James Viehl, Inmate #2009-05735, Davis County Jail, 800 West State St., Farmington, UT 84025, USA. Sentenced to two years, having pleaded guilty to raiding a mink farm.

•Kerry Whitburn TB4886, HMP Lowdham Grange, Lowdham, Nottingham, NG14 7DA, England. Serving 12 years for attempting to blackmail a farmer who supplied guinea pigs for vivisection.

Awaiting Trial or Sentencing

•Mumia Abu-Jamal, #AM8335, SCI Greene, 175 Progress Dr, Waynesburg, PA 15370, USA. Awaiting resentencing to either life in prison or death. Abu-Jamal, a politically active journalist, was framed for the murder of a cop in 1981. For more information, visit www.freemumia.org.

•Daniele Casalini, Via Casale 50/a, 15040 San Michele (AL), Italy. Awaiting trial for allegedly using explosives to damage power lines. Casalini is a mem-

ber of *Il Silvestre*, an Italian eco-anarchist group and frequent target of state repression.

•Francesco Gioia, Via Casale 50/a, 15040 San Michele (AL), Italy. Moved to the above address. Awaiting trial for allegedly using explosives to damage power lines. Gioia is a member of *Il Silvestre*.

•John Graham, Pennington County Jail, 307 St Joseph Street, Rapid City, SD 57701, USA. Awaiting trial on murder charges. Graham was framed by the FBI for the 1975 murder of fellow American Indian Movement (AIM) activist Anna Mae Pictou-Aquash.

•Bryan Griffiths, XW8892, HMP Hewell, Hewell Lane, Redditch, B97 6QS, UK. A hunt monitor on remand who is falsely accused of murdering a hunt supporter following a tragic accident. Griffiths was monitoring a hunt when he landed to refuel. A hunt supporter was hit by the helicopter and died. Despite this being a clear accident, Griffiths has been charged with murder.

•Luke Steele, WJ4308, HMP Lincoln, Greetwell Rd, Lincoln, LN2 4BD, UK. Awaiting trial on three charges related to interfering with animal research on a rabbit farm.

Animal Liberation

•Jon Ablewhite, TB4885, and Kerry Whitburn, TB4886, HMP LHMP Ranby, Retford, Notts, DN22 8EU, England. Serving 12 years for conspiracy to blackmail a supplier of guinea pigs for vivisection.

•Dan Amos, VN7818, HMP Guys Marsh, Shaftesbury, Dorset, SP7 0AH, England. Amos is serving four years for conspiracy to blackmail people linked to Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS). For more information, visit www.myspace.com/supportdan.

•Gregg Avery, TA7450, HMP Coldingley, Shaftesbury Road, Bisley, Woking, Surrey, GU24 9EX, UK. Serving nine years for conspiracy to blackmail people linked to HLS. For more information, visit www.myspace.com/shacukprisonersupport.

•Natasha Avery, NR8987, HMP Send, Ripley Road, Woking, Surrey, GU23 7LJ, UK. Serving nine years for conspiracy to blackmail people linked to Huntingdon

Life Sciences. Visit www.myspace.com/shacukprisonersupport.

•Mel Broughton, TN9138, HMP Frankland, Brasside, Durham, County Durham DH1 5YD, England. Serving 10 years for conspiracy to commit arson in connection with the campaign against Oxford University's primate lab. For more information, visit www.myspace.com/supportmel.

•Dean Cain WJ 4309, HMP Preston, 2 Ribbleton Lane, Lancashire, PR1 5AB, England. Jailed for breaching parole conditions whilst on parole for three charges related to interfering with animal research on a rabbit farm.

•Jacob Conroy, #93501-011, FCI Terminal Island, POB 3007, San Pedro, CA 90731, USA. Serving four years for conspiracy charges stemming from his work with Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty (SHAC). For more information, visit www.supportjake.org.

•Donald Currie, A3660AA, HMP Parkhurst, Clissold Rd, Newport, Isle of Wight, POB 30 5NX, UK. Serving an "indefinite sentence" of at least six years—with no fixed release date or upper limit—for arson against targets linked to the vivisection industry.

•Lauren Gazzola, #93497-011, FCI Danbury, Rte 37, Danbury, CT 06811, USA. Serving 4.5 years for conspiracy charges stemming from her work with SHAC. For more information, visit www.supportlauren.com.

•Alex Hall, Inmate #2009-06304, 800 West State St. Davis County Jail, 800 West State St., Farmington, UT 84025, USA. Recently plead guilty to charges related to being accused of raiding a mink farm.

•Gavin Medd-Hall, WV9475, HMP Coldingley, Shaftesbury Road, Bisley, Woking, Surrey, GU24 9EX, UK. Serving eight years in connection with the campaign against HLS.

•Kevin Kjonaas, #93502-011, Unit I, FCI Sandstone, POB 1000, Sandstone, MN 55072, USA. Serving six years for conspiracy charges stemming from his work with SHAC. For more information, visit www.supportkevin.com.

•Pi Noordsingel, Peter Jansen 5102880, Postbus 37066, 3005 LB Rotterdam, Accused of

freeing mink from a fur farm.

•Heather Nicholson, VM4859, HMP Foston Hall, Foston, Derby, Derbyshire DE65 5DN, UK. Serving 11 years for conspiracy to blackmail people linked to HLS. For more information, visit www.myspace.com/shacukprisonersupport.

•Kevin Olliff, #1300931, TTCF 161 D-Pod, 450 Bauchet St., Los Angeles, CA 90012, USA. Being held on charges related to stalking and vivisection.

•John Smith, TB4887, HMP Lindholme, Bawtry Road, Hatfield Woodhouse, Doncaster, DN7 6EE, UK. Serving 12 years for attempting to blackmail a farmer who supplied guinea pigs for vivisection.

•Dan Wadham, A5705AA, HMP Camp Hill, Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 5PB, UK. Serving five years in connection with the campaign against HLS.

•Sarah Whitehead, VM7684, HMP Bronzefield, Woodthorpe Rd, Ashford, Middlesex, TW15 3JZ, UK. Serving 15 months for burglary charges after rescuing an abused beagle from a dangerous home and nine additional months from a prior suspended sentence for rescuing more than 100 animals from a pet breeder who was later prosecuted for animal abuse. For more information, visit www.myspace.com/supportsarah.

Ecodefense

•Grant Barnes, #137563, San Carlos Correctional Facility, POB 3, Pueblo, CO 81002, USA. Serving 12 years for the Earth Liberation Front (ELF) arson of SUVs. For more information, visit grantbarnes.wordpress.com.

•Nathan "Exile" Block, #36359-086, FCI Lompoc, 3600 Guard Rd, Lompoc, CA 93436, USA. Serving nearly eight years for ELF arsons at an SUV dealership and a hybrid poplar farm.

•Marco Camenisch, Postfach 3143, CH-8105 Regensdorf, Switzerland. Serving 18 years for using explosives to target nuclear facility power lines and for the alleged murder of a Swiss border guard. Camenisch reads French, German, Spanish and Italian fluently, as well as some English.

•Marie Mason, #04672-061, FCI Waseca, Federal Correctional Institution, POB 1731, Waseca, MN

RNC8 Defendant Denied Justice

Judge Teresa Warner denied RNC8 defendant Max Spektor's motion to suppress evidence that was obtained through an illegal search of a van. With guns drawn, police surrounded the van that Max and friends had just climbed into on the morning of September 1 on the grounds of a "probable cause pickup and hold" warrant. Claiming that objects potentially used for protesting could be seen within the van, police drove it to a police station and searched it without any outside observers. The motion to suppress was denied because, according to Judge Warner, "public safety concerns"—namely, the fact that the van was inconveniencing traffic and that bystanders had begun to gather around the unwelcome police action—"outweigh the van's occupants' right to be free of unreasonable searches and seizures." The trial date for the RNC8 has been set for October 25, 2010.

Sadie's gotta new booklist

Green scare defendant, Joyanna Zacher, who goes by the name Sadie, has requested new books, so if you can, send her Peter Gynt/Hedda Gabbler (Ibsen), The Cherry Orchard (Chekov), North and South (Elizabeth Gaskell), The Moonstone (Wilkie Collins), Ethan Frome (Edith Wharton), Germinal (Zola), The Romance of Tristan and Isolde, and Faust (Goethe) to her address, which is posted on the previous page. The books must be paperbacks and go through a publisher.

Support Daniel

Daniel McGowan, who pled guilty to ELF arson and is serving over seven years in prison, is having a really rough time. His mother recently passed away, and he is in the middle of some really hard time. Please send him your condolences.

Happy B-Day John Paul

Green scare victim, JP is 44! Send him a birthday card. This is his third, and hopefully last, year in prison, so please write.

Steve Murphy's Court Documents Filed

Steve Murphy, pled guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit arson, which along with the "Terrorism Enhancement" carries a 5 year prison sentence. Although the court documents mention an unindicted co-conspirator, there is no reason to believe that Steve has cooperated or is cooperating with the feds. He needs your support, so please write.

Hugh and Tiga's First Day in Court

In a courtroom packed with supporters, Hugh and Tiga sat through their first court hearing. Confronting a totally inept performance by the prosecutor, who likened an alleged office eviction to murder, the defense attorneys mounted powerful arguments for a motion to dismiss the felony racketeering charges. Decrying the notion that exposing someone to ridicule and contempt qualifies as intimidation and therefore falls under RICO statutes

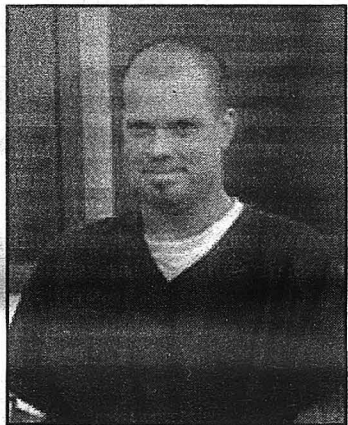
of felonious conspiracy, Tiga's lawyer declared, "Jay Leno and Conan O'Brian do this every night! Why aren't they being charged under RICO?!" He added that "This isn't a Build-A-Bear Workshop! You can't just take a bunch of crap, throw it all together, and call it a felony!"

Please Help Marie Mason Get Vegan Meals

Since Marie was initially admitted to prison more than a year ago, she has been denied her right to proper vegan meals. Marie's support crew recently received a phone call from Marie during which she asked that friends and supporters write the new warden at Federal Correctional Institution Waseca, Minnesota, and politely request she be given consistent and nutritionally adequate vegan meals. Hopefully, with the help of outside support, the new Warden will be more understanding of her situation than his previous counterpart. For a sample letter you can go to either of Marie's support sites WWW.FREEMARIE.ORG or WWW.SUPPORTMARIEMASON.ORG. Her birthday was also on January 26, and we are sure that any late cards or kind words would greatly be appreciated.

Judge Rules ALF is not a Gang

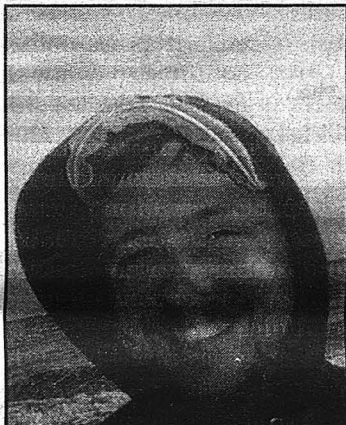
In the stalking case against Linda Greene and Kevin Richard Olliff, Judge David S. Wesley ruled that animal liberationists cannot be charged as members of a gang. The two defendants are the first to ever be charged with stalking for protesting vivisectionists. Trial will commence on March 3.



John Paul



Sadie



Daniel



Marie Mason

56093, USA. Serving 21 years and 10 months for a series of ELF actions against genetic engineering and development. For more information, visit WWW.FREEMARIE.ORG.

•Eric McDavid, #16209-097, FCI Victorville Medium II, POB 5300, Adelanto, CA 92301, USA. Serving 19.5 years for conspiracy to destroy the US Forest Service's Institute of Forest Genetics, a cell-phone tower and power plants. For more information, visit WWW.SUPPORTERIC.ORG.

•Daniel McGowan, #63794-053, USP Marion, POB 1000, Marion, IL 62959, USA. Serving seven years for ELF arsons at a lumber company and a hybrid poplar farm. For more information, visit WWW.SUPPORTDANIEL.ORG.

•Steve James Murphy, 0910300841, Central Detention Center, 630 East Rialto Ave., San Bernardino, Ca 92408 accused of involvement in an attempted arson on a town house construction site in 2006. For more information visit [www.supportsteve.org](http://WWW.supportsteve.org).

•Jonathan Paul, #07167-085, FCI Phoenix, 37910 N 45th Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85086, USA. Serving 4.25 years for the Animal Liberation Front/ELF arson of a horse slaughterhouse and meat-packing plant. For more information, visit WWW.SUPPORTJONATHAN.ORG.

•Jonatan Strandberg, Box 248, 59323, Västervik, Sweden. Serv-

ing 15 months imprisonment for charges related to the property damage of logging and urban sprawl equipment.

•Michael Sykes, #696693, Handlon Correctional Facility, 1728 W Bluewater Hwy, Ionia, MI 48846, USA. Serving four to 10 years for the arson of two newly constructed condominiums, trying to chop down an 80-foot utility pole and attempting to chisel through cement in his jail cell. For more information, visit SUPPORTMICHAEL.WORDPRESS.COM.

•Briana Waters, #36432-086, FCI Danbury, Route 37, Danbury, CT 06811, USA. Serving six years for the ELF arson of the University of Washington's Center for Urban Horticulture. Waters insists she was not involved. For more information, visit WWW.SUPPORTBRIANA.ORG.

•Joyanna "Sadie" Zacher, #36360-086, FCI Dublin, Camp Parks, Unit E, 5701 8th St, Dublin, CA 94568, USA. Serving nearly eight years for ELF arsons at an SUV dealership and a hybrid poplar farm.

Indigenous Resistance

•Leonard Peltier, #89637-132, USP Lewisburg, POB 1000, Lewisburg, PA 17837, USA. Serving life in prison after being framed for the deaths of two FBI agents killed during the 1975 Pine Ridge siege. For more information, visit WWW.FREEPELTIER.ORG.

•Byron Shane of Chubbock©

Clan, #07909051, USP Lewisburg POB 1000, Lewisburgh, PA, North America. Serving 80 years for aggravated assault of federal agents, escape and bank robbery. "Oso Blanco" funneled money that he stole from banks to the Zapatista Army of National Liberation in Mexico.

MOVE

The MOVE 9, members of an eco-revolutionary group, were framed for the murder of a cop and sentenced to 30-100 years each. For more information, visit WWW.ONAMOVE.COM.

•Debbie Sims Africa, #006307, Janet Holloway Africa, #006308, and Janine Phillips Africa, #006309, SCI Cambridge Springs, 451 Fullerton Ave, Cambridge Springs, PA 16403, USA.

•Michael Davis Africa, #AM4973, and Charles Sims Africa, #AM4975, SCI Graterford, POB 244, Graterford, PA 19426, USA.

•Edward Goodman Africa, #AM4974, SCI Mahanoy, 301 Morea Rd, Frackville, PA 17932, USA.

•William Phillips Africa, #AM4984, and Delbert Orr Africa, #AM4985, SCI Dallas, Follies Rd, Drawer K, Dallas, PA 18612, USA.

Other Political Prisoners

•Matt DePalma, #14126-041, FCI Fairton POB 420 Fairton, NJ 08320. Sentenced to three

and a half years in prison for unlawful possession of destructive devices at the 2008 Republican National Convention.

•Fran Thompson, #1090915, CCC 3151 Litton Dr, Chillicothe, MO 64601, USA. Before receiving a life sentence in the early 1990s for shooting a stalker in self-defense, Thompson was active in animal rights and environmental campaigns.

•Helen Woodson, #03231-045, FMC Carswell, Admin Max Unit, POB 27137, Ft. Worth, TX 76127, USA. Serving nearly nine years for violating her parole by dumping a cup of red paint over the security apparatus of a federal court and making warnings ("threats") of weapons of mass destruction. In 2004, Woodson completed 20 years for disarming a Minuteman II missile silo with a jackhammer, mailing warning letters with bullets inside to officials, and robbing a bank and burning the money.

Prisoner Support Groups

•Earth Liberation Prisoners Support Network, elp4321@hotmail.com; WWW.SPIRITOFFREEDOM.ORG.UK.

•National Jericho Movement, POB 1272, New York, NY 10013, USA; WWW.THEJERICHOMOVEMENT.COM.

•North American Earth Liberation Prisoners Support Network, naelpsn@mutualaid.org; WWW.ECOPRISONERS.ORG.

TREESPIKER

BY COBO

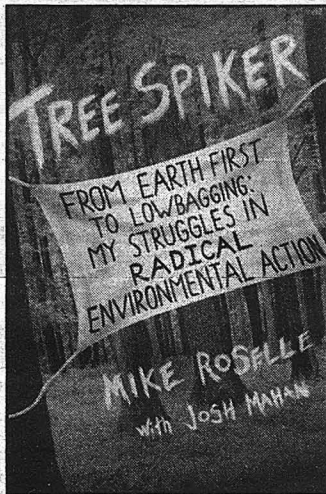
Tree Spiker From Earth First! To Low-bagging: My Struggles in Radical Environmental Action, Mike Roselle, St. Martin's Press, 2009.

Tree Spiker by Mike Roselle and published by St. Martin's Press is a fast paced read that goes from action to action along Mike Roselle's long career as a radical environmentalist. *Tree Spiker* is 252 pages of direct actions that both succeed and fail. Any direct action tactician would find this book full of ideas for actions and campaigns.

Tree Spiker starts with Roselle's early days protesting the War in Vietnam as a high school drop-out. From the 1972 Republican National Convention and Democratic National Convention to the Battle of Seattle this book is a living history of resistance for the past fifty years.

From the birth of Earth First! (EF!) to the Ruckus Society, Roselle was there. Much can be learned about our movement's story from Roselle's pages. While some issues were glossed over, namely the sexist and racist tendencies of Earth First!'s macho founder Dave Forman, the book remains an attractive read due to its insightful rendering of direct action.

Tree Spiker takes a strange turn at the end of the book, where Roselle dedicates two chapters to criticizing anarchists, the Battle of Seattle, and the Earth Liberation Front. Much of the criticism reeks of a person set in their ways and unwilling to surrender their position of power to the non-hierarchical organizing of the younger movement. While much of the criticism is unwarranted, some of it is worth looking at; for example,



"The anarchists wanted to build a broad-based and diverse movement, but there was no room for anyone who did not conform to their rigid set of principals and worldview. The food was vegan, music hip-hop, and clothes black. Tattoos and piercing were required. Nice clothes were deemed suspicious. It was hard to see how anyone could expect a broad-based, diverse movement to develop along these lines."

While this criticism may be a bit general, it poses some critical topics that continue to define the EF! movement. In reading Roselle's book, older EFlers will find this book a chronicle of their struggles, and the younger EFlers will be able to better understand our movement's history. Love 'em or hate 'em, the 'Rednecks for Wilderness' are our forerunners. We can learn much from them.

Updates

US Government Admits to Illegal Killing of Macho B

A new stunning development has come about in the already shocking case of the mistreatment of the jaguar. Months after the last known remaining jaguar in the US, Macho B, was killed by the US Fish and Wildlife Service—the US Department of the Interior issued a statement placing full blame on the Fish and Wildlife Service for mishandling the endangered species. In their report, the Department of the Interior sited the carelessness of the handlers up to willfully illegal actions as the main cause of Macho B's death. In turn, the Fish and Wildlife Service has decided that it will finally pursue a recovery plan to set aside critical habitat for jaguars.

Guerilla Art and March Mark the Anniversary of Slain Activists in Russia

Masked wheat pasters went to work under the cover of night on January 20, pushing up a 50 foot-wide mural onto a wall in St. Petersburg, Russia, to commemorate the assassination of anarchist journalist, Anastasia Baburova, and radical lawyer, Stanislav Markelov a year ago (EF!J Eostar 2009). Both Baburova and Markelov had been involved in environmentalist causes, and Markelov had represented defendants in the Russian equivalent of the Green Scare. A little over a week later, 500 demonstrators marched through the streets of Moscow in honor of the slain activists. Fifty people were arrested.

March Against Extension for Vermont Yankee Nuclear Plant

The Vermont Yankee nuclear plant in Vernon, Vermont, has a history riddled with malpractice, from leakage of radioactive material to a cooling tower wall collapse to a transformer fire. Now, its owner, Entergy, seeks a 20 year extension on their worn out 40-year operating license. In early January, a 126-mile walk from Brattleboro to Montpelier ensued, consisting of up to 40 demonstrators attempting to draw attention to Vermont Yankee's disgraceful past.

Announcements

Wild Roots Feral Futures 2010: Dates & Call for Workshops June 19-26

The 2010 Wild Roots Feral Futures will take place for seven-days, a quarter moon cycle, in the foothills of the mighty and wild San Juan Mountains of Southwest Colorado. We are looking for folks of all sorts to join us and help facilitate workshops like: conflict resolution and management, direct action, medic trainings, end:civ, wild food walks, and much more! We need everyone's help to make this a safe, positive, and productive a space.

For More Information please visit www.FERALFUTURES.BLOGSPOT.COM

Bash Back! 2010 Convergence May 27-May 30

This year's mask wearin', bat toting, hot ass queer convergence will be held in Denver. We want this year's convergence to be a smashing success, and to do it we need your help. We are seeking workshop proposals for this year's convergence. Last year's convergence was amazing! Thank you Chicago! We're hoping to create as welcoming and dynamic a convergence as last year.

For more information please visit www.MYSPACE.COM/BASHBACKDENVER

Fossil Fool's Day! April 1, 2010

The fossil fools ain't no joke—but that doesn't mean we can't fight them with one! Join us this Fossil Fools Day as we employ our senses of humor to hatch some harebrained schemes that will strike a blow to fossil foolery everywhere!

This April, join Rising Tide North America as we pull some pranks that pack a punch. Use the simply subversive to the downright disruptive: office occupations, banner drops, road blockades, clownish parades, spoof

product launches, sub-vertising, leaflets, street theater, lock-downs and laugh-ins. Whatever works for you and your group!

For more information please visit www.FOSSILFOOLSDAYOFACTION.ORG

Reclaim Our Rivers, Our Rights! March 14, 2010

We invite you, our friends and colleagues around the world, to stand up and participate in the 13th annual International Day of Action Against Dams and for Rivers, Water, and Life.

We urge you to join thousands of dam-affected people and their allies around the world under a unifying message of "Our Rivers, Our Rights!"

For more information please visit www.INTERNATIONALRIVERS.ORG/DAYOFACTION

Fur Farm Intelligence Report

The Blueprint: Fur Farm Intelligence Project Report is the product of a two-month, 13,000-mile investigation of over 75 percent of the fur farms in the country. It represents the largest collection of the fur industry intelligence to date.

Included in the 62-page document: Massively updated state-by-state fur farm address list; Photos from nearly 100 mink, fox, and lynx farms; Anonymous reports and photos from clandestine visits to fur farms and industry research sites; Massively updated closed farm database; Detailed data and status updates on over 200 fur farms; Dozens of newly discovered, unpublished fur farm addresses.

More than 20 years of collected fur farm data has culminated in this document. The Blueprint can be downloaded at: www.VOICEOFTHEVOICELESS.ORG

To Those Who Love Animals

In approximately three months, Anthony

Marr, of Heal Our Planet Earth, will embark upon his 36-states-in-6-months Compassion for Animal Road Expedition #7 (CARE-7). We are asking for support in the form of ideas for protests, rallies, speaking engagements, and lodging for Anthony along his route.

With your support, we can accomplish great things in the defense of wildlife around the world, and where you live.

Please email Anthony Marr: ANTHONY-MARR@HOPE-CARE.ORG

NC Rising: A Conference on Self-Determination, Mutual Aid, and Resistance March 26-28

Calling all anarchists, anti-authoritarians, autonomists, and everyone else interested in taking direct action to create a radically different world! The last weekend of March, people from across North Carolina and beyond will converge in Chapel Hill for a conference exploring organizing and resistance in our communities and our lives. Join us for a weekend of workshops, networking, fine dining, entertainment and more as we learn, debate, celebrate and strategize together.

If you're new to radical politics, you can meet other like-minded people, learn about anti-authoritarian approaches to social change, and find out how to participate in existing projects. If you've been involved in communities of resistance for a long time, this will be an opportunity to discuss issues across our struggles, build deeper connections, and revitalize activity across the state and region. Panel discussions will cover everything from eco-defense and prison abolition to autonomous community spaces. In an era of economic and ecological crisis, North Carolina is rising..Join us!

To learn more or get involved, email AUTONOMYWORKS@GMAIL.COM

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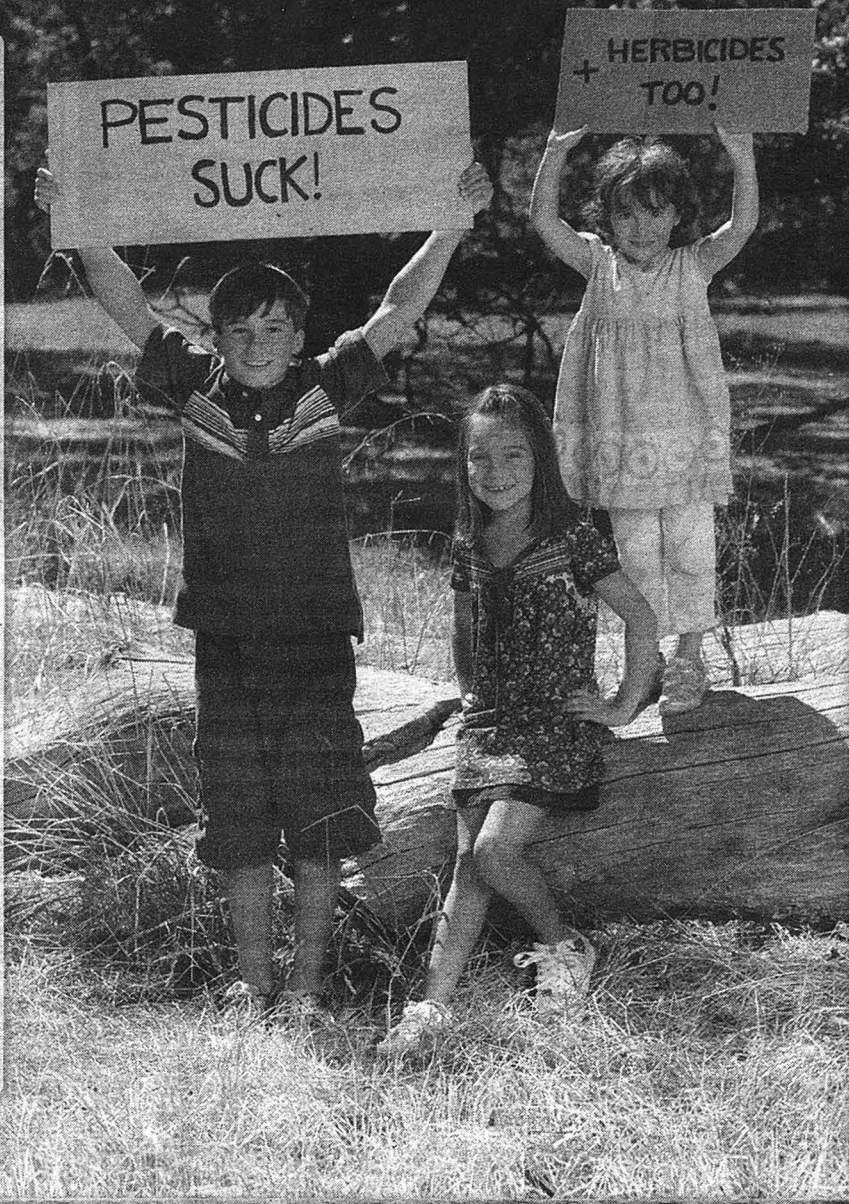
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Pictured here are the children of Mountain Rose Herbs' employee, Felicia Colden (from left to right: Ariel, Talia, and Ayianna)



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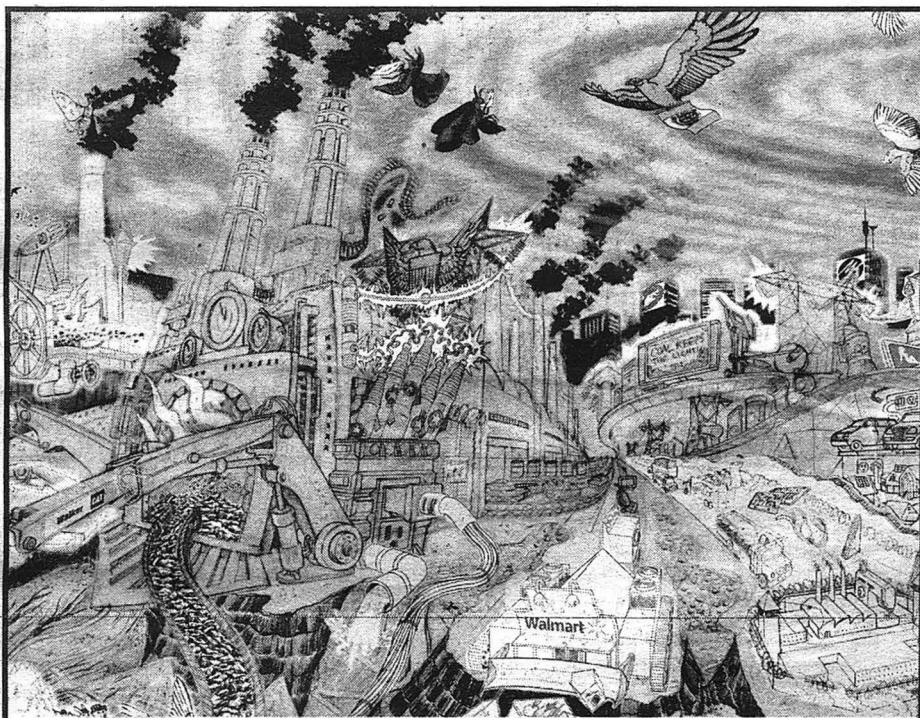
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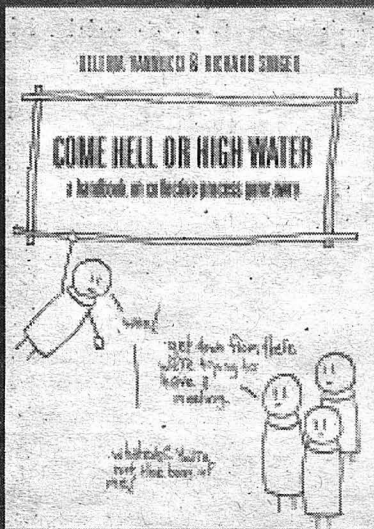
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WORK COLLECTIVELY... WHILE MAINTAINING YOUR SANITY!

Come Hell or High Water: A Handbook on Collective Process Gone Awry helps individuals navigate the world of egalitarian, directly democratic groups. From their experiences working with egalitarian and anarchist organizations, Dellina Vannucci and Richard Singer offer a street-level view of how social relationships and power work. Lessons are learned and hindsight is 20/20, and *Come Hell or High Water* offers readers both in this little gem.

Critical, humorous, and prophetic, this book is a must-read for those new to egalitarian groups as well as for the salty old vet that thinks she's got it all figured out. It's a tough world out there; it's a world that doesn't prepare us for developing social relationships based on trust, caring, and solidarity—as well as a healthy respect for differences. Whether playing a role in an anarchist organization, horizontal social or political group, worker co-op, or trying to incorporate egalitarian processes where they don't already exist, *Come Hell or High Water* will help keep you focused on the positives and help in avoiding the pitfalls.



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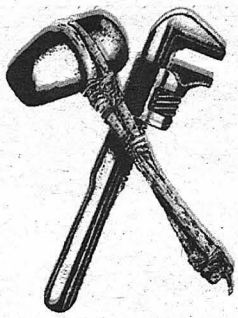
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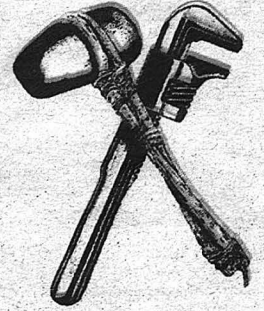
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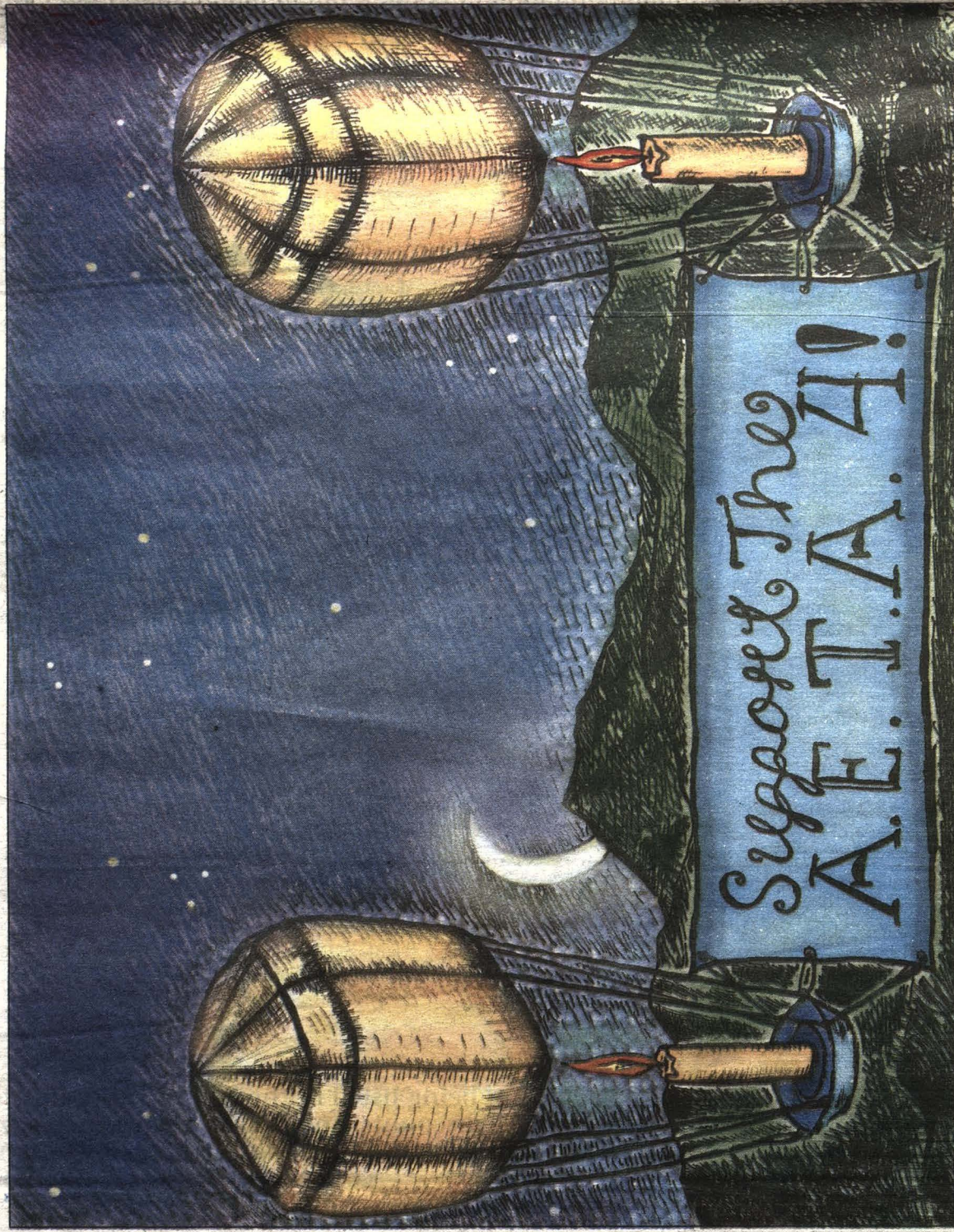
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