

Earth First! Action Update

Issue 71 October 2000



CAR FREE DAY

European Car Free Day was officially celebrated in some British cities, but in those where it wasn't activists celebrated it anyway.

In Newcastle for example, early-rising cyclists visited the home of Cabinet Minister Kevin Jones with a trishaw, in the vain hope of persuading him to go to work on it. Very official-looking flyers appeared on the windscreens of hundreds of parked cars in the city centre, informing motorists of road closures on Car Free Day, as well as all-day free travel on Newcastle's Metro system. Notices also appeared at the underground Metro stations. Metro broadcasted all day for two days contradicting the notices, laid on extra ticket inspectors and didn't fine any fare-dodgers for the day.

Meanwhile a banner appeared over the city's central motorway telling motorists 'Kill Car Culture Before It Kills You'. 'Immobilization' leaflets were posted on hundreds of parked vehicles, giving official notification of the dangers of too much reliance on motor transport.

Late in the afternoon 200 or so people gathered for Newcastle's second Reclaim the Streets. A tripod blocked the entrance to the Civic Centre car park, although a sound system was seized early, and damaged, by police. Two people were arrested, but both released quickly.

Manchester's Reclaim the Streets Six have all walked free. The 6 were charged with trumped-up public order offences following last year's RTS action in Manchester. Their case was heard in June. The CCTV evidence showed a large number of violent and disorderly police officers baton-charging their way into a peaceful crowd without warning. Witnesses flatly contradicted the police lies.

DUMP THE PUMP FOR GOOD

The "Dump the Pump for Good" cycling event was organised to counter the car-lobby's event on August 1st. Hundreds of cyclists moved through the city, inviting commuters to join in and discover the healthy vitality and community spirit enjoyed by London's cyclists. Riders had whistles, hooters etc..

Five rides set off from all corners of London at 7.30am, converging in Trafalgar Square. Contact for regular critical masses: <http://come.to/londoncm/>

RISING TIDE

On 11th September the protest group 'Rising Tide' constructed an oil pipe in the garden of Shell spokesperson Tim van Kooten near The Hague, The Netherlands, protesting climate change. 'Accidentally', they also caused an oilspill. The activists said he should "greenwash his own garden."

"This is the start of a season of action against corporations and institutions that promote climate change," says a Rising Tide spokesperson. "Actions will peak at the UN climate conference in November in The Hague, The Netherlands."

Rising Tide is a coalition of radical activists from several European countries and networks like Earth First! They demand a reduction of greenhouse gasses by 60% : necessary to halt climate change. The convention will discuss a reduction of 5.2%.

Rising Tide encourages every individual and organisation to go to their local community and discuss what creative, concrete action for climate justice well-being they can take. Our Governments are unable to take the tough decisions; the corporate lobbyists are freely imposing monstrous provisions into the climate treaty in their misinterpretation of the

The Monthly Round up of Ecological, and Other, Direct Action from Around Britain

Earth First! is not a cohesive group or campaign, but a convenient banner for people who share similar principles to work under. The general principles behind the name are non-hierarchical organisation and the use of direct action to confront, stop and eventually reverse the forces that are responsible for the destruction of the Earth and its inhabitants.

crisis we face. This call out is made in the spirit of continuing to build a strong, bold and imaginative resistance to the institutions of the global economy.

For more info: subscribe to [<risingtide@egroups.com>](mailto:risingtide@egroups.com), or email [<crosswinds@aseed.antenna.nl>](mailto:crosswinds@aseed.antenna.nl)

SEASON OF ACTION

November 10th -- All Night vigil outside Shell HQ in Den Haag In memory of Ken Saro-Wiwa. Contact : yehudi@aseed.antenna.nl.

November 12th -- Walk of life by Night - thousands of brightly lit torches shine on the conference centre.

November 13th -- No Nukes Day. Contact: phil@ozone.org

November 14th - Underwater Demonstration Contact: Aart@aseed.antenna.nl

November 15th -- Free Street Concert.

November 16th -- Sunlight Summit Begins - yehudi@aseed.antenna.nl

November 18th -- The BIG Event - jasper@milieudefensie.nl

November 19th -- Arrival of Critical Mass of bicycles from all over Europe. Contact: life@emweltzentrum.lu

Construction of world's largest bicycle on City Square contact: weetwee@go.to

November 21st - Equity Day. Indigenous and Threatened Peoples March to the Conference, after Sunlight Summit Makes Demands to take to the COP Contact: oilwatch@aseed.antenna.nl

November 24th -- Mass Global Day of Action against Poverty and Pollution. contact: risingtide@egroups.com

November 25th - Sit-in outside the Conference.

The EF! AU is written by activists as a networking tool for activists. A different collective takes on its editorship for a year at a time, in line with EF!'s non-hierarchical principles. If you have done an action, set up a new group, or want to tell people about a campaign, then send us an article (maximum 150 words). It doesn't matter if it seems small to you; stories of 3 people sitting in the road are sometimes the most inspiring especially to people who aren't part of a large group. The feature pages are also available for longer articles which will provide useful information for activists.

News In Brief

- The 4 co-ordinators of the Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty campaign were remanded on trumped-up charges of incitement in mid August. They have since been released with strict bail conditions.
- Nick Pyne, veteran of the 3rd Battle of Newbury and other road campaigns, has died. He will be greatly missed.
- Respect is due to the three teenagers this summer who regularly dressed up like traffic police, complete with a hairdryer / speed-gun, and bluffed speeding drivers into slowing down through their car-blighted village.
- The vehicles of 5 Huntingdon Life Sciences workers were destroyed on August Bank Holiday.
- British Animal Lib prisoner Barb Trenholm has been released from prison having served a ten year sentence.
- Oscar Horta is an eco-activist who refused to be conscripted into the Spanish army because of his commitment to animal/earth liberation. Although he faced fines or a possible prison sentence, in court he only received a disqualification for standing for public office. (shucks!)
- Jose Marlucio da Silva, a Landless Rural Workers Movement (MST) activist, was shot and killed on the 25th July during an anti-biotech action in Recife, the capital of the north eastern Pernambouc state in Brazil. After occupying an Argentine boat carrying GM crops, the MST attempted to storm & occupy a bank. Jose was shot by police during the action.
- Jose Bove, the French organic sheep farmer turned environmental activist, has been sentenced to 3 months in prison for leading an action on a McDonald's construction site in August 1999.
- GM-giant Novartis has announced it will guarantee all its foods free of GM ingredients due to consumer pressure. Asked if Novartis' anti-GM stance conflicted with its position as a vociferous promoter of GM seeds, the spokesman said: "That's a totally different question."
- On July 15th, Manchester's gay rights and equality groups marched 'Out on the Streets' in protest at the failure of the government to repeal Section 28 of the Local Government Act 1988. This law encourages discrimination against lesbians and gay men and discourages accurate information on sexual issues. www.stonewall.org.uk
- Everyone beware of 'green-nazi' actions coming to the UK, maybe based around "Alt Green", a fascist ecology journal by nazi sympathiser Richard Hunt.
- A Man climbed part way up the London Eye millennium wheel as part of a weekend of protest against sanctions on Iraq. He was there between 7 am and 8.30 am, came down voluntarily and was released without charge. Contact : (0)20 78725451

So Now We Are Terrorists

The Terrorism Act received Royal Assent on 20 July 2000 and will come into force in the UK mainland in Spring 2001. While things look grim, there have been a number of amendments. However, the real fight against the labelling of wide sections of dissidents and activists as 'terrorists' - has only just begun.

Hardly a day goes past now without someone, be it farmers or biotech corporations complaining about their fields being decontaminated of GMOs, or politicians complaining about their conferences being blockaded, calling their opponents 'terrorists'. Sometimes the words 'terrorist' and 'activist' are used interchangeably. This, the ultimate in political exclusion, must be challenged or our society will become even more undemocratic. In truth, as we all know, the Act has little to do with preventing terrorism. The new definition of 'terrorism' is expressly designed to apply to people who do not carry guns or advocate the use of violence against others. The purpose of this Act is to halt the convergence of struggles that are taking place worldwide.

"Section 12 (2) *A person commits an offence if he arranges*, manages or assists in arranging or managing *a meeting** which he knows is - (a) to support a proscribed organisation, (b) to further the activities of a proscribed organisation, or (c) to be addressed by a person who belongs or professes to belong to a proscribed organisation. (3) A person commits an offence *if he addresses a meeting** and- (a) the purpose of his address is to encourage support for a proscribed organisation or to further its activities, or (b) he knows that the meeting is to be addressed by a person who belongs or professes to belong to a proscribed organisation. (4) In subsections (2) and (3) *"meeting" means** a meeting of *three or more persons**, whether or not the public are admitted. (5) *A person guilty** of an offence under this section *shall be liable** - (a) on conviction on indictment, *to imprisonment for** a term not exceeding *ten years**, to a fine or to both."

Terrorism Act, 2000ad.

This is the last Action Update being done by the present crew and no one has come forward to take it on. We will remain the contact point until a new crew takes over.

RIP Electronic Freedom

Following closely on the Terrorism Act comes the RIP Act (Regulation of Investigatory Powers). Also given royal assent, it will become law in October.

Firstly, UK based Internet Service Providers (ISP's)* will be legally obliged to give police, customs and security services open access to monitor all web traffic running through their networks.

Secondly, the Act will see the targeting of computer encryption users** with prison sentences of 2 years (if you refuse to hand over your encryption keys to the police), and 5 years (if you tell anyone you are being monitored).

And finally, the Act includes extra powers to plant Big Brother bugs and parabolic microphones wherever the sun might not shine - in the name of 'national security' and combating 'organised crime'. For example, the new generation of mobile phones will be implanted with a location device so that they know from where you're calling.

Many Internet Service Providers are now looking at uprooting their business and moving overseas.

RIP IT UP!

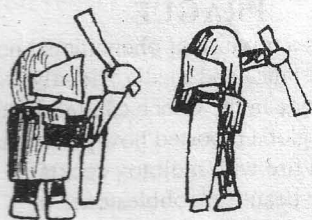
On the brighter side here are a few pointers on a few ideas on ways to rip up the RIP for solid on-line privacy and security.

(a) Be careful when choosing your ISP and e-mail account. The big corporate sites like Microsoft (Hotmail), Freeserve (Fsnets) and Yahoo UK (Yahoo Mail) that are already in the process of opening their networks for police 'real time' surfing tracking should be avoided.

(b) Look at ISP's that base their operations overseas, or smaller UK web server companies that are more likely to slip through the government fish net. Make sure they are not part of the multinational Internet oligarchy.

(c) Do use encryption and anonymous web surfing software like Freedom (www.zeroknowledge.com) or Pretty Good Privacy (www.pgp.com). Use free encrypted e-mail accounts like Hushmail, Messenger and Mail2Web (www.hushmail.com, www.messengerx.com and www.mail2web.com)

(d) Rather than storing data on your hard drive (which under the RIP can be accessed under warrant by MI5 or police) stash your private bits and pieces on the Net. There are companies like Freedrive (www.freedrive.com) where you can store info on their sites for download at a later date. More info: Foundation for Information Policy Research www.fipr.org/rip/ GreenNet - www.gn.apc.org



Leicester's Radical Summer

Leicester folk have had an entertaining and enlightening summer this year. Kicking off proceedings was the gay Mardi Gras on July 29th. Originally cancelled because of rightwing threats, but then revived by Unity Against Prejudice, a coalition determined not to let the fascists set the rules, the event ended up a great success. 400 people turned up to samba through the streets in defiance of bigotry and hatred. Neither the 60 NFers who paraded through the city centre, nor the Anti-Nazi League who, piqued at their inability to control the agenda tried to organise an alternative demo, managed to spoil the day's fun. And people are already talking about next year's party.

Following this, on August 19th we reclaimed a patch of derelict land in the city centre and turned it into a colourful garden, complete with swing. The guerrilla gardeners also gave out locally-produced organic wine and plums harvested from a deserted garden.

Everyone - gardeners, the public, and even a couple of passing policemen - had a great time, and we had excellent media coverage - the local paper, radio and TV were all unreservedly positive. The garden is still doing well, so hopefully we'll be able to pick our strawberries from there next year.

And to finish with a bang, the very next week was our Reclaim the Streets. A major road in the city was blocked for 4 hours of wild music and even wilder water fights. The police were heavy-handed at first, but mellowed when they realised they couldn't win. The support of the local multicultural community was amazing - a local shoe-shop owner let us run the sound system from his shop when the generator failed, and one 72 year-old resident was out with us dancing for the whole 4 hours. Again, the press coverage was completely positive. Quote of the day - Policeman to shop owner: "Do you feel intimidated by these people?"; Shop owner: "No, I feel intimidated by you".

So, with all that, plus lively campaigns to save local allotments and trees, Leicester's had a pretty active time of it. And if anyone wants Gujarati or Bengali versions of flyers for future street parties, get in touch with LEAF.

Eco-wars II

Following constructive discussions at the EF! Summer Gathering, a collective formed to start campaigning against the government's U-turn in transport policy, which involves a new road building programme as big as the last one. Contact Manchester EF! or your local group.

ABC OF ANTI-'DEVELOPMENT' RESISTANCE

Ashingdon Trial

The trial of the Ashingdon anti-roads protesters' is set for November, pencilled in for 8 days. The 10 protesters on trial may well be used as an example to others who oppose further development. Protesters have been on at least two sites, either Rettendon or Hockley and Ashingdon. Local residents are now taking the case to high courts to try and stop the development with the restrictive covenants. Full details : 0831 717815.

Blackpool Destruction

The residents trying to save their green public space in Blackpool were evicted this summer, only to move to another piece of the same site which was still in the hands of the Blackpool council (less well-off than Barratts).

Police were finally persuaded to investigate the wildlife genocide 5 weeks after the original criminal activity. The destruction of the site has been a harrowing experience.

Contact: sandgown@cybermail.uk.com

Burnage Victory

Burnage residents who took direct action earlier this year to stop a mobile phone mast being erected near their homes are celebrating as Orange have been refused a request for planning permission.

People living near the site were concerned about possible health risks and had threatened to climb onto the mast should Orange have tried to put it up. However, Orange were given planning permission to use a site a mere 5 metres away back in 1997. Local residents have vowed to remain vigilant and to stop any attempt by Orange to use this site instead.

Birmingham Delays

Midland Expressway Ltd. (MEL), the company behind the first toll-motorway in Britain, are three and a half years behind schedule thanks to site occupations by protestors and the doubling of construction costs. Despite the original construction firm pulling out, MEL -bolstered by new banking loans- still plans to build a whopping 3 lane, 27 mile long bypass on greenbelt land just north of Birmingham. As well as devastating the local countryside and communities, it will also do little to ease congestion in the long term and will certainly lead the way for further greenbelt expansion.

Contact : Action against the Toll Motorway (ATOM), 7818 687742

Action Diary

October

1 International Nuclear Weapons Abolition Day. Stuff happening all over. Contact: international@motherearth.org

6-8 Aldermaston Women's Peace Camp. Regular Camp at Trident Factory in Aldermaston, Berks. Contact: 01639 700680 or www.gn.apc.org/aldemastonwpc

7 Carnival Against Capitalism. Chelmsford Town Centre, 1pm. Contact: 01245 420178, 9am -10pm any day.

7 Reclaim the Road Route, protest against the Birmingham Northern Relief Road. Meet 12 noon, Brownhills town centre.

7-8 Nine Ladies Anti-Quarry Campaign 1st Birthday Bash. Near Matlock, Derbyshire. Featuring talks, walks, some devilish fun and a fully unlicensed bar. Contact: 07799 528871 or 0779431820.

7-8 6th Annual Magdalen Occupation. 'Reclaim the Riverside.' Occupation of footpath blocked by Magdalen College, Oxford in early 80's. Contact The Land Is Ours.

9-13 International Week of Resistance to tobacco transnationals. Contact +41 617 695 2525 or suren.infact@juno.com

12 Annual Day of Solidarity with McDonald's workers. Contact: 02077131269.

14 March and rally against McDonald's, Birmingham city centre. Meet Bull Street, (outside Virgin Megastore) 12 noon. Contact: 07788 770741.

14 Nineteenth Annual Anarchist Bookfair. From 10am, Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London WC1. Contact: 0208 533 6938.

15 Earth First! Gathering, beginning 1pm. Venue in London to be confirmed. Contact: 0113 262 9365.

15 May Day 2001 meeting to discuss organising a conference or other events for next year. 2-5pm, Conway Hall, London.

16 World Day against McDonald's. Last year there were at least 425 protests and pickets in 345 towns in 23 countries. Why not organise a picket in your town this year? Download and copy the 'What's Wrong With McDonald's?' leaflet at: www.mcspotlight.org/campaigns/current/leaflets.html Or buy in bulk from Veggies: 0115 9585 666.

22 World Day Against Police Brutality.

November

4 Mass Action against the Beaufort Hunt. Meet 9.30am Central Malmesbury, Wilts. Contact: 0771 5779843, or Movement Against the Monarchy, PO Box 14672, London E9 5UQ.

11-24 Rising Tide Festival, The Hague, Holland. Actions, speakers, events around the UN Climate Change Meeting.

16 National Day of Action on Animal Feed. Oxford contact : Ray 01865 513 224

Global Way of Action

The latest huge global day of action focussed on the IMF and World Bank summits in Prague, on September 26th. These two institutions are greatly responsible for the carnage currently visited on the world, affecting most tragically the poorest inhabitants of the poorest countries.

AROUND THE WORLD

In Belo Horizonte, Brazil, more than 200 activists sat with linked arms and blocked traffic in the entire downtown area.

Meanwhile in Sao Paulo a peaceful protest was attacked by the Civil Guard after some property damage and painting the streets. One policeman lost his head and shot his gun off, but the crowd faced him off.

In Toronto, Canada, 200 marched thru the financial district, with one person arrested for involvement in J18.

150 demonstrators also paraded anti-capitalist banners in Montreal, ending at the Stock Exchange Tower. In many ways this was a building action for the upcoming Group of 20 meeting (G-20) in Montreal this October. A "G-20 Welcoming Committee" has formed, contact stopftaa-mtl@tao.ca

Despite bad weather in Cork, Ireland, about 60 people marched to protest against capitalism and the deaths from Debt today. Led by a wooden coffin, they brought a major stoppage to traffic and met a sympathetic response.

Five hundred people reclaimed the streets in Berkeley, dancing to hip hop music. California Federal Bank and McDonalds were targeted and the evening ended with small bonfires in the street.

In Florida, Anarchists dropped a Banner in Solidarity.

During the evening in Malme, Sweden, anti-imperialists smashed all the bank windows around Nydalatorget square.

Authorities banned the planned concert against capitalism in Moscow, so instead there was a noisy demonstration with many separate meeting places. A press release mockingly promised that demonstrators would trash a McDonalds, although there was no McD nearby. 6 were arrested for carrying banners and making speeches.



The carnival against capitalism in Wellington, New Zealand, saw police attack protesters after 150 people occupied a branch of the Westpac Bank. At least 13 people were arrested and several hurt.

At Chennai, India, Human Rights-Tamil Nadu Initiative, Jubilee-2000, Tamilnadu Womens Collective and Citizens for freedom of expression jointly organised a protest of 450 persons (402 women) against the IMF and World Bank. This is just one of over 150 different mobilisations throughout the country from September 26th until October 2nd (birthday of Mahatma Ghandi) against the WTO policies.

400 turned out in Washington, USA, most of them union members and activists involved in last Spring's protests of the World Bank/IMF. They rallied in support of local parking lot attendants who are trying to unionize. 35 who sat down and blocked traffic were arrested and transported away.

Hundreds of Connecticut activists also joined forces at Bushnell Park for an unpermitted mass march.

A newspaper spoof, the Financial Crimes, is available at : <http://www.financialcrimes.com/>

There were two-days of action against IMF and WB in Kyiv, Ukraine, focussing on the repression happening in Prague. Worthless "IMF credits" were given out with leaflets in the street, as posters were pasted on the underground reading "More banks -- less hospitals", "Credits -- heroin, IMF -- drug-pusher" etc.

Riots end bank talks

... Several delegates were injured. One said: "I just want to go home."

PRAGUE

There was a mixture of phenomenal non-violent resistance and media-friendly, cop-scare violence in the Czech capital. Media around the globe reported how policemen were set on fire with molotov cocktails and that the beautiful cobblestones of Prague were hurled at police.

More than 65 people, including one Japanese and one Russian delegate to the conference, were injured in the clashes. Over a hundred demonstrators, drawn from all over the world, were arrested. More than 12,000 Czech police were backed up by Scotland Yard and FBI helpers.

The IMF and World Bank discussions were finished a day early, unwilling to endure the pressure of the protests any longer.

A 'counter summit' was organised by a coalition of Czech environmental, human rights and anarchist groups, called Inpeg, Initiative Against Economic Globalisation. 10 days of non-violent demonstrations in the city took place, culminating on the 26th. On the preceding Saturday a 1,000 activists blocked the centre of Prague, Jubilee 2000 organised a mass funeral march and nazis and anarchists clashed at a metro train station.

Special trains were laid on for delegates, who could still not avoid being affected by their besiegers.

"The centre has been cut off. All roads (accessible by cars) are blocked by protesters," said the congress centre's traffic and security officer Lubomir Brychta. Those inside the conference were not allowed to leave at all.

At one point protesters stormed a hotel just across the road from the congress centre. Financiers and journalists were pelted with stones until police punched them back with dogs and truncheons. Protesters also briefly blockaded the delegates again at a gala reception north of Prague's city centre.

During the night, windows were smashed, along with a limousine. Elsewhere thousands of protesters would sit down and chant 'No violence, no violence'.

A train with thousands of activists and four considered 'non-desirable' was blocked at the Czech border, but after protests was allowed into Prague before the 26th. A contingent of 75 cyclists from Germany had also been temporarily blocked.

It is interesting that there is an international list of "persona non grata", drawn up by a pool of police and home ministers, co-ordinated by the governments of the various countries on the payroll of international crime.

UK CROP-TRASHING

Covert Actions continue :

On 23rd August the UK's only test crop of genetically modified wheat was completely destroyed in Cambridgeshire.

Crops in Daviot, Aberdeenshire, and in Dorset and Hemel Hempstead have also been visited.

On 20th July a GM crop trial in Wivenhoe was hit in the early hours of Thursday under cover of darkness causing extensive damage. Sadly 11 people were arrested as a result.

This was only the latest of several incidents in Wivenhoe. There have also been reports of the destruction of 2 National Seed List trials of beet at Great Abingdon, and West Raynham.

Meanwhile mass open demo's have been organised in Wales, by Custodians of the Land, and by the Doncaster committee on GM crops.

In broad daylight a modest number of concerned local citizens living near Rosemaund, nr Hereford, trashed aprox 10-15% of the farmscale trial site. Police moved in and arrested two of the merry harvesters after they refused to do what they were told, to cease damaging the crop and leave the field.

US CROP-TRASHING

Los Ninos del Maiz destroyed one acre of genetically modified maize the contents of four greenhouses--containing rice, maize, arabidopsis, tomatoes, tobacco and other GE lifeforms ON August 25th, leaving messages against bioimperialism.

On July 31 the Dusty Desperadoes destroyed five acres of genetically engineered canola at Monsanto facilities in Washington. Earth Liberation Front activists have also struck facilities in two different states.

On July 22nd anti-biotech direct actionists destroyed 1500 - 2000 genetically engineered trees at MEAD Corporation facilities in Maine.

Their communiqué read : "In an action similar to a multi-national corporate clearcut, 1500 - 2000 genetically engineered trees were hacked down."

"The creation of monoculture tree plantations breeds inherent dangers to diverse native forests & wildlife....

Toxic chemicals used on the trees create toxic soils, disturbing every ecosystem in the area and destroying any remnants of what was once natural. This technology must be destroyed, this madness must stop, and people around the world are not going to watch this unnatural synthetic culture thrive. We will continue to stand up to corporate greed."

ANIMAL FEED ACTION

On Tuesday 20th June, 17 people entered, occupied and closed the BOCM Pauls animal feed processing plant in Alton, Hampshire. BOCM Pauls is a large manufacturer of animal feed in the UK, and since 50% of all genetically modified (GM) crops are used in animal feed, this means that BOCM Pauls probably use more GM products than any other UK company.

People arrived at the front gate at 1pm, while other groups made their way to the offices and the processing plants, and another closed the gates and hung a banner reading 'Resistance is Fertile!'

In the offices the CCTV recording tape was removed and destroyed, a number of filing cabinet keys were thrown away and a 'CAPITAL' rubber stamp was stolen for future amusement. The be-suited office employees were talked to, but most expressed confusion or an antagonistic attitude. In the manufacturing plant it was different, with some of the occupiers having a cup of tea and some cool chats with the people working there - maybe next time there'll even play football!

After an hour or so four police turned up. Slightly baffled, they stopped a macho truck driver from starting a fight with people blocking the gate. After some faffing they gave a deadline - leave or be arrested. There was an impromptu get together, they they were given the occupiers decision - that they would stay until 4.30pm and leave then, not before. And that's what happened. No arrests.

PIE THE PRIME MINISTER

Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien received a cream pie on August 16th. The pie thrower was arrested, taken to the Charlottetown Police Station, charged with assault, and released.

GENETIX SNOWBALL

GenetiX Snowball campaigners have been convicted of aggravated trespass for openly pulling up genetically modified (GM) crops in August last year. The magistrate did not accept that the campaigners held the honest belief that they were acting to prevent a crime when they pulled up the GM crops. These are the first convictions for aggravated trespass (trespass which interferes with a lawful activity) against GM campaigners although the charge has been repeatedly used against anti-roads protesters.

GREENPEACE TRIAL

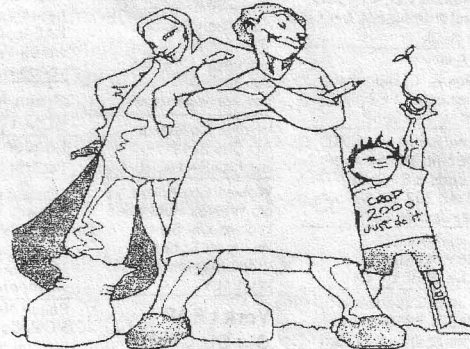
Greenpeace have received a total acquittal, however, for the damage they did to GM maize last year.

Lord Melchett and his fellow protesters, were acquitted at a retrial at Norwich crown court after claiming they had lawful excuse to attack the crop at a farm in Lyng, Norfolk, in July 1999.

At the original trial in April the 28 were cleared of theft, but the jury was unable to reach a verdict on criminal damage. Now they have been awarded costs for both trials of an estimated £250,000.

The aim of removing the entire crop was crucial to the defence case. The protesters argued that they had lawful excuse under the Criminal Damage Act 1971 to uproot the crop, as leaving it to flower and pollinate would have led to a greater crime - the contamination of other crops in the vicinity.

While police are determined for this not to set a precedent, the NFU has announced it is now 'open season' for anti-GM perverts to trash GM crops, or something.



Ilisu Dam

Of the many harebrained and devastating dam and development projects in the world, the Ilisu Dam is one of the most urgent and tragic. As part of a war of genocide against the Kurds, the Turkish government plans to flood the Kurdish heartlands. Kurds are being evicted at gunpoint, their villages raised to the ground. The 10,000 year old city of Hasankeyf will be destroyed.

The Ilisu Dam will enable Turkey to control the flow of the Tigris, thus enabling Turkey to deny water to Iraq and Syria : a potential trigger point for the next Middle East War. The UK government will be providing the funding.

Prime contractors will be Balfour Beatty, backed by the British taxpayer to the tune of 200 million. This is one of the ways in which taxpayer's money is transferred to large corporations.

The UK (particularly Farnborough-based BAE systems) is also a major supplier of arms to Turkey, regularly turning a blind eye to human rights abuses. Please take action.

Info : www.ilisu.org.uk

Action Groups

Bath EF!
c/o PO Box 426, Bath
Somerset BA1 2ZD

Bristol EF!
c/o Box 51
Greenleaf Bookshop
82 Colston Street
Bristol BS1 5BB
0117 939 3093

Cambridge EF!
Box E, 12 Mill Road
Cambridge CB1 2AD
Cheltenham EF!
16 Portland Street
Cheltenham
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Oldham EF!
PO Box 127
OLDHAM OL4 3FE

Oxford EF!
c/o PO Box 68
Oxford OX3 1RH

Reclaim the Streets
PO Box 9556, London
N4 4JY 0171 281 4621
http://www.gn.apc.org/r/s/
rs@gn.apc.org

Action Groups are local EFI contacts. Some of them are active groups, some of them are aspiring towards this but need more people to get in touch. The Propaganda section lists non-EFI publications which are worth reading. International Contacts are entry points into that country's own network of groups. Other Contacts are ones whose principles we agree with fully in part. For groups web addresses visit <http://www.snel.co.uk/efi/> New additions and alterations are shown in bold.

PROPAGANDA

The Agitator
c/o Haringey Solidarity
Group

Aulheben
Brighton & Hove
Unemployed Workers
Centre, 4 Crestway
Parade, Hollingdean
Brighton BN1 7BL
aulheben99@yahoo.co.uk

Chiapas-Link
Box 79, 82 Colston
Street, Bristol
chiapaslink@yahoo.com

Citizen Smith
c/o Townhead Cottages
Townhead
S36 4TG

Counter Information
c/o 17 W. Montgomery
Place
Edinburgh
EW7 5HA
0131 557 8242

Do or Die
c/o Prior House,
6 Tibbury Place,
Brighton BN2 2GY
doordp@yahoo.co.uk

FINs - for a full list of
free information
networks & more, send
SAE to: London FIN
c/o 99 Tarnio Avenue
London NW5 2RX

Green Anarchist
BCM 1715
London
WC1N 3XX

I-Contact video network
76 Mina Road, Bristol
BS2 9TX,
0117 914 0188
i-contact@videonetwork.org

Peace News
5 Caledonian Road
London N1 9DY

RadiX-europe wide DA
video lending library
c/o Projektwerkstatt
Gostenhefer Hauptstr 50
D-90443 Nuernberg
Germany
+49(0)9112875880
RadiX@palfindermail.com

Reclaim The
Satyagraha!
c/o Nonviolent Action, 5
Caledonian Road,
London N1 9DX
07973 539 390.
enquiries@satyagraha.org
www.satyagraha.org

West Country Activist
Action SW, Box 80,
Greenleaf, Bristol.
wca99@hotmail.com

Undercurrents
16b Cherwell St, Oxford,
OX4 1BG 01865 203662
underc@gn.apc.org

Advisory Service for
Squatters
2 Saint Pauls Road
London N1 2QN
0171 359 8814
advice@squat.freerve.co.uk

ALF Supporters Group
BCM Box 1160
London WC1N 3XX
1003021616@compuserve.com

Anti-Fascist Action
BM Box 1734
London WC1N 3XX
Anti-Quarry Action
(AQUA)
Kimberly Mill Park
King's Steignton
TQ12 3NR
01626 363844

Disabled Action Network
3 Crawley Road
Wood Green, London
N22 6AN 0181 3891361
ecolabseries!
c/o Leeds EF!

DELTA
Box Z, 13 Biddulph St.
Leicester LE2 1BH
0116 210 9652
lynx@gn.apc.org
www.oneworld.org/delta

Forest Action Network
(as for Norfolk EF!)
01603 611953
lanuk@envirolink.org

Genetic Engineering
Network (GEN)
(as for RTS)
0181 374 9516
genetics@gn.apc.org

Genetix Snowball
(open crop removal)
One World Centre
6 Mount Street
Manchester M2 5NS
0161 334 0295
genetixsnowball@onet.co.uk

Stop Huntingdon Animal
Cruelty Campaign, PO
Box 381, Cheltenham,
Glos, GL50 1YN
0121 632 6460

Hunt Saboteurs Assoc.
PO Box 2786
Bnghton BN2 2AX
01273 622827
hsa@gn.apc.org

Industrial Workers
of the World
75 Humberstone Gate
Leicester LE1 1WB
The Land is Ours
(see Oxford EF!)
01865 432920
office@lio.demon.co.uk

Legal Defence &
Monitoring Group
3M Haven
London WC1N 3XX
0181 5337116

Making Waves
PO Box 1377, Sheffield
S36 4B2 01226 764279
pp3mo@aol.com

London GreenPeace &
McLibel Support
Campaign
5 Caledonian Road
London N1 9DX
0171 713 1269
info@mcspotlight.org

No Opencast
190 Shepherds Bush Rd
London W6 7NL
0171 503 1831

The Rational Trust,
(Wilts. greenfields)
c/o 21 Beaulieu Close,
Swindon, SN5 8AQ
0788 0592370 /
0836 743581

Schnews
PO Box 2600, Brighton,
E. Sussex BN2 2DX
01273 685913

Solidarity Federation
PO VBox 29, SW PDO,
Manchester, M15 5HW
0161 232 7889

Subvertise!
c/o Box E
111 Magdalen Road
Oxford
OX4 1RO
subs@vernity.i-way.co.uk

Third Battle of Newbury
PO Box 5642
Newbury RG14 5WG
07000 785 201
thirdbattle@hotmail.com

Totnes Genetics Group
PO Box 77, Totnes
Devon TQ95J
01803840098

Trident Ploughshares
2000 (anti-nuke direct
disarmament)
01324 880744
www.gn.apc.org/lp2000/

URGENT (greenfield
housing network)
Box HN, 16b Cherwell
St, Oxford, OX4 1BG.
01865 794 800
info@urgent.org.uk

ALderman Women's
Peace Camp
(alternative weekends)
33 Heron Road
Bristol BS5 0LT
0117 939 3746

Ashington Protest
Camp (Essex, evicted)
07957 915977

Action Against the Toll
Motorway (ATOM),
07818 687742
actionagainsthettollmotorway@hotmail.com

Avon Ring Road Protest
Camp
c/o 84 Colston Street
Bristol BS1 5BS
0797 999-0389

Birmingham Northern
Relief Road - see ATOM

Fastlane Peace Camp
Shandon, Hellenburg
Dunbartonshire
Scotland G84 8HT
01436 820 901

Friends of Lyminge
Forest
c/o 3 Abbott Road
Folkstone, Kent CT20
1NG 01303 257046 /
07803 1738
merlin@envirolink.org

Golden Cross Road
Action Group (Essex)
01702 541267 / 07957
915977

Gorse Wood
(anti-A170 bypass)
02082994244
www.gorsewood.omnina.co.uk

Hockley Housing
(near Southend)
01702 206181/
0831 687635

9 Ladies Anti Quarry
Camp
Lees Cross, Lees Road
Stanton Lees, Mallock,
Derbyshire
Http://pages.zoom.co.uk
/nineladies/

Park Nook Camp c/o
Liverpool EF!
0403176279

Pressmennan Woods
Camp c/o 7 Pitcock
Dunbar, EH42 1RO
01368 950630

Sellafield Women's
Peace Camp
(bi-monthly) Box Z
(see Leeds EF!)
0113 262 1534

Vallee d'Aspe Action
Camp, Site mobile: +33
6 72634905

AUTONOMOUS ZONES
58a Infoshop
56 Crampton Street
London SE17 3AE
Open 2-8pm Thurs & Fri

ACE
c/o 17 W. Montgomery
Place
Edinburgh
EH7 5HA

A-Spire (see Leeds EF!)
a-spire@geocities.com
autonomous zone

Kebele Community Ctr
14 Robertson Road
Eastville
Bristol BS5 6JY
0117 939 9469
kebele@marsbard.com

1 in 12 Club
21-23 Albion Street
BRADFORD, BD1 2LY
01274 734160

Worthing Anarchist
Teapot
PO box 4144, Worthing
West Sussex BN14 7NZ
teapot@worthing-eco-action.org

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An Talamh Glas
4 Ashgrove, Seacrest
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Action For Social
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Box 34089, 10026
Stockholm, Sweden
ekologiska@usa.net

Australian EF! AU
ef_au@hotmail.com

Car Busters
Kratka 26, 100 00 Praha
10, Czech Rep. +420)
2781 0849 carbusters@wanadoo.fr

Coast Mountains EF!
1472 Commercial Drive
Box 128, Vancouver
V5L 3X9 Canada
+1 604 708 9660

Czech Republic EF!
Zeme predevsim!
PO Box 237, 16041
Prague 6, Czech Rep.
zemeprdevsim@ecn.cz

Earth First! Journal
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97440 USA
+1-541-344 8004
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umprowe@ipberlin.berlinet.de

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Gould Close, Welham
Green, Hailfield,
Hertfordshire AL9 7EB,
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Tel: +44 (0) 1707 885
994, http://www.fpcn-
global.org
Rains@fpcn-global.org

Greece (Chios)
http://www.geocities.com
mj18hellas

Greene Front!
Postbus 85069, 3058
AB Utrecht, Nederland:
groenfr@dds.nl

Green Action Israel
PO Box 4611, Tel-Aviv
Zip Code 61046 Israel
+972 (0) 3 516 2349

People's Global Action
against WTO and
neoliberalism)
+4122 344 4731
info@agp.org

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242 Sunset Drive
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Sieslsko-Biala 4 Poland
+48-33 183153
wapienica@pnwri.most.org.pl

Rainbow Keepers
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+7 0913141514
www.chat.ru/tw
2000

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Nightcliff NT 0814
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PRISONERS

A longer list than usual, and it still doesn't include everyone. For a fuller list please contact Earth Liberation Prisoners Support Network BM Box 2407, London WC1N 3XX.

ECO-DEFENCE

Jeffrey Luers #1306729, and Craig Marshall #1340996, both 101 W. 5th Street Eugene, Oregon 97401 USA. Both on remand accused of attempted arson of an oil truck.

Darren Murray, FM 4729, HM Prison Chelmsford, Springfield Road, Chelmsford, Essex, CM2 6LQ, England. On remand following the evictions of a protest camp trying to save a wood from being destroyed to make way for luxury homes.

Silvano Pellissero. Address Unknown. Serving 6 years & 8 months for allegedly sabotaging a high speed rail line construction site in the Northern Italian Alps.

Helen Woodson, 03231-045 FMC Carswell, POB 27137 Admin Unit, Fort Worth, TX 76127, USA. Serving 27 years for various actions including a fake robbery. Her expected release date is 2005.

JUNE 18th

Robert Thaxton #12112716, O.S.P. 2605 Stae St, Salem, OR 97310, USA (six years.)

Kuldip Bajwa DN7230, HMP Brixton, Jebb Avenue, London, SW2 5XF, England. (21 months.)

Jeff Booker DN7071, Elmley, Eastchurch, Sheerness, ME12 4OZ, England (21 months.)

Thomas Wall FF4431, HMP Belmarsh, Western Way, Thamesmead, London, SE28 0EB, England (18 months.)

Brendan Judge DN8137, G-Wing, HMP Brixton, London SW2 5FX. (12 months.)

Also, recently sentenced:

Ashley Warder FR5464, HMP, Wandsworth PO Box 757, Heathfield Road, SW18 3HS.

Darren Sole DN9381, HMP Brixton, Jebb Ave. London SW2 5FX.

Matthew McDonald EA4146 HMYOI Henley on Thames, Huntercombe Pl. Oxfordshire, LG9 5SB.

Paul Revell FR5599 HMP Wandsworth, Heathfield Rd. London SW18 3HS.

Taylor DN 8229 HMP Wandsworth Heathfield Rd. London SW18 3HS.

ANIMAL LIBERATION

Animal Lib Prisoner Justin Samuel has been extradited to the USA. Following his extradition Justin announced he would like to concentrate on preparing for his trial and spending time communicating with his family. Justin has requested that he receives no more letters of support at present. Thanks to all who have written.

Barry Horne VC2141, HMP Belmarsh, Western Way, Thamesmead, London SE28 0EB. Serving 18 years for various anti-vivisection actions, some of which he is appealing.

Darren Cole FN4694, HMP Blakenhurst, Howell Lane, Redditch, Worcs, BN7 6QS.. On Remand for an anti-live exports bomb hoax at Dover Docks.

Mel Broughton DJ8216, HMP The Mount, Molyneaux Avenue, Bovingdon, Hemel Hempstead, Herts, HP3 0NZ. Sentenced to 4 years for conspiracy to cause explosions.

Tony Humphries AP7965, HMP Swaleside, Brabazon Rd, Eastchurch, Sheerness, Kent, ME12 4DZ. Sentenced to 7 years for conspiracy to cause explosions plus 2 years concurrent for possession of explosives.

PEACE

Philip Berrigan #292-139, and Rev. Steve Kelly SJ #292-140, (both) Roxbury Correctional Institution, 18701 Roxbury Road, Hagerstown, MD 21746, USA. Phil is serving 30 months, and Steve 27

months for disarming two A10 "Warthogs" anti-tank bombers.

Susan Crane #916-999, Maryland correctional Institute for Women, PO Box 535, Jessup MD 20794, USA. Serving 27 months for disarming two A10 "Warthogs" anti-tank bombers.

Oliver Sachio Coe #28361-013, Unit AD, FPC Allenwood, PO Box 1000, Montgomery, PA 17752-9718, USA. Serving 30 months for disarming a nuclear missile silo.

Daniel Sicken #28360-013, FPC, PO Box 2000, Lewisburg, PA 17837, USA. Serving 41 months for disarming a nuclear missile silo.

Elizabeth Walz #995376, Baltimore Co. Detention Centre, 200 Court House Court, Towson, MD 21204, USA. Serving 18 months for disarming two A10 "Warthogs" anti-tank bombers.

INDIGENOUS LAND RIGHTS

Leonard Peltier #89637-132, PO Box 1000, Leavenworth, KS 66048, USA. American Indian Movement (AIM) activist, serving two life sentences, having been framed for the murder of two FBI agents.

Robert H. Wilson #640289, Pack Unit One, 2400 Wallace Pack Rd, Navasota, TX 77869, USA. In 1978 Robert (a.k.a. Standing Deer) exposed a government plot to assassinate Leonard Peltier. Serving life in prison.

Lenny Chavez, c/o PO Box 28703, Oakland CA 94694 USA. AIM activist who defended himself and his family from an armed Aryan group member. Jailed for attempted murder.

Dennis Bruce Walker MIN245312, PO Box 656, Grafton 2460, NSW, Australia. Aboriginal activist jailed for 5 years following an incident at an aboriginal sacred site.

Mumia Abu Jamal, (AM8335), SCI Greene, 1040 East R. Furman Highway, Waynesburg, PA 15370-8090, USA. Framed in 1981 for murder of a policeman. Sentenced to death and currently awaiting execution.

CIA in Oakington

As part of a day of action in Cambridge on August 19th, around 200 people showed up at Oakington (the latest refugee prison) with musical instruments and materials to decorate the fences and give gifts of toys, sweets, books and clothes to fill an entire van. Two people (one dressed as a pink and green furry monster!) were allowed to go into the centre and hand in the gifts. The children were delighted, especially with the chocolate!

Police were there in force, with helicopter, patrols and a roadblock 100 metres up the lane that shields the detention centre from the outside world. People were read the Public Disorder Act, and with police photographers in full body armour and the occasional police helicopter, there was an atmosphere of intimidation.

Groups had gathered as part of the Cambridge-wide action Cambridge In Action (CIA) which targeted the Oakington Detention Centre, Trinity College (which has major share-holdings in arms manufacturer British Aerospace) and nearby Huntingdon Life Sciences (Europe's largest and most notorious animal experimentation facility) all on the same day.

In August, a taxi carrying racist shadow home secretary Ann Widdecombe from a book-signing in Edinburgh was surrounded by angry protesters, enraged by her attitude towards asylum seekers. Police forced a way out through the placard-wielding crowd, after she was heckled with chants of "Jail the racists, not the refugees!" and "Refugees are welcome, Widdecombe is not." At a previous book-signing in Oxford she was pelted with custard pies.

7 protesters who blocked the road outside Oakington detention centre on the day it opened, have been convicted. The charge was maliciously changed from obstruction of the highway to obstruction of a police officer when police evidence collapsed.

Join the Civil Rights Caravan

The Civil Rights Caravan is now beginning its month-long journey through England. The Caravan, a form of grassroots resistance, is demanding:

- * Full rights for asylum-seekers, undocumented workers, migrants, and victims of racist attacks

- * The right to asylum and an end to detention, deportation, vouchers and dispersal

- * An end to racism and racist violence

The Caravan will link up with a series of events being planned across the country, such as protests at Campsfield Detention Centre

in Oxford on 17 September, the demonstration for asylum rights in Newcastle on September 30 and the National Demonstration against Racism in London on 14 October.

The Route:

September 15-16: Coventry, Birmingham, Leicester, 17th: Oxford

22-24th: Dover, Margate, Brighton

October 29th-1st: Sheffield, Manchester,

Leeds, Newcastle upon Tyne, Liverpool,

6-7th: Exeter, Plymouth, 8th: Bristol,

14th: London

You can support the caravan by a donation to 'CARF' at BM BOX 8784, London WC1N 3XX or help organise locally; people in each town on the route are needed for accommodation, food, entertainment and publicity.

Contact: caravanforcivilrights@ncadc.demon.co.uk

Contact us at: EF!AU, P.O. Box 1TA, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne NE99 1TA
0797 4791841 <actionupdate@gn.apc.org>
www.eco-action.org/efau

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(When sending us articles, please enter 'article' in the subject line.)

GLOBAL WOMEN'S STRIKE 2001

On International Women's Day 2000, waged & unwaged women in 64 countries joined the first-ever Global Strike. To 'stop the world and change it'! On 8 March 2001, women & girls will strike again to demand that society 'invests in the enrichment of every life' rather than for the enrichment of a few.

DEMANDS:

- Payment for all caring work -- in wages, pensions, land & other resources.

- Pay equity for all, women & men, in the global market.

- Paid maternity leave, breastfeeding breaks & other benefits

- Abolition of 'Third World debt' which falls heaviest on women & girls.

- Accessible clean water, & non-polluting energy & technology

- Accessible healthcare, housing, transport, literacy & information.

- Protection & asylum from all violence & persecution

- Freedom of movement. Capital travels freely, why not people?

Contact: International Wages for Housework Campaign, Crossroads Women's Centre, 230a Kentish Town Road, London NW5 2AB, 020 7482 2496

3 LEGS GOOD, ARMAGEDDON BAD

On August 1st, over 80 people were arrested at Faslane submarine base for blocking access to it for several hours. Dozens of people, including Buddhist monks and nuns, had walked there from Aldermaston on a Peace March. A 20-foot tripod, housing two people, kept the South Gate blocked all day and into the evening. Meanwhile at Coulport base, a few miles away, activists from the Trident Ploughshares two-week summer camp climbed and cut the fences. Three women sat for six hours on top of Coulport's main gate while two others swam two miles down the loch to within yards of trident. Trident Ploughshares activists have been found "not guilty" by juries for openly and accountably trashing Trident property.

SUBSCRIBE TO THE EF! ACTION UPDATE

Brighton
BN1 4NE
23 Shaftesbury Road
James Blackman

From: EF!AU,
PO Box 1TA, Newcastle
NE99 1TA, England

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