NO SIR, I WON'T!

A Voice From

Earth First!
EDITORIAL

Well here it is at last, Do or Die number 4. We're going to make no apology for being late as when we've not been sweating it out in front of the computer we've been D'locked to a digger or sitting in a tree.

So much for the gripes of our readers here's our gripe - send us your articles! Everyone's busy, we know that, but DoD is one of the few voices that Earth Firsters I have and it can't function without your input. There's an incredible range of talent out there writers, artists, poets etc. Send your material to us now!

We're hoping that the next issue will be out around November, but only if we get the material soon. Producing Do or Die has taught us that a little organisation goes a long way. As Earth First! matures we're going to have to get it together. At the moment looking forward a month is long term, if we're really going to be effective looking we're going to have to learn to plan years ahead.

The whole Earth First! movement has expanded massively. The first UK group was only set up in October '92, now Earth Firsters! are everywhere up trees, occupying offices and there are of course those fairies. We at Do or Die neither condemn nor condone! But we do reserve the right to chuckle a bit.

EF! stands for no compromise. Other groups have been swamped by well meaning but naive recruits and lost their original radicalism. In fact there is a general process by which radical groups get recuperated into the mainstream. If we don't want this to happen to us we're going to have to work hard. EF! is here to defend mother earth, its the only one we've got, and we'll defend it by any means necessary!

FIGURE: I am WILD MAN. Gentle but assertive, strong yet kind. Feel the trees speak!
FIGURE: I am HORNED GOD! Wise is the man who can see through the dark forest to the light beyond.
FIGURE: Er, couldn't you put your drum away when you've finished?
FIGURE: I have found myself and now bring enlightenment to all who meet me.
FIGURE: I'm doing this for you, you know... Uh, it's your turn to pick the kids up, love.

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Articles, reviews, artwork, poems, rants should be sent to .... Do or Die, c/o SDEF, Prior House, Tilbury Place, Brighton, BN2 2GY, UK.

Copies of Do or Die are available at the price of £0.80 + large SAE each, or £3.50 for five including UK postage from ...

DS4A, BOX 8, Greenleaf Bookshop, 82 Colsten St, Bristol, Avon, BS1 5BB
"Earlier this year I told a group of Britain's most senior motoring journalists that I thought motoring had never before been under greater threat.

Simon Dyer - Director General of the AA

**Dijon to Belfast Euroroute**

This road will damage an AONB, Green Belt Land, destroy watermeadows, woodland, numerous badger setts, newt ponds and pass through Little Solsbury Hill. The ever-sensitive DoT have also neglected to produce a non-technical summary for this scheme, which means the road breaches E.C. legislation. (sounds familiar?)

The 'Bypasses' are actually sections of a euroroute which, until recently, had been kept secret from Bath locals and the public. Much like the Watford bypass which quickly materialised into the M1 these bypasses are simply a motorway being built by stealth, a road from Dijon to Belfast. The completion of this road would provide a route through the previously less exploited West, a route that would avoid the M25 and is ten miles shorter (Dover to Bristol) than the M25-M4 route.

Site invasions are daily and protesters are presently occupying 8 acres of woodland and a watermeadow from imminent destruction. There have been office occupations, eviction sieges, mass arrests, 60 foot up 9 day tree sits, mothers and children's direct action days, free festivals, burning bulldozers, marches, (one with over 1,200 people) and every other conceivable tactic; the campaign has even got positive press in the traditionally reactionary rags the Sunday Mail and Sun, (The spectacle implodes!). Action has been too frequent to report here other than to say it's been pretty amazing. More info can be found in greenet in the 'ef.general' conference.

Due to constant eviction the site office address is always changing so it's probably best to contact RA! to find out how to contact us.

-Bath EF! & the Solsbury Hill Action Group,

**Wymondham**

As mentioned in the last issue, Direct Action has commenced to halt the construction of the Wymondham bypass, all in MaGregors own constituency in Norfolk. In September 93 Earth First! entered the campaign with the occupation of 'The Willows', the one house due to be destroyed by the road. The occupation lasted for exactly one month. After three court hear-
ings the bailiffs move in remove one person from the house and two from the roof. 'The Willows' was bulldozed the same day.

EF! set up camp on the disused railway line in February of this year, the day before compulsory purchase orders came into force. Security guards and the projects chief engineer were met by 20 people on the railway line refusing them access.

On February 11th John MacGregor tried to open work on the road. Earth First! were there to meet him. The ceremony was delayed for one hour as police attempted to remove people locked onto the JCB. When MaGregor and his busfull of tame councillors arrived they were met by a shouting crowd. MaGregors speech was constantly heckled and he eventually started the work with a shovel rather than the JCB that was waiting for him, because one protester was still locked down on the digger arm.

Since construction started work has been halted on a daily basis with one pile driver occupied for 45 hours. Police are refusing to intervene which explains the level of arrests— one in 5 months, (compared to 148 in one month at the M11). We need more people at the camp. More people at the camp will enable us to do more to stop the work on a constant, day to day basis.

-Norwich Earth First!

Scottish Coastal Superquarries

Stratasearch Geological Consulting organised a conference entitled, 'Coastal Quarrying in Scotland- The Way Forward'. On the afternoon of Friday 25th February, Auld Reekie EF!, had its baptism of fire! Fifty activists from Auld Reekie, Glasgow & Stirling EF!, Fastlane Peace Camp & various hunt sab groups, stormed & disrupted the boring drivel with a bit of chaos, noise & democracy! We were asked why we hadn’t bought tickets for the event, (‘cos they cost £150, that’s why!), had we got the day of work and were we from Harris, (some were from Shetland & Lewis, some from New Zealand, so what?). We had more than 20 minutes to put our point across, in which several people were assaulted by members of the hotel staff. Our aim was to wake up any decision makers to the fact of our opposition. Constnl superquarries in Scotland have been promoted since the seventies by one man, Ian Wilson of Wilson Associates. Wilson bought the mineral rights for suitable sites in the Highlands & Islands of Scotland. He stands to make a fortune by selling the mineral rights of his sites to the multinational quarrying companies.

Some reasons for hating Superquarries

- Coastal Superquarries involve digging up whole mountains, in Harris, a hole deep enough to bury the Empire State Building.
- Superquarry stone shipped by the ‘environmentally friendly’ method of coastal shipping could be used to build more motorways.
- Marine: The Minches are covered by a variety of designations including 2 international Biosphere Reserves, 5 National Nature Reserves and many sites of Special Scientific Interest. Some of Britain’s most valuable and sensitive marine areas. Home to thousands of sea birds including 11% of razor bills & the biggest population of Guillemots in the country on Handa Island. All these are at risk from water pollution— which could be caused by ballast discharge from bulk carrier ships introducing heavy metals & PCBs from polluted waters. There is also a considerable risk of introducing...
alien marine organisms eg giant Japanese Whelk.
* Oil spills.
* Dust clouds, (Carcinogenic), observed at Loch Linnhe, (from Glensanda quarry). Dust likely to settle on and stiffle lochs.
* Lingerabay houses an otter population and a breeding pair of Golden Eagles which could be severely affected by the quarry.
* Noise pollution will disturb local wildlife. Work will be 24 hours.
* Workers are increasingly dependant on one multinational. Many thousands of Scots have been made redundant in the past few years because of companies 'economic restructuring'.
* With the increase in such recourse extraction industries, Scotland will become simply a recourse base. As the third world before it.
* There is no NEED for aggregates.

* Last, but nowhere near least, the mountain busters are looking to site their superholes in Scotland because they believe that there will be no opposition. They are wrong. The Caledonian Earth First! tribes have risen, and we shall dog all who destroy our means of survival, both here and abroad. We are well placed in Scotland to make direct 'representations' to the suits and politicians. Many actions are in the larval stage! Send enquires with SAE to Auld Reekie EFI, No Compromise.
- Auld Reekie EFI
Contacts: Auld Reekie EFI, Glasgow

If this is freedom ... freedom costs the earth.
Bisexuels in your Face (BIF)

In response to the increase in homophobic propaganda from and increasingly sexually mediocre Government (the interesting ones keep resigning or autoasphixiating), a group from Nottingham have launched their own Back to Basics campaign.

In mid March a group of militant bisexuals chose popular heterosexual nightspots in Nottingham for their first season of direct action. The group, BIF, consisted of a half a dozen persons of indeterminate gender whose targets ranged from student and 60's nights to traditional Irish ceilidh. One witness who was in the cookie club said, "Whilst two of the more feminine ones kissed and fondled in front of me another stole my drinks." When her partner complained one of the more extreme BIFers head butted him.

The next night, in Nottingham Trent students union the group occupied the dance floor. During a long simulated sex act one of the protesters was forceable removed from the dance floor and sustained injuries at the hands of the security.

Finally in West Bridgeford, the group descended on the village hall which was hosting a family ceilidh. With complete disregard for family values two of the BIF men (we think) proceeded to gyrate erotically against each other, an act which culminated in the frenzied ripping of clothes. A shocked father of two who didn't wish to be named claimed he had to cover his children's eyes to prevent them from seeing the spectacle. As they left the scene, one particularly glamorous BIFer was heard to shout back at stunned observers, "Conformist hetero trash."

BIF are calling for acts of national, international and transsexual solidarity.

Sheep in Wolves clothing

Corporate infiltration of reformist 'environmental' groups continues with the recent appointment of a new chairman of the World Wildlife Fund UK. None other than Mr. Martin Laing, chairman of the notorious 'Laing Group'- Major road builders, Quarrymen and incidentally heavily involved in the Malaysian 'Aids for arms' Pergau Dam project.

Twyford Update

Actions against the M3 extension through Twyford Down are now reduced to individual days of action. In case you didn't know why, it's because there just aren't enough of us around at the moment, (what with all the other schemes going critical at the mo). And anyhow, the damage has been done. All that's left to do can be left to the fairy folk. Free the Land- 28/29 Nov It was the lunar anniversary of Yellow Wednesday- so there had to be an action of some sort! Not only did people turn up to brave the elements in their hundreds, but the moon eclipsed herself again. Suffice to say St.Catherines Mill was buzzing all weekend, the play was a resounding success, and the action on the Monday defies description. Mainly 'coz I'm on the injunction and couldn't go on. Accident blackspot on Twyford Down- 3 Jan Designed mainly to be a repeat of last year's quiet, local New Years celebration. It actually brought 170 people.
Construction News.

Police believe a £2 million blaze at an Essex construction site could be the work of Green Activists.

The fire swept through Cory Environmental's aggregates and waste disposal site at Barling, near Southend, ruining 4 bulldozers, 2 diggers, and a fleet of 6 trucks owned by the main contractor. The police say that forensic evidence confirms arson.

- For more Details contact Scotland Yard.

Abbey Pond

Anyone reading the Guardian on Friday 25th of February would have been met with the bizarre photo on page 5 of two individuals standing knee deep in icy water in a pond in Hulme. This pair were locked together through a length of gas pipe, and one of them (me), had a 12 foot piece of children’s climbing frame d-locked to his neck. Was this a bizarre form of aquatic auto-asphyxiation? Was it a new cure for smoking perhaps? In fact it was the latest in the increasingly long line of Direct Action taken by Manchester Earth First.

For two weeks we camped out on and around Abbey Pond, one of the most ecologically diverse ponds, (shouldn’t that read ‘only ponds’) in Greater Manchester and the only green space in a huge 1960's architectural abortion that is Hulme, an area near Manchester City Centre. We risked death in one of the most violent cities in England, and weather which fell to bellow minus ten, snow, hail and rain were thrown at us by the great global warmer. We were trying to stop the Science Park, (City Council, University of Manchester and UMIST are shareholders with fellow planet trashers Ciba-Geigy, Granada TV, Courtaulds and Ferranti), from building Phase Four-a laboratory, offices and huge car park to join the other one that has no cars in which was built during phase three.

The actions in the intervening two weeks ranged from the cuddly ‘Burst Main Event’, an alternative fair for kids, to a fax from David Bellamy, (never mind the RTZ sponsorship and the Ford cars commercial), to direct action when the bailiffs came on to the site to remove us. We had massive support from locals of all ages, although getting them to turn up and get in to the way of the development was harder. Local kids, more used to trashing cars than most eco-activists, ranted about too many car parks and how much they loved the only green space near their homes.

The site consisted of about 0.6 hectares with a small pond surrounded by 25 year old trees. A tree house was built and hammocks hung, while we also built a tree house was built and hammocks hung, while we also built the ‘Wanstonia’- concrete bollocks to lock arms through. There were 30 of us up at the site at 7.30 am and about the same number of police and bailiffs, but with outside agent provocateurs brought in from Lancaster, Liverpool and Leeds, we delayed trashing the pond by seven hours. Every trick in the book was used- D-Locking, tree sitting, pond sitting, obstruction and young children. But in the end most of our activists were arrested and while we remained imprisoned the pond had a small proportion of its waters removed by a tanker, while most wildlife...
understandably stayed near to the bottom where they were bulldozed over with rubble. We plan more action.

- Hyperactive Pete, Manchester Earth First!

**Bank of Amerikkka**

The Bank of AmeriKKKa, financiers of the Skye Bridge and Roads Project, are also funding a number of other privatised road and bridge building projects in the 'u.k', Greece, Hungary and Portugal.

EF! have launched the BankAmerica Alert Campaign, to expose them for the forest felling, otter hating corporate bastards that they are.

On 14th February over 30 EFi'ers occupied their offices for several hours, blockading their main entrance and running amok on their upper floors, including the trading rooms.

- Contact Oxford EF!

**Ledenham**

A camp of eco-activists who successfully halted work on the Ledenham bypass for two weeks were viciously attacked by masked thugs recently.

The attack happened following a demo by local people in favour of the bypass. Ledenham villagers decided in their infinite wisdom that a road was preferable to a 'few trees'. Masked vigilantes arrived at the camp at 5am armed with chainsaws. They proceeded to hack down trees, protestors had been sitting in. Anyone getting in their way were punched and violently assaulted.

The Ledenham Bypass is routed through a rural trackway and hilltop plantation. The plantation contains ancient oaks and the extremely rare aconite plants. Despite hopeful noises from the DoT about re-routing the road, Group Four were sent in to dislodge activists from the trees previously in the week, while contractors felled trees and dug up hedgerows.

The camp at Ledenham was folded for the time being but the protest there has not ended. We will not be intimidated into stopping non-violent direct action by a bunch of bully boys.

In the second week of May protestors returned to Ledenham and successfully stopped work. The protest was good humoured and the workers simply packed up and left glad for an extra day off. More days of action are planned.

- Contact Nottingham EF! for details.

**CARDIFF BAY BARRAGE UPDATE**

As reported last issue, plans are afoot to destroy the Cardiff estuary mudflats by the creation of an artificial 'lake'. The fight against the Barrage has been going on for eight years - we don't want to loose now. If construction does occur, it will be another direct action situation. However, what we propose should avert development in the first place. What we need is groups around the country to hit their local offices and worksites of the firms bidding for the contract. In this way we may be able to deter firms from getting involved. We can provide information of targets local to your group.

The two consortiums bidding for the contract are:- Balfour Beatty Ltd., 1 Angel Square, Torrens Street, London, ECIV

**Pine Marten leaves England**

A recent survey of the last known English refuges of the Pine Marten; North Yorkshire, Cumbria and Northumbria, has failed to find any traces of them. The survey carried out by biologists from the University of Bristol has shown that the Pine Marten is probably now extinct in England.

The Pine Marten is typically a forest dweller. It lives in both coniferous and broadleafed forest, in low and high country. It is estimated that for the animal to thrive a minimum area of 30 ha of forest, sufficiently far from human disturbance, is necessary. Such habitats are increasingly hard to find and it is loss of such places that has most likely brought the demise of the Pine.
Problems at a Welsh Quarry

‘Police have been called in to investigate complaints of damage at ARC Northern quarry at Penmaenmawr after a demonstration by green protesters at the weekend. Management at the quarry...claimed that the demonstrators had caused damage running into tens of thousands of pounds. “We were not aware of any damage having occurred on Saturday, but we understand that certain damage did come to light, which is now the subject of a police investigation” said a North Wales Police spokesman.’ Daily Post, Oct 26th 93.

The motive behind a break in at the ARC quarry in Bangor Road, Penmaenmawr is more puzzling. After forcing their way into the control room the intruders smashed a glass partition and then caused £10,000 worth of damage to computer equipment. Nothing was stolen.’ Daily Post, Jan. 9th 94

Jesmond Dene Update

End 1993/early 94 the shit up to date:, shortly before winter solstice, cityworks came in and massacred many mature trees they’d said they weren’t working near till spring 1994. Many of these had been tree-sat in the summer: great ash trees, sycamores, willows, Beeches and others were felled, leaving a ravaged landscape.

Many local people are still fighting the bypass, (as they have been for 20 years), despite the continuing serious damage to the area. Those who’ve been involved are also gearing up to fight other schemes in the area. Lots of people got together at the Dene, from Newcastle to Twyford to London, as far as Finland and New Zealand. We’ve learned a lot of useful lessons in fighting the likes of the DoT and the security firms and the local council bureaucrats. and what we’ve learnt will spread out to other road and environmental protests: from NVDA to legal stuff to hammock-building to face-painting, it just gets bigger and bigger. The main contract for the building of the bypass flyover is likely to commence any time now.

We can show them they’re not going get away with destroying the earth. If we can’t stop the bastard’s totally we can Cost them, show them there’s no easy profit in earth rape. They’ve already been cost £100,000’s- lets cost them some more.

At the top of the site, surrounded by destruction, undermined on all sides, its branches lower down all sawn away, the copper beech still stands. Nearby on a wall has appeared some more graffiti. It says: Not Forgotten.

- written by Little Weed with help from Bill and Ben.

A pamphlet entitled ‘For Flapjacks and Mother Earth-Earth Warriors at Jesmond Dene’, is now available for 60p (minimum), and a stamped addressed envelope from DoD.

Big Mac tries to silence Criticisms.

For years McDonalds protestors have been threatened with court over protest leaflets and public claims. The McLibel 2 have taken up the challenge and are going to court to defend claims made in a London Greenpeace Leaflet. Working on their own time and money against barristers and lawyers backed up by cash from McDonald’s, a 20 billion a year corporation, the campaigners are stretched. Unlike the younger organisation Greenpeace PLC, London Greenpeace do not have access to legal funds. Having brought the case against the McLibel 2 McDonalds are getting scared. The mountains of evidence being compiled by London Greenpeace contains much that is damaging for the prosecution case.
Legal skulduggery is being used to thwart the McLibel 2. The judge has taken away their right to a jury trial, this judge will now try the case. Documents and other evidence, which would prove the defendants case, is being withheld by McDonalds with the agreement of the judge. The trial date also keeps moving in an attempt to interfere with the defence case. This is a complex legal trial and some witnesses have to come from as far away as South America.

Leaflets (£12 per 1000) and info available from 0602 585666 or 061 953 4039, support these people - they need it.

**Ecologistas echaron basura en puertas de RTZ**

*Taken from a Bolivian national daily*

"For Sending Toxic Waste to Bolivia - Ecologists dump rubbish at the doors of RTZ"

In order to express their solidarity with Oruro, English ecologists collected rubbish from the city of London and dumped it at the doors of the company Rio Tinto Zinc which sent toxic waste to Bolivia, stated the League for the Defence of the Environment, (LIDEMA).

Yesterday at midday the English group 'Earth First' carried out 'an action in solidarity with the people of Oruro and against RTZ' said LIDEMA.

The action consisted of depositing a large quantity of rotting fruit, meat and rubbish from supermarkets in front of the offices of the company in London. It has been approximately a year since RTZ sent waste from the Copper Pass plant to Bolivia to be treated in Orurra.... 'Earth First' considers it a disgrace that waste too dangerous to be processed in England should be sent to other parts of the planet.

DO OR DIE NUMBER 4

By this type of action, the ecological group endeavours to make it known to the world that the young people of England oppose making the world's poorest countries into rubbish bins.....'

**Activist threatened with deportation!**

I am an Austrian citizen and I have been in England for 3 1/2 years. Throughout this time I have been employed as a scientist at the University of Cambridge, undertaking research into the mechanisms of the formation of ozone hole and related problems. For about 3 years I have been actively campaigning against bloodsports as a member of the Cambridge Anti-Bloodsports Society. I have frequently been on protests against the local hunts.

I first heard of the Immigration Service being interested in me in February, when they approached the Secretary General of the General Board of the University, Dr. Livesey. The Immigration officers apparently showed Dr. Livesey photographs of me on demonstrations and suggested that I might be a subversive. They asked Dr. Livesey to appoint two senior scientists to assess my scientific work. These assessments testify that I am an extremely valuable member of the research team and that my scientific contributions could not have been done by anyone else.

At the same time people from the bloodsports community started to send letters to the Senior Proctor of the University and to the Head of the Department at which I work. They complained about me demanding my dismissal. As far as I am aware these complaints were about my disrupting the activities of the local foxhunts and thereby endangering their hounds.

Next I received a letter from the Immigration Office requesting me to come to the Police station in Stansted to give a taped interview. When asked on the telephone the Immigration officer claimed that they had received a number of complaints in relation to my animal rights activities. She refused to say where these complaints came from or what they specifically were about.

I was also told that I had been kept under observation for some time by Immigration and that they have various photographs of my activities. It was mentioned that the Home Secretary is "cracking down" on "this sort of thing", which presumably refers to animal rights campaigning.

Apparently the Home Office is going to decide in the next few weeks whether my continued presence in the United Kingdom is conducive to the public good and thus whether I will be deported or not. Incidentally, a deportation would imply that I would not be allowed into the United Kingdom again until the deportation order has been revoked.

Alarminglly, I was informed by the Citizens Advice Bureau in Cambridge that if I was deported for not being conducive to the public good, I will have no right to see the evidence against me and I will have no right to appeal. I will only be able to make representations to a panel of three Home Office advisors who will recommend to the Home Secretary whether or not the deportation order should be made.

The only course of action I can take, it seems, is to make the public aware of my situation and to assert pressure on the Home Office in this way. The first step therefore is to ask people to write in support of me to the Home
ACTIONS REPORTS

Secretary. If you decide to write to the Home Secretary, his address is: Rt. Hon. Michael Howard MP, Home Secretary, Home Office, 50 Queen Anne's Gate, London, SW1H 9AT

Please send a copy of your letter to: Anne Campbell MP, Alex Wood Hall, Norfolk Street, Cambridge CB1 2LD

Success in Somerset 1

Early this year Sainsburys cancelled their plans to build a supermarket in Yeovil, Somerset. Across the whole of the Southwest supermarket chains are moving in on small towns, planting out of town superstores which damage High Street shopping and encourage car culture.

The defence of their green space by residents of Golden Hill in Bristol had stung the tail of Tescos but the supermarket giants had largely carried on building superstores. Since many Southwestern towns have expanded greatly over the last 20 years they saw that profits were to be made in taking trade away from local shops.

South Somerset Earth First! and others began opposition to the Yeovil Sainsburys early, well before the date when they were due to start building. They did actions across Somerset hitting stores as far afield as Taunton. They also disrupted council meetings to gain publicity for their cause.

Since the planned site of the store, on the side of Wyndham Hill near the town centre was an important place to the people of Yeovil there was great local interest. Earth First!ers linked up with locals who wanted to defend the place where the end of WW2 had been celebrated.

The campaigners had occupied the old and unused Tescos on the High street arguing that the empty store should be used instead of building the new store on Wyndham Hill. The opposition mounted as the idiocy of the whole scheme became more and more apparent. The occupation was a success winning local support and in the face of this Sainsburys decided to pull out. They claimed that their retreat was due to economic problems but Sainsburys are continuing to build elsewhere in the Southwest.

The next step must be to build on our success and take the spirit of the defense of Wyndham Hill to the rest of the west, and indeed to the rest of the country. Many links have been made with other groups in the Southwest, for example the Green party has good ties across the region and is in a strong position to act.

Out of town superstores are part of industries plans for modern towns. More and more people will be encouraged to use their car where once they would have used their feet. The Southwest is a beautiful region, one of wide ecological and human diversity, unless it is defended there is a great deal which could be lost.

With the rise of the Bath A36 Euroroute campaign and the Southcoast Expressway campaign EFi is throwing itself into opposing roads. While this is right and proper as the roads, and the industry and exploitation they'll bring, will damage the Southwest terribly. We must not forget that roads are only one of the many issues that affect the ecology of the region.

Success in Somerset 2

You would have thought South Somerset EFi would be happy with one victory in a season, but no. The campaign against the enlargement of Whately Quarry in Somerset, one of the longest, (since Winter 91!),

DO OR DIE NUMBER 4 running campaigns EFi has undertaken finally came to fruition in May when the Secretary of State turned down ARC's application for expansion. The campaign has included numerous quarry invasions, office occupations and dozens of arrests. On one action in the spring of 93, 29 activists were held at various police stations around the South-West till court the next morning. Months later the cases against the protesters were dropped and the activists have since taken up suing the police; £20 an hour x 25 hours x 29 activists!

With the expansion halted the next logical step for the campaign is to close down the Quarry all together!

- Contact South Somerset EFi for more details.

Narmarda Dam

Protest

There was a demonstration at the Indian High commission in May in protest at the continued building of the Narmarda dam by the Indian Government. The protesters managed to occupy the building and hang banners from it's windows. It was a noisy protest made up of a variety of people., there were 21 arrests.

In India the police have been armed by the Government and the area around the dam has been cordoned off. 200,000 people are refusing to move from the side of the intended dam. The police have orders to fire at 'unruly mobs'.

- Contact Blackmore Vale EFi!
Friends said the view was magic,
When seen from heaven's hill,
With orange fading colours,
To give a quiet thrill.

I'd breathe far more than nature's air,
But future memory,
Of how the place was beautiful,
And how it used to be.

I scowled in stylish humour,
With wit and easy charm,
Declaring with a shallow smile,
And thought it did no harm.

In narrow walls, the years pass by,
My features dusky grey...
All alone, the only one,
To labour every day.
When work is done, the time is right
To set off on my way,
I'd see the fields of swaying grass,
Where sunlight loved to play.

I never knew they'd change it,
With such malicious glee...
All metal clangs and smoke clouds,
And vile machinery.

My friends had gone, long scattered,
With pleasant memory,
Of country days and misty haze,
With nothing left for me.

The End
Darkness

...Forests were set on fire— but hour by hour, they fell and faded— and the crackling trunks, extinguished with a crash— and all was black. The brows of men by the despairing light, wore an unearthly aspect, as if by fits. The flashes fell upon them; some lay down, and hid their eyes and wept; and some did rest, their chins upon their clenched hands, and smiled; And others hurried to and fro, and fed, their funeral pyres with fuel, and look'd up, with mad disquietude at the dull sky. ...
The wild birds shrieked, and terrified, did flutter on the ground, and flap their useless wings.

...The populous and the powerful was a lump, Seasonless, Herbless, Treeless, Manless, Lifeless— a lump of death— a chaos of hard clay.
The rivers, lakes, and ocean all stood still, and nothing stirred within their silent depths....

- Byron, 1816.

In Struggle for the Earth.

I was listening to the voices of life
Chanting in unison carry on the struggle
the generations surge together in resistance to meet the reality at power.
mother earth
Embraces her children In Natural Beauty
to last beyond oppressors Brutality.
as the butterfly floats into life
we are the spirit Of natural life
Which is forever.
The power of understanding
real connections to spirit is meaning
Our resistance
Our struggle is not sacrifice lost
It is natural energy properly used

-The late John Trundell, American Indian Move-

Damn that dog Collar.

Long ago he'd jumped in,
Now he found he couldn't jump back.
Jim hid from his life, knowing
His marriage was a trap.

Sarah knew how to fulfill her life,
With commodity relations.
She bought statements of his wealth,
And scared him with job applications.

And then one day Jim came home,
Tired of his proletarian objectification.
He took it out on his wife,
In line with man's stereotypification.

At last he'd found an emotional vent,
But Sarah was left with bruises.
So one day she grabbed her carving knife,
And put it to homicidal uses.

Some may say she was out of order,
Some may say that she had the right.
The Devil knows who's really to blame, he's
The one who conducted their marital rite.

-Mrs. Bobbitt fan club Secretary.
Maltese Hunt Maniacs

Stricter controls on the hunting and trapping of wild birds came into force in Malta on the 1st of January. This follows months of heightened tension between ecologists and the island's notorious bird shooters while the regulations were being prepared. Up until now millions of birds have been murdered annually to the hunters but hopefully this is changing. Under the new regulations herons, egrets, nightjars, shelducks and stone curlews are legally 'protected'. Anyone found in possession of a dead or alive protected bird will face heavy fines and/or jail. But before you get optimistic I am afraid hunters have not taken it lying down. Pro-Hunting posters have sprung up all over Malta proclaiming 'We are prepared for war', and the conflict is escalating. Two environmental department employees, Joe Sultana and Alfred Baldachino, were given a police guard at their homes after leaflets with their addresses and telephone numbers were distributed by hunters. The front door of the house of the parents of grassroots activist Natalino Fenech was set alight. Used engine oil was dumped in the water at the Xemxija Nature Reserve, threatening slogans were daubed over property of conservationists, and anonymous letters- some containing severed bird wings and legs- were sent to people with anti-hunting sympathies. Three bird watchers were shot in the Buskett Gardens 'sanctuary', and another activist was hospitalised after being attacked while filming a bird trapper. In November, a large flock of short-toed eagles on migration to Africa reached the far north of Malta. Several shooters killed two or three eagles each, one claimed 11. From that single incident, on return migration this spring, there will be 80 fewer eagles to test the effectiveness of the new Maltese laws.

Stop Thorp in its Tracks

German Activists from the group "Mahnwache Gundremmingen" took up 30 meters of private railway line at the nuclear plant at Gundremmingen. The action last September was in protest at the Transportation of flasks of highly radioactive material. During the first 10 years of operation the new reprocessing plant at Sellafield around 100 flasks will be transported around the world.

"After being arrested activists returned and blockaded a train taking chemicals into the nuclear installation. In November the Brockdorf nuclear plant near Hamburg was blockaded by a group calling themselves the Action Alliance against the Brockdorf-Sellafield Shipment. Brockdorf sends spent fuel to Sellafield.

The shipments come onto this Island through Dunkirk to Dover. Shipments leave Dover three or four times a month, usually on a Thursday at 1, 3, or 9am. The Anti Nuclear Network are asking for info, photos, timetables or sightings to be reported.

Sub-Arctic Indigenous People of Russia

About one fifth of the population of the Russian Federation are non-Russian national minorities. Among the minority nationalities of the Russian Federation, the Finno-Ugrians represent a particular problem.

The largest of these ethnic groups numbers about half a million. Their situation, especially in the subarctic areas, is similar to that of the native peoples on North America.

With the weakening of the Stalinist dictatorship that followed the launching of perestroika, the native peoples began to protest against threats to their existence represented by operations of the oil companies and the police they control.
The Estonian-Lapp Society, (E-LS) sent a letter from Agraphena Sopachina, a member of the co-ordinating Council of the West Siberian Finno-Ugrian group, saving Ugria, regarding the murder of her brother in law by local police.

Sopachina described an extensive campaign of terror against the native peoples, including many beatings. The E-LS explains the situation like this: "The Forests have been cut or burnt down, the rivers have been chocked by temporary cause-ways and bridges built by the oilers, and almost all the rivers and lakes have been polluted by oil wastes. The number of fish has decreased by up to 80%... On the uprooted and destroyed land, it is now impossible for the Khantis to lead their traditional way of life. All the things mentioned above are leading to the extinction of the Khantis as a nation."

Contact: Eesti-Sami Uhendus, Roosikrantzi 6, EE-0100, Tallinn, Estonia, Fax (372-2) 44-18-00; and from Saving Ugria (Spasenie Ugry), Ulitsa Mira 5, 626-200 Khanty-Manisysk, Tyumenskaya Oblast, Russian Federation, FAX (345-71) 41-580. A contact person in Moscow is Rita Mayer, phone (095) 230-06-54; FAX (095) 230-01-65.

-Source: 'Fifth Estate', Fall/Winter 93/94

USFS

If the US Forestry Service has its way it will soon be illegal to have a gathering on public land without a permit. The right of "peaceful assemble" will soon be abolished in the "Land of the Free".

The new regulations represent the latest incarnation of amendments restricting group events first proposed by the USFS in 1983 - and twice struck down in court after challenges by the Rainbow Family, the counter culture group that holds gatherings in the US National Forests. The new regulations would require a permit for any "Activity that involves or attracts 25 or more people." A permit would also be required for "Non-commercial distribution of printed material".

While the new rules would effect groups as diverse as the Boy Scouts it is obviously aimed at the Rainbow Tribe a group which regularly attracts up to 25,000 people at its gatherings. They camp together at sites of their own choosing with a vision of creating natural and social harmony as a model for world peace. The leaderless group has refused to sign permits since 1981. As an "Unincorporated group of individuals" the group has successfully challenged permit requirements in Arizona in 1986 and again in Texas in 1988. With nomadic groups in the UK being harassed by the Law it is interesting to see that foreign governments are up to the same No good as ours.

Stephen Principle of the Rainbow Legal liaison team accuses the USFS of "keeping the public off land so their mismanagement, rape and destruction of the environment are not observable".

Source - High Times, PO BOX 410, MT Morris, IL 61054

'Britse eco-terroristen steken Noordzee over'

'British Eco-Terrorists cross the North sea' was one of the Dutch newspaper-headlines during the International Earth Nights from October 30-November 5. The Dutch establishment obviously can't stomach the idea of a radical ecological movement rising up from its own country so it has to be, of course, the work of outsiders.

Actions reported included arson at Amsterdam Airport in protest against the ever growing and expanding airport, (the authorities denied the action took place but we know better!), the destruction of 15 hunters 'high seats' & the 'painting and decorating' of the Scientific Council for Vivisection. 229 cars had their tires slashed and 69 were glued up in Leiden including the Mayor of the city - total damage DF100,000. In Groningen total damage of 15,000 guilders to cars and vehicles from a road building company. The Twente damage of 4,500 guilders reported to vehicles preparing a refuse dump in a forest area. 132,000 Guilders damage reported to material being used to investigate gas and oil fields under Amsterdam City.

Two of the above mentioned actions have been claimed by the elves. This is most probably a playful reference back to the 'Kabouters', a late sixties-early seventies eco-anarchist movement in the Netherlands- a Kabouter is a elf or gnome, a symbol of rebirth and unity in nature. In February 1970 they announced the formation of an alternative community called the 'Orange Free State', much resembling a more sorted Wanstonia. In order to reach the Autonomous collectivised society they desired, the Kabouters recommended direct action, erotics, communalism and yes you got it - monkeywrenching!
Navajo Ecologist Murdered?

New Mexico activist Leroy Jackson's mysterious death in early October is still unsolved. Jackson was a co-founder of Dine CARE, the Navajo environmental group fighting to save the Chuska Mountains. He had been receiving death threats from timber industry goons prior to his death. Jackson's body was found rolled up in a thick blanket in his van nine days after he disappeared. Three weeks later the coroner's office released a toxicology report stating that Jackson died of an allergic reaction to methadone. Friends and family were shocked and disbelieving as Jackson was never known to use drugs. Aside from occasional migraines, he was considered by his physician to be in excellent health.

New Mexico State Police and friends continue to dispute the date the van was first seen. Police claim that on October 2, a hiker saw the van parked at the overlook on US 64, 20 miles east of Tierra Amarilla, while friends and local activists contend that they drove by the same place on several occasions during the nine-day period and never saw the van.

More info from: Dine CARE, PO Box 121, Tsaile, AZ 86556

Scandinavian Wilderness Blockades Spread

As reported in the previous issue (1) the last remnants of the Taiga Forest in Scandinavia are under threat with blockades sprouting up to defend them. Until recently Direct Action has been happening mainly in Finland but blockades have now spread to Norway. What is under threat is irreplaceable wilderness 50 miles north of Oslo. Felling started in December in Skotternfjell, one of the forests most deserving of preservation nationally. Today merely 0.9% of the coniferous woodland in Norway is protected, much more land must be protected to safeguard diversity. Several endangered and vulnerable species have been identified in Skotternfjell. In despair environmentalists took direct action, protecting the trees with their bodies to prevent the machines from razing the forest. Please Fax letters of protest to: Prime Minister Gro Harlem Bruntland, The Government of Norway fax. 01047-2234-9500. The National Association of Wood Processing Industry. fax 01047-2296-1099. British actions in the pipeline, contact South Downs EF!
Ecodefence
Russia

On the night of 11-12 November the 'Radical Brigades for Ecological Defence' took action at various sites around Kaliningrad city. They destroyed seven 'dozers used for clearing forested ground. With their action activists wanted to sound a warning to their government about the drastic forest clearance happening in the Kaliningrad region. Air pollution is very bad in Kaliningrad and they wanted to show their opposition to the government 'selling nature'.

Source- European Youth For(est) Action (EYFA).

Translators needed

We desperately need translators for articles, letters and 'zines we receive from activists around the world. East/Central European and ex-USSR language translators would be especially welcome. If you are serious please write. Thanks!

Squats Under Attack.

It seems that the M11 and Rutland Park Mansions are not alone in coming under attack. In Zurich the Wohlgroth building, home to 120 people, with a bar and cafe and other community space, has been evicted by 300 cops with water cannon and anti-terrorist units. This was a very organised squat which has been going for years and has not lost its original radicalism.

Since the eviction last November there have been large demonstrations against the Eviction and destruction of the Zurich squat. New buildings have been squatted and it is hoped that the Wohlgroth squatters can continue there.

The Blitz anarchist centre in Oslo Norway has been attacked twice first by shotgun wielding Fascists and then by the police. The Fascist attack was repulsed by people in the centre and no one was injured. In February Blitz was raided by the police, there weren't enough people there to defend it and the cops were able to stay for six hours searching through files and confiscating mollies. The strength and violence of fascist groups in Norway, and for that matter Sweden means that radical bookshops, squats, unions have to be prepared to deal with attacks by fascists. Later that day 25 people responded by going to the Chief Inspectors house and tearing down her fence.

The police claimed that their raid on Blitz raid was to look for stuff taken from police at a previous riot which broke out when the police tried to arrest some anti fascists. Other anti fascists came to the aide of their friends and a riot broke out leaving 7 cop cars trashed.


The Tree Huggers

A long drought brought death to many of the trees and hardship to the people of Rajasthan India in 1485. During this time of parched suffering, Jambhoji, the son of a village headman, was gifted with a vision. In the vision he saw the people fighting with the forces of Nature. This, he understood, was the cause of their suffering. Inspired by the vision, Jambhoji, (now called Swami Jambeshwar Maharaj) set down the tenants of the Bishnoi faith. These included a prohibition on the cutting of green trees and a ban on the killing of animals. As the Bishnois practised their faith, their environment responded and soon they prospered, once again living in a lush and fertile land. In the non-Bishnoi areas of Raja Stan, desert and famine continued. Today, through oral tradition, Bishnoi children grow up learning to embrace and talk with the beloved trees.

Perhaps the most inspiring story is of Amitra Divi. One day in 1731, the Maharaja of Jodhpur, Abay Singh, decided to build a new palace for himself, and sent axemen to go out and procure wood. The axemen came to the Bishnoi village of Jalnadi, which was surrounded by luxuriant forests. Amitra Devi ran to the men and begged them to not cut down the trees. Unmoved by her plea, the men continued their work. Amitra Devi clung to the first tree marked to be felled. She refused to be moved. "One chopped head is cheaper than a felled tree", were the last words that she spoke before the axe cut through her body, soaking the forest floor with her blood. Each of her three daughters rose in turn to take Amitra Devis place. Each daughter in turn was cut through by the axe.

The axemen withdrew to gather reinforcements and the Jalnadi villagers sent out a call for help to the surrounding Bishnoi villages. When they returned they warned the assembled villagers that if they resisted they too would die. The Bishnois
OTHERISLANDS

held to the trees. That day 359 people from 49 different Bishnois villages were massacred by axemen.

The axemen had been able to secure only one third of the wood required by the Maharaja. Infuriated, the Maharaja raged and demanded an explanation. When told of the bloodbath that was responsible for the delay, the Maharaja stopped work on the new palace and determined to visit the site of the slaughter. Realising the horror of what had happened, the temperamental ruler underwent a change of heart and pledged that the Bishnois would never be called on again to provide wood for the realm. As Amitra Devi acted in the Eighteenth century so the Chipko movement acts today, saving forests through action. Today in the village of Amitra Devi an annual fair called Khejarli, (in honour of the trees), is held to commemorate the martyrdom of the 363 who died. Thousands of Bishnois men dressed in white and women in bright colours pay homage, remember, and reaffirm their commitment to radical environmentalism.

-Peggy Sue McRae


Contact- EF! India

Ozgar Gundem

Ozgar Gundem (Free Agenda) a newspaper in Turkey is having it's staff assassinated and imprisoned. Ozgar Gundem has a good reputation as an independent newspaper producing the only accurate information about what is going on in Kurdistan, in south and east Turkey. Since April 1993 only 10 of 210 issues have been published without being confiscated, 7 reporters have been killed, 12 distributors, newspaper boys and office staff also have been killed, and kiosks burned down. 210 journalists were imprisoned and 35 are still being held and their lawyers say that they have been interrogated and tortured.

This is part of widespread oppression in Turkey where 24 leading trade unionists are in prison. Opposition politicians are regularly killed with the Legal Democratic Party losing 50 members in the last 2 1/2 years. All this is designed to suppress any mention of the even greater mayhem being waged on the people of the 10 provinces in Kurdistan. The declaration of the state of emergency in Kurdistan is as thin cover for the government's war against the PKK, a left wing Kurdish party.

In Kurdistan whole villages are being herded into towns to destroy the local economy and deprive the PKK of support. Meanwhile a modern army is killing the PKK wherever it can find them.

Ozgar Gundem,
Sachsenring, 29-31 50677,
Colone Tel: (46)221 31 10 27/28

Korean students protest at US interference in the region. Clinton aims to halt nuclear proliferation, not a bad thing, just hypocritical when the USA has the biggest nuclear stockpile in the world.
Bialowieza Forest Under Threat

Logging is due to increase this year in the last lowland primeval forest in Europe – Poland’s Bialowieza Forest.

Deciduous forest was once the characteristic landscape of much of lowland Europe, and in its heyday this forest of Oak and other broadleaved trees was almost as vast as the Amazon rainforest today. By 2000 B.C. it had achieved its greatest extent and glory, covering the British Isles, the southern parts of Scandanavia, France and Northern Spain in the west, and reaching in a wedge shape into Russia in the east.

One hundred and forty five miles east of Warsaw, straddling the Polish-Russian frontier, stretches the last substantial surviving ruminant of the primeval woodland: the mixed deciduous and coniferous Bialowieza forest, part of which has never been degraded by man. It is the only area in the world where European Bison roam wild, along with Elk, Boar, Moose, Deer, the Tarpan Horse, the Wolf, Lynx and that rare denizen of the streams of forest meadows, the Beaver. Whoever sees this forest sees Europe as it was thousands of years ago.

The trees are overwhelmingly tall and of shapes few Europeans nowadays are accustomed to. The Oaks are not the squat, spreading types we normally see: here they are giants soaring upwards more than 130 feet, with massive dead straight branchless trunks surmounted by tiny round crowns of leaves. The Spruces reach 160 feet, the Limes 130 feet, the Ash 129 feet, the Scots Pines 125 feet, the Maples 120 feet, and the Goat Willows 72 feet.

The legally protected UNESCO Bialowieza Biosphere Reserve, (47 square Kilometres), is relatively intact; however the remaining area of the Bialowieza forest, (1,203 km square), needed to protect the larger animals like lynx and wolf, which have larger territory than the reserve provides, has been heavily clear-cut since the 1960’s. Worried that a larger area of the forest will become protected, the Polish State Forestry Commission is planning to increase the logging by 25% this summer. If this does come about ecologists will be out in force to stop the destruction of one of the most diverse and wild places on earth!

NEWS FROM THE AUTONOMOUS ZONES

(THE ZONE-* PROTECTS ITS OWN)

So what has made the M11 Link Road such a cause celebre? Firstly, it has the advantage of being in London, close enough to embarrass Britain’s politicians and catch the media’s attention. Secondly it is a linchpin of the European Round Tables plans for economic Euro-routes in Western Europe. By halting the road in London we can save woodlands, rivers & heathlands all the way to Newcastle, without endangering their ecology by having mud fights with hundreds of security guards and police in their midst.

The area threatened by the Link Road comprises two very different localities. At the eastern end of the route is Wanstead, a reasonably affluent, conservative leafy-green London suburb. To the west are Leyton and Leytonstone, areas of high-density urban housing, built at the turn of the century, but badly neglected ever since the proposal for the Link Road first blighted the area forty years ago. To look at it now, you could be forgiven for thinking that the best thing for Leyton and Leytonstone would be to demolish them and grow a forest.

Overall management of the road-building project has been entrusted to WS Atkins Consulting Engineers. They have divided the road into four separate sections, each of which will be built by a different contractor. So far, only one of the four contracts has been awarded. Norwest Holst have now started work on “Contract 4” in Wanstead, since it is expected to take the longest time to complete. Our hope is that if Norwest Holst can be made to suffer both financially and in PR terms through their involvement in the Link Road, then it will become extremely difficult for the DoT to find three other “construction” companies who are daft enough to take the remaining contracts! “Contract 2” covers the crucial stretch through Leyton and Leytonstone; although “advance preparation works” (knocking down houses, or just damaging them enough to make them uninhabitable) are already under-way there, the actual road-building contract will not now be awarded until August 1994. It was originally due to have STARTED in January, so they are at least 9 months behind schedule already. So the campaign is undoubtedly hav-ing some sort of an effect!

THE START OF THE ACTION: 13th September - 1st November 1993

The first big event - a march along the route of the road - took place in mid-August 1993, with just one month to go before the start of the contract. The second event was on September 13th, the day the bulldozers were due to arrive! Around 100 people were there to greet the contractors that day - needless to say, the contractors didn’t dare to show up! So the protesters celebrated their first victory in the full glare of the national media, by reclaiming a vacant house which had been compulsory-purchased by the
Department of Transport (DoT). By the end of the day, the house had its roof repaired, and was covered in banners. 1-0 to the campaigners!

Contractors Norwest Holst duly arrived the following morning, and immediately met with stiff opposition. Norwest Holst's first task was to clear a patch of woodland, which took them nearly three weeks, due to regular tree-sits, bulldozer lock-ons and other delaying tactics. On one day, forty men employed for a full day only managed to cut down four small trees!

Yet in other respects the campaign was not taking off as we might have hoped. The real challenge was (and still is) to find enough people willing to occupy the many houses which the DoT has already purchased and left vacant along the route. Generally the houses are structurally sound, although several have had their first-floor ceilings knocked out, with the aim of making them uninhabitable. The campaign has held a number of house-rebuilding days, in an effort to tempt more squatters to come and live in what can otherwise be fairly unpleasant conditions. Other houses have been barricaded, and we have already had some success in resisting evictions. But the DoT has now accelerated its efforts to destroy the houses.

THE CHESTNUT TREE: 2nd November - 7th December 1993

At the heart of Wanstead lies George Green, a highly valued local park. The focal point of the Green was a magnificent 250-year-old sweet chestnut tree. Local people had been led to believe that the road would pass under the green in a tunnel, so they assumed that their tree was safe. What they were not told was that the tunnel was only a shallow cut and cover tunnel, and that the tree would have to be cut down to allow it to be built. On Tuesday 2nd November, Norwest Holst started to put up wooden hoardings around the chestnut tree. Local people were horrified, especially the children who, for the rest of that week, came out of school as often as they could, and lay down in the way of the contractors to stop them putting up the fences.

By Saturday 6th November they had finally completed the fencing, just in time to prevent us from holding a planned "Tree Dressing" ceremony. Several hundred local people, furious at this, came out that day and tore the fences down again! Suddenly, the campaign had found a focus and a symbol - local support, which had so far been dormant, now sprang into life!

The next day, a local nursery donated a number of plants, and the children created a "Peace Garden" in the shadow of the tree, bearing the words "Save the World". A tree-house was built in the branches of the chestnut tree. A bender was set up beside the tree, and for the following month, the camp fire became a focal point for the campaign. Local people, including grandmothers and children, came down to George Green each night, bringing food for the tree-dwellers. People from different backgrounds began to get to know one another; professional people, retired people and Twyford Down veterans spent long evenings together, talking, forming new friendships, exchanging ideas about roads, the environment, consumerism, life, the universe and everything.... Something new and beautiful had been created in the community. Many local people talk of their lives having been completely changed by the experience.

Word of the George Green Chestnut Tree spread via a small article in the Guardian newspaper. Two days later, the postman delivered a letter addressed to the Chestnut Tree itself! One of the campaign's solicitors immediately seized on this to argue in the law courts that the tree-house should be formally recognised as a "dwelling"! The strategy worked, the tree-house had made legal history, and hundreds more letters started to pour in from all around the country! The DoT now had to apply for a court order to evict the tree-dwellers from their new "home", a process which delayed them for several more days. By the time they had obtained the court order, they knew that any attempt to remove the tree-dwellers would meet with serious resistance. They would have to organise a major police operation, and this in turn took several weeks to plan.

Actions continued sporadically, but in practice Norwest Holst were hardly managing to do any work worth stopping! On Tuesday 30th November a crane arrived to start digging the entrance to the tunnel a few yards up the road from George Green. At midday, two protesters evaded the security guards, climbed to the top of the crane, and "locked on" with bike locks 30 metres above the road below! The contractors attempted to remove them with fire engines, high hoists, hydraulic bolt-cutters - but nothing could bring them down! They stayed up until after work had finished at 6pm that evening, before descending voluntarily.

A more sinister development occurred in the early hours of Friday morning, 3rd December. Protesters were subjected to two attacks within 20 minutes of one another, at different places on the route. The first took place in Claremont Road, a threatened street in Leyton which houses a number of squatters and other squatters. At 1.00am, two men passed down the street, one driving slowly in a car, the other walking beside him, smashing through the window of every parked vehicle in sight. Twenty minutes later, six men struck at Wanstead. They poured petrol over the tree and the bender, and threw a Molotov over the tree and the bender
for good measure. Protesters were asleep in both the bender and the tree itself. It is very fortunate that only one protester suffered slight burns - the attackers' intentions were clearly MURDEROUS. Police arrested two people caught escaping the area, and charged them with "arson with intent to endanger life". We always knew that roads were built, not for the good of the public, but to suit the interests of the roads lobby. This attack shows just how deeply entrenched those vested interests are, and the extent which they are prepared to go to defend their interests once threatened.

BLACK AND BLUE
TUESDAY: December 7th

By early December, rumours began to circulate of a major police operation to evict the tree-dwelling, and it soon became clear that the rumours were serious. Within 24 hours phone calls had gone out to people all around the country. On Monday evening, 6th December, about 150 people gathered for an all-night vigil around the base of the tree. Many more people arrived during the early hours of the following morning. One group locked themselves into a ring around the treestump, with their arms linked by steel tubing; others climbed up into the tree itself. As predicted, about 400 police officers arrived at 5am that morning, and immediately started to clear people out of the way from around the base of the tree. Pensioners were dragged away without warning, one had his face punched, smashing his glasses. Another protester had his foot broken when it was deliberately stamped on by a policeman. The police used pressure points extensively whilst removing them. After about an hour of scuffles, the police had the tree surrounded, and started to bring in reinforcements to cordon it off. At 11am a 'cherry picker' (highhoist hydraulic platform) arrived to remove protesters from the tree itself (1). People lay in the road blocking its path, and were again dragged away by the police. At one point the cherry picker became stuck in the mud as it approached the tree; one security guard and one demonstrator were injured as it attempted to free itself. One tree occupant managed to climb onto the arm of the cherry picker, and locked himself to it with handcuffs.

Eventually they demolished the tree after 9 hours and a police operation which had cost £100,000. It had forced the DoT to humiliate itself in a very public manner. Virtually all the national newspapers carried reports and photographs of the incident - in many cases on the front page. The loss of the tree was a tragic day, and yet also a truly wonderful day. It had hammered another huge nail into the coffin of the DoT's roads programme.

Soon afterwards, local families gathered for a march through central London to the Department of Transport's offices in Westminster. A nine year old boy presented the DoT with a young sweet chestnut tree, and requested that Roads Minister MacGregor should plant the new tree on George Green to replace the one he had demolished, and of course, halt the motorway construction.

WANSTONIA

A long Christmas break in the 'construction' industry gave the campaign some time to recover our energy. But it was soon clear that a new threat was looming. On December 30th the DoT served
'notices to quit' on the tenants of a row of large Edwardian houses next to George Green itself. These houses included the homes of Patsy Braga and Mike Edwards, two local anti-road campaigners; another of the houses had been 'colonised' by the campaign in October, for use as a direct action centre! So at the start of 1994, these houses officially became squats. The campaign needed to do something dramatic to make a big issue of these houses. On Sunday 9th January, with the threat that the houses could be demolished immediately after a High Court hearing the following Thursday, a meeting of the inhabitants and other local people decided that they would make a Unilateral Declaration of Independence from the UK, and set up the "Independent Free Area of Wanstonia". The campaign's solicitors wrote to the Foreign Office to advise them of our intentions & a Declaration of Independence was drawn up. The outcome of the High Court case was unexpectedly favourable one house was reprieved completely (forcing the DoT to go back to square one), and a stay of execution was granted on the others.

**Actions, actions and yet more actions**

Meanwhile outside the Free Area on the 10th of January the contractors returned from a long Christmas and New year holiday. Activists tree sat threatened trees and there was much chainsaw diving including one activist head butting a working chainsaw while wearing a crash helmet. This went on for a number of days. On the 20th 20 Wanstonians blockaded a pile driver being driven onto the construction site that was Wansted Green and were met with 50 Territorial Support Group with police dogs- one happily wielding his truncheon.

**Site invasions & grappling hooks**

The next action saw a dynamic shift of tactics. 300 turned up for a day of action on January 22nd, shifting gear into the offensive. Fort Norwest-Holst was held siege for an entire day, with the formidable defences breached on several dramatic occasions, (even if the grappling hook proved over ambitious!). The security excelled themselves again, old Andy 'chipped tooth' got so excited he had to be revived with the old 'paper bag over the head routine' (apparently it is a recognised first aid technique!). Many of the other guards smashed their own computers in the furore. By the end of the day, the main site on Cambridge park road was without security cameras, electricity or an intact set of blueprints.

**Leytonstonia**

established

On the same day, (25th of January), as the government published four greenwash reports on sustainable eco-rape, tree 'surgeons' arrived to chainsaw down a copse of Yew, Oak and Holly trees in Leytonstone. Opening the gates they were surprised to find their 'work site' turned into a camp site of assorted benders and tree hammocks. Police arrived to evict "Trespassers" but realised that the protesters had legal possession of the land. 'If you want to remove my clients you will have to go through the court!' smirked a campaign solicitor to a disgruntled police officer. Nearly the whole of the street was by now under the control of the campaigners and Fillebrooke Road is declared independent. Long live the Autonomous Free Area of Leytonstonia!

**Bash Wednesday**

Direct action slowed down in preparation for the upcoming eviction of Wanstonia and we concentrated on digging ditches and erecting barricades. We didn't have to wait long, the big day came on Ash Wednesday, now renamed Bash Wednesday, and what a surreal day it turned out to be. Far too surreal, in fact, for this scribe so I will leave it to all people-The Daily Telegraph.

'Link Road Protesters in handcuffs cut away from concrete filled spin drier...but now they plan to regroup in Leytonstone.

**The Battle for Wanstonia- Self styled republic smashed by police**

The battle of Wansted began at dawn yesterday when police officers taking part in Operation Barnard converged on what protesters had dubbed, "The Independent Free Area of Wanstonia". In their attempt to stop the M11 link road, the protesters had called on the foreign office and the United Nations to recognise the row of Edwardian houses they had occupied as an independent country. Both appeals were rebuffed and they found themselves in breach of court orders requiring them to leave. They refused and the court officials prepared to move in, backed by uniformed officers and units of the Territorial Support Group -(2)-, who are specialists in public order confrontations, detectives from the area major investigation team and a small number of horseman. Police detailed to enter the occupied properties had protective clothing and riot helmets....By 6am, the houses had been filled with protesters who were waiting with a mix of apprehension and good humour. Some sang folksy protest songs and one even rang the police station complaining that he was cold and asking them to hurry up. The police arrived in a procession of coaches an hour later.... officers stopped traffic, sealed off the area and made way for the court officials to attack the barricaded front doors with sledgehammers. Once inside the properties, officers worked their way up,
systematically clearing each room and ejecting the occupants to behind a cordon of 200 yards away. Protesters used a variety of tactics. Two were chained together through a hole in the chimney breast. Another two were handcuffed to an old spin dryer with cement. When the upper and lower floors of the houses had been sealed, the police turned their attention to the roofs. Initial attempts to lift protesters off using one cherry picker crane were unsuccessful; but officers had more success using two cranes. As each house and roof was cleared, the properties were demolished by mechanical diggers, filling the air with choking dust. A handful of demonstrators who

footnotes

1) It may seem strange that it took the contractors so long to get a cherry picker to the tree, however this can be explained quite simply. The contractors fearing that monkeywrenchers would be in the area, put their cherry picker under 24 hour guard, and being completely paranoid hired another and hid it down the road in a school car park. According to sources in Norwest Holst there fears were realised and despite the guards the Hydraulic Platform started to fall apart when they attempted to move it. Without hesitation they drove down to their 'secret' backup platform only to find it WRENCHED! Cherry pickers are rather sparse in East London, especially for companies who have a reputation for "not looking after hired machinery". Do or Die, of course condemns all acts of illegality!

2) The Territorial Support Group are highly trained police units only used in times of public 'disorder'. Originally named the SPG (Special Patrol Groups), they changed name a couple of years back after a number of embarrassing instances. One involved a baker who was driving his mini to work, unfortunately for him he passed a SPG unit who mistook him for a escaped kidnapper and immediately shot him dead leaving his car careering into others at a roundabout. Numerous occasions of black lads finding themselves bleeding in the gutter after encountering the SPG also surfaced. The SPG now with a very dirty public record disbanded and a day later the TSG was formed- with nearly exactly the same employees. All in all not a nice bunch.
had occupied a tree in front of one of the properties was cleared last. By then, the officials were working under lights. Demonstrators appeared demoralised, but said they were planning new occupations on another part of the route in nearby Leytonstone. “It has taken them this long to clear a small row of houses, but there are...another 250 for us to occupy before this road is built”, said one...Sabotage and damage to contractors equipment since early December has been estimated at £35,000 ...Since last September, when the Wansed protests began in earnest, about 100 people have been arrested, mainly for obstruction and criminal damage to site equipment. A spokesman for the Department of Transport denied any accusation of having ridden rough-shod over the wishes of local people.

Wanstonia Rising

Just when they thought they’d smashed Wanstonia up it pops again, only 500 yards down from where the Chestnut grew. An empty tobacconist due for eviction was squatted and turned into a drop in centre for the campaign. On the following Monday Squibb & Davies the demolition men illegally entered hitting protesters with sledgehammers. After re-enforcement’s of protesters arrived they left, the same rigmarole happens a couple of days later, but the protest regained occupancy. After a few weeks of occupation the contractors smashed aprt Wanstonia Rising, but within days a new house was squatted Wantonia Rising 2. At the time of writing Wanstonia is still Rising, Leytonstonia is still awaiting attack with a 24 watch on guard and more houses are coming under our control daily.

Beware the Ides of March

And that is where Operation Roadblock came in. With the new Criminal Justice Bill imminent, and lets face it, minor amendments aside, imminent is the word, and with the roads programme virtually on its knees, (which it is), we have no choice but to go big time with the current campaigns. Operation Roadblock was planned to form a national rota of activists and get 100 people per day to the M11 for at least a month, starting from the 15th of March. The 15th of March is of course the Ides of March when Julias Caesar got stabbed the beginning of the end of the last great road building empire. Operation Roadblock switched the campaign once again on to the offensive, no longer would the state decide the agenda, 1, 200 people over one month took part in direct action, digger diving and all that jazz. Using a rota system turned out to be a very effective means of moblizing people- a model for other protests maybe? Operation Roadblock 2 is on the horizon as well as the ambiguous sounding Operation Liquidate. So come down to the Autonomous Zones and experience some peaceful ‘urban warfare’.

- Written by a dodgy group of shady characters including Roger Geffin, Secret Squirrel and Yellow pinky.

‘On closer examination we find that trees perform many more offices in relation to the soil than that of merely pegging it down. By virtue of cooling the air and spraying the sky and multiplying the clouds they exert considerable influence upon the fall and distribution of rain; by virtue of sponging the earth around their feet they enormously influence the behaviour of floods, the discipline of rivers, the supply of springs, the health of fish; and by the virtue of their power to suck up moisture by the ton they dry the swamps and control the malarial mosquitoes. Forests are much more than meets the eye. They are fountains. They are oceans. They are pipes. They are dams. Their work ramiifies through the whole economy of nature.’

- J. S. Collins, from ‘The Triumph of the Tree’, 1950
The Criminal Justice Bill

The state declares war on what it cannot control. ...

In June 1986 David Mellor, Minister of State at the Home Office, explained on BBC radio that the government had no intention of introducing a criminal trespass law. There was no need for it, he said; it would create more problems than it would solve. It comes as no surprise to anyone that nearly eight years later the Home Office is pushing through those very laws it denied it would ever propose. The Criminal Justice & Public Order Bill clauses 52-55 create new offences of aggravated trespass, and holding or attending trespassing assemblies. This means in effect that nearly all the activity EBF groups and their ilk are presently involved in will, most probably late summer, become criminal.

This briefing deals specifically with the clauses relating to protest and Public Order, however, various other clauses aimed at other 'enemies within' may also be applied to protest. For instance the act also criminalises squatting, meaning that we will no longer have a stay of execution after setting up land occupations, while the appropriate companies apply for an eviction order.

Other clauses end the right of silence and virtually ban convoy driving. This briefing explains what the state will be able to do legally, in reality the police will often act above and beyond the call of the law.

Clauses 52 and 53: aggravated trespass
The definition of aggravated trespass rests on intention. Neither the police nor the prosecution would have to prove that disruption or obstruction of lawful activities or intimidation of people actually took place; the crime of aggravated trespass can be committed purely by intention.

The most wet of protests would become criminal. For example, if you stand on the steps of an office leafleting workers as they enter, you would be guilty of aggravated trespass and could go to prison for up to three months, even if the protest is good humoured and only involves a handful of people. You will be a trespasser. The office workers will be involved in the lawful activity of going to work, and you will have intended to disrupt or obstruct that activity by talking to them. Even if you hadn't, a police officer might think otherwise- and there is no requirement of proof that actual disruption took place- only the intention. If you leafleted on the pavement in front of the building, it would after all, under present law be Obstruction of the Queens Highway. Clause 53 makes it a criminal offence not to leave land if asked to do so by a police officer who "reasonably believes" that a person is committing, has committed or intends to commit the offence of aggravated trespass. It would be extremely difficult to mount a defence against this in court.

Clause 54 and 55: Trespassery assemblies
Under Clause 54 in London the police will need only the permission of the Home Secretary to impose a ban. Elsewhere the police must apply to the local authority, which needs the consent of the Home Secretary to impose a ban. Bans can be imposed even on the use of 'public' land provided that the public only has a limited right of access. Most 'public places' have limited rights of access. Clause 54 also covers any assembly on the highway, (section 14a(9)). While on a carmaggedon action as well as facing charges of Public Order Section 5, Section 4, Obstruction of the Queens Highway and Obstruction of a Police Officer in the execution of his/her duty; we will now sit arms linked in front of the Juggernauts of progress contemplating three months imprisonment. Clause 55 gives the police the powers to stop people...
whom they 'reasonably believe' to be on their way to an assembly which they 'reasonably believe' is likely to be prohibited by that order, and direct them not to proceed. During the Twyford 93 debacle police roadblocks were used on a number of occasions to make it difficult for protesters to arrive at the camp; the most notable instances being 30th of April to the 2nd of May and 21st-22nd of May. At the time these were entirely illegal, this clause legalises such restrictions of freedom of movement.

Clause 22: bail conditions

The Bill includes proposals relating to bail. Under current law, the power to impose conditions on bail rests with the courts. However, Clause 22 of the Bill gives police new powers to impose bail conditions if they consider this necessary 'for the purpose of preventing that person from- (a) failing to surrender to custody, or (b) committing an offence while on bail, or (c) interfering with witnesses or otherwise obstructing the course of justice'. In practise, the police will arrest people for minor offences such as Breach of the Peace primarily for the purposes of imposing bail restrictions. This tactic has been used considerably against EF'ers for the last year and a half, most notably at the Isle of Sky, the City of London, Jesmond Dene, the M11, Twyford Down & all Boots and MacDonald stores. At Twyford bail conditions were used as exclusion orders banning activists from a 1 mile wide 4 mile long area including much of the town many of the activists lived in. Before the Bill this tactic has often proved ineffective, with courts ruling against the policies recommendations- now the police decide!

How will it be applied?

Although the Bill affirms the states right to imprison us for three months at a time for simply striving to halt Genocide & Ecocide or for that point for even thinking of it, mass imprisonment's are unlikely. We live in strange times. The Mail on Sunday, (1), recently carried an article on the eviction of Wanstonia entitled 'When protest is the proper road to change', arguing that, '.....if you believe something should be changed or stopped, join a protest....and if you won't, don't complain when life becomes unbearable. You have only yourselves to blame.' The Sunday Express(2) heralded the M11 protesters, beards and dreads included, as 'The citizens who care'. We seem to have attracted support from the whole spectrum of society, to imprison hundreds of 'caring citizens', would be a political disaster.

The bill will instead be used as an excuse for mass arrests of which the resulting cases will no doubt be dropped at a later date. They will use it to scare off potential activists and make it physically difficult to get access to areas of running dispute. The few who they will imprison will be the alleged 'ringleaders' & 'political agitators'. Here lies the benefit of having a structure which is non-hierarchical and decentralised- we have no leaders, we have no committee, no organisers. Or at least that's how the rant goes. The truth is a bit more hard to swallow, the state recognises it, maybe its time we did.

Continued page 32
To the peoples and governments of the world:

Brothers and Sisters:

Since Jan 1 of this year, our Zapatista troops began a series of politico-military actions with the principal objective of letting the Mexican people and the world know the miserable conditions that millions of Mexican, especially we the Indigenous people, live and die in. With these actions, we also let people know our decision to fight for our elementary rights in the only way that the government authorities have left us: armed struggle......

—General Command of the Indigenous Revolutionary Clandestine Committee of the Ejército Zapatista de Liberación Nacional (EZLN), from the mountains of Southeastern Mexico. January, 6, 1994

Articles on the resistance of indigenous peoples are a regular feature in many ecologically minded publications. This issue we cover the recent native activity in southeastern Mexico. The EZLN is fighting for land, food, and freedom to control their own lives in southern Mexico. In the first three weeks of armed struggle the Zapatista National Liberation Army (Ejército Zapatista de Liberación Nacional) accomplished more, militarily and politically, than any of the guerrillas of Central America have in the past 12 years. They claim a tradition of radical Indigenous self-determination, Zapatismo, and in doing so set themselves politically and strategically apart from almost every other clandestine armed group in Latin America. They are not vanguard Marxist guerrillas in search of a social base to lead into the revolution. They are not even trying to conquer the rest of the country (although they clearly wouldn’t mind if some other Mexicans caught on to their ideas). They are trying to reclaim and protect their native land, their culture, their families, their villages and towns, their lives.

The real beginnings of the current rebellion can be found in 1492 and 1910. Spain’s conquest of what is now Latin America gave rise to the conditions under which most Native peoples in this hemisphere still struggle, and die. Emiliano Zapata offered a radical solution to those conditions: that Indigenous campesinos take back their land. Zapata’s army of Indigenous peasants played a pivotal role in the Mexican Revolution. Although recent events have been reported several times over by various news agencies, a short summary is useful.

The facts, in brief, are the following: several thousand combatants liberated several towns and cities (among them, San Cristo’bal de las Casas, Ocosingo, Las Margaritas and Altamirano) in the name of the EZLN. They were armed, but sometimes with little more than ancient rifles or machetes. They wore bandannas over their faces and flew a black flag with a red star on it. After securing the city of San Cristo’bal de las Casas, with a population of 100,000, the EZLN fighters attacked
The soldiers opened prisons in several other towns as well, and redistributed stockpiled food among the people. In Ocosingo, much of the EZLN hid away for three days prior to the attack—around two thousand soldiers hid among the people in a small town and were “not noticed.” Proceso, a Mexico City news weekly, offered the following explanation: “... in a ‘war region’ like this, for every one of the revolutionaries there exists a base of support among the communities, and for this reason it is difficult to find those involved.” In several other towns and cities, not only were Mexican police officers disarmed by the EZLN, but disrobed as well, and left in their own jails.

What is most distinctive about the EZLN is their political sophistication, both in their development of an extensive base in the population of Chiapas and in the timing and justification of their recent armed actions. The insurgents have justified their entire revolt under the Mexican constitution and have demanded to be officially recognized under international law as a belligerent force in order to bring the conflict under international war conventions. As further criteria for dialogue with the government negotiator, the EZLN demanded an end to aerial bombings of Indigenous communities; respect for the human rights of the local population; the withdrawal of government troops to their barracks; and the declaration of a cease-fire.

Article 39 of the Mexican constitution, which legally justifies the entire rebellion, was ratified under pressure from Zapatista and other liberatory forces in 1917, at the end of the Mexican Revolution. The Zapatistas, distrusting the pro-government forces in the centre of the country, demanded that land be guaranteed in perpetuity for the Indigenous population, that the land be held communally in ejidos (land trusts) which could not be bought or sold (provided for by articles 4 and 27, which were respectively deleted and gutted when the constitution was revised two years ago). They also demanded the right to rebel. Article 39 reads as follows:

“National sovereignty essentially and originally resides in the people. All political power emanates from the people and its purpose is to help the people. The people have, at all times, the inalienable right to alter or modify their form of government.”

It was this right that the EZLN claimed as they began their struggle. If that were not enough legitimacy for one armed revolutionary movement, they went still further: “We also ask that international organizations and the International Red Cross watch over and regulate our battles, so that our efforts are carried out while still protecting our civilian population. We declare now and always that we are subject to the Geneva Accord, forming the EZLN as the fighting arm of our liberation struggle.” The EZLN has tried to put itself in a curious place: a legitimate (in fact, legal), Indigenous people’s liberation army.

Almost from the start the Mexican government has tried to claim that the situation in Chiapas was caused by some sort of outside agitator. The first tack was to claim that the EZLN were trained, led, supported or supplied by Guatemalan guerrillas. This theory is doubtful for at least three reasons: the politics of the EZLN are incompatible with those of the Guatemalan guerrillas, the military tactics are quite different (the Zapatistas have been much more successful), and there is absolutely no evidence of significant amounts of Guatemalans in the EZLN or coordination with other groups in Guatemala.

The EZLN is an Indigenous, peasant army. During one interview, Subcomandante Marcos
The EZLN is a liberation army that seeks not to establish a political regime of one kind or another, but rather to free the people to make those decisions themselves. Their stated goal is to establish liberated zones in which the people can be freed from the one-party dictatorship of the PRI (the Party of the Institutional Revolution, Mexico’s ruling party for over 50 years) and can decide their own direction. This struggle for political freedom is central to the strategy of the EZLN.

Much has been said about the question of timing of the rebellion with respect to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA—TLC in its Spanish initialogram). NAFTA formally went into effect at midnight, Jan 1, 1994 and it was this point that the Chiapanecos chose for the onset of their revolution. “NAFTA... for the Indians is a death sentence. Once it goes into effect, it means an international massacre.” Marcos was referring to the economic impact of NAFTA on the peasants in rural southern Mexico. Campesinos currently live at a barely subsistence level by working small plots of land and selling their labour to fincas, farms owned by powerful land-owners. What NAFTA brings to Mexico are cheap beans and grain grown by the enormous agribusiness firms of the Midwestern US. They will consistently be able to outprice the small-plot farmers of Chiapas, whose lives are now at risk. Without the food and income from the small plots of land they work, they will not be able to survive. In fact, NAFTA is merely one economic factor, although an important one, in the stew of trouble that has brewed in Chiapas, Morelos, Guerrero and other southern states in Mexico for decades.

We have learned that, according to a Sergeant in US Army intelligence, on March 18 a small group of military intelligence operatives of the US army will arrive in Guatemala to scout out the border with Chiapas and locate a spot appropriate for a battalion-sized encampment. The camp should be established some time this summer. This is solid information that the US considers the situation in Chipaps serious and of potentially long duration.

The national elections in Mexico are less than six months away and how Chiapas is or is not resolved will have everything to do with who wins. have engaged in vote fraud for decades, and after the last elections in 1988, several towns rose up against the fraudulent vote counts. Chiapas voted overwhelmingly (over 90%) for the PRI in the last election, according to the official counts. Many are joking that they cannot understand what the Mexican Government is afraid of: with such a high level of support in the region, the EZLN must, in fact, be members of the PRI!

-For more information contact Mexico EF!

Excerpts from communiques

* Don't leave this heavy flag in our hands alone. Let the actions of all raise it. Let us all change the land that embraces it. Brothers and Sisters, don't forget this voice from the mountains. The light which our dead bid farewell to is still very small. Let us all be submerged in light. Let us break this disgraceful night. It is time for it to awake.'

"I was taking care of a small monkey that did not respect authority as ALL little ones should. Ignoring my magnificent military appearance and the already slightly discoloured red star on my chest (which said to the rest of the then already powerful EZLN, that is the six, that I was an infantry lieutenant), the monkey (we always suspected that it was a “she” and not a “he”) had this habit of climbing up my chest and hanging itself from my right shoulder whenever it so desired. Raul, the biggest one among us in all senses, taught us. Lucha sang tangos in the afternoons, hours of tangos and crickets. Food was running out. We knew what was coming. We were already invincible and small. January was still a long way off...the year? 1984 (does this remind you of something). The mad hatter and the March hare sang:

"Happy, happy not-birthday to you, I give you (twice). If today is not your birthday then we will have to celebrate. (twice)."

Alicia was able to get out. We are still here...and we sing...still...

Greetings and good luck in the ides of March.

—From the mountains of Southeastern Mexico, Subcomandante Insurgent Marcos, General Command of the Indigenous Revolutionary Clandestine Committee of the Ejercito Zapatista de Liberacion Nacional (EZLN), March 15 1994.

P.S. Who bids you farewell amidst a friendly gale.- This March as everything is in chaos. Take care of yourselves if there is a way.”

-COMMUNIQUE ENDS-
1 "Chimpanzees, Ai and Akira [captor given names] at the Kyoto University Primates Research Institute, used keys taken from a guard to open their cages, crossed the hall to free their friend, the orang-utan, Doodoo, and bolted to freedom." - from 5th Estate Fall Winter 1993, Vol 28 # 3.

2 "When in captivity, orang-utans display remarkable mimicry and manipulation. There is a joke among zoo-folk that, if offered a screwdriver, a gorilla would use it to scratch itself. A chimp would hurl it at another chimp. But an orang-utan would wait until the keeper had disappeared, and then use it to unlock the cage." - BBC Wildlife Jan.'94.

3 "When a park service used a newly made road to gain access to cull an elephant group, several individuals [in the group] broke off tree branches and piled them over the road to close it off; when the branches were removed, the elephants just put them back." - BBC Wildlife Oct. '93.

4 "Rabbit-hunting farmer Vincent Caroggio of Chartres, France paused for a rest and laid his gun down. He was immediately shot dead by a rabbit, which rushed from its burrow and bumped against the trigger." - Scottish Sunday Mail 14 April 1991.

5 "Ali-Ashgar Ahani, 27, an Iranian hunter, tried to catch a snake alive near Teheran by pressing the butt of his shotgun behind its head. The snake coiled around the butt and pulled the trigger with its thrashing tail, firing one of the barrels and shooting Ahani fatally in the head. His colleague tried to grab the shotgun, but the writhing reptile triggered the other barrel, according to the Islamic Republic News Agency - [AP, Reuters]" - 24 April 1990. - Examples 4 and 5 drawn from Foyean Times, June 1992.

**Plant Protest**

"In February 1982, David, M, Grundman, a 27 year old man from Phoenix, went out into the Arizona Desert and fired repeated shot gun blasts into a giant Saguaro Cactus. The large pitchfork-shaped Saguaro is Arizona's State plant and a protected endangered species. Widespread destruction of this cactus by collectors and vandals has led state authorities to impose fines and even prison terms on offenders..... The cactus Grundman fired on was 27-feet tall, only about half the maximum height the species is capable of achieving. Standing a few feet away from it, Grundman concentrated his fire about 4 feet up the base of the plant. When he let loose for the 3rd time, the trunk gave way. To Grundmans surprise, the 23 foot upper section of the cactus toppled directly on to him. Grundman tried to step out of the way, but the cactus knocked the gunman to the ground with a vengeful force, and perforated his body with thorns, for good measure. Grundman was pronounced dead on arrival at Phoenix hospital." from "The Eco Wars", by David Day, Harrap Books, 1984.

**From Other Sources**

1 The rapid deterioration of the rainfall efficiency now proceeding in East Africa is due to deforestation and soil erosion' 1939, G.V.Hacks, 'The Rape of the Earth', p195

2 Not so long ago it was the "natural order" for africans to be taken as slaves on plantations. Much racism today depends on concepts of innate inferiority or fear of the unfamiliar. Women who demand equality of opportunity and equal consideration find themselves faced with a whole string of arguments which range from the biological to the spiritual- all arguments which end with the conclusion (sometimes expressed with sympathy) that such is the way of the world. Happily every day more people see through the con. But confront most convinced anti-racists and anti-sexists with SPECIESISM and you may get a laugh, or annoyance; they may see your point (but do nothing) or just amble off mumbling about being too busy with starving kids or the right to work. Pin them down and they will trundle out the same worn out arguments which they have already rejected as a basis for racism and sexism."- Spectacular Times 'Animals'

3 "Primroses and landscapes", the Director pointed out, "have one grave defect: they are gratuitous. A love of nature keeps no factories busy. It was decided to abolish the love of nature."'— Aldous Huxley, 'Brave New World'
The Biological Meltdown

The life support systems of the earth are being de-stabilised. An unprecedented biological collapse is taking place worldwide, and only unprecedented effort will curtail the massive wave of extinctions.

Although about 1.4 million species have currently been named and described by scientists, no one really knows the total number of species on Earth; current estimates range from 5 million to 30 million or more. It has been predicted that 17,500 species may be lost to extinction each year and some scientists forecast that total losses may reach 1 million by the year 2000. Peter Raven estimates that we could lose 10% of the world's species by 2000 and more than 25% within the next few decades. (1)

In addition to the species that will be lost outright, many thousands of plants and animals will be reduced to populations teetering on the edge of extinction. When a species becomes rare, it loses genetic variety and becomes more vulnerable to the many factors that threaten its long term survival.

Based on the current rates of forest clearance in Latin American forests, it has been forecast that as those forests shrink to half their original size by the year 2000, 15% of the forest plant species, or about 13,600 kinds of plants could be lost. (2)

Of the 11,500 plant species found in Europe, 21% are endangered. Of some 20,000 plant species originally found in the United States, 90 species are extinct and 2,040 are endangered. In Germany, the Netherlands, Denmark, and Spain, over 20% of mammalian species are classified as threatened. In the Western Hemisphere, populations of many forest birds and migratory shorebirds are declining - as much as 60-80% in many cases. (3)

Wetlands are amongst the earth's most important and biologically diverse ecosystems. Between 25 and 50% of the world's swamps and marshes have been lost. (4)

Three-Quarters of the world's bird species are declining in population or threatened with extinction. (5)

Amphibians, (frogs, salamanders, newts and related species), are declining worldwide. (6)

In Indonesia 1,500 local varieties of rice have disappeared in the past 15 years. Nearly three-fourths of the rice grown today descends from a single plant. (7)

Island habitats are especially vulnerable. For example, Madagascar is home to more than 6,000 plants, 106 birds, 142 frogs, and half of the world's chameleon species, all of which are found nowhere else. Since humans first arrived, several of the island's endemic species have become extinct and 80% of the natural vegetation has been destroyed. (8)

Even though tropical forests make up only 6% of the Earth's land surface, they are home to an estimated 50 to 90% of all species. (9)

"...the most dangerous malady afflicting the Earth is that of exfoliation- destruction of its living skin. In human medicine the loss of skin from whatever cause is a serious threat to life; the loss of more than 70% of the skin by burning is usually fatal. To denude the earth of its forests and other natural ecosystems and of its soils is like burning the skin of a human, and we shall soon have replaced with inefficient farmlands 70% of the earth's natural land surface cover.........The effects of forest clearance will probably be the first gigantic disaster to greet us within the next decade or two. Numerical models based on Gaia theory, and the experience of past civilisations, both predict that once more than this proportion of self regulating ecosystems dies, (65%), then it can no longer sustain its climate and total collapse takes place." (10)

"At bottom, 35% of the world's land surface is at risk from turning into deserts. This land is home to 850 million people. There are 45 million square kilometres of dry lands. Of these an area which is about as big as North and South America combined is already at risk of turning into desert. “(11)

(2) Ibid.
(3) Ibid.
(4) Ibid.
(6) Ibid.
(7) Ibid.
Biodiversity and the British Isles

Species loss like many ecological issues has entered this islands mass psychology while remaining fundamentally misunderstood. Obscured by a haze of large numbers and strange sights, species loss is seen as something solely in relation to rainforest, Pandas and David Attenborough talking of brightly coloured fungi. Biodiversity is seen as something distant, something separate from day to day life. Something foreign, which has no relation to our 'green & pleasant land'.

Biodiversity is the expression of healthy ecology. It may seem distant to these Isles because these Isles are SICK. It has been said that civilised man walks the earth leaving deserts in his footprints. As the frontiers of this civilisation opened up, so the cedars of Lebanon and the Broadleaf forests of this island were trampled underfoot. With the great forests all but destroyed the soils of Lebanon eroded, and washed and blew away. Thanks to this islands mild temperate climate, its fate was to remain a different kind of desert. A desert of ploughed fields, of a thousand swaying barley stalks.

Soon the last sizable remnants of the great forests were slashed, to provide timber for the growing Naval machine, to undermine the free who still lived in the forest and to build the new cities & bring more money into the government coffers. All that was left was a spiderweb like network of hedges and treelines, draped over an otherwise barren landscape; acting as corridors between, with little exception, small managed woodland. The very symbol of the concept which destroyed the land, property, became the final refuge of diversity.

With the advent of agri-business even the hedges are now being destroyed and the diversity of crop species is decreasing. In short this islands eco-system has been devastated.

'Since 1945 the UK has lost 30% of its rough grazing land, 65% of song thrushes, 90% of meadows, 50% of lowland woodlands, heaths and fens and 140,000 miles of hedgerow. 80 commons have been deregulated'(1)

You would think then that biodiversity would be the 'environmental' movements main priority, but no. Most local groups involved in stopping new developments, (roads, supermarkets etc.), are more likely to talk about damage to landscape than damage to ecology. To oppose a cutting solely because it destroys a hillfort or 'the view', rather than because it trashes a ancient woodland or destroys 2,000 year old badger sets is yet more anthropocentric rubbish.

We live in what is mostly an ecological catastrophe. An anatomy diagram is beautiful, but is nevertheless a dead body. The summer lutchness of pasture land is deceptive, after all, the lawns at Wimbledon are green but not particularly healthy. We must start to talk of life, of biodiversity. We must change the way we think about the country. You cannot escape urbanism in the countryside, todays countryside is, on the whole, an extension of urbanism. The dominant interaction in the country is, as in cities, the oppression and degradation of ecosystems by civilised man.

We must understand the lands ecology and take further action against those who destroy its remaining diversity, for if we don't, soon there will be nothing but man and his creations.


Criminal Justice Bill Continued.

EF! has a centralised structure based on the hierarchy of organisational knowledge. If they jailed a well targeted couple of dozen activists the Earth First! 'movement' would be crippled. We have no chance of defeating the Criminal Justice Bill, but to make sure that the bill does not defeat us we must make skill sharing a priority!

There is no Justice- Just Us!


3) This article owes more than is probably legal by copyright to a briefing entitled, 'Restrictions on peaceful protest', produced by the National Council For Civil Liberties. They have produced four other packs covering all aspects of the bill, at £1.50 each, a) Police Powers, b) Criminal Justice, c) Restrictions on outdoor raves and festivals & d) Restrictions on Travellers and Squatters. There Address is: Liberty Campaigns Office, 21 Tabard street, London SE1.
Dear Earth First!
I've just come across a copy of Do or Die and, after 10 years of working in depressing jobs it has given me hope. I thought I was destined to be a lone voice in a mad world, is it too much to ask for a clean, kind, friendly world? I don’t think so. What a world to be brought up in these days, it's run by terrorists - populated by apathetic puppets. So many people are used to the way things are that when decent people stand up and speak they are descried as bomb wielding troublemakers.

From birth we are categorised in little groups that are pitted against each other when the real enemy are the ruling class - the leaders of industry.

So for 10 years I have secretly and silently travelled alone doing whatever I could against the tide of madness. I don't hate the city in the way you do and I don't yearn to live in a field with no technology. I quite like some technology, I just think we should use it to create a better world. I really think we could get organised with some thought and careful use of technology.

I do aspire to live in a house, I believe everyone should have the right to a home any way they choose. I don't think advocating the wholesale destruction of everything in the cities and putting up tents is the answer, I don't want to live in a field with no technology. I quite like some technology, I just think we should use it to create a better world. I really think we could get organised with some thought and careful use of technology.

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We have to become cha-mealeons, gain people's trust, relate our ideas to their lives, they won't even listen if we appear a threat. You know how the government sets us apart to distract them from the way that the country is run.

I lost my nose stud, stopped dying my hair, changed my dress and, no, I haven't sold out. I have just learnt urban camouflage, while some people are outside with banners, I'm inside with an ID card doing my worst, I only wish I could share my experiences. It would really make you laugh. You'd be surprised how much you can get away with dressed in a suit. If you want to take the walls apart, then do it from the inside, learn to infiltrate, take the bastards on their own level.

It's your world too, make it better.
-A Cyberpunk, Bedfordshire.

Dear Do or Dither
The past twenty years have seen the emergence of a whole generation who have a pathological terror of anything negative. To 'get on' in this sell out world of marketing and media hype you've got to cut the word 'no' out of your vocabulary. * Accentuate the positive* has become a commandment of the new order. This order is rapidly eating up the planet.

This marketing consultant attitude has also invaded the 'Environmental movement', so when we see something wrong we feel that to say STOP THE ....... or NO MORE.......... We are made to feel bad about it and then allow ourselves to be guided by someone 'better' at organising campaigns - who can produce nice positive images.

I would like, via your organ, to suggest to these people that if what those grey-suited masses in the city do is positive, then GET NEGATIVE! and if you cant handle that remember, NO more roads is good for the earth and is therefore positive. Stop campaigning for more rail travel, alternative timber etc and start organising for a really positive campaign:- Industrial Collapse!

-Vic.

Hi folks,
I've decided to put together and put out a new Earth First! publication called 'Letters from the Wilderness', a purely letters based publication, as I believe the EF! movement needs some kind of frequent forum for discussion. EF! gatherings every 6 months. Superb as they are, aren't enough. We need to be discussing/forming ideas etc that are talked about at national gatherings but- often not in any depth etc., due to time constraints. We need a forum to discuss where EF! is going, how to gain wider active support. How actions can become more effective/successful etc. Basically to think how to build upon the movement strengths and
patch up any weakness. We really need to put peoples ideas from across the country to one another. For one rarely meet anyone from any of the Scottish EF! groups or from the South West.

LFTW will be a free-for-all letters publication. I want to receive letters on any aspect of EF! or the radical Environmental Movement in general. I do not want it to overlap with the current EF! publication. If you have written an article etc., the place to send it is 'Do or Die', if you're plugging an action send it to the 'action update'. I think LFTW should be about communicating valuable ideas/experience/responses to previous letters etc. to the rest of the movement. There will be no editorial. I will print what ever you send, so please keep letters as short as possible. It should be out fairly often—every 4-6 weeks as I think it will have more impact/be more useful if it is 'up to date' and fairly continuous.

OK, enough of the rant, over to the boring technicalities: The best by miles for me to process is if you send letters on 3-quarter inch disc in an IBM compatible format. We can also cope with discs in AppleMac format. If not, no probs, legible handwritten is cool. The project is roughly financed, I only ask if you send a letter, please enclose a couple of stamps as this is the only expense I can't blag, borrow or steal my way out of paying. Distribution will follow the Do or Die model. I will send each EF! group 2 copies of each edition to copy as many as they need/want etc.

So do it now—send your ideas/gripes/experiences etc. to: Letters from the Wilderness, c/o Leeds EF!, 16 Sholebrooke Avenue, Chapeltown, Leeds, LS7 311B.

-Cheers, Simon, Leeds EF!

Prisoners Of War

Alison McKeon RE2370
HMP Askham Grange
Askham Richard
York, YO2 3PT
2yrs for criminal damage

Annette Tibbles
TT2215
HMP Holloway
Parkhurst Rd
London N7 ONU
4 yrs conspiracy to cause criminal damage

Anthony D Miller
#40351
PO Box 1059
Santa Fe
NM 87504-1059
USA
10 yrs for release of captured wild horses

Max Watson BJ2477
HMPO Haverigg Camp
Millum
Cumbra LA18 4NA
criminal damage to animal abusers windows

Terry Helsby EF0761
HMP Risley
Warrington Rd
Risley
Warrington
Cheshire WA3 6BP
3.5 years for liberation of polecats + criminal damage

Vivian Smith TT2743
A4 Unit
HMP Holloway
Parkhurst Rd
London N7 ONU
6 yrs for attempted arson to meat transporters

Kim Trimview
Deborah Stout
Spokane County Jail
West 1100 Mallon

Spokane
WA 99260 USA

Grahame Lewis
NX3918
HMP Pentonville
Caledonia Rd
London N19
4 mths for breaking Tyndall injunction

David Bowen DA0146
David has been sentenced to 9 yrs for his part in the Strangeways uprising in 1990. He is also being charged for an escape in Dec '92, having been beaten and threatened by screws he decided to escape on his way to court. At the time of the Strangeways uprising David was on remand, charged with stealing 2 pairs of curtains. He came down from the roof after 4 days of a 25 day protest.

HMP Long Lartin
South Littleton
Evesham
Worcs
WR11 5TZ

Quiddas Ali, the 17 yr old hospitalised by fascists in Whitechapel, East London, (see last issue) has come out of his coma now however fascist attacks continue in London even after the bonehead Derek Beakon, BNP, has lost his council seat. Two days after his attack the police harrassed and provoked a vigil being held by family and friends, a scuffle broke out resulting in the police attacking the vigil with dogs and truncheons. 9 young asian men were arrested and two severely beaten in the police station leaving one with a broken arm. The youths were initially charged with riot but after the campaigning of the Tower Hamlets Nine Defense Campaign the charges were dropped, but 5 are still charged with violent disorder.

The day after the police
attack on the vigil there was a large police presence on the streets of Tower Hamlets. However the BNP were able to march through the area smashing shops and harassing locals with no arrests. And the police wonder why people call them fascists.

Contact: Tower Hamlets Nine Defense Campaign, c/o PO Box 73, London, E7 081 548 0099.

the middle of it, and for years now Jammerdal has been exploited for clay. Enough! Paul started burning bulldozers.

Seventeen eco-sabatge actions followed. Last summer Paul was caught after a video of his action was shown on 'Crime Time TV'. He was sentenced to nine months imprisonment; he was moreover declared 'insane' by the Dutch court. As you read this, Paul is being observed by psychologists. In its final pronouncement in May, the Dutch High Court will possibly sentence him to what amounts to a life sentence, eg. he will be thrown in a Mental Institution; seemingly on the sole foundation of his court statement- simply for not believing the dominant 'sanity' that raping the earth is big and clever.

During his police interrogation Paul admitted that, "In spring 1990, I spray painted 'Entry Forbidden' signs in Jammerdal covering 'Forbidden' so only 'Entry' was still visible. I still remember quite clearly how the 'iron curtain' had just fallen, while woodlands and a quarry were being enclosed".

Send Letters of support to the following address; EYFA International, P.O. BOX 92066, 1090 AB, Amsterdam, Netherlands. They will pass them onto Paul.

DOOR DIE NUMBER 4

CRIMINAL INJUSTICE STUFF

Notifiable Offences in England and Wales recorded by the Police in 1992

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offence</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle Crime</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burglary</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Theft</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Offences</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violent Crime</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5.6 million Offences</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The word 'Crime' gets bandied about as if the major threat to the life and liberty of the people of this Island is the 'criminal'. A criminal has become much more than a person who commits a crime, the criminal is a fiction created to scare us at night. A days TV will contain a dozen programmes based around the police and hundreds of references to a world, or underworld, of crime that is a fictional creation.

Statistics are a bad lens to see the world through and these figures are just there to give a little insight into the UK prison system. The interesting thing about these figures is that they are remarkably similar to what you would
have found a hundred years ago, violent crime is a small part of the crime figures, sexual abuse and rape hardly figure in the figures as much of it goes unreported and few charges brought. The main difference is the rise in vehicle crime, but then stealing car stereos wasn’t an option 100 years ago.

People in Prison.

4% of prisoners are female.

This figure hides the thousands of women who are psychiatric incarcerations, it is largely true to say that men go to jail and women go to the asylum, except for racial minorities who are sent in quantities to both.

8% male and 12% female prisoners are West Indian or African. 2.5% are from the Indian Subcontinent.

The prison population is getting younger. 25% are under 21, and are drawn from 'disadvantaged classes', 1/3 of sentenced men are homeless, 3/4 of prisoners last job was manual and unskilled, 15% of prisoners are illiterate. A Medical assessment is '85 stated that 20-30% were border line mentally abnormal, whatever that means. One Home office report said, "These are characteristiclly trivial offenders disturbed rather than mad ... it may be that prison is not the most desirable environment for such individuals, but in fact, it is frequently the only asylum available". There have also been suggestions that 1/3 of prisoners are dyslexic.

There has always been concern for the thousands of remand prisoners, the British legal system advertises itself with slogans such as 'innocent 'til proven guilty, however this doesn't stop them locking up thousands of people who are awaiting their trials. The length of time people wait for trial has risen from 23 days in 1970 to over 50 days in 1988. Recently concern has been expressed in some newspapers about the numbers of people in prison for non payment of debt, 22,750 in 1993, this represents 1/4 of all admissions to prison. Of these 504 were for not paying the poll tax and 845 for not having a TV licence. The vast majority of these defaulters were unemployed and in multiple debt.

Britain has the highest rate of imprisonment in western Europe and numbers are rising at the rate of 350 per week. New prisons are being built often by private companies such as our friends Group 4 and there are plans for prison ships. Reports from the '80s wave of prison riots describe practices such as slopping out and overcrowding as leading to prisoners spending 20 hour days in their cells. Is it any wonder that in Brixton prison, for example, 17 inmates and 3 staff have committed suicide in the last five years, many other prisons have similar suicide records.

Outside the prisons there is a second wave of social destruction. People leaving prison report problems finding housing and finding jobs and problems adjusting to a less institutional social framework. 6000 children are affected every year by the imprisonment of their mothers, unlike incarceration of fathers which disrupts some families the incarceration of the female parent often destroys them. Lone fathers if they are around find it difficult to cope leaving children in care, the cost of a child in care would be around £700 pw (a secure unit costs more) to be added to the cost of the incarceration of a parent which was £1,915 pm in '92. Prison riots add to this expense, the Wymott Prison riot, claimed to be the direct result of overcrowding, cost 20 million. One prison officer at Dartmoor described the riots as, "A blessing in disguise", since the necessary refurbishment had turned what were old and decrepit cells into modern cells with luxuries such as a toilet.

The Archbishop of Canterbury said, "In many cases it can be argued that prison is a short term economy, which brings with it no long term solutions. Instead it leads to the perpetuation of a criminal class". He is far from alone in this view. One study which found that increasing the prison population, reducing the criminal off the street, would reduce crime. This study estimated that a doubling of prison numbers would reduce crime by 1%. Many leading Ouse criminologists, police, wardens and politicians are starting to talk about cost effective systems for dealing with crime that are preventative not custodial. However in the USA, the Clinton administration is preparing new legislation, the Crime Bill, it adds 52 offences to the Federal crimes punishable by death, and would lead to more prisoners. In Britain the Criminal Injustice Bill coming into force later this year, largely unopposed by Labour or Liberal parties, will add a whole new swath of imprisonable crimes to the police armoury.

Alexander Paterson, the prison commissioner of the 1930's said, "It is impossible to train men for freedom in a condition of captivity", by freedom we assume he meant life outside the prison. This statement is not only true it needs to be taken further, it is impossible to create a free society by locking people behind bars. A rise in the prison population goes hand in hand with greater police powers and encourages a climate of fear. A recent survey found that 30% of women were scared to drive at night, blatantly this sort of level of fear is totally out of proportion to the risk. Scaring people with crime stories and police operas and then increasing police pow-
ers, arming them and being 'hard on crime' may be good for politician’s election prospects, but it creates immense social damage and great expenditure. Ultimately the 'crime' bandwagon can only lead one way, a direction that is becoming increasingly apparent, towards a police state.

Magistrates in the C18th were not held in high esteem, Tobias Smollett in his History of England in 1760 described them as, 'Men of profligate lives, needy, mean, ignorant and rapacious who often acted from the most scandalous principles of selfish avarice'.

**Police Get Guns**

Under new proposals outlined by Paul Condon the police commissioner of the Metropolitan police, the London Met., 2000 out of the forces 28,000 police officers will be authorised to carry guns. This represents a large increase and will mean nationally 11,000 out of 125,000 police will be fire arms trained. Apart from the increase in arms trained cops, the rules surrounding the use of firearms is to be changed to allow easier access to guns. This is a major step on the road to an armed police force.

Present rules state that firearms should be concealed, these will be scrapped and police will drive around with guns on their laps and walk around with a holster on their belt.

Police will not have to get permission from senior officers before taking weapons out on patrol.

Unarmed police will have the right to refuse to attend a violent incident if an armed response vehicle is available.

**Police Get Bigger Sticks**

After the beating of Rodney King by the Los Angeles police the US style side handled baton lost some of its charm. The British police started experimenting with telescopic batons and other devices. Now the Metropolitan police in a move that could well be followed by other police forces are introducing the new 'Arnold' polycarbonate baton as standard equipment.

The new 2ft high tech. truncheon has already been used by the Northumbrian police and they liked it. If used to hit people over the head it would be extremely dangerous, police publicity showed it in used against an knife attack, we’ll have to see how it gets used...The baton gets worn openly hanging from the belt and not hidden in the pocket as the old truncheon.
RESOURCES

'...One days exposure to mountains is better than a cartloads of books.'
John Muir, (1838-1914)

Suing the Cops
Available from Haringey Solidarity Group, (HSG), PO Box 2401, London, N8.
This is a well produced and clear leaflet on how to go about suing the police. This leaflet covers briefly:
what you can sue for,
what kind of court case it will be,
how much you could win,
what costs are involved.
The police have had easy time with Earth First!, while a few brave souls are suing the police over various brutalities and false arrests for the most part too many people let it go. Suing the police can be satisfying and financially rewarding so when we can we must do it.

Struggle for the Land
Ward Churchill, (Creek/Cherokee Metis), a co-ordinator of the Colorado chapter of the American Indian Movement, has put together a collection of his essays on native land struggles which has no parallel. It is much more than a compendium of theft and genocide, these collected essays stand as a testament to relentless resistance and strength in the face of crushing opposition. It shows that the destruction of indigenous peoples through the expropriation and/or destruction of their land bases is very much an ongoing phenomenon in the US and Canada.
It shows that the processes are not simply genocidal; they are increasingly ecocidal in their implications. Not only the people of the land are being destroyed, but, more and more, the land itself. The nature of native resistance to the continuing onslaught of the invading industrial culture is shaped accordingly. It is the resistance forged in the crucible of a struggle for survival. Essays include; 'Radioactive Colonisation', 'The Black Hills land struggle', 'The Navajo-Hopi land dispute', and 'The Water Plot: Hydrological Rape in Northern Canada'.

A s E F l e r s increasingly involve themselves in land rights issues, whether it be reclaiming the highlands, defending rights of access or stopping the concretisation of our land, this book will increase in relevance.

The Verge
Available bi-monthly from EYFA, P.p. Box 92066, 1090 AB, Amsterdam, Netherlands.
Feeling socially alienated, think we are the only remnants of (in-)sanity surrounded by humans who's only purpose is to work, consume and die? Don't despair, you are not alone, there are millions like us, all over the world 'The Verge' is the cure for despair. This is THE euro-wide eco-activist networking magazine. Published in english it carries news of direct action from 30 countries across the continent. Eco-Anarch-Situ-Blah-Blah-Blah oriented mayhem. It's Great.

Ecology - and our endangered Life Support Systems
One of the problems with running around the country objecting to everything is having to explain new and complex ideas to different people in different areas. If you, like me are an amateur ecologist then this book is a must. This book provides basic clear explanations of most central ecological issues.
It is important to be able to communicate to people and explain that our politics are not driven by whimsey or a desire to see our faces in the papers. Our politics came out of necessity, simply if the human race does not relate sustainably
and respectfully to the ecology around it, not only does it risk major ecological disasters, (these have already begun), it risks the very survival of life, including of course itself.

This book deals with all the major issues; population, evolution, energetics, and also explains ecosystems covering marshes, wetlands, forests, oceans and others. It does this in a clear and calm way, never failing to get across the principles of the study of ecology. From Gaia Hypothesis, to the carbon cycle and from Genetic Engineering to Global Modelling.

As Earth First! we are enormously bad at getting our ideas across to the public. Ecological politics in Britain historically has been very much an aesthetic environmentalism, concerned middle classes who want the countryside to look natural, (but not threatening!). Though in EF! there are many 'soms', Social ecology, Deep Ecology, Liberation Ecology and Revolutionary Ecology; there still remains a very low Ecological literacy even among EF!ers. This book has helped me understand what I am doing and should be read by everyone who walks, campaigns and lives on planet earth.

**The Infinite Onion**, 40p-good rabid book stores or DS4A.

Anti-Fascist, Animal Liberation, Native American struggles, RAF, cars vs penguins, recipes, pink pacifists in Yugoslavia- this magazine has got the lot. From the USA its packed full of interesting and obscure articles, reviews, cartoons etc.Read it!

**At War With The Truth**
- The true Story of Searchlight Agent Tim Hepple

In the mirky world of fascist infiltration and counter infiltration there are many players MI5, fascist sects, Trotsky party front groups, and anti fascist organisations. Its a confusing mess but this pamphlet goes some way to clearing up the confusion. This is the story of the infiltration of a green group by a supposedly anti fascist group based around the magazine Searchlight. It soon becomes clear that Searchlight's articles over the last few years have as much to do with the editor Gerry Gables prejudices and desire for power as they have to do with the truth. The easiest explanation for this I found not in At War With The Truth but scrawled on a toilet wall, 'Searchlight = MI5'.

The American Communist Party in New York was once so heavily infiltrated that most of its membership and most of it's money came from the FBI. If the same is true of EF! then they're doing a good job.

The message of this story is keep your contact list well hidden, don't say anything stupid on the telephone and never trust anyone except yourself. There are certain people who are interested in how we organise and will send infiltrators, tap our phones and pay informers to find out. The problem for them is that since we don't even know how we manage to get together half the time, and since we have nothing to hide the MI5 and Special Branch are wasting their time.

**Terror or Love**

Bommi Bauman, £6.95 - available from good radical bookshops or DS4A.

A personal account, from someone who was there, of a revolutionary group which decided to pick up guns and build bombs. Bommi came out of the radical scene of the late 60's, an alienated worker who wanted more than 40 years of slavery and a pension. He was part of the Roaming Hash Rebels and later the June 2nd Movement, named after the day that a young protestor was killed by the police.

This isn't an uncritical history which papers over the mistakes and problems of an urban guerilla movement in the modern industrial west. Bommi went underground in 1972 leaving the June the 2nd movement which others carried on. Having seen friends killed by the police and still living in hiding now, he wrote Terror or Love while on the run. This book provides us with a rare insight into the psychology and history of a generation which many would have us believe did nothing but smoke dope and grow their hair long.

Particularly interesting is Bommi's account of the sexism endemic in the June 2nd Movement and Red Army Faction. On actions the women were treated
RESOURCES

like men and back at the hide out they were treated like sex objects. Meanwhile the women did most of the work. Although the groups are very different from EF! there are lessons here for Earth Firstlers, both male and female, but mostly for the male.

Bommi not only writes about what drove the alternative hippie scene to produce bomb throwing anarchist groups but also criticises the addiction to guns. This book makes you feel as though you know what is like to have a gun in your pocket and be ready to use it. It also makes you feel as if you know what that does to someone's head. It is a captivating and exciting read - you'll not want to put the book down.

Faslane Focus
Available with donation from Faslane Peace camp, Shandon, Helensburgh, Dunbartonshire, Scotland

Great 'zine from the hyperactive set of mani@cs that is the faslane peace camp. News on Trident, nuclear convoys and the reclaiming of scottish land back from the english military. Inspirational!

How to Make Your Own Nuclear Bomb
-a guide for the ambitious vandal

Some have bombs to protect democracy, the Russians used to have the 'Workers bomb' with this pamphlet and a little plutonium we could soon have the eco bomb.

First obtain your Plutonium. Luckily for the ambitious terrorist the government has left large quantities of the stuff all across the country, if you live in England or wales you are unlikely to be more than 100 miles from a pile of the stuff. Making you own is expensive and it can be difficult to get planning permission, you could claim you want to produce electricity, however no one will be fooled and you will loose the element of surprise.

You should be careful in the construction of your bomb, plutonium is a radioactive substance and it is best to keep several inches of a gamma absorbant material between you and it. Protective clothing can easily be made from a beekeeping suit and some tin foil.

There is much mistery surrounding nuclear weapons, essentially they are very simple devices. Just wrap some high explosives around your lump of plutonium and connect a timing device, for example an alarm clock. 16kg of plutonium would give an explosion roughly equivalent to 1 thousand tonnes of TNT, this should be enough to make your point.

You bomb need not be an entirely destructive device, there are many creative aspects, an airburst explosion for example will leave structures at the eye of the explosion standing. Or rather than just crudly blowing your target away you could set the bomb off down wind from, for example, a town. This way most of the buildings will remain standing and just as many people will die, just a little more slowly.

It should be noted that it would be unwise to visit the region of the explosion for a few decades after the explosion. It should also be noted that a reliable method of transport should be used after planting the device, hitch hiking is not recommended for this journey.

Available from good bookshops.

How To Sink Whalers,
Driftnetters and other Environmentally Destructive Ships.
Sea Shepherd Orcaforce agent 13,

Britain is an island nation, most trade relies on the docks. Title says it all really! (allegedly)

The Direct Action Video
£4.00, available from Oxford EF!

Described as 'half an hour of empowering scenes of the powers that be getting it in the neck all over the world, (non-violently, of course).'

Breaking Free: The Adventures of Tin-Tin
£3.95 plus 50p (p&p) from DS4A

Politics in a palitable form. This is a cartoon tale of Tin tin and his friends, a tale of love, struggle and revolution. Tin-Tin, a working class lad gets involved in a strike, meets feminism, and learns that there is more to revolution than barricades and balaclavas.

What makes this book intristing, beyond the fact that is very redable, is that Tin-Tin is not only faced with the problems of bosses, the police and army, he also has to face up to his own prejudices. This cartoon book is about escaping, escaping from the boredom of the factory, escaping the trap of stereotyping and escaping the trap of believing things cannot change. They can, they must and they will.
RESOURCES

The Complete Manual of Pirate Radio
Available from freedom bookshop, 84b White Chapel, high st, london, E17QX, £1.00.

A basic introduction to Pirate Radio. How to set up a studio, build a transmitter and ariel. However this book fails to get across how easy it is to get transmitting. You can now buy kits for small and medium radio transmitters through the back pages of most electronics magazines. Devices for bugging and all sorts of useful electrical devices are cheap and easily available.

Those who control the media control our minds. It is essential that we develop an alternative media. Why have you views misinterpreted and lied about on TV and radio when you can tell it like it really is!

THE BLAST!
New paper from the Agitator Index Collective from the Twin Cities USA and part of the Love and Rage Federation. Covers Zapatistas, Racism in the States, Prisoner support and much more. For a mag with an overt political stance, and a quite traditional one at that, it remains fresh and honest. The Agitator Index platform printed in this the first issue is one of the best political platforms that I've seen, the interview with Lorenzo Komboa Ervin on Anarchism and the Black Revolution should be read by all anarchists, and for that matter all greens.

The Blast! Available from AK distribution.

If you find any difficulty getting hold of any of the resources in this section you can always try DS4A, Box 8, Greenleaf Bookshop, 82 Colston st, Bristol, Avon, BS1 5BB. All books, 'zines, videos etc are welcome for submission to the Resources section of 'Do or lunch Out', (obviously within reason). cross-fertilisation, networking and solidarity are essential for the continuation and growth of an EFFECTIVE movement. When we climb out of our respective ghettos, forget our sectarian prejudices and link up; this is when we force the state into retreat. lets keep the momentum going and turn the heat up on the REAL 'eco-terrorists'!

ANARCHY IN THE UK
OCTOBER - 21st-30th - 1994
LONDON

10 DAYS THAT SHOOK THE WORLD
Gigs: Levellers, Chumbawumba, Conflict, Oi Polloi, and more. Poetry, Film and Video, Raves, Dancing. Comedy plus All Night Debates and Speakers from more groups than you've had hot dinners! Anarchist Bookfair and London Greenpeace Bookfair and over 500 meetings. Levitation of Houses of parliament Oct. 23rd and Street Action Against the Criminal Justice Bill Oct. 27th.

Programme available (SAE+F1). Help needed, Money, Venues, kids stuff, ideas, hands, accommodation, translators contact, ANARCHY IN THE UK, PO BOX 1096, BRISTOL BS99 1HW

Contact Point During Festival - CONWAY HALL, RED LION SQUARE LONDON WC2.

DO OR DIE NUMBER 4 43
Aufheben 3

Can we slay the roads monster?

We at Do or Die don’t normally take much notice of anything which bandies the word Marx around, there’s simply too much ‘Marxist’ bullshit but this magazine is in a class of its own (He He - pun intended). So despite the fact that we are about to go to print we’ve squeezed a review in, it’s a rush job but here it is.

'The need for the road building programme is the need of an alien power'.

This is a brilliant issue. The articles on the road/car empire and resistance to it, provide a clear analysis of the place and role of the car in modern capitalism.

Out go all those outdated conceptions of revolution, the state, class and technology and in came a powerful and resonant critique of capital and its antagonists. Aufheben’s Autonomist outlook takes an anti work line, forget 'Jobs for all', the progressive tendency desires to escape work altogether. Technology is seen as the enemy of the proletariat (us proles).

Today the factory has extended itself to all walks of life, everywhere is the factory. the point as far as class goes is not to focus on peoples class background but to look at what people do and the effects of their actions. Todays proles are everywhere from the universities to the dole, from the street to the office.

For those interested in cars, capitalism and the enslavement of the human race this is your magazine. This review doesn’t do it justice read it yourself!

£2 at good bookshops or from Aufheben c/o Prior House, Tilbury Place, Brighton, BN2 2GY, UK.
CONTACTS

EFI Contact Directory, POB 34, Gaberville, CA 95542, (ISA (707) 943-3788. Can provide a full list of all groups in the world.

International EFI Contacts:

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Canada, c/o Vancouver EFI, Box 21521, 1850, Commercial Dr, Vancouver, BC V5N 4A0

Denmark, c/o Troels Floe 5th, 43 Absalonsgade 1658, Copenhagen V

Germany, c/o Jan Ebert, Blumenrode 11/13, D-8620, Lichtfels.

USA, c/o Alarm PO BOX 804, Burlington, VT, 05402

India, c/o Anand Skaria, PB 14, Cochin 6862001, Kerala, Tel 009-484-25435 SAVE Bandar Baglcha, Near Maurya, lokPATA-800-001 Bihar, Post Box 229.

Mexico, c/o Mexico City EFI, Joe Keenan Apdo, Postal 22-146, 14000, Mexico, DF, (5) 665-1610

Poland, c/o A. Januszk Korbel, ul. magi 21/3 23-300 Bleskso, Biala

British Earth First! groups

Arun EFI, Ecotopia, 1 York road, Littlehampton, W. Sussex, 0903-717-746

Auld Reekie EFI, Peace & Justice Centre, St. John's Crypt, Princes St, Edinburgh, Scotland, 031-221-1049

Bath EFI, 9 Hardens close, Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN15 3AA, 0249-650-078

Birmingham EFI, PO BOX 3416, Mosley, Birmingham, B13 8QR, Tel/Fax:021-449-6675

Blackmore Vale EFI, Agriculture House, Bath road, Sturminster Newton, Dorset, DT10 1DU

Bradford EFI, 1 in 12 Club, Albion st, Bradford, BD1

Brixton EFI, PO BOX 1593, London, SW9 8LT, 071-737-0100.

Caledonian Green Circle, 2/2 Brighhead Drive, Lathouse, Govan, Glasgow, Scotland

Calne EFI, c/o Flat 2, 27 Church street, Calne, Wiltsire, 0223-249-410

Cambridge EFI, 282 Mill road, Cambridge, 0223-249-410

Cissbury Ring EFI, c/o SDEFI, Prior House, Tilby place, South Downs, BN2 2GY

Camden EFI, 5 Cliff Court, Cliff Road, Camden, London, NW1 9AP, 071-267-1996

Dart Valley EFI, c/o Swan, PO Box 11, Buckfastleigh, Devon

Doncaster EFI, 35 Lonsdale House, Doncaster, DN1 6QT

Glasgow EFI, 3 George st, Paisley, PA1 2JB, Scotland, 041887-8990

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Gwynedd EFI, c/o 3 Sheffield House, Bethesda, Gwynedd, Wales, 0248-600-286

Hastings EFI, 14 Eversley Crescent, St. Leonards, East Sussex.

DO OR DIE NUMBER 4

Kingston EFI, PO BOX 370A, Kingston, KT6 4YH

Lune Valley EFI, 78a Penney st, Lancaster, LA1 1XN, 0524-841-741/842-149

Llanelli EFI, c/o Jon, 28 New rd, Dafen, Llanelli, Dyfed, SA14 8LS, 0554-754-947

Leeds EFI, 16 Sholebrook Ave, Chapeltown, Leeds, LS7 3HB, 0532-629427

Loughborough EFI, c/o The Clan Matts, 21 Lower Cambridge st, Loughborough, Leicestershire

Maidstone EFI, PO BOX 263, Maidstone, Kent, ME17 3PW

Manchester EFI, Dep 29, 1 Newton Street, Piccadilly, Manchester, M1 1HW, Office: 061-248-9224, Evenings: 061-248-9224

Merseyside EFI, PO BOX 187, 160 Mount Pleasant, Liverpool, L69 7BR, Office: 051-794-4167

Mid-Glamorgan EFI, Ton Glas, Ewenney Rd, Brigend, Mid-Glamorgan, Wales, CF35 5AP, 0656-652-645

Mid-Somerset EFI, PO BOX 23, 5 High Street, Glastonbury, Somerset, BA6 9PB, 0458-831-545

Newcastle EFI, PO Box 1JY, Newcastle-un-Tyne, NE99 1JY, 091-265-2683

No M11 Link Road Campaign, Arch 211, Grove Green Road, Leytonstone, London, E11 4AJ, Tel. 081-558-2638

North Downs EFI, 6 Conifer Court, Eaton Road, Sutton, SM2 5DX

North Kent EFI, Box ELF, 25 East Hill, Dartford, Kent, DA1 1RX
North London EF!, 26 Dukes Ave, Muswell Hill, London

North Wales EF!, Tanrallt, Rhoastryfan, Caernafon, Gwynned, Wales, LL54 7NT, 0286-830-312

Northampton EF!, 8 Cranbrook rd, Northampton, NN2 6JT, 0604-718-481

Notts EFJ/FIN, BOX EF!, 180 Mansfield Road, Nottingham, 0602-851-405

Norwich EF!, The Greenhouse, 48 Bethel st, Norwich, Norfolk, Tel. 0603-631-007, Fax. 0603-666-879

Oxford EF!, BOX E, 111 Magdalen Road, Oxford, OX4 1RQ, Tel. 0865-201-706, Fax. 0865-202-706

Pitponia EF!, Mewkin's Cottage, Bell View, Leadhills, Lanarkshire, Alba, Scotland, ML12 6XU, Tel: 0659-744-34

Reading EF!, Box 56, Rising Son Institute, 30 Silver st, Reading, RG1 2ST

Road Alert!/ Southampton EF!, PO Box 371, Southampton, SO9 7BS, Tel: 0703-237-809

Sarum EF!, 9 Melor View, Amesbury, Nr Salisbury, Wilts

Sedgmore EF!, 8isleport rd, High rd, High Bridge, Somerset, TA9 4QX

Sheffield EF!, 93 Hoole st, Waikly, Sheffield, S10, Tel: 0742-311-176

Solsbury Hill Action Group, Tel: 0223-481-995

South Cornwall EF!, 11 New Street, Troon, Cambourne, Cornwall

South Downs EF!, Prior House, Tilbury place, South Downs, BN2 2GY

South Somerset EF!, 12 Westfield Grove, Yeovil, Somerset, 0935-334-93

Stroud Valleys EF!, 39 Bowbridge Lock, Bowbridge, Stroud, Gloucestershire, 0453-757-642

Tamar Valley EF!, UoSPU(P), Drake Circus, Plymouth, Devon

The Wilderness!, 23 Vicars Cross, Chester, CH3 5NJ

Wirral EF!, 32 Mather Road, Birkenhead, Wirral, L43 4QA, 051-652-5049

Wolves EF!, C/o Wolves Hunt sabs, BOX H, Wolves Uni Student Union, Wulfruna street, Wolverhampton

Westbury EF!, 15 Bratton Rd, Westbury, Wilts, BA13 3EP

York EF!, 10 Campsleshen rd, South Bank, York, Y02 1EP, Tel: 0904-654-966

British EF! Propaganda:

Do or Die, c/o South Downs EF!, Prior House, Tilbury place, South Downs, BN2 2GY

EF! Action Update, c/o Manchester EF!, Dept 29, 1 Newton Street, Piccadilly, Manchester, M1 1HW

Letters from the Wilderness, c/o Leeds EF!, 16 Sholebrook Ave, Chapeltown, Leeds, LS7 3HB

Other ghostdancers

Bristol Eco-Action Network(BEAN), PO BOX 845, Bristol, BS99 5HQ, Tel: 0272-412-628

Hunt Saboteurs Association, PO Box 1, Carlton, Nottingham, NG4 2JY, Tel: 0602-590-357

Fastlane Peace Camp, Shandon, Helensburgh, Dumbertonshire, Scotland, Tel: 0436-820-901.

London Greenpeace, 5 Caledonia rd, Kings cross, London, N1, Tel: 071-837-7557

Animal Liberation Investigation Unit, PO BOX 38, Manchester, M60 1NX, 061-953-4039

Green Anarchist, AVA, PO BOX 407, Camberly, Surry, GU15 3JY.

Animal Liberation Front Press Office, BM 4400, London, WCIN 3XX, 0954-30542

Anti-Nuclear Network, c/o 265 Seven Sisters rd, London, N4 2DE

Industrial Workers of the World, British contact, c/o 9 Omdurman st, Swindon, Wilts, SN2 1HA

Cetacean Defence, PO Box 11, SE District Office, Manchester, M18 8GU