

ORIGINAL AND BEST

**No. 70 AUTUMN '03 £1/\$2
FREE TO PRISONERS**

GREEN ANARCHIST

For the destruction of Civilisation

**ALTERNATIVE TECHNOLOGY ISSUE. LIGHTS OUT IN NEW YORK. THE PERENNIAL WILD MEN.
BETRAYAL ON BOUGAINVILLE. DIRECT ACTION DIARY. PRISONER SUPPORT. COMBAT DISPATCH.
BOB BLACK'S APES OF WRATH. HAMMER OF WITCHES.**

AUGUST 1, 2003, SAN DIEGO:



**IF YOU BUILD IT
WE WILL BURN IT**

DIARY OF DIRECT ACTION

More info: ALF Supporters Group, BM 1160, London WC1N 3XX; *Arkangel*, BCM 9280, London WC1N 3XX; North American ALF Supporters Group (NAALFSG), PO Box 428, Brighton, Ontario, Canada K0K 1H0; *Earth First! Action Update* c/o PO Box 2971, Brighton, East Sussex BN2 2TT; and *Earth First! Journal*, PO Box 3023, Tucson, AZ 85702, USA.

FEBRUARY

- 1: CAPRALBA, ITALY - ALF free 2,000 mink.
- 2: CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, USA - 58 trucks damaged by ALF at lobster wholesalers. \$50,000 damage.
- 6: UPPSALA, SWEDEN - ALF break windows at chinchilla farmer's home.
- 9: VOLKEL, NETHERLANDS - US military satellite dish trashed, - 11 nuclear missiles off-line for 24 hours. \$500,000 damage.
- 11: PIEVE DI TECO, ITALY - Phone mast torched, 'Free Marco' slogans left.
- 15: PONTEDURA, ITALY - Two Benetton shops bricked and sloganised.
- 17: UPPSALA, SWEDEN - ALF break more windows at chinchilla breeder's home.
- 19: AMELIA, ITALY - Phone mast torched. 'ALF', 'Free Marco' slogans left.
- 19: ROME, ITALY - Attempted phone mast torching - 'Free Marco, Free Everyone' slogans left.
- DUBLIN, EIRE - US Navy war-plane trashed at Shannon airport. Five arrests.

MARCH

- 5: LECCE, ITALY - Benetton shop damaged.
- 7: TRENTO, ITALY - Four Esso garages sabbed.
- 9: HUMBOLDT COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, USA - Thousands of surveyors flags removed by

- Forest Defenders to prevent logging.
- 13: TURIN, ITALY - Duck freed from ornamental pond built for Olympic complex.
 - 18: SIDNEY, AUSTRALIA - Huge 'No War' slogan painted on roof of Opera House.
 - 20: BRISTOL, AVON - Two cop cars trashed and Labour offices sloganised: 'No War', 'Murderers'.
 - 20: ROME, ITALY - 8 Esso garages torched.
 - 21: BROADMEAD, BRISTOL, AVON - McDonalds bricked.
 - 21: SUPERIOR TOWNSHIP, MICHIGAN, USA - ELF trash urban sprawl under construction: \$400,000 damage.
 - 22: MILAN, ITALY - Mollies thrown at McDonalds and Israeli tourist agency during peace demo.
 - 22: TRIESTE, ITALY - 5 Esso garages sabbed.
 - 23: LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, USA - Fur and Andrews-related windows catapulted.
 - 23: TURIN, ITALY - Two uni departments using Morini (HLS subsidiary breeder) animals daubed and sloganised. Peace flag substituted for 'No Peace for Killers' banner.
 - 24: BRISTOL, AVON - Starbucks trashed. 'Stop the War' slogan.
 - 24: AVIANO, ITALY - US military car torched.
 - 27: DANTIAGO, CHILE - Cashpoint machine blown up at US-owned BankBoston.
 - 27: SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, USA - Car and home of HLS

- representative daubed with red paint by ALF.
- 27: VICENZA, ITALY - More US Army personnel cars torched.
 - 27: ROME, ITALY - 12 cards at Ford dealership torched. Like attempt at Jaguar dealers. Anti-war protest.
 - 29: MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, USA - ELF torch US Nany truck and sloganise five more: 'Stop the War', 'Leave Iraq'.
 - 30: MILAN, ITALY - Esso garages sabbed.
 - 30: PIETRASANTA, ITALY - Six city council cars torched in anti-incinerator action.
 - 30: BOLOGNA, ITALY - Bomb found I front of IBM offices.
 - 31: WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND - ALF brick two McDonalds, three butchers and another burger outlet.

APRIL

- 1: CAGLIARI, ITALY - Esso garage torched.
- 2: ALFEN / BORCHEN, GERMANY - 24 dogs freed from vivisection breeder.
- 3: BRISTOL, AVON - BP petrol station trashed. 'No War', 'No Blood for Oil' slogans.
- 4: CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, USA - ALF torch tiger meat store. \$100,000 damage.
- 4: TARRANO, ITALY - 11 tourist chalets torched.
- 8: SANTA CRIZ, CALIFORNIA, USA - ELF sloganise 65 SUVs and trucks: 'No War', 'SUVs Suck', 'No Blood for Oil'.
- 10: ESSUNGA, SWEDEN - ALF free 8,000 mink from fur farm.
- 10: LIVORNO, ITALY - Forest Service manager's house dynamited.
- 10: LIVORNO, ITALY - Phone mast torched.
- 10: SASSARI, SARDINIA - Two Natural Reserve boats torched in access dispute.
- 11: FORLI, ITALY - Two fur shops, Benetton and Blockbusters paintbombed.
- 16: TURIN, ITALY - Sumitomo (HLS customer) glued and sloganised.
- 18: DUBLIN, EIRE - Peace protestors plant potatoes on Shannon airport runway.
- 19: ORISTANO, ITALY - McDonalds bomb-damaged.
- 25: PIETRASANTA, ITALY - Three Benetton shops trashed.
- 27: TURIN, ITALY - University customer of Morini (HLS customer) glued.

MAY

- 3: LIVORNO, ITALY - Benetton bricked. 'Solidarity with Mapuche people' slogan.
- 9: ALBANY, NEW YORK, USA - Office trailer of asphalt company torched.
- 9: PISA, ITALY - phone mast torched.
- 18: MODENA, ITALY - Forty quail liberated by ALF, two hunt kennels trashed.
- 22: PISA, ITALY - Two Sisley (Benetton subsidiary) shops bricked.
- 30: VENICE, ITALY - Satirical masked individuals shove shit in psychiatrist's face.
- 30: CASALMORANO, ITALY - Fires set amongst trucks and machinery at Sygenta site. 'No GMOs, No Sygenta, No Pesticides, Sab Biotech' slogan left.
- GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA, USA - Thirty SUVs at dealership trashed with etching fluid.

ELF PUTS SUV'S OFF-ROAD FOR GOOD



On August 22, the Earth Liberation Front (ELF) simultaneously carried out acts of property destruction at several auto dealerships in California.

Clippinger Chevrolet of West Covina, California, sustained more than one million dollars in damages after 20 SUVs—mostly H2 Hummers—were set on fire. Twenty additional vehicles were damaged by the fire, and a warehouse on the site was destroyed.

In Duarte, California, SUVs from Advantage Ford were spray-painted with messages such as "ELF,"

"Gross Polluter" and "We (Heart) Pollution." Across the street, thirty cars at Duarte Mitsubishi were also hit with graffiti that condemned SUV ownership.

At Rusnak Mercedes Benz in Arcadia, California, 10 luxury SUVs were spray-painted with the words "terrorist," "killer" and "ELF." Rusnak estimated losses of up to \$300,000.

According to the ELF Press Office, "ELF actions are a reminder to SUV owners of how their personal choices affect the society and environment in which they live."

JUNE

- 3: CHICO, CALIFORNIA, USA - ELF opposing sprawl try torching luxury home: "Civilization as a whole has proven detrimental to human and non-human animals. We won't settle for anything less than complete collapse."
- 4: DETROIT, MICHIGAN, USA - ELF torch two homes under construction. \$700,000 damage.
- 7: TREVISO, ITALY - 24 cashpoint machines for biotech-funding back sabbed.
- 7: LECCO, ITALY - Two Esso garages damaged.
- 14: SASSARI, ITALY - Phone mast bombed.
- 14: DORGAZI, ITALY - Phone mast torched.
- 18: ROME, ITALY - Transport company supporting Morini (HLS subsidiary breeder) super-glued and sloganised.
- 19: ROME, ITALY - Two Morini-connected vivisectors' homes sloganised.
- 20: CAGUARI, ITALY - Shop owned by beach-polluting local politician torched.
- 23: EDMOND, OKLAHOMA, USA - ALF trash HLS investor's home.
- 26: NUORO, ITALY - Tourist structure bombed before opening.
- WINSHILL, BURTON, STAFFORDSHIRE - Halls (vivisection breeders) employee trapped in home by house-wrapping chains.

AUGUST

- 1: SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA - ELF torch condo complex, \$50 million damage.
- 10: REGGIO EMILIA, ITALY - Morini (HLS subsidiary breeder) farm owner's car dramatically destroyed.
- 12: SONOMA, CALIFORNIA, USA - Foie gras restaurant trashed.
- 15: PARMA, ITALY - Pioneer Hi-Bred production plant torched, stopping production in peak-harvest. 'Pioneer pollutes seeds. Fire to GMOs' slogan left.

SEPTEMBER

- 27: KATHIMERINI, GREECE - Unidentified assailants threw molotov cocktail bombs at a National Bank branch in Thessaloniki at around 3 a.m. before launching another two at a nearby branch of McDonald's. Minor damage to bank's ATM and a fire in the McDonald's branch.

SAN DIEGO CONDOS BURNT

The Earth Liberation Front (ELF) has accepted responsibility for a \$50 million fire in San Diego, California, that destroyed an unfinished five-story condominium complex on August 1. No one was hurt in the blaze, which was credited to the ELF through a painted slogan: "If you build it, we will burn it. E.L.F."

The Golden Triangle area, where the complex was located, is adjacent to Rose Canyon—home to bobcats, coyotes, ash-throated flycatchers, red-shouldered hawks, barn owls and orioles, as well as at least two rare and threatened plants.

From 2,000 years ago until the last century, the Kumeyaay people inhabited a seasonal village in Rose Canyon, gathering acorns from the once abundant coastal live oaks, weaving baskets from the arroyo willow and hunting not far from where a seven-million-dollar crane was destroyed by the ELF fire.

This particular project, La Jolla Crossroads, when completed would comprise 1,800 apartments with an average monthly rent of \$1,340. The 42-acre Nobel Research Center, which will house the biotechnology company IDEC Corporation, is

planned to be built adjacent to the site. Following the fire, a small, hand-printed sign was taped to a traffic barrier near the construction site: "Thank-You E.L.F. Burn Baby Burn." Tad Simmons of Carlsbad said that as an environmentalist he had mixed feelings about the fire. "Part of me thinks it's kind of cool that somebody had the guts to stand for something like this—a cause, and that nobody ever gets hurt."

No arrests have been made, but the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force said several suspects were being tracked. On August 14, FBI agents raided the home of animal rights activists affiliated with the San Diego-based Compassion for Farm Animals (CFA). CFA organized a lecture with Rod Coronado on the day of the ELF fire. Agents seized phone lists, a computer, a video camera and videotape of the lecture, which was part of ongoing Revolution Summer events in San Diego.

Since the fire, CFA activists have been under constant surveillance and have had their home mysteriously broken into and vehicle stolen.

Thanks to the *Earth First Journal* www.earthfirstjournal.org

PRISONERS OF WAR

These revolutionaries have been jailed for their beliefs so you can write them letters of support (nothing compromising!). Those not listed shouldn't take it as a sleight they've been excluded - just send us your details and we'll put you on our free mailing list! Prisoner details change rapidly and may be out of date by the time you read GA.

More information from: Earth Liberation Front Prisoners Newsletter, BM Box 2407, London WC1N 3XX and North American ELP, POB 11331, Eugene, OR 97440, USA. ELP-Poland PO Box 43, 15-662 Bialystok 26, Poland.

On the web, see www.spiritoffreedom.org.uk

ECO-DEFENCE PRISONERS

Dr. Yuril Bandazhevsky, Ul. Kalvarijjskaya 36, PO Box 35K, Minsk 220600, Belarus.

Serving 8 years for telling the world that the nuclear radiation around Chernobyl is worse than the Belarus Government has admitted.

José Bové, N° d'écrou 22377 Y, Bloc A 07, 34753 Villeneuve-les-Maguelone, France.

Serving 10-months for trashing GM crops.

Jen Bradley, (CS# 057 454 68), Burnaby Correctional Centre for Women, 7900 Fraser Park Drive, Burnaby, BC V5J 5H1, Canada.

On remand for forest defence activity.

Marco Camenisch, Hörnlistrasse 55, 8330 Pfäffikon/ZH Switzerland

Serving 10-years for anti-nuclear eco-bombings. In 2002 he completed a 12-year sentence in Italy for similar actions. Charges relating to his escape from prison in the 80s are also expected. Marco reads French, German, Spanish & Italian.

Ted Kaczynski (04475-046), US Pen - admin Max Facility, PO Box 8500, Florence Colorado 81226, USA.

Is serving multiple life sentences for the infamous 'Unabomber' anti-technology bombing campaign.

Iñaki Garcia Koch, Carcel de Pamplona, C/San Roque. Apdo. 250, 31080 - Iruñez - Pamplona, Navarra (España), Spain.

Serving just under 5 years for sabotaging a dam construction site.

Betty Krawczyk, (CS# 037 939 24), Burnaby Correctional Centre for Women, 7900 Fraser Park Drive, Burnaby, BC V5J 5H1, Canada.

On Remand for forest defence.

Jeffrey Luers, #13797671, OSP, 2605 State St. Salem, OR 97310, USA.

Serving 22 years & 8 months for arson on a car dealership & attempted arson of an oil truck.

Craig Marshall, #13797662, SRCl, 777 Stanton Blvd, Ontario, OR 97914 USA.

Serving 5 years 5 months for conspiracy to commit arson and possession of incendiary devices, having used the devices to destroy SUV's to raise attention to the environmentally destructive nature of these vehicles.

Fran Thompson, 1090915, Chillicothe Correctional Center, 1500 W. Third St, Chillicothe, MO 64601, USA.

An eco-activist serving Life for killing, in self-defence, a stalker who had broken into her home.

Helen Woodson, 03231-045 FMC Carswell, POB 27137, Fort Worth, TX 76127, USA.

Serving 27 years for:

1) Robbing a federal bank of \$26,000 and burning the money whilst distributing a statement denouncing materialism, wealth and power that caused environmental destruction.

2) Mailing .38 calibre bullets with warning letters to various Government & corporate officials stating that their actions were like bullets fired into the heart of creation.

3) Using a jackhammer, she carried out a Ploughshares direct disarmament against a Mintueman II missile silo.

Raul Zapatos, Dorm 6-C, Maximum security compound, Bureau of corrections, Muntinlupa City, Metro Manila, Philippines.

Serving Life for shooting dead, in self-defence, armed men connected with illegal logging after they tried to attack him.

ANIMAL LIBERATION

Dave Blenkinsop EM7899, HMP Bullingdon, Oxfordshire OX6 0PZ England.

Serving 10 years.

1) Three years for a stove attack on the Managing Director of HLS.

2) 18 months for rescuing 600 guinea pigs from a lab supplier.

3) 5? years for planting incendiary devices under abattoir vehicles.

Benjamin Persky, DIN: 03R3916, Lakeview Shock Incarceration Corr. Fac., PO Box T, Brocton, New York 14716-0679 USA.

SHAC activist serving 2-6 years for "Criminal Mischief".

ANTI-CAPITALIST

Kratoumeno SIMON CHAPMAN, Dikastikes Fylakes Diavaton, T.K. 540 12, Thessaloniki, Greece

(On Remand)

Robert Thaxton #12112716, OSP, 2605 State St, Salem, OR 97310, USA

(86months)

PEACE & ANTI-WAR

Carol Gilbert, PO Box 518, Georgetown, CO80444, USA.

Jailed for 2 years 9 months for anti-nuke action.

Tony Haughian, JM9774, HMP Pentonville, Caledonian Rd, London N7 8TT, England.

On remand for alleged anti-war activities.

Jackie Hudson, PO Box 518, Georgetown, CO80444, USA.

Jailed for 2? years for anti-nuke action.

Ardeth Platte, PO Box 518, Georgetown, CO80444, USA.

Jailed for 3 years and 5 months for anti-nuke action.

Ulla Roder, HMP Corton Vale, Stirling, FK9 5NY, Scotland.

Jailed for disarming a Tornado war plane.

INDIGENOUS RESISTANCE

Leonard Peltier #89637-132, PO Box 1000, Leavenworth, KS 66048, USA.

Serving Life after being framed for murdering 2 FBI agents.

Eric Wildcat Hall, #BL-5355, Unit I/A 10745 Route 18, Albion, PA 16475-0002, USA.

Serving 35-75 years for helping ship arms to Central American indigenous activists.

MOVE

Debbie Simms Africa (006307), Janet Holloway Africa (006308) and Janine Philips Africa (006309) all at: SCI Cambridge Springs, 451 Fullerton Ave, Cambridge Springs, PA 16403-1238, USA.

Michael Davis Africa (AM4973) and Charles Simms Africa (AM4975) both at SCI Grateford, PO Box 244, Grateford, PA 19426-0244, USA.

Edward Goodman Africa (AM4974), 301 Morea Rd, Frackville, PA 17932, USA.

William Philips Africa (AM4984) and Delbert Orr Africa (AM4985) both at SCI Dallas Drawer K, Dallas, PA 18612, USA.

Mumia Abu Jamal, (AM8335), SCI Greene, 175 Progress Drive, Waynesburg PA 15370, USA.

In 1981 Mumia, was framed for the murder of a cop. Awaiting re-sentencing.

ANTI-FASCIST

Matthew Lamont T90251, A-5-248 UP, Centinella State Prison, PO Box 901, Imperial, CA 92251. USA. Serving 3 years for possessing an incendiary device, allegedly intended to be used to disrupt a neo-nazi gathering.

Tomasz Wiloszewski, Zaklad Karny, Orzechowa 5, 98-200 Sieradz, Poland.

Serving 15 years for accidentally killing a neo-nazi whilst defending himself.

SPANISH ANARCHIST PRISONERS

The latest news we have from our Barcelona comrades imprisoned in September say that they're all under FIES-3 Classification (FIES:Special Prisoners Survey File), which is applied to members of armed band or group.

They were arrested on the morning of September 16th, being held without bail for a trial that could take years. They're being accused of sending a book-bomb, urban terrorism, planning 2 assassinations, illegal possession of firearms, arson attacks, belonging to a terrorist group, etc.

Communications with the outer world are reduced to two letters in and two outside of prison every month. Their families say they are still healthy.

We still have no news about the other ones being driven to other prisons, or if they're still held at Soto del Real Prison, where Roger and Igor were sharing a cell. We also don't know nothing about Joaquin, which isolation was kept even after declaring in Audiencia Nacional and who wasn't

allowed to be assisted by the lawyer who travelled there from Barcelona. We have no clue if he was carried to the same prison or to another one, and also don't know about his health. the two whose location is known:

Rafael Tomás y Gaspar, C.P. Madrid - 3. Ctra Pinto a San Martín de la Vega, Km 5, 28340 Valdemoro - Madrid

Carolina Forné Roig, C.P. DE ÁVILA, Ctra. Vicolozano-Brieva, s/n. 05194 Brieva (Ávila)

Protests at spanish embassy or other actions appreciated. Bail and legal fees needed. International bank account open. To make a donation you will need the following codes:

IBAN: ES58 0182 7028 2102 0153 0482

BIC: BBVAESMMXXX

This is an ongoing process against anarchist movement in Spain which started almost a year ago with the arrest of 4 people in Valencia, and four more 10 months later.

MARCO SOLIDARITY RAIDS

On 24. Sept, Italian police from the Carabinieri Special Operation Branch (ROS) conducted fifty house raids against suspected eco-activists. The ROS is investigating an alleged conspiracy to create economic sabotage against environmentally destructive creations like skiing resorts, incinerators, mobile phone masts and television towers.

This alleged conspiracy is meant to be led by Marco Camenisch, who is currently imprisoned for eco-bombings against the Swiss nuclear power industry. Marco's cell in Pfaffikon prison was also raided.

This is not the first time that Italian police have tried to link Marco with alleged conspiracies in a blatant attempt to try and break his spirit and destroy the solidarity Marco gets from his friends and supporters alike.

Between thirteen & twenty activists are under investigation for this

alleged conspiracy. All those who were raided are eco-activists/eco-anarchists who have actively supported Marco either by taking part in demonstrations outside Swiss Embassies or by creating websites and other information about Marco.

This investigation appears to be concentrating on a series of direct actions which occurred in solidarity with Marco when he was on hunger strike earlier this year. The actions being investigated include an arson attack on 18. January, against a newly built chairlift at a ski resort which resulted in six million euros worth of damages. A spray painted slogan at the scene of the arson read "Free Marco - Fire to destructors". The same slogan was found the same night near a phone mast torched and a television tower bombed elsewhere. More actions followed against phone masts, all claimed in solidarity with Marco.

ELF PRESS OFFICE STATEMENT ON JOSH CONNOLE'S ARREST & RELEASE

On September 12th Josh Connole, a known environmentalist and peace activist, was arrested by the FBI. Josh was accused by the FBI of involvement with the ELF-claimed fire and vandalism of SUV dealerships in West Covina, California on August 22nd, which resulted in over a million dollars in damages.

On September 15th, Connole was released without charges due to a lack of evidence to make the case against him. It is obvious that the FBI seriously blundered in this case, rushing to make an arrest in the middle of the night based on no physical evidence at all.

Even during the lead-up to Josh's release, no concrete evidence was put forward by the FBI to suggest that Josh Connole was in any way involved with the West Covina Hummer dealership action. They apparently based the raid on a likeness comparison from blurry security-video footage and nothing else. While there no physical evidence to suggest that Josh was at the site, there

is plenty of evidence that Josh was assisting a friend moving into their house on the night the Hummer action took place, and wasn't anywhere near West Covina.

The arrest is part of a pattern of harassment the FBI has been visiting on activists in Southern California since mid-August in a desperate attempt to claim "success" in their hunt for ELF members. Since 1997, very few ELF activists have been arrested which has led to a growing frustration in the FBI as evidenced by the recent raids against activists in the San Diego area and now this arrest on what appears to be non-existent grounds.

The Earth Liberation Front Press Office would like to send a message of solidarity and support to those activists undergoing harassment by the FBI in Southern California and elsewhere. We encourage people who wish to support Earth Liberation prisoners to contribute to the Earth Liberation Prisoners Support Network.



COMBAT DISPATCH 106: VOLUNTEERS

Going To War with Brian McCarvill

PART I

I chose the term "Volunteers" because it is apropos to COMBAT. "Comrade" or "comrades" is another term that I like to use a lot in conjunction with COMBAT. I feel as though the two terms are genuinely applicable to Anarchists. I am an Anarchist. As an Anarchist I try to frame my thoughts, my mode of Life, my spirit, in terms of Anarchism. My Anarchism is what I believe it to be, not what I am told it should be. Still, my Anarchism is fluid. I constantly thirst for, and seek out, Anarchist literature and comradeship, from anywhere and everywhere that I can. As a prisoner in the Oregon gulag, all contact with outside Anarchists was gradually being choked off. More on that in a moment. Let me close this opening paragraph by stating that "Volunteers" and "COMBAT" extend beyond the confines of Anarchism. "Volunteers" and "COMBAT" encompass the struggle to move the revolution forward. Given this very simple request, both "Volunteers" and "COMBAT" will tolerate and seek extra-Anarchist support.

Back to the situation within the Oregon prison system.

In 2000 the Oregon Department of Corrections (ODOC) "documented" Anarchists as a security threat group (STG).² At first, this STG designation by ODOC definition earned Anarchists designation as a gang. Prior to this secretive documenting, interaction between myself and outside Anarchists was relatively free and open. Rejection of Anarchist publications was rare. As far as I know, no Anarchist publication has ever caused an actual security problem within an ODOC prison facility that I had the pleasure of being interned in.³ Once the documentation occurred, almost all Anarchist literature was intercepted and rejected by ODOC. The reasoning tendered for almost all of the rejections was the display of the circle-A or Anarchist Black Cross symbol. It is the rare Anarchist publication that does not contain either a circle-A symbol or an ABC symbol. ODOC was aware of this and they wrote a provision into their mail rule which declared the circle-A, the ABC cross, and the black flag depictions within Anarchist publications to be "gang / STG paraphernalia". They followed up this declaration with a policy of "zero tolerance for any gang / STG-related activity". My interaction with outside Anarchists essentially ceased to exist. I was pissed.

I was not the only one pissed off. Other Anarchist prisoners, comrades of mine and yours, were equally pissed off. We all attempted to challenge the rejection problem by utilising ODOC's administrative review process. While I was at EOIC (Eastern Oregon Correctional Institution), every once-in-a-while one of these administrative reviews would terminate in my favour. This did not last long before I was transferred to OSP (Oregon State Penitentiary). At OSP, not one single administrative review for any anarchist prisoner that I knew of terminated in the Anarchists' favour.⁴

We were in a quandary as to what to do about this problem. It became obvious to me that only a court injunction was going to get us any relief. I was loathe to file such an action. Tried pleading our case with all of the ODOC brass who's sphere of influence touched upon the mail rule, or whom could influence the mail rule. It was totally fruitless. It appeared that the lawsuit avenue was to be our only chance of relief. It was a big chance. I was an experienced

prison litigator and prison legal assistant. I knew that the courts were not friendly to prisoner litigation. Coupled with the bad press that Anarchists were getting in Oregon it seemed hopeless. Still, nothing ventured, nothing gained. We were already in a position of total repression. We could only improve our situation. However, a loss in court would only seal our fate in the form of our current dilemma. I filed suit, *McCarvill v. DeHaan et al.*, United States District Court, District of Oregon, case no. 02-1167-KI, Portland, Oregon.

The combat had begun. I do not want to bore you with the ins-and-outs of litigating the suit. Anyone truly interested in this aspect of the combat can access the court file and gain a pretty good idea of the massive effort required to prosecute such a suit from the perspective of a prisoner.⁵ It was formidable, I can tell you.

We won the suit. Notice that I said "we". I could not have accomplished this win alone. This is the point that I wish to make. Had I been alone in this effort I would have lost.

There was all manner of support in this combat. This is Anarchism at work. This is revolution at work. In the matter at hand this was victory. Of course, not all Anarchists, particularly those who pose themselves as ethically pure Anarchists, or principled Anarchists, chose to participate. This is certainly OK. I support them in their principalities. They are often keepers of the flame, the ones that can be relied upon to perpetuate both theory and history, to pacify with knowledge and truth, noble, pertinent, and necessary tasks to be sure. But, be that as it may, there is a war in progress, the litigation that I started was a battle in that war, militarily speaking, an engagement.

Once started, the litigation was, in fact, approached as a battle. It was all or nothing. This was no skirmish. As in any battle, militarily speaking, to win against a formidable enemy, a firmly entrenched enemy, an enemy with superior firepower that holds the high ground, the tactics would necessitate creating multiple fronts and out-flanking the enemy on all of those fronts. This required more than me as the litigator, much more.

My cellmate at the time, and comrade, Rob los Ricos, came up with a plan to mobilise outside forces. A second front was born. Rob, with myself in full agreement, organised a campaign wherein outside supporters

were requested to protest ODOC's repression by sending both of us postcards with a large circle-A symbol displayed over the words "This is not a gang symbol". Hundreds of postcards flowed in. ODOC reacted by throwing both of us in the hole for 120 days, convicting us of "unauthorised organisation 1".⁶

The hole time turned out to be a blessing in disguise as far as litigating the lawsuit was concerned. Approximately 90% of the written discovery efforts were conducted by me from the hole. Yes, I had to hand print it all on unlined paper with a miniature pen the size of a run-of-the-mill birthday cake candle, but I had plenty of time to accomplish it all. Had I been in general population, I would not have had the opportunity to perfect the tremendous amount of written discovery. This proved to be a key downfall in the enemy's defences on the central front.

As I hammered at the enemy with the full frontal attack of the litigation, the outside support network kicked into full mobility. The Anarchist Prisoners Legal Aid Network, with us from the beginning, both raising and supplying monies that supported the litigation, went on line and otherwise organised massive publicity for the battle. APLAN also coordinated the continued postcard campaign, as well as an effort to arrange declarations in support of the litigation from interested Anarchists from all over the world.⁷ Break the Chains and Green Anarchy of Eugene, Oregon, mirrored APLAN's efforts, providing a position statement and kicking the bushes for declarations. John Connor and Green Anarchist of London, England, provided an in-depth position statement. Joanne Rankin and comrades of Dublin, Ireland, held a fundraising event and provided much appreciated moral support—thank you, Joanne. Ryan Foote and Mishap zine of Eugene, Oregon, provided an in-depth position statement and support that considerably freed-up ODOC restriction on zines. John Zerzan provided much-needed declarations that substantially took the legal substance away from ODOC's position. Countless others from everywhere contributed declarations, postcards and, probably most important to me, moral support.

It turns out that, had I approached the litigation on my own, the cause would have failed. Had ODOC been approached without the litigation, the cause would have failed. Because we approached the battle multilaterally, with full force and conviction, we won. Anarchist comradeship was the binding influence. In this age of information we are a power to be reckoned with. The isolation that accompanied Anarchist individualism in the past is no longer a detriment. Organisation, as a verb, not an entity, as in this instance, is a proven battle winner.

Winning the war is next. It involves COMBAT. Fuck Uncle Sam, the revolution needs you.

PART II

Combat begets casualties. War is hell. How true. Revolution is not a dinner party, after all.⁸ Casualties were suffered by us all around. Impact, both

immediate and long-term, varied by degrees as to the participants. I am reminded of a conversation that I had with two of the defendants from the lawsuit, Greg Atkin, the OSP safety officer, and Jacy Duran, the then-central mail administrator.⁹ Prior to my actual filing of the suit I had told Duran and Atkin (to his credit, Atkin had brought Duran to my cell door in an effort to solve the circle-A problem) that the only avenue of relief that I had left was to actually file suit. I asked them both if there would be any hard feelings in the event that I did file suit and of course they both professed that there would not be any "paybacks".

I am currently sitting in ODOC's showcase isolation unit prison, Two Rivers Correctional Institution (TRCI). How and why did I arrive here? If you have had enough where-withal to read this far, you obviously are able to rationalise the answer. I am getting ahead of myself here somewhat. Let me back up.

The first casualties in the battle were absorbed by you, our supporters, and us prison rank and file, in the form of monetary cost. Court filing fees were \$150.00. Legal copies and postage expenses quickly took off exponentially, costing multiple hundreds of dollars all total. You raised these funds for us. Your actions and support in doing so constituted a state defence. Although the state complains of costs, there is no impact upon its individuals, it simply squeezes its taxpayers a little harder. The costs to you and I are intended to deter. Capital at work controlling us.

For me this has never been an obstacle. For you, well, I must say, thankfully, that those of you who were not deterred, occurred, and hopefully will continue to occur, in adequate numbers to move the revolution forward. To those of you who were deterred by either financial cost, time incurred, or simply by the necessary effort, I implore you to get the fuck out of the way, take your social-climbing non-committal arse elsewhere—there is no place in the revolution for you.

I recognise that outside support for us prisoners, whether it be monetary, physical effort and/or moral support, takes away from other valuable life experience. I think I speak for more than myself when I say that we prisoners deeply respect and appreciate your efforts.

Economic impositions upon us, the prisoners involved (Rob los Ricos and I here) are, of course, amplified very quickly as we deal with very small amounts of money in our lives. We were immediately impacted when we lost our jobs and were thrown in the hole for the postcard campaign.

As long-term prisoners, it was rather easy to take this in stride, particularly because of the outside support that we receive. Still, the state imposes the penalty as a deterrent, it's all that it knows. Personally, I lost 100 or so days of good-time as well as my prison job. In the long run, the loss of income will become a considerable hardship factor in my quality of life and my ability to interact with the outside. The hole time (120 days) and the loss of good-time are somewhat inconsequential deterrents.

The greatest casualty suffered by me is my transfer to TRCI. The state knows this, it is why they did it. There was a clamour from the outside and from me to ODOC high-rankers to restore Rob and I as cellies and to our jobs. Even the attorney general's office recommended return of the jobs and no transfers. But authority must have its pound of flesh, gained in this case through the mental anguish inflicted upon me through the transfer to TRCI. Not only did they knowingly separate Rob and I, the worst thing the could do to me, they transferred me to the only prison in Oregon that has no means of ever sitting with back support. They did this with the full knowledge that I suffer from severe spinal trauma and wedged discs. So they know they are torturing me mentally and physically. Still, separating Rob and I was and is a tremendous blow to my good mental health. We pose absolutely no threat to ODOC of any kind. Filing of the lawsuit, your support, the engagement, was an affront to ODOC security's fascist ego, nothing more, nothing less. They simply cannot stomach that they were wrong, both morally and legally. Authority, like a trod-upon viper must bite and bite it has.

CONCLUSION

I am currently in physical and mental agony as I write this piece. Perhaps by the time it is read conditions will have improved. I know that comrades at APLAN have put out a call for a write-in campaign to ODOC officials on my behalf. Asking that I be returned to OSP and be given adequate medical treatment via indymedia on the Net. Regardless, I'm a casualty of war, of COMBAT, a willing casualty. We must not be daunted by authority, by capital, or by combat. It has been said that history is written by the winner. My friends, we should have and maintain every intent to write that history.

NOTES

- This is ODOC's terminology. Webster describes a document as: "A paper that furnishes information, proof, or support of something else".
- This according to a sworn statement by Benny Ward, ODOC's STG manager.
- Eastern Oregon Correctional Institution at Pendleton, Oregon, and the Oregon State Penitentiary at Salem, Oregon. My interaction with outside Anarchists earned me my transfer from EOIC to OSP for "administrative security concerns".
- At least not until the date this dispatch was written.
- The court file will show you documentation actually filed. It will not show you the tremendous amount of written discovery that took place in the form of Requests for Production and Requests for Admissions submitted to each of the ten separate defendants. This was a brutal, voluminous task, but proved to be exceptionally effective. The court file should be accessible online for anyone wishing to view the documents filed.
- Of course we first had a fair trial!
- Declarations are sworn statements on par with affidavits. Federal courts allow declarations. Declarations do not require the declarant to swear before a notary public. The court accepts the declarant's statement as true as a matter of independent honour.
- Please forgive my quoting of Mao but many of his observations are fairly astute on removal from the ideology.
- Duran proved to be extremely vindictive. She rose to her position of ODOC authority via a stint as a line officer and an Internal Affairs officer. Since the prosecution of this action, she has been supplanted as head Central Mail Administrator by Randy Geer. Duran's vindictiveness was instrumental in the backlash against this author.

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

That's the way to do it: John Zerzan on when the lights last went out.

"Amid All the Camaraderie is Much Looting this Time."

Seeing the City Disappear, Wall Street Journal headline, 15 July 1977

The Journal went on to quote a cop on what he saw, as the great Bastille Day break-out unfolded: "People are going wild in the borough of Brooklyn. They are looting stores by the carload." Another cop added later: "Stores were ripped open. Others have been leveled. After they looted, they burned."

At about 9:00 p.m. on July 13 the power went out in New York for 24 hours. During that period the complete impotence of the state in our most 'advanced' urban space could hardly have been made more transparent.

As soon as the lights went out, cheers and shouts and loud music announced the liberation of huge sections of the city. The looting and burning commenced immediately, with whole families joining in the "carnival spirit". In the University Heights section of the Bronx, a Pontiac dealer lost the 50 new cars in his showroom. In many areas, tow trucks and other vehicles were used to tear away the metal gates from stores. Many multi-storey furniture businesses were completely emptied by neighborhood residents.

Despite emergency alerts for the state troopers, FBI and National Guard, there was really nothing authority could do, and they knew it. A *New York Times* editorial of July

16 somewhat angrily waved aside the protests of those who wondered why there was almost no intervention on the side of property. "Are you kidding?" the Times snorted, pointing out that such provocation would only have meant that the entire city would still be engulfed in riots, adding that the National Guard is a "bunch of kids" who wouldn't have had a chance.

The plundering was completely multi-racial, with white, black and Hispanic businesses cleaned out and destroyed throughout major parts of Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens and the Bronx. Not a single "racial incident" was reported during the uprising, while newspaper pictures and TV news bore witness to the variously-coloured faces emerging from the merchants' windows and celebrating in the streets.

Similarly, looting, vandalism, and attacks in police were not confined to the City proper; Mount Vernon, Yonkers and White Plains were

among suburbs in which the same things happened, albeit on a smaller scale.

Rioting broke out in the Bronx House of Detention where prisoners started fires, seized dormitories, and almost escaped by ramming through a wall with a steel bed. Concerning the public, the Bronx District Attorney fumed, "It's lawlessness. It's almost anarchy."

Officer Gary Parlefsky, of the 30th Precinct in Harlem, said that he and other cops came under fire from guns, bottles and rocks. He continued:

We were scared to death.... but worse than that, a blue uniform didn't mean a thing. They couldn't understand why we were arresting them.

At a large store at 110th Street and Eighth Avenue, the doors were smashed open and dozens of people carried off appliances. A woman in her middle-50s walked into the store and said laughingly: "Shopping with no money required!"

Attesting to the atmosphere of a "collective celebration", as one worried columnist put it, a distribution center was spontaneously organized at a Brooklyn intersection, with piles of looted goods on display for the taking. This was shown briefly on an independent New York station,

WPIX-TV, but not mentioned in the major newspapers.

The transformation of commodities into free merchandise was only aided by the coming of daylight, as the festivity and music continued. Mayor Beame, at a noon (July 15) press conference, spoke of the "night of terror", only to be mocked heartily by the continuing liberation underway throughout New York as he spoke.

Much, of course, was made of the huge contrast between the events of July 1977 and the relatively placid, law-abiding New York blackout of November 1965. One can only mention the obvious fact that the dominant values are now everywhere in shreds. The "social cohesion" of class society is evaporating. New York is no isolated example.

Of course, there has been a progressive decay in recent times of restraint, hierarchy, and other enforced virtues; it hasn't happened all at once. Thus, in the 1960s, John Leggett (in his *Class, Race and Labour*) was surprised to learn upon examining the arrest records of those in the Detroit and Newark insurrections, that a great many of the participants were fully employed. This time, of the 176 people indicted as of August 8 in Brooklyn (1,004 were arrested in the borough), 48% were regularly employed. (The same arti-

cle in the August 9 *San Francisco Chronicle* where these figures appeared also pointed out that only "six grocery stores were looted while 39 furniture stores, 20 drug stores and 17 jewelry stores and clothing stores were looted"). And there are other similarities to New York, naturally; *Life* magazine of 4 August 1967 spoke of the "carnival-like revel of looting" in Detroit, and Professor Edward Banfield commented that

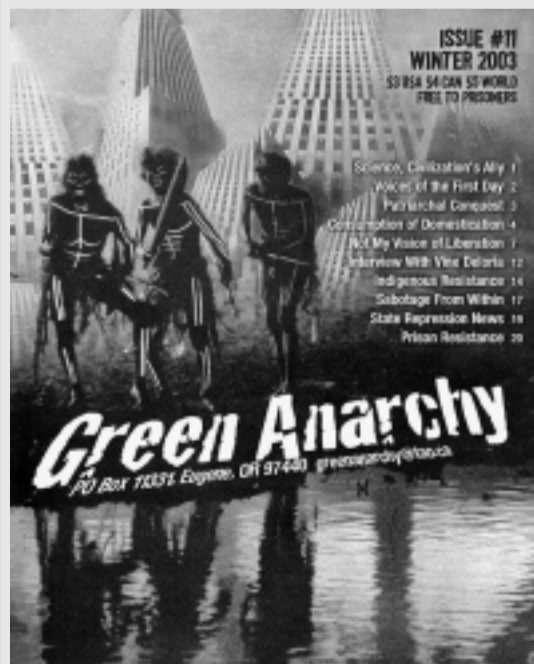
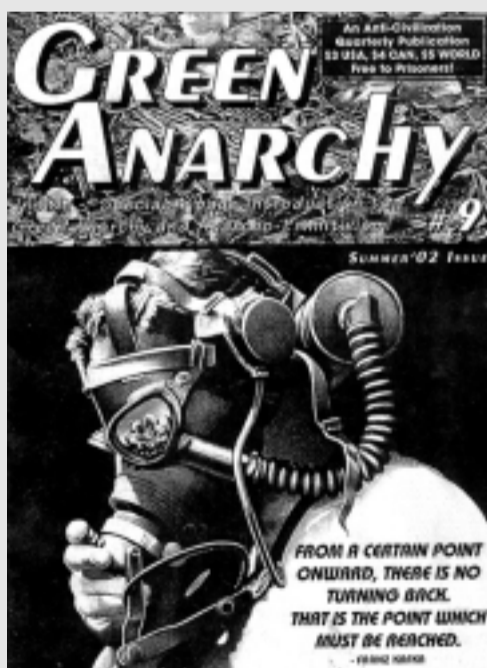
Negroes and whites mingled in the streets [of Detroit] and looted amicably side by side...."

The main difference is probably one of scale and scope - that in New York virtually all areas, even the suburbs, took the offensive and did so from the moment the lights went out. Over \$1 billion was lost in the thousands of stores looted and burned, while the cops were paralyzed. During the last New York rioting, the 'Martin Luther King' days of 1968, 32 cops were injured; in one day in July 1977, 418 cops were injured.

The Left—all of it—has spoken only of the high unemployment, the police brutality; has spoken of the people of New York only as objects, and pathetic ones at that! The gleaming achievements of the unmediated / unideologized have all the pigs scared shitless.

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APES OF WRATH

By Bob Black

From the Associated Press (which did such a bang-up job on the Iraq war), dateline Boston, September 29, 2003: A 300-pound gorilla will be kept off display after it escaped from its zoo enclosure and roamed through the Franklin Park Zoo and along nearby streets for nearly two hours before it was sedated with tranquilizer darts, according to Zoo New England CEO and President John Linehan.

Even zoos, it turns out, have CEOs. Undoubtedly so do circuses, and I don't mean the one in Washington, and so does every other institution which once thrilled children with icons and images and visions of another life, a life of magic and marvel. Of course now they view images quite as exciting or more so when they go on-line. But a zoo or a circus (they are not too different), even in our flattened down era, puts on a show which, for all its phoniness, surpasses anything virtual.

18 year old Courtney Roberson worked at the zoo and was taking 2 year old Nia Scott, her friend's little sister, for an outing when Little Joe escaped, according to family members. The gorilla grabbed the child, threw her to the ground and jumped on her, according to Dale McNeil, Scott's godmother.

If so, there was remarkably little harm done: "Neither zoo officials nor Boston Police could provide any information on the injuries. But family members said Scott had a gash on her cheek and needed several stitches. Roberson [who was not thrown to the ground and jumped] was bitten on the back and scratched on the leg, said her mother, Shamika Woumm." (I find her name even less likely than her story.) Clearly the family members saw their chance for a score and wasted no time creating evidence. The accusations against Little Joe are grave but, I suspect, self-serving. If a 300 pound gorilla jumped on a two year old girl, I would expect her to incur serious injury, if not death, but probably not just a gash on the cheek. For a rounded picture, we need to look at it from Little Joe's point of view. From the Associated Press we further learn: In August, the 5 foot, adolescent gorilla also escaped from its section of the Tropical Forest exhibit, which had a 12-foot-wide, 12-foot-deep, moat. No one was hurt then, and zoo officials installed electrified wires to keep him from escaping again.

The Associated Press story, aided by the family's litigation-oriented statements, is all too obviously scripted under the influence of the King Kong and Mighty Joe Young films, with adjustments for details. Little Nia Scott is Fay Wray. Mighty — er, Little Joe is framed, perhaps literally, by these evocative antecedents, which it is not necessary for the word-thrifty Associated Pressman to mention because they are deeply rooted in popular consciousness. Little Joe, at a first pass from the sensitive, anonymous Associated Press reporter, is strikingly depicted as an African-American rapist: "The gorilla grabbed the child, threw her to the ground and jumped on her, according to Dale McNeil, Scott's godmother." Then, and only after that impression has sunk in, the AP journalist indicates that Little Joe is perhaps as much like Houdini as he is like King Kong. Little Joe has twice thwarted the best efforts of his captors to hold

him in bondage. Not a 12 foot moat, not even an electrified fence stopped the 5 foot tall, 300 pound young primate.

The movie the AP guy should have reviewed, at least in his mind, before writing his story was not King Kong or Mighty Joe Young but The Great Escape. Young male gorillas like Little Joe, who was born in captivity, pose problems because of their agility and restlessness, according to Linehan. "They go through a stage where, physically and psychologically, they're growing much stronger, and become much more lean and long, and containment can be an increasing challenge at that age," he said.

Other young male primates go through the same stage. Some of them formed the anarchist Black Blocs in Seattle, Genoa and elsewhere. Others disperse their "agility and restlessness" in frat parties, liberal politics, music subcultures or even by joining the Army to meet cute dumb hillbillies like "Daisy Mae" Jessica Lynch. As that astute psychologist/CEO Linehan explains, they go through a stage where they're becoming strong (which, after the indignities of childhood, is a heady realization) and naturally they cast about for something to test their strength against. For Little Joe, there was an only and obvious challenge: his captivity.

I used to live in the Boston area and I knew exactly where Little Joe escaped from, and where he was recaptured. Needless to say, there was nowhere for him to live in Boston as the magnificent animal that he is. He would not survive the coming winter. And since he was born in captivity, he would not even survive in the rain forest where gorillas belong, were he released there.

This the CEO obviously does not intend for his investment, since Little Joe is one of 6 of the exhibition gorillas he has acquired since 1998. Except that now Little Joe, after his recent adventure, is not on exhibit — he's locked down — which is perhaps a partial victory for Little Joe. I remember Charlton Heston, in Spartacus, howling in his cell, "I am not an animal!" Would it have made any difference if he were?

Truth being, as Nietzsche taught us, multi-perspectival, we might set the measured, classical restraint of the Associated Press story beside the romantic exuberance of the version in the New York Daily News ("Teen Was Helpless Against Raging Ape," Sept. 30, 2003). Much of the story is the same, as we might expect, since the writers are both American Journalists pledged to Objectivity, but the Daily News story focuses on the romantic

interest. For it seems that Little Joe is not the only 300 pound adolescent primate in the picture. "He was too strong for me, and I'm a big person," says teenage nanny and zoo employee Courtney Roberson. "I weigh close to 300 pounds." In this, slightly more plausible version, Little Joe knocked Little Nia out of Roberson's hands "and stomped on her before going after Roberson again." There is nothing about what happened to Roberson, or what happened at all, after Little Joe's "going after" her. Presumably he did nothing ungentlemanly. Since the incidents recounted could not have taken more than a minute, and Little Joe was on the loose for two hours, evidently once he got a good look at Roberson he betook himself elsewhere. Love hath no fury like a woman scorned. And did Little Joe "jump on" Little Nia (AP) or "stomp" on her (Daily News)?

According to Nia's godmother, "When he snatched the baby, the gorilla took the baby and ran with it. And when he went to run, he turned around and he looked at Courtney and he dropped the baby and ran after Courtney" — contradicting her immediately previous statement that Little Joe stomped Little Nia. Dropping is not stomping. Or did he drop-kick her? By the time the case comes to trial, I wouldn't be surprised if he did. The Daily News, then, departs from the Hollywood paradigm of the Associated Press — this is not a Fay Wray situation at all. Here

him out, and then planted herself, babe in hand, in his path. I wouldn't be surprised if she were the aggressor. I think what Courtney was courting was a juicy lawsuit, or a tryst, or both.

If I am right, the "raging ape" was the victim here in a most immediate way. He was set up and he was exploited. But if I am wrong he is still a victim, but in that case not the only one. Incarceration in a zoo is a far more serious wrong than a bite on the back from a runaway gorilla.

Now that we know that we share something like 98% of our DNA with Little Joe and his kind, we might rethink our relations with gorillas. About 15 years ago, a visiting Slovenian anarchist, Gregor Tomc, joined me for a visit to the renowned Washington Zoo. An anti-Communist dissident, he was especially curious to see the pandas donated by the Red Chinese. (Nobody calls them the "Red Chinese" any more. Why not? They haven't changed.) The monkey house depressed him: "They're too human," he said.

I know what he meant. I spent a minute alone before a gorilla in a cage. I looked him in the eye and he looked me in the eye. Anyone could see the intelligence and the pain — and it was in his eyes too. Tomc was quite right but I would rephrase what he said. "We're too animal" is more like it. The enslavement of Little Joe and

so many other animals eerily reminiscent of ourselves really indicates our failure to come to terms with our own nature, which is an animal nature. In domesticating animals we have made ourselves the ultimate domesticated animal. For us to

escape, on an individual basis, from civilization — from the state, the market, the class system, from religions and moralities — that is scarcely more realistic than for Little Joe to pass a quiet winter in Boston where he was recaptured, "near a football stadium."

But we do differ in an important way from our fellow animals. We have language. Recent research establishes that this is not the qualitative break it was long thought to be. Gorillas appear to have a rudimentary vernacular language, and they can even be taught English sign language in controlled circumstances. Noam Chomsky does not believe this, not because it isn't true, but because it refutes his Cartesian linguistic theory. He is like those 16th century prelates who looked through Galileo's telescope and denied what they saw because it could not be true.

In tribute to Chomsky's Scholastic obtuseness, the researchers who study Koko and her fellow gorillas have named their dumbest gorilla student "Nim Chimsky." Language — especially written language — has served as an instrument of domination. Like most truths about the life we live, this one sounds extravagant or overstated or metaphorical, but that is only because it is so difficult to

stand apart from that life, if only in thought, to see it as it is. It is a finding of sober archaeological fact that for the first one thousand years of writing (in ancient Sumer — now known as Iraq), it was devoted exclusively to government record-keeping and occasional chest-thumping by the Ozymandias-style autocrats who still rule in the Cradle of Civilization, only now they are American. Literacy was so restricted to bureaucrats that Hammurabi, for instance, probably could not read the Code of Hammurabi. Now history is not necessarily destiny, but it certainly should inform those who would be makers of destiny, if they know what's good for them.

The question is whether there is any other way than through language to get out of what language has gotten us into. Even those who say "no" contradict what they say just by saying it. Language posits the only possibility, if there is one, of the Great Escape. And it has to be a Great Escape, a collective adventure, because anything less than that is just like Little Joe busting out to — to where? to what? That's just it. Little Joe got out, but while he had a place to escape from, he had no place to escape to. I wonder what he thought of the streets of Boston which he wandered for two hours. He could hardly have found there what he was looking for, if he'd even thought that far ahead. I know I never did.

I have given my reasons for doubting whether Little Joe went ape, but even if he did, going ape is something apes never do in the wild and in the society (for they have one) of other apes. Going human is really a better, if also an inadequate description of what he is accused of doing. Our prisons — our human zoos — are filled with humans who have gone ape, which really just means, stir-crazy. They experience domestication literally with a vengeance. Elsewhere, in school or in the workplace, it's not usually so obvious. But your boss has made a monkey out of you all the same. Alexander Pope wrote a couplet — about a dog, not an ape, but he was saying the same thing I am (Kew was a royal palace):

I am his Highness' dog at Kew

Pray tell me, sir, whose dog are you?

Free Little Joe and all other political prisoners! A zoo and a circus — these words are not only effective metaphors for our civilized society, they really surpass metaphor by verging on straight reportage, much like the Objective reportage of the Associated Press and the Daily News. It is no accident that we so often reach for one of these words to disparage some feature of the political or social scene. They fit the hand so well. It never required DNA evidence, not for anyone "with ears to see," as Ivan Stang once phrased it, to notice that the animals deservedly called the great apes are amazingly like ourselves. I have never understood how any creationist moron could visit a zoo and look at the primates and come away with his Bible bigotry intact. He is, I suppose, our own Nim Chimsky. Unfortunately, our Nim Chimsky has the right to vote.

“ The enslavement of Little Joe and so many other animals reminiscent of ourselves indicates our failure to come to terms with our own nature, which is an animal nature. In domesticating animals we have made ourselves the ultimate domesticated animal. ”

WINNING THE WAR, LOSING THE PEACE

Ecological Revolution Flounders on Bougainville

With a population of only 160,000 Bougainville has managed to close and keep closed one of the biggest copper mines in the world. Despite having to fight the Australian-armed Papua New Guinea (PNG) army, they have held their ground for twelve years with home made guns made out of water piping and planks, scavenged mine trucks and petrol made from coconuts.

In 1969 a RTZ plc copper mine was forcibly established. From the beginning the people resisted. News footage of women fighting with riot cops over survey pegs received international coverage. In Bougainville women are the traditional landholders; land is passed from woman to woman. On this occasion it was clear their land was not being passed on in the traditional manner.

The building of the mine made 800 villagers landless and another 1,400 without fishing rights as land was seized and the subsistence life of gardening and fishing was destroyed. 220 hectares of rainforest was poisoned, burned and bulldozed.

After 20 years the mine had grown to a crater half a kilometre deep and nearly 7km in circumference. Over a billion tonnes of waste was dumped into the Jaba River valley creating a wall of waste hundreds of metres high, turning one of the islands biggest river systems bright blue.

After ignored protests, petitions and legal claims the Bougainvilleans had had enough. A handful of islanders stole company explosives, destroying electricity pylons, buildings and machinery. By using guerrilla tactics they succeeded in closing the mine. Until the war broke out in 1988, the mine accounted for around 45% of PNG's total export earnings. Without these earnings PNG is going bust. PNG, with the assistance of Australia,

responded by sending in the military. State soldiers strafed villages from helicopters. The Bougainville Revolutionary Army (BRA) was formed to defend the land and people from further exploitation. Ten years of war followed.

PNG herded people into 'care centres' (concentration camps) and enforced a medical blockade on the island. 10,000 Bougainvilleans died in the conflict. Despite being heavily outgunned the BRA succeeded in keeping the mine closed. They pushed the state soldiers off most of their island and forced a peace. The land of the mine is slowly regenerating. The people have returned to their age-old subsistence agriculture.

Unfortunately the people who originated the revolution—the people local to the destruction and with the most to lose—have now become isolated from the rest of Bougainvilleans. Most of the others seem to want to re-open the mine and instigate other developments. The locals are holed up in their mountain stronghold.

Francis Ona, the instigator of the original revolution, is vilified by the mainstream press and virtually all communication with the rest of the world is controlled by the pro-development lobby. Ona's group, the Me'ekamui Defence Force, (MDF) have about fifty armed people to defend the site of the mine,

and the BRA now stand in opposition to them, with about a thousand.

Recently the BRA tried to remove a MDF roadblock barring foreigners passage to the mine, killing some of the defenders. All the NGOs who once supported the struggle against colonialism now seem to see nothing wrong with what they call the 'peace process' and are slagging off Ona and his people, who are ultimately the ones whose decision about their land should be final. There are lessons to be learned here about both NGOs and 'nationalist' struggles (not to mention 'peace' processes), and the wisdom of co-operating with those who hold views antipathetic to our own.

Very little news comes out at all from the MDF; the little that does is hopelessly mangled by corporate lackey journalists. Unsurprisingly, Ona doesn't trust outsiders, and particularly not journalists. He hasn't been interviewed in the 6 years since the BRA won the war, until recently. In that interview, after being accused of having no connection with the Bougainville peace process, he said:

"I never have any no connection with the peace process on Bougainville. You know, peace on Bougainville is always here, yeah, but what they are trying to import on Bougainville is trying to... economise peace, you know, they want to put money into the process and then try to... I see it as a psychological warfare on Bougainville, yeah."



Papua New Guinea has most graciously agreed to allow Bougainville a referendum on independence in ten years time, but Ona says there's no reason to wait. Bougainville can go it alone. "I don't know why ten years..." he says. "Right now we can have a referendum. Bougainvilleans through the last 14 years have proven that we can look after ourselves."

Francis Ona has literally stuck to his guns. His men remain heavily armed, untouched by the 'disarmament process' (the BRA and foreign interferers still have guns...) which they've rejected. At the roadblock, the MDF exchanged fire with the BRA as recently as March this year. Ona says "It's really a violation of the peace process on Bougainville... I've got a paper here which proves that the UN and PNG has planned all this. You know, it's written here." He asked the fuckwit journalist to take the paper but was ignored.

In spite of the situation, the MDF appear confident. "The outside input into Bougainville has destroyed our people's lives. We've gone through fourteen years without money and we

still exist." As with all people who are truly resisting the onslaught of civilisation, it's hard to know what we can do in the west in solidarity with them. It seems that anything we do to undermine civilisation here will be more useful than trying to get through the maze of disinformation put up by the 'human rights' and development organisations.

There is an international spokesperson for the MDF, Clive Porabou, working out of PNG. Typically, he has support only from a few individuals; the cowardly NGOs go along with the oppressors.

To get news out and gather support for the struggle the MDF need to get their transmitter repaired.

If you can help to fund new communications equipment (even just a few quid will help), contact GA and we can put you in touch with them. See P.14 for addresses

The Panguna landowners' story shows that there is really no point in working with such organisations. These are the enemies of freedom as much as the more obvious ones are.

GREEN ANARCHISTS GATHER IN PENNSYLVANIA

The 1st Green Anarchist Gathering took place July 10-13, despite the FBI. The first site was a private campground at the intersection of the Appalachians and Alleghenies. The Feds thought it too close to one of the largest underground natural gas storage facilities in the US, a facility on the Homeland Security watch list, so we got a call from the campground owner: "Your event is being canceled. We've had several visits from the FBI and other law enforcement. You lied to us. You didn't tell us you were terrorists."

The FBI under Mike Hudak of the Scranton / Wilkes-Barre office had not only visited the campground but sent Pennsylvania state troopers to the township meeting to inform citizens of this redneck idyll of the vipers poised to descend on their community. "Just look at their web site," they urged, giving them the URL to the Black and Green pages. Helicopters and black sedans then showed up. With help from a State Park official, we were back on track within a week at a new location only 60 miles away.

THE GATHERING

There were 100+ pre-registered via the web site and we were hoping for even more, so I opted for communal catering, like the Anarchist Teapot at EF!UK Gatherings. It was a younger crowd; out of the 80 there, only 10 of

us were over 30. Most were from eastern and southern states. The downside of larger workshops was that organizers spoke too much and newbies too little.

A real highlight of the gathering was the two full days of primitive skill share with Tim, a 'professional' from the Teaching Drum School, who instructed the future primitives in tracking, shelter building, wild plant identification skills, and answered lots of questions in an informative and good-natured way.

There was a conflict resolution workshop where many of us found we faced the same issues with regards to finding alternative ways of dealing with conflict without making appeals to authorities. Many had been involved in conflicts with individuals who could be clinically categorised as 'mentally disturbed'. We discussed how we all are misfits, but those who'd really lost all grasp of reality are drawn to activist communities whose tolerance and openness to society's oppressed may be well known. Those with truly anti-social, if not violent, tendencies can cause real problems in terms of the emotional health of those around them.

Ted Kaczynski's 'Hit 'Em Where It Hurts' article (Green Anarchy #8) led to lively and most interesting discussion, especially to Fed infiltrators. Some of us tried clarifying arguments

for economic and infra-structural sabotage.

There was a civ and patriarchy session that I found boring, with men in attendance professing their genuine open-mindedness and unconditional support of women in general and the women bringing up anecdotal evidence to the contrary.

I find this inevitably veers into the issue of rape, and then tends to be discussed in the same hypersensitive terms liberals use. As a woman and anarchist I find this discouraging. I can't help but feel that elevating that particular violation to the status of most heinous just an ideology of women's victimization beyond remedy. Too bad that the state has the monopoly on violence, our communities could sort out that issue amongst ourselves with much more success.

One goal of the Gathering was to exchange info, facilitated by the presence of the 'A-Hole', the Coalition Against Civilization's tent full of Anarcho-primitivist scholarship and agit prop. The only security issue was potential confrontation with 'Young Marines' in the adjacent camping area, who's cries of "Yes Sir!" we had to endure each day, all day long, but nothing happened except their complaint that they saw someone from our group naked next to a car, changing clothes. Hope to see you there next year!

Desire for freedom.

-MDF Statement, 26 Sep 2003

From the South to the Northern tip of Bougainville there is a growing "restlessness" for freedom and that freedom is total Independence. In Central Bougainville No Go Zone where Inter-Government Relations Minister sir Peter Barter focus his attention, Francis Ona and his Me'ekamui National council and the Me'ekamui Defence force have no right to stop people from seeking medical assistance or joining the imported peace.

Even in the peace areas there are Me'ekamui Hardliners with Me'ekamui basic aims and principal, Independence. Me'ekamui Defence Force are not the party to weapons disposal, those are BRA A company who joined the peace process the

same people who signed the petition. The road block at Morgen junction will remain. Bougainvilleans go in and out of the No Go Zone areas freely but outsiders are not allow.

No Go Zone does not prevents people from proper service, assistance and medical treatment but it is helping them to keep their birth right. Me'ekamui Government and its Military Arm [MDF] is not disrupting the peace process, why blame the Me'ekamui Government?

Bougainville peace is from time immemorable, long live peace on Bougainville.

Clive Porabou, MDF Spokeperson

FUCK 'ALTERNATIVE' TECHNOLOGY! FUCK THE 'ALTERNATIVE' GREEN GHETTO!

Standing up on this hill, as the sun filters through the trees you occasionally catch the reflection of solar panels on the roofs of the houses beyond the wind farm. The gentle swishing of turbine blades is inaudible here, but the hum of a tractor is just perceptible as it sows next year's bio fuel crop in the fields below....

Though the reality of alternative technology providing a "green" and sustainable life for us all in the 21st century may seem a long way off, may seem an almost impossible task of enormous proportions, it is becoming more widely accepted as a necessary step in the progress of our industrial society. It is, however, rarely seen for the sham it is.

cal determinism. Just because it's possible it doesn't follow that it's a good idea.

Many have been fooled into thinking that this new product of consumer capitalism will further the goals of those seeking sustainability without questioning the use of electricity itself and the innately unsustainable nature of all

tinker with the system (however you dress that up in anarcho-leftist rhetoric), creating a green tinged society (a la Bookchinite 'Social Ecology') or whether your desire is to embark upon a project that seeks to dismantle all that curtails a more authentic existence. Though there are apparently still some anarchists who believe that controlling the means of production would somehow allow the development of a libertarian society, it must be realised that the technological system is simply a part of the structure of domination that (one would think) anarchists strive to destroy.

to determine our lives as we see fit. Thus, it is strange that the same understanding is not applied to the industrial technological system.

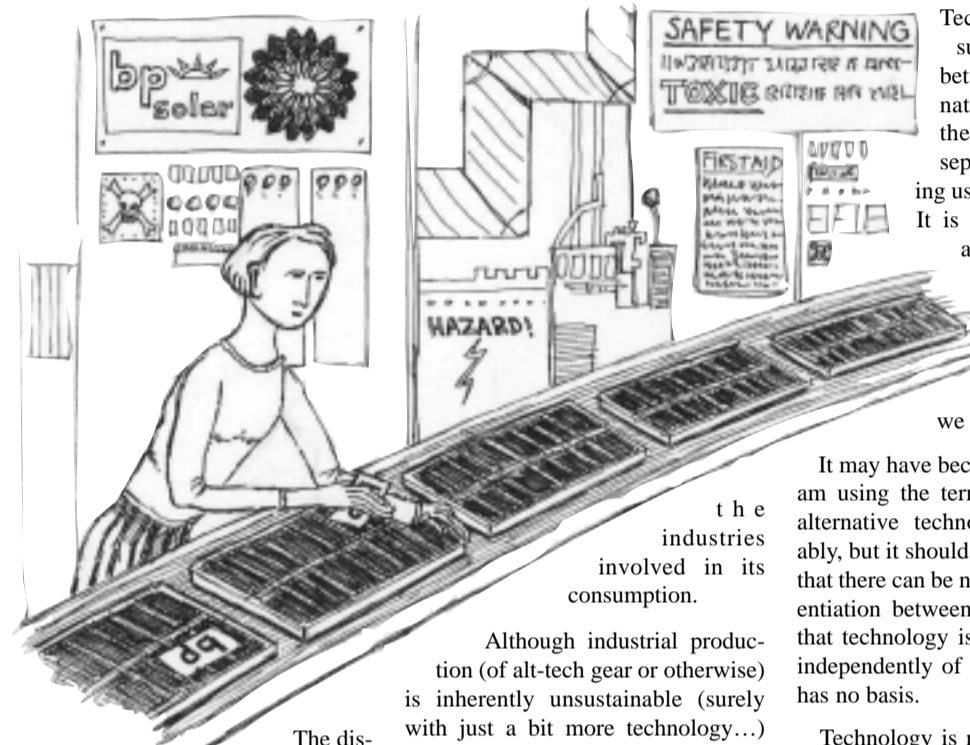
It appears that what is needed is a seditious mutiny of the technological mindset that seems to be so pervasive even within so called 'alternative' green and radical circles. That 'alternative' technology will fail to avert any of the pitfalls of conventional technological approaches is clear. Therefore its status among many as some form of tool of a future ecological society is grounded in shallow and ill thought out analysis of the current technological society we find ourselves in and the historical forces that brought this about.

Never before have people been so infantilised, made so dependent on the machine for every-

thing; as the earth rapidly approaches its extinction due to technology, our souls are shrunk and flattened by its pervasive rule. Any sense of wholeness and freedom can only return by the undoing of the massive division of labour at the heart of technological progress. This is the liberatory project in all its depth.⁴

Notes

1. John Zerzan 'On the Transition; Postscript to Future Primitive' or on the web here <http://www.insurgentdesire.org.uk/fp.htm>
2. John Zerzan 'Technology' Future Primitive CAL Press or on the web here www.insurgentdesire.org.uk/technology.htm
3. from 'The Machinery of control: A Critical Look at Technology', Wilful Disobedience Vol. 3, No. 2
4. from 'Technology' by John Zerzan from Future Primitive CAL Press. Or on the web here <http://www.insurgentdesire.org.uk/technology.htm>



the industries involved in its consumption.

Technology is the sum of mediations between us and the natural world and the sum of those separations mediating us from each other. It is all the drudgery and toxicity required to produce and reproduce the stage of hyper-alienation we live in.²

It may have become apparent that I am using the terms technology and alternative technology interchangeably, but it should be obvious by now that there can be no reasonable differentiation between them. The notion that technology is neutral and exists independently of social relationships has no basis.

Technology is not a simple tool which can be used in any way we like. It is a form of social organization, a set of social relations. It has its own laws. If we are to engage in its use, we must accept its authority. The enormous size, complex interconnections and stratification of tasks which make up modern technological systems make authoritarian command necessary and independent, individual decision-making impossible.

(Fifth Estate Quoted from 'The Primitivist Primer' by John Moore). At the heart of the technological system are the division of labour and specialisation. Resulting from these are dependency. We are held to ransom, dependent on others, childlike in the face of the complex organisation of technological society, alienated from the natural environment.

Most anarchists recognise that the state, private property, the commodity system, the patriarchal family and organized religion are inherently dominating institutions and systems that need to be destroyed if we are to create a world in which we are all free

The disastrously clichéd picture painted above is incomplete without a quick look behind the scenes.

Though minute details of the industrial processes employed are beyond the scope of this article, and frankly do not interest me, even a cursory examination will show that the manufacture of photovoltaic panels, wind gennies and bio fuel production facilities is not a particularly green (or alternative) business. From mineral and metal ore extraction (think open cast, think indigenous land rights, think health and safety) to metal purification (think blast furnace, think slag heaps, think massive energy consumption) to manufacturing (think conveyer belts, think toxic effluents, think wage slavery) to transport (think container ships, think road deaths, think more and more fucking airports) to mass consumer society (think, no don't think, consume), when western industrial society decides it wants something, regardless of the apparently benign nature of the product (or even it's intended use in excusing the excesses of our society), the product has a price attached to it, namely the "concealed drudgery of many and the despoliation of the natural world"¹

There seem to be many people in the alternative green ghetto who have become engrossed in the provision of power through 'alternative' means, usually at festivals and free parties, and who even see this as a form of green activism. Embarrassingly this mostly takes the form of boys playing with their (hi-tech) toys. An unfortunate group caught out by technologi-

Although industrial production (of alt-tech gear or otherwise) is inherently unsustainable (surely with just a bit more technology...) some products are often justified if they, for instance, allow autonomy or independence to those in struggle, but then the same goes for making use of any of the tools of civilization in order to fight against it. But people tend to consume 'alt tech' as a lazy alternative to using more inventive methods, which are usually more in conflict with the system.

The problem arises around so-called 'ethical' consumption and the quasi-religious zeal that surrounds the cult that is alternative-technology. Ethical consumption is steeped in petty moralism and guilt, but rarely challenges consumption itself.

As anarchists we shouldn't look to the marketplace to fulfil our needs – but rather seek to feed off the detritus of civilization whilst attacking the pillars that are its foundation.

What are we doing with all this 'alternative' electricity? Whether it's being fed into the grid or used where it's made (via lead-acid batteries), it is the use of electricity itself that must be questioned, not where it comes from. In the same way that the suggestion that our vehicles could be fuelled by vegetable oil does not question car culture, the cult of electricity is rarely examined. From computers to sound-systems, light-bulbs to fridge-freezers all of these things just add to the devastation of the natural world, and severely limit any chance of salvaging a genuine unmediated human existence.

It would be foolish to forget that a green city is still a city. It comes down to whether you merely want to

MORE ALTERNATIVE PROBLEMS

Geothermal Plot

The Shasta, Modoc and Pit River nations peoples have told Calpine corporation and CalEnergy General that they do not want development in the Medicine Lake region.

Two 50 Megawatt plants are proposed. Sitting on the southern edge of the Cascade Mountains, the tree-shrouded Lake, the watershed of the Sacramento River, is critical to Indians. The mountains are considered sacred.

Around Telephone Flat, the areas are used for vision quests and for the gathering of healing herbs. And there are also women's mountains, where they go to get their power. Over 100 years ago the same tribes were decimated by gold rush miners.

The Death of Rivers

If the James Bay project in Quebec is completed, it will embrace over 30 major dams and 500 dikes. Completed in 1995 LG1 is churning out 1,368 megawatts of electricity. More is added all the time.

The project threatens the way of life of the Cree and the Inuit. The James Bay wetlands and forests are habitat of lynx, black bears, waerfowl, and one of North America's largest caribou herds.

The new complex would take a tumbling, 225-mile-long river and convert much of its length into a series of artificial slack-water lakes. These reservoirs would submerge more than a thousand miles of riverine lands and untamed forests.



FUSION IS NO SOLUTION

An antidote to the usual, incredible hype

Alternative technology tends to be sold as small / human scale and so decentralisable and autonomous until such time as the 'powers-that-be' actually take it seriously, at which point it becomes a mega-project under centralised expert control. Witness wind power spawning huge 100m high wind farms, with wave power next to get the same treatment - and it's typically those pushing such energy generation as 'alternatives' that get to be the experts 'benevolently' imposing them as soon as the government money starts to come in.

No one could pretend fusion is anything but hi-tech, highly centralised, highly expertise-dependant and demanding huge injections of funding and power, but some still believe it is somehow "clean" and can yield massive amounts of energy, like the old 'Atoms for Peace' / 'too cheap to meter' codswallop they used to sell us fission back in the 1950s. Needless to say, this is the opposite of the truth.

First off, the isotopes of hydrogen smashed together at super-hot (plasma) temperatures are radioactive. Sure enough, deuterium only has a half-life of 12 years—one reason why its use as a 'doping agent' in US nuclear weapons has quietly rendered most of them obsolete—but the free neutrons generated by this process often impact the torus's cladding and not the hydrogen fuel, which really is a long-term waste disposal problem.

Secondly, as well as being radioactive, tritium can cause cancer, birth defects and other such problems. Dealing with tritium emissions incidental to conventional fission reactors, the Conception Group discovered a Health & Welfare Canada (HWC) report admitting:¹

a 'statistically significant' correlation of central nervous system (CNS) birth defects with large releases of tritium to air: five Pickering infants with CNS defects (anencephaly, microcephaly, spina bifida with hydrocephalus, and two others whose defect code was not on record) were born in January-July 1978,

following the airborne tritium releases of April-October 1977. Medical experts link CNS birth defects to radiation exposure, as found after the atomic bombing of Japan.

Fusion researchers concede this is a problem, but claim they only need a small amount of tritium to initiate neutron emission from the deuterium. Engineers admit, however, that "a tritium inventory of 40 kg" as the minimum required to ensure viability.

Thirdly, as hydrogen is such a small molecule, virtually anything is porous to it, making containment much, much more difficult than for fissionable materials. Hydrogen is highly explosive (witness the Hindenberg!) and will be used in combination with super-high temperatures, making plant safety a big issue. One nuclear engineer frankly stated:² "I would be a lot more concerned about a Tritium fire twenty miles away than a meltdown at a fission plant". There are also likely to be day-to-day hazards caused by the intense electromagnetic forces used to keep the hydrogen plasma off the

torus wall, likely affecting workers' reproductive and central nervous systems and potentially causing leukaemia, if typical of other non-ionizing radiation hazards. The same spectacle as occurred at Sellafield—where workers there were warned not to have children—is likely to occur at any future viable fusion plant.

Fourthly, as noted already, both tritium and deuterium are key components of nuclear weapons—indeed, it was Lawrence Livermore's Edward Teller (a.k.a. 'Doctor Strangelove') that first promoted them in the form of the hydrogen bomb, while he was still at Los Alamos—and so represents a proliferation risk, with all the 'security state' ramifications of that. So much for 'fusion for peace', not that anyone has ever pretended anything so patently stupid - and as Karl Jung argued against fission in his *Nuclear State* three decades ago, a nuclear state is inevitably ultimately also a totalitarian state.

Fifthly, fusion is mega-science feeding a Promethian mega-science mentality, with huge resources diverted into keeping such experts on the hi-tech gravy train. The CANDU torus (also known as ITEC) cost the Canadian government £14 billion when established in 1992. It is a pure research facility which will never generate a watt of electricity for non-research use and, typical of those that have had a living gifted to them, all objections by citizen groups such as Sierra Club Canada have so far arrogantly been waved aside.

Finally, despite the industry hype we'd all be on fusion power by 1980, not a watt of electricity has been generated by fusion for research purpos-

es as well as for non-research ones. Nuclear engineers admit:³

The biggest issue facing DT is the actual breeding of the tritium in the Lithium blanket. It is not a simple problem and may be the death of DT fusion if no practical way of efficiently breeding the tritium and harvesting it quickly without having even minimal losses. This is the part that is the most pessimistic, in my opinion.

In other words, that fusion has always been complete hype and that they may never get it working at all. In this, it certainly is fission+, where at least it was only the safe disposal of the waste they hadn't figured out before spinning stories to suck the public purse dry.

NOTES

1 Conception Research, Postal Station "B", Box One, Toronto Ontario, Canada M5T 2T2.

2 Personal e-communication

3 ibid.



HYDROGEN FUEL CELLS

Energy of the Future, or South Seas Bubble?

by Mr. Blobby

In a world facing wars for oil, we desperately need an 'alternative' energy source for the future. Hydrogen fuel cells, as used in the Space Shuttle, are the energy source of the future, according to the hype surrounding fuel cell research. But research funds are worth lots of \$\$\$; so how well founded in scientific reality is the current optimism in the face of problems which beset the hydrogen fuel cell industry?

Look at a working model of a hydrogen fuel cell, and you see a wonder of science: Hydrogen 'burned' with no smoke, water the only exhaust. Look a little deeper into this miraculous technology, and you see that the heavy and cumbersome hydrogen fuel tank is only large enough to supply fuel for barely a few minutes if it is fitted into a car used to give a flashy film promotion of fuel cell technology.

The car in a video to hype the fuel-cell technology stops moments after the 2 minute video stops. It's run out of fuel already. To get the number of miles between refills you'd expect from a petrol or diesel powered car,

the super cold liquid hydrogen fuel tank would need to be bigger and heavier than the car could fit. Recent developments have brought smaller and lighter fuel tanks, but the problem of fuel storage will not go away.

Then there is the problem of how to make the hydrogen to use in the fuel cells.

Naturally, no non-nuclear means is known to make terrestrial hydrogen that does not consume considerably more energy than it delivers. Note that commercial hydrogen is nearly always produced by the reformation of methane. But the methane really has to want to reform.

Please also note that because of the staggering loss of energy, use of electrolysis for bulk hydrogen apps is a really, really dumb thing to do.

It is the equivalent of exchanging two US dollars for one Mexican peso. www.tinaja.com/h2gas01.asp

Harnessing energy from geothermal springs in Iceland, to make hydrogen, has led the fuel-cell hype industry to

claim Iceland will become the "Kuwait of the North." In reality, it's a scenario similar to the bullshit claims made about vegetable oil biodiesel fuel. It can never supply more than a tiny fraction of world energy needs, even when exploitation levels reach their natural boundaries.

On Internet sites that contribute to the hydrogen fuel-cell hype, there is little or no mention of these insurmountable problems: At the time of writing this, I did an Internet Google search for "hydrogen fuel cell" and got 32,200 results. I didn't have many hours to click through hundreds of links looking to find a site not part of the bullshit hype...

Hydrogen's potential use in fuel and energy applications includes powering vehicles, running turbines or fuel cells to produce electricity, and generating heat and electricity for buildings. The current focus is on hydrogen's use in fuel cells.

A fuel cell works like a battery but does not run down or need recharging. It will produce electricity and heat as long as fuel (hydrogen) is supplied. A fuel cell consists of two electrodes—a negative electrode (or

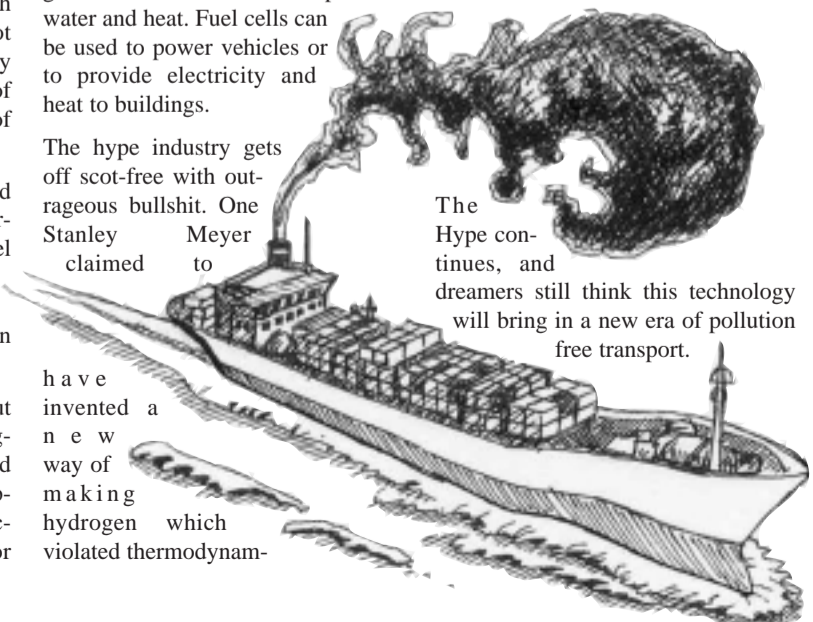
anode) and a positive electrode (or cathode)—sandwiched around an electrolyte. Hydrogen is fed to the anode, and oxygen is fed to the cathode. Activated by a catalyst, hydrogen atoms separate into protons and electrons, which take different paths to the cathode. The electrons go through an external circuit, creating a flow of electricity. The protons migrate through the electrolyte to the cathode, where they reunite with oxygen and the electrons to produce water and heat. Fuel cells can be used to power vehicles or to provide electricity and heat to buildings.

The hype industry gets off scot-free with outrageous bullshit. One Stanley Meyer claimed to

have invented a new way of making hydrogen which violated thermodynam-

ic laws, energy conservation, Faraday's laws, the nature of Fourier Series, hydrogen overvoltage properties, the concept of mathematical integration, the max power transfer theorem, and at least one fundamental current standard. His little scam ripped off investors life savings, and eventually they complained. Judge Corzine of the Ohio court system found a "gross and egregious fraud", but imposed a fine of only \$1.

The Hype continues, and dreamers still think this technology will bring in a new era of pollution free transport.



THE PERENNIAL WILD MEN

The 'war on terror' is their fear of a wild planet.



Despite 9/11, Americans are still more likely to be struck by lightning than by terrorists, but only obsess about the latter.¹ They are thousands of times more likely to be shot by spouses, neighbours or workmates than terrorists, despite which they vigorously defend their 'right to bear arms'. The sociologist William Catton has done us all the favour of putting fears about terrorism in context:²

The annual death toll from influenza in the United States is almost ten times the seven or eight year global toll from terrorism, yet most people tend to think of flu as more of a nuisance than a dire peril.

US foreign policy is led by a 'war on terror' that has killed more people—typically as 'collateral damage'—than the 'terrorists' targeted by several orders of magnitude and blithely draws up lists of conveniently oil-rich 'terrorist states' to intimidate or invade when it is in fact only the US itself that has been judged terrorist by the International Court for Reagan's 1987 mining of Nicaragua's harbours. Claiming the 'war on terror' is in defence of Freedom (capital F used ironically to indicate the 'freedom' concerned is purely abstract rhetoric never to be applied in practice), administrative 'anti-terrorist' legislation has practically extinguished any freedoms of assembly, association and expression, reintroduced internment without trial and McCarthyism in America, and jailed Black people (called 'Portland Asians' as they were devout Moslems!) for exercising their supposed 'right to bear arms' for self-defence against transparently obvious state tyranny in the more hick, Islamophobic parts of the nation.

The absurdities and hypocrisies of the 'war on terror' should be obvious to anybody not mummified by the Flag, but on that you can go and read anything by Noam Chomsky or the small industry of liberal publishing around him if you need to. The purpose of this essay is not to further elaborate on such detail, but to examine why 'terrorism' has exercised such a firm grasp on the modern imagination. 'Terrorism' has not just been sold through the spectacle of media manipulation or its logical flipside, public gullibility—those are but the techniques of power—but has actually taken root. We must go a lot deeper to understand the unique appeal of 'terrorism'—why it is being sold, rather than some competing compliance brand.

POWER AND CHAOS

The term 'terrorism' has been so tainted by political expediency that it now has no agreed definition. As the Reagan administration showed over

Nicaragua, those labeled 'terrorist' by others won't willingly accept their definitions, and even when someone takes the rare and strange decision to label themselves 'terrorist'—as FC (the Freedom Club) did in the Unabomber manifesto, *Industrial Society and Its Future*—others may refuse them this label because they feel it confers *too much* prestige!

Thus, having sold FC as a much-needed example of domestic terrorism throughout the entire 1980s, the FBI relabeled Unabomber suspect Ted Kaczynski a "serial killer" when he came to trial in 1995 as they'd been so humiliated by their inability to catch him in almost two decades, undermining their credibility (and potential funding) as an effective counter-terrorist force (and, incidentally, FC's potential to inspire further militancy).

At best, terrorism is defined as some sort of non-state-level indiscriminate targeting intended to bring about a

crisis in the state unable to meet its Social Contract obligations to protect its own citizenry. At worst—and this is really the point, its utility as a mechanism for maintaining State power—terrorism's definition all too easily broadens out to mean 'anything opposed to us'.

Again, you can check out concerned liberal scholarship for the more obvious implications of this—such as how, by appealing to Social Contract theory, terrorists paradoxically affirm the State they're attacking and statehood generally, although this should hardly come as a surprise concerning nationalist groups—but that is not my purpose here. What interests me is that the indiscriminate nature of terrorism is mirrored in the indiscriminate nature of its definition. Lacking numbers or firepower to take on the armed forces of the state toe-to-toe, the terrorist adopts tactics of clandestinity and unpredictable, symbolic attacks. Consequently, the terrorist could be just about anyone and—more significantly—so could his or her target.

Many advocates of armed struggle will huff and puff about this, insisting they are not terrorists because they are very careful in their selection of targets. Well, all the best to them, but the State is playing the equally inevitable opposite game of narrowing down who the terrorist is likely to be to as small a group as possible and presenting potential targets as as large a group as possible, as everyone else, to isolate and provoke discrimination against the struggle's supporters. It is standard militant rhetoric that unlike in conventional warfare, one successful action is the equivalent of a thousand additional symbolic ones, those that *could* have been hit and *may* be in future. This, in part, explains why reactions to terrorism in terms of overestimation of personal threat is so great - so useful both to terrorist and counter-terrorist. Clearly, the target's perception of their targetability is something largely out of the militants' control. Even if they have been strict about what is and is not an appropriate target to date, the very virtue of guerilla warfare, its unpredictability, means that new targets will be sought in future. Also, aside from rare highly-disciplined and typically compromised groups, militant groups are highly Protean, inclined to splits, break-aways and even government pseudogang activity, meaning splinter groups may well hit targets the parent group refuses.

What, then, are we really looking at here, this perception of anonymous, random violence? *We are looking at chaos*. And how does this culture deal with chaos? What is its perception of that? As the celebrated anthropologist Mary Douglas writes in her seminal *Purity and Danger*:³

As we know it, dirt is essentially disorder. There is no such thing as absolute dirt: it exists in the eye of the beholder.... Dirt offends against order. Eliminating it is not a negative movement, but a positive effort to organise the environment.

On a visceral cultural level, then, terrorists are not the worthy chaps with

legitimate grievances and desperate but necessary measures they take themselves for, *they are dirt*, social pollution to be removed from State society like some deadly plague organism—typically by the State itself and its loyal subordinates, the better to magnify its own power. The Bush administration, for one, uses exactly this rhetoric—likely *unconsciously* appealing to society's instinctual revulsion against pollution, given Dubya's proverbial lack of erudition—and it is no surprise that references to terrorists acquiring germ weapons and 'dirty bombs', all previously the exclusive property of governments, are now the typically baseless stock in trade of anti-terrorist propaganda.

From this, it should be obvious what the State gets out of terrorism—to the point of promoting and controlling terrorist groups, as the Italian government did during the 'years of lead' in the 1970s, on an 'eternal threat, eternal loyalty' principle⁴—but how do the terrorists benefit? Of course, being portrayed as monsters totally beyond social norms enhances the appeal and power of some, those that believe their revolution really will smash social norms, appealing to others thinking likewise and enhancing the symbolic intimidation of those that do not (the 'multiplier effect' discussed above).

However, there is more to it than this. As Douglas argues at great length, what is taboo is sacred as well as polluting. Those challenging the order of the universe define themselves not just as dirt, but also as godlike. Guerillas are often criticised for élitism precisely because their actions are seen as requiring a revolutionary courage, clear-sightedness and dedication that is beyond the majority to emulate, that is effectively superhuman.

Similarly, in death—and such activity surely invites death and torture, which is an attempt to kill the revolutionary's spirit, what "a positive effort to organise the environment" means in this context—martyrs are revered in a quasi-religious manner, piously put 'above criticism' and iconised as propaganda tools much as were the saints of Medieval Christianity, as intercessors with the Divine (or the historic / material forces as the Left would have it...). To their great discredit, some guerillas actively promote such personality cults precisely because they are élitist, promoting their own power at the expense of others' liberty.

WILD ORIGINS

Because definitions of terrorism are so contested, so too is any prospect of identifying the first terrorists. Some say the 'White' royalists of Brittany opposing the French revolution, though this looks like a conventional national liberation struggle to me. Some would say the Assassins that wrecked dynastic havoc during the Middle Ages, but the Zealots preceded them by a millennia and were the same, only less ambitious. No doubt some would say the first ape to ambush another along the trail was a 'terrorist'. Again, this pedantry does not interest me. What does is the origin of the

chaotic, violent stereotype of terrorism, with all its symbolic force.

Who, then, was 'outside society' as the stereotypical taboo-busting terrorists now are? The answer, given in Aristotle's *Politics*, was "the Barbarians" or to contextualise it with the full quote:⁵

Humanity is divided into two: the masters and the slaves; or, if one prefers it, the Greeks and the Barbarians, those who have the right to command; and those who were born to obey.

Yes, the question of who was outside social norms was an important one in ancient Greek society because it determined who could make slaves and who could be made slaves. Implicitly also, it defined who could make laws, or else slaves would just make laws freeing themselves. Despite abundant evidence of other civilisations abounding in the ancient world—not least Egypt or the rival Persian empire—the great Philosopher so revered by Mediaeval scholarship preferred logic to common sense and went on to argue that non-Greek societies had no laws (rather than that Greek law somehow overrode theirs) and that non-Greeks therefore lived in a state of Nature like animals, and that enslaving them was therefore probably even sort of doing them a favour introducing them to Greek civilisation.... This patently absurd, self-serving argument would be vastly elaborated as 'White man's burden' in centuries to come.

Inspired by Aristotle and no doubt bored by their own, overcontrolled society, the Mediaevals fantasised about the pagan state of Nature, imagining wild, bearded Green men in the woods bedecked with leaves and antlers, living life without restraint much like the Greek Dionysus or Roman Pan. Whether this was a folk remembrance of the Neolithic (itself not wholly an oasis of human freedom thanks to religious and work impositions) or idealisation of the lives of greenwood outlaws, such ideas pervaded Medieval society to such an extent that representations of Green men survive as ironic / talismanic church gargoyles, rural pub signs, springtime village Springtime customs and even in literature, as in *Gawain and the Green Knight*.

The late-Mediaeval Sir John Mandeville—who is neck and neck with Herodotus as 'father of lies', history-wise—portrayed these wild men as "eat[ing] both flesh and fish all raw", alongside all those on nonexistent, distant islands with faces in their chests and feet big enough to function as sunshades.

Amusing fantasy perhaps, even a sign of yearned-for natural freedom, but in practice such stereotypes were applied exactly as the Greeks did. On arrival on the Carib island he named Hispaniola in 1492, Columbus was quick to insist Mandeville's fantasies were reality, reporting back to distant Spain:⁶

Men with one eye, and others with dog's noses, who ate men, and that when they took a man, they cut off his head and drank his blood and castrated him.

Clearly, these Caribs were beyond the law and hardly human. In the enslavement of the Gauches on the Canary Islands that had been going on simultaneous to Columbus's colonisation of the New World, Isabella of Castille had already had Aristotle's apologia for slavery rewritten, substituting the word 'Spanish' for 'Greek' in de Coroba's infamous 1460 primer, *Garden of Noble Maidens*.⁷ Because of the vagaries of Christian—as opposed to Greek—religiosity, Isabella went one step further than Aristotle in arguing not that "A slave is a property with a soul", but that they were essentially soulless, like animals, and therefore their labour could not be lost to the Church through manumission by conversion. Consequently, millions of Caribs perished mining in Columbus's silver mines in less than a decade, best illustrating who was 'savage' and who best benefited from "the law of nations".

This is a key point; as US retaliation for 'terrorism' is orders of magnitude greater than the initial terrorist act or even what they're capable of, so the 'wild' or 'savage' is recast as a projection of the Civiliser's own unrestrained violence, their true savagery alibied. In his mythopoeic *Against History, Against Leviathan*, Fredy Perlman points to the transformation of wilderness from being simply a place of Nature outside human control to a place of subjective terror, of potential ambush, due to the introduction of Civilised warfare and its unreasoning fears to it:⁸

The world outside Ur is not the wilderness our word will designate. Their wilderness clearly is not the forest or desert, the plants or animals, since the nature-loving temple residents have all these brought into the city.

Could it be that their wilderness is the wilderness created by the Lugal [war leader] and his men; the battlefields surrounding all of Sumer's towns, the settings of raids and counter-raids, the scenes of torture, slaughter and capture.

If the wild was not itself 'savage', it might be a desirable alternative to Civilisation—indeed, to the survivalist Right, its supposed Darwinian savagery is precisely why it is desirable—and in any case, this paranoid perception where the Civilisers' vio-

lence is attributed to what they designate non-Civilised as it is beyond their control rationalises its destruction in the name of 'self defence'.

Forgive the stridency of the example—though it is easier to see what is typical when an example is falsely presented as exceptional—but Nazi imperialism and its inevitably atrocious consequences were characterised by exactly such paranoid projection, which presented the German people as surrounded by overwhelming numbers of communists and other supposed *untermenschen* as well as a nonexistent 'world conspiracy' of Jews, with real genocide 'justified' as a response to this projected, imaginary threat.

To make this threat 'real', the Nazis even faked incidents, burning the *Reichstag* (the German parliament) in 1936 and then blaming their own handiwork on 'red savagery', the better to reinforce their own tyranny. Though such reasoning verged on the clinically insane, it perfectly suited the aggressive ideology and expansionist aims of a clinically insane state, not that the Nazis have been the only such state evident in modern times....

UNVEILING THE MYTH

The language used to describe modern terrorists exactly matches that used to describe the Medieval wild men. John Pilger evokes the familiar Washington media's stereotype of "Flag-burning, embassy-storming, bearded, wild men of Islam"⁹ [my emphasis] whilst Likud zealot Benjamin Netanyahu referred to hijackers as "wild beasts that prowl our airways and waterways"¹⁰ and as GAL carried out their merciless campaign of cross-border assassination of Basque activists, the Madrid press wrote most tellingly of:¹¹

The activists of ETA, who are not men, who are beasts... No human rights come into play when a tiger must be hunted. The tiger is searched after, is hounded, is captured, and if necessary is killed.

The ETA fighters assassinated were, of course, human beings and not tigers - the point is they were equated with these animals symbolically, as peculiarly savage creatures of the wilderness, even though tigers, too, rarely pose a real threat to humans not encroaching on their own territory and are really the ones dispropor-

tionately threatened by such encroachment.

Uncivilised humans, animals and Nature itself are equated, united in being seen as soulless and chaotic, fit only to be ordered and controlled by law-making humans for their own benefit. This is the lesson of that other great Christian garden myth, that of God giving Adam mastery over Nature in Eden. How much this stereotype has been employed to characterise terrorists as chaotic forces of Nature in need of human mastery is illustrated by Malcolm Timbers' Jungian analysis of terrorism as infantile and unconscious:¹²

By drawing on the works of Jung and Nietzsche, I am attempting to show that the terrorist is influenced by an archetypal element in Nature that is historically represented by the god Dionysus in an extreme, distorted sense, while, in this game, the West represents an extreme and distorted Apollonian element as a civilization bent on dominating and exploiting Nature... I personally knew a FLQ terrorist¹³ who also talked a lot about ecology and spoke of the Earth unconsciously, in an infantile manner, as a metaphor for the mother's body. That is, mentally he was in the Oedipal role of the hero-son saving the Earth / Mother from being ravished by the evil Father / Capitalism.

It is a natural conclusion that if Man (and they mean 'Man') can regulate 'soulless' Nature better than it can itself after billions of years evolving its own self-regulation, and if simple societies stable for millennia are better run by Civilisers than by their own people (who, though mature adults with social skills far in advance of the Civilisers, are conveniently "like children" in need of a patriarch), so terrorists are prey to unconscious destructive urges and too need to be ruled or crushed.

There is no question of intrinsic value here, that in all humility the Civilisers might possibly be the ones that are in the wrong. Like Freud, Jung believed we had to suppress what is natural and spontaneous, instinctual, in us in order to cooperate and create 'shining cities', higher consciousness and higher Civilisation. In fact fantasies of omnipotence and of being at the centre of a universe made solely for oneself is more typically associated

with infantile consciousness and more exactly typifies the mentality of the Civiliser, the conquerer, the engineer, bending the whole world to their own control.

If these arguments are starting to ring bells with some readers, it's because they are very familiar. Dan Quinn concludes *Ishmael* by mythologically noting:¹⁴

The Takers' [Civilisers] story is, 'The gods made the world for man, but they botched the job, so we had to take matters into our own, more competent hands.' The Leavers' story is, 'The gods made man for the world, the same way they made salmon and sparrows and rabbits for the world; this seems to have worked pretty well so far, so we can take it easy and leave the running of the world to the gods.

This, then, is the unveiling: the 'war on terror' is a misnomer. The Civilisers' true motive is to exert absolute control over the entire world, over what is wild in human nature and beyond it — even at the expense of their own laws. Terrorism is selected only because it is a particularly distasteful manifestation of natural resistance to their encroachments, an obstacle to the further accumulation of the monopoly of violence on behalf of the State. The 'war on terror' is then actually a war on freedom and a war on Nature (including even human nature), an attempt to eliminate everything not under the control of a select few from the world. Terrorists are not the infantile, chaotic forces of Nature anti-terrorists pretend—in fact, typically they are tainted by the same authoritarian drives as those they seek to 'liberate' the rest of us from third-hand—but in the realm of the symbolic, what is truly real has long been eclipsed by its representation. For the world-eating Civilisers, their projections of free humanity are monstrous, cannibalistic - but even these are preferable to those, like Terminators, that "can't be bought off, can't be stopped, that just keep coming".

In his *Technological Society*, ex-French Resistance fighter Jacques Ellul pointed out that for a security state to work effectively, everyone must be treated as a potential threat, the better to identify and neutralise actual threats. Unfortunately, the machine logic of Efficiency means

any resistance to this, stemming from a desire for autonomy, even privacy, moves citizens into the 'threat' category and tightens the security state's intolerant definitions of 'terrorism' still further.

As the supposed bearers of social disorder, today's terrorists are called monsters. Tomorrow, inevitably, we will all be called terrorists. To truly live as free human beings, we are given no option but to challenge this man-made prison of a society and to fight. In fighting, however, we must never forget how to live, never allow them to reduce us to the level of symbolic cyphers.

NOTES

- 1 Joseba Zulaika and William A Douglass's *Terror and Taboo: The Follies, Fables and Faces of Terrorism* (Routledge, 1996), p.6.
- 2 *ibid.*, p.5.
- 3 Mary Douglas's *Purity and Danger: An analysis of the concepts of pollution and taboo* (Routledge, 1966), p.2.
- 4 Gianfranco Sanguinetti's *On Terrorism and the State* (Chronos, 1982), which focuses particularly on the 'hoax' of the Moro kidnapping, though this aspect of Italian politics has always been a 'hall of mirrors' strangely reminiscent of Orwell's highly realistic but satirical portrayal of inter-war Trotskyism ('Emmanuel Goldsteinism') in 1984.
- 5 Hugh Thomas's *The Slave Trade: The History of the Atlantic Slave Trade 1440-1870* (Picador, 1997), p.26.
- 6 Zulaika and Douglas, *op cit.*, p.154.
- 7 John Connor's 'Precedent for the New World' in *The Rise of the West: A Brief Outline of the Last Thousand Years* (Green Anarchist Books, 2001), p.68.
- 8 Fredy Perlman's *Against His-story, Against Leviathan: An Essay* (Black & Red, 1983), p.24.
- 9 John Pilger's 'The World's worst Terrorists are based in Washington', www.users.bigpond.com/nlevine/worstterrorists, p.3.
- 10 Zulaika and William, *op cit.*, p. 157.
- 11 *ibid.*, p.157.
- 12 Malcolm Timbers' 'On the Apollo vs Dionysian Conflict' in 'The Psychology of Terrorism' series, *Mysterium Journal of Suffering and Death*, www.geocities.com/aquapontica/terrorism. I hasten to add that this is quoted not because I in any way endorse Jungianism—unlike Freud, Jung felt no good reason to flee the Nazis, to put it mildly—but rather because Timbers himself unconsciously discloses Civilisation's own assumptions about terrorism.
- 13 The FLQ were the Quebec Liberation Front, an early-1970s clandestine Left-nationalist group seeking seperation of French speakers from Canada. Not given to indiscriminate violence, they could hardly be called 'terrorist' in terms of strict definitions.
- 14 Daniel Quinn's *Ishmael* (Bantam, 1992), p.241.

Just Leave Us Alone!
A letter from a Papuan Tribesman

CHILDREN OF GUINEA
VOODOO, THE 1789 HAITIAN REVOLUTION AND AFTER
BY JOHN CONNOR

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THE MALLEUS MALEFICARUM - THE HAMMER OF WITCHES

A review of the book by Heinrich Kramer and Jacobus Sprenger as translated by Rev. Montague Summers

Witch-hunt: an investigation of or campaign against dissenters (as political opponents) conducted on the pretext of protecting the public welfare.

Heretic: From the Greek, "able to choose", characterized by departure from accepted beliefs or standards

It was the time when European men enslaved 11 to 15 million Africans and caused 70 million deaths of Indians in the so-called New World. The "Burning Times" here in Europe when millions of their own inhabitants were tortured and killed, and the last vestiges of our wild ancestry wiped out. A systematic persecution of all dissenters, political opponents to the church/state and deviators from the civilised norm.

And *Malleus Maleficarum* was the book on every Judge's bench. The handbook for every self-appointed Inquisitor, every sanctimonious christian, every law-abiding citizen. An inspirer of fear and distrust, rationalising the intrusion of christian civilised society into every corner of the earth.

The book is divided into three parts. The first ponders such questions as: "If it be in Accordance with the Catholic Faith to maintain that in Order to bring about some Effect of Magic, the Devil must intimately cooperate with the Witch, or whether one without the other, that is to say, the Devil without the Witch, or conversely, could produce such an effect." (That's just a sample so you can see how turgid these men were)

The second describes all the virile member/bestial transformations kind of stuff and the third relates to the judicial proceedings in both the ecclesiastical and civil courts. This covers the way the arrest, imprisonment, torture and sentencing should be carried out. One section deals specifically with "the Trial with red-hot irons"

Everything by the book, by the letter of the law.

It doesn't mention the sexual assault and rape carried out regularly by prison guards and interrogators, but you know that wouldn't have bothered Frs. Kramer and Sprenger anyway. Their anti-women stance is extreme even by the church's standards and they have the usual civilised obsession with sex.

To conclude: All witchcraft comes from carnal lust, which is in women insatiable. See Proverbs 30: There are three things that are never satisfied, yea, a fourth thing which says not, It is enough; that is, the mouth of the womb. Wherefore for the sake of fulfilling their lusts they consort even with devils.

The accused witch must be "often and frequently exposed to torture. If after being fittingly tortured she refuses to confess the truth, he [the inquisitor] should have other engines of torture brought before her, and tell her that she will have to endure these if she does not confess. If then she is not induced by terror to confess, the torture must be continued." If she remained obdurate, "she is not to be altogether released, but must be sent to the squalor of prison for a year, and be tortured, and be examined very often, especially on the more Holy Days."

All perfectly reasonable.

The edition reviewed here has Pope 'Innocent' VIII's Papal Bull endorsing it. Pope Innocent VIII had two kids—his son married a daughter of

Lorenzo de Medici and his daughter married Gherardo Uso de Mare, a very wealthy Genoese merchant who was also Papal Treasurer. He feared anarchy like every wealthy businessman does and was obviously very conscious of the ways to influence and brainwash people. To get them afraid and docile, more manageable to the Holy Empire, he and his cronies manufactured the witch-craze so they could subdue rebellions, destroy dissent and snatch as much land as they could. (All witches had their property confiscated by the church, none was ever given back)

Published in 1486, there were 13 editions by 1520, 16 more by 1669 and translations into German, French, Italian, and English. One of the most widely read books along with the Bible, it was pushed with all the ignorant fervour you now get with the "War on Terror", post 9-11.

Then, as now, there were many people unwilling to give up their ways and land. Many heretical movements sprung up, especially in German-speaking areas where the witch hunts were particularly concentrated.

And there were families and individuals who were happy with their pagan ways, or non-religious ways, and didn't buckle easily to the christian plunderers. The church resorted to increasingly violent measures to whip these heretics back in line.

The Inquisition itself was established by Pope Gregory IX in 1233 to eliminate the Cathars' and other threats to church power. This mainly meant persecuting heretics labelled the "Free Spirit Movement", a convenient banner for a highly diverse flourishing of animist or mystic thought.

One member of the Free Spirit movement was interviewed by German mystic Heinrich Suso in 1330:

Whence have you come? I come from nowhere. Tell me what are you? I am not. What do you wish? I do not wish. Tell me what is your name? I am called Nameless Wildness. Where does your insight lead? Into untrammelled freedom.

In the early thirteenth century, David of Dinant taught that "God and Matter and Mind are one substance." and Amalric of Bena held that "God was the formal principle of all things, and that every single person was as much God as was Christ." The works of both men were condemned as heretical and burned. A group of fourteen clerics, which included Amalric's secretary, rubbished the notion of sin and began to preach "all things are One, because whatever is, is God." In 1210 they were burned at the stake.²

Things were beginning to intensify by the 13th and 14th centuries and the church compiled lists to be used as handbooks in the persecution of dissenters which included the following "errors" of heretics:

A man unified with God could rob from others, could lie or perjure himself without sin, and, if a servant, could give away the property of his master without license. More than that, the per-

Gospels and those free in spirit can do whatever they wish with their bodies without sin. A perfect woman need not obey her husband and all should be released from servitude including those who had been previously bound to a king or other lord.

These animist anarchist ideas were the leftovers from our wild past. They continued to be spread and lived throughout Europe and many people were prepared to die rather than surrender to civilised christian morality.

It is wise to remember that when the word "God" is used, the heretics and witches do not mean it in the same sense as christians and other religious do. Although the American Indians had no concept of "God" their ideas of the Life-force or animating spirit were labelled "God" by modern anthropologists. Even by calling it Life-force I am not doing justice to the idea animists have of Life.

It is worth bearing this difficulty in mind when reading heretical texts or christian versions of them. "God" is an easily understood and generally accepted way to talk about the Life-Force, but the heretical idea of "God" and the religious one of it are utterly different.

Most of the stuff I found on the web about heretics and witches is written by academics who don't have any idea what animism is about and the accounts we have of heretical thought or witchcraft come from hostile church sources, especially Inquisitorial records. So we have to read a lot between the lines to figure out what might have been going on.

"Grant to nature all that it desires without remorse of conscience." - Marguerite Porete⁴

"Nothing is sin except what is thought of as sin." - Johann Hartmann

"Whatever the eye sees and covets, let the hand grasp it." - John of Brunn

The only thing we can be certain of is that there was a huge diversity in heretical thought. While there are obvious similarities between groups and individuals, there was no set doctrine, no fixed dogmas - only beliefs as individual and varied as you can imagine.⁵

According to a Franciscan chronicler, when three heretics were arrested and interrogated in Constance in 1339. "They confessed to more than thirty errors so vile that they made their audience sick.... One was that there was as much divinity or divine goodness in a louse as in man or any other creature, another that communion

bread should be served to pigs. They also supposedly maintained that if a man and a woman had sexual intercourse on an altar at the same time as the consecration of the host both acts would have the same worth.⁶

Another group called the Adamites wanted to live as Adam and Eve did before the Fall into civilisation.

According to John of Viktring, men and women of various classes assembled at midnight in an underground hideaway which they named a temple. There Walter, 'a priest of the devil,' said mass and delivered a sermon. Then the assembly put out the lights, chose partners, and feasted, danced, and fornicated. This, they said, was the state of paradise in which Adam and Eve lived before the fall.⁷

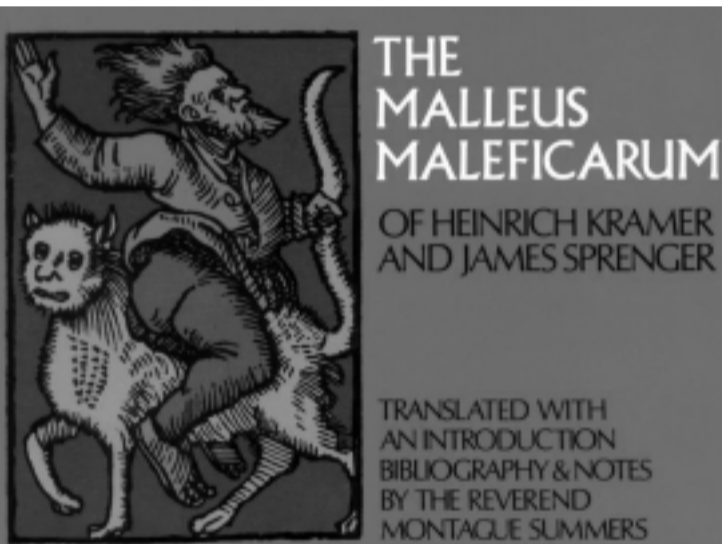
Then there was the more normal beghards and beguines who believed a lot of christian stuff, but embarrassed the church by actually living as christ supposedly had done. They abandoned all possessions, wandering around the country preaching about the corruption and wealth of the church. Individuals varied in how revolutionary their teachings were—some said that the church was a useless parasite that should be disbanded, others were more reformist and hoped the church would just punish its corrupt clergy.

The degree to which other people described as "Free Spirits" were revolutionary or reformist is not clear. The texts that have survived—very few—were often watered down versions of what was preached by non-literary heretics. It's impossible really to know how many revolutionary heretics were around in the Middle Ages or to know how much of their ideas that have survived have been altered or diluted. Also, taking into account only the standard "Free Spirit Movement" texts would be like a person in fifty years trying to analyse our 'movement' (such as it is!) by looking only at Greenpeace press statements.

Many of the Free Spirits were anarchic revolutionaries, advocating a life free of church/state interference. And then again many were christian and/or very wishy-washy—like modern hippies—watering down their work to try to escape the noose or stake. But the church burnt them all anyway, not allowing any deviation from their civilised codes.

These 'enemies of the church' were usually called heretics before *Malleus Maleficarum* and witches afterwards.⁸ For propaganda purposes it was perhaps easier to generate fear and suspicion of witches - because of their 'supernatural' powers they can kill cattle, shrivel up your willy, etc. The *Malleus Maleficarum* makes it clear that witches regularly destroy property, sicken livestock and generally behave maevolently towards the community.

With the publication of *Malleus* the witch-hunts intensified and some reckon up to four million were killed, though the true number will never be known. The death rate was highest in German-speaking places, and their immediate neighbors, especially Poland. Witch hunts were frequent in Scotland and England, but there were almost none in Ireland. (They didn't



need an excuse—the English just killed everyone who disagreed with them.) They were not widespread in Russia and rare in Iceland and Portugal, and while there were many investigations in Italy and Spain, few were executed. Although the witch hunts were at their height in Europe in the Middle Ages there were other notable campaigns of persecution against witches. For example, in 367 a crusade was launched in the East with many magicians, ‘soothsayers’ (‘truth tellers’) and others killed. Every major religion preached against witchcraft—even Manichism had Ten commandments, one of which forbade the practice of magic.

Civilised people have always feared witches and magick as it can unleash unpredictable energies and has an anarchic, un-lawful nature. In early Constantinople a man named Sopater was executed for “binding the winds by magic” causing the cargo-bearing ships to crash. We will never know to what extent many of the later witches and heretics were causing trouble, sabotaging property, etc. If we never hear of the acts of the ELF in the national media now, then how would we know of acts carried out hundreds of years ago by uncompliant individuals and groups?

With the obliteration of witches went knowledge of our herbs and healing methods—handy for the christian doctors then anxious to gain money and power. Birthing, abortion, infanticide and contraception were other skills either made illegal or appropriated by institutional professionalism. Women especially found any power they had as village midwife and healer taken off them.⁹ Traditional community bonds disintegrated and in Sweden, for example, in 1664, church ordinances increased the penalty for certain offenses from fines to corporal or even capital punishment. These “crimes” included premarital sex, communal feasts and processions, public singing and dancing, may poles, and wedding processions—long-held customary traditions.

The distrust and suspicion generated by the witch-hunts severely eroded traditional ways of life. People were afraid to talk to anyone who might turn out to be a witch, as under torture many were made to inform on friends and neighbours. Civilised people, always herdish animals, became even more domesticated—paranoid, isolated individuals, living in fear of the courts and clergy. The world they created was one of fear and isolation, where anyone outside the norm was shunned. It was a form of selective breeding as the trouble-makers, thinkers and healers were bred out and the conformist collaborators populated Europe.

Diabolus means slander or enmity. Hence Satan is ‘the slanderer’, ‘the enemy’. Now they call them “terrorists”—the forest peoples still left on earth who fight to keep their forest home, the earth liberation front fighting to slow down the destruction in their home, the individuals fighting many battles to hold onto some of their freedom.

It reaches ever more ridiculous proportions, as they tighten their grip over all life. They, like their Inquisitor fathers, can’t afford to leave any people live as an example contrary to their doctrine. And of course they want the land—the timber, oil, gas.... They dress it up in press releases as ‘terrorism’ to justify their plunder and murder, and with

the mention of “terrorists” think they’ve a license to do anything to protect their interests, just like years ago they mentioned “witches”¹⁰

Washington-AP — The head of the international police agency Interpol wants a worldwide crackdown on music and software piracy. He says the illicit proceeds are helping fund terrorist networks, including al-Qaida and Hezbollah. Interpol Secretary-General Ronald Noble is calling for stepped-up efforts to trace the proceeds of pirated CD’s, DVD’s, computer software, and counterfeit clothing and cigarettes.

The language of hypocrites and liars. Pretending their money-making exploits are matters of national security. Pretending their plunder of oil and timber is for the good of ‘undeveloped’ thirdworlders. Their war against Life, all life, goes on. Their propaganda attempting to excuse it gets ever more elaborate.

Just as the majority of people kept their heads down and pointed the finger and hid behind rational excuses, listening to the screams of their neighbours, watching the flames lick their freedoms to ashes, so now the majority go along with the persecution of forest people, anarchists, and other heretics. They allow themselves to be hypnotised by television, cinema, newspapers, radio, billboards... as the propaganda machine reaches into every home, every mind.

And they fear the non-normal realities. They believe in devils and evil and all that rubbish. They shun the shadow worlds and paranormal ways.¹¹ They subdue their own wild natures and train themselves to see only their solid, measurable, mundane reality, persecuting anyone who doesn’t agree with their civilisation dogma. They live lives completely devoid of freedom, of intuition of Life, of forest ways. Disconnected from all the rhythms of nature, alienated from their true wild selves, separate from all other life-forms.

Religion perverted our animist experiences into rigid codes and strict laws. Spontaneous experiences of the wonder of Life became book-bound commandments. Wild outdoor gatherings became litanies in stone churches. Sexual pleasures were dulled to marriage.

Magick became a childish triviality—like Harry Potter and Sabrina the Witch, sanitising witchcraft beyond recognition. The idea of magick being a technique to focus on non-normal realities is completely absent in most modern people. The witch hunts largely succeeded in their systematic attempt to wipe out any knowledge of that which is beyond words. That which we know intuitively.¹²

Civilisation has always been afraid of those who ‘know’ (‘Witch’ comes from *wit*: ‘to know’), those who seek the truth behind propaganda lies, those who know all imposed rules are bullshit, designed to rob us of our freedom.

They said “Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live”, but we do live on. In every digger trashed, every lab burnt down, every single act of defiance; in every experience of ‘that which is beyond words’, every sensing of Life’s mystery and power, every blow struck against the chains of civilisation,

We live. We live.

Footnotes:

- 1 The Cathars didn’t acknowledge the sacraments, the doctrines of hell or purgatory, or the resurrection of the body and developed their own church and ritual, rejecting the authority of the Church. They had lives of simplicity and penance in which salvation lay only in the Lord. Thousands were killed and many more tortured into accepting orthodox faith and by 1244 they had been crushed.
- 2 “The Brethren of the Free Spirit - divine amorality”.by Paul Harrison http://www.totse.com/en/fringe/fringe_sciences/freesprt.html
- 3 Those are from Nordlinger and Albert Magnus lists. “The decree of Vienne also listed eight errors of ‘an abominable sect of malignant men known as beghards and faithless women known as beguines in the Kingdom of Germany’ which are generally considered to be the essence of the Free-Spirit heresy. The first tenet was the central one. This stated that man can attain such a degree of perfection in his earthly life that he is incapable of sin. In this state he can achieve no additional grace because such would give him a perfection superior to Christ. The second point followed that such a man need not fast or pray because in his state of perfection sensuality is so subordinated to reason that he can accord freely to his body all that pleases him. Similarly the third point was that such a man is not subject to human obedience or to any laws of the Church because ‘where the spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty’ (2 Corin. 3:17)
 - from “The Heresy of the Free Spirit in the Later Middle Ages”, Robert E. Lerner, University of California Press, Berkeley, 1972..(extracts on web at: <http://www.scitec.auckland.ac.nz/~king/Preprints/book/consum/gnos/lerner.htm#anchor189274>)
- 4 Around the end of the 13th century Marguerite Porete wrote “The Mirror of Simple Souls” which was condemned and burned by the Bishop of Cambrai. She refused to be shut up and eventually was arrested and tortured. Refusing to answer any Inquisitors questions even after a year in prison, the authorities eventually executed her by using extracts from her book as evidence. She was burned along with a converted Jew who “relapsed” and spat in hatred on an image of the Virgin.
- 5 In 1307 at Aix-en-Othe the Bishop accused a man of having said that normal baked bread was as good as bread consecrated on the altar and that it was better to confess to a tree trunk than to a priest. How many individuals were accused on this kind of basis? How many we never hear about?
- 6 The report finishes...“Finally, though this was not an error so much as an anecdote, when one of the heretics was asked by three women to teach them about the Trinity, he had them take off all of their clothes and lie on their backs. Then, after binding each by the leg to the other, he violated them all sexually “in the most scandalous manner,” and, “casting his lecherous eye on their exposed shame,” he said “here is the Holy Trinity.” Afterwards he had intercourse with each of them separately.” (from “The Heresy of the Free Spirit in the Later Middle Ages” - see note 3).
- 7 Ibid.
- 8 In 1486 a Papal Bull to the Bishop of Brescia and Inquisitor of Lombardy, “emphasises the close connection, nay, the identity of witchcraft with heresy.” (Introduction to the Malleus by Rev. Montague Summers) Summers holds that “In fact heresy was one huge revolutionary body, exploiting its forces through a hundred different channels and having as its object chaos and corruption. The question may be asked - What was their ultimate aim in wishing to destroy civilisation? What did they hope to gain by it?”
- 9 Although in places like Finland, Russia and Estonia more men than women were killed, overall about 85% of those killed were women. Women can be naturally more intuitive, more in touch with Life/Power/Whatever you want to call it. Don Juan described women as having a direct relationship with the Nagual, whereas men had to work on it a bit more and many initiation rites in primitive tribes are concerned with trying to get the boys to open up. In a lot of places the girls are assumed to just know this stuff instinctively. I’m not suggesting that women here in civilisation have this gift - it’s obvious that they don’t - but in a culture where intuitive forms of knowledge are prized, women do seem to have a natural ability to tune into energies around them. Maybe by the time of the witch-hunts more men had lost this ability, while women were still a little ‘tuned in’ and therefore a much bigger threat to civilisation.
- 10 It’s interesting to see how this is repeated throughout history. Tacitus records “Therefore to scotch the rumour that the fire had taken place by his own order Nero sub-

stituted as culprits and punished with the utmost refinements of cruelty, a class of men loathed for their vices, whom the crowd styled Christians.”

- 11 Paranormal means ‘beyond normal’. It’s worlds away from the christian idea of ‘supernatural’ ‘above nature’. Nothing can be above nature, nothing can be outside of Life. Paranormal also has some definitions as “beyond the range of scientifically known or recognizable phenomena”. That is more what I mean than anything ‘outside of nature’ - a ludicrous idea.
- 12 Old English *wigle*: ‘divination’, *wiglian*: ‘to divine’. *Divine*: to perceive, make out, or discover intuitively or through keenness of insight. (All in the Webster-Merriam dictionary, as are all definitions mentioned) This animist way of knowing is in complete contrast with civilised habits of prioritising reason above intuition. “Let a man obey the law of his intellect rather than that of nature...” the *Malleus* warns, yet no knowledge can come purely from the intellect.

LIFESTYLE

WILD SWIMMING

Of course, swimming in natural settings is our common human heritage—and perhaps our origin—but now, inspired by Resurgence contributor and Schumacher College lecturer Roger Deakin’s 1990 *Waterlog* (ISBN: 0099282550), a rising tide of Nature-lovers are taking to UK’s ponds, rivers and lakes. Describing wild swimming’s appeal, Deakin writes:

When you swim, you feel your body for what it mostly is: water. To swim is to experience how it was before you were born. Once in the water, you are immersed in an intensely private world as you were in the womb. The swimmer experiences the terror and bliss of being born.

So swimming is a rite of passage, a crossing of boundaries; the line of the shore, the bank of the river, the edge of the pool, the surface itself. You are in nature, part and parcel of it, in a far more complete and intense way than on dry land and your sense of the present is overwhelming.

Most of us live in a world where more and more places and things are sign-posted, labelled and officially ‘interpreted’, turning the reality of things into virtual reality. It is the reason why walking, cycling and swimming will always be subversive activities. They allow us to regain a sense of what is old and wild in these islands by getting off the beaten track and breaking free of the official versions of things.

Needless to say, officialdom is not happy about all this unprofitable, uncontrolled sensual pleasure—never mind “regain[ing]... what is old and wild”—and is doing its hopeless best to regulate or ban it.

Absurdly arguing they’ll be liable for the actions of wild swimmers who sneak over their fences on their own initiative, Buckinghamshire County Council have banned all unauthorised swimming on their property. Others have settled for the lesser measure of posting ‘no swimming’ signs at every particularly beloved watering places, a precaution heartily mocked by the Digger’s annual ‘most anal sign’ award (‘Digger’ here being a pun, naming both members of the archaeological labourers union and the commutarian followers of Gerard Winstanley centuries before).

Thus, their website carries pics of signs sternly warning against “deep water” (“so good for diving in”) with “submerged rocks” beneath it (“too deep to cause harm”). Another warns of the dangers of rat-borne Weils disease (“as not recognised by the European Water Quality directive”)

because, of course, unmediated contact with Nature is contaminating and ‘dirty’ as far as these body-hating, desk-bound bureaucrats are concerned. The Digger even posts translated ‘no swimming’ signs encountered whilst holidaying in the “socialist republic” of Vietnam, a lesson in itself.

Knowing the natural world enough to interact with it on its own terms is part of the appeal of wild swimming, but wise, practical tips are included on the Digger site too: check for depth, current, temperature and glass. Watch out for potentially electrocuting exposed cables nearby and—a bigger risk on these densely-populated islands—your clothes in case some prankster runs off with them!

Mercifully no-one is playing out their perverse organisational obsessions by establishing some chartered, rule-bound ‘Wild Swimming Association’ (witness the Ramblers for a depressing dry-land contrast). It’s just people going out alone or with mates ‘doing what comes naturally’ and if at a banned spot, well, they can’t watch us all and such defiance makes any prohibiting law or regulation a dead letter anyway...

NEW ZINES

MANUFACTURING DISSENT - PRISON WRITINGS OF ANARCHIST ROB LOS RICOS.

Regular readers should be familiar with Rob’s writing already. He has been contributing to Green Anarchist as well as other anarchist zines, such as ‘Anarchy — A Journal of Desire Armed’ for some time. This is Rob’s third zine since his incarceration some three years ago and in my view the best (the first two were ‘Rob the Rich’ and ‘Fuck You Bearden’).

The production quality and layout of ‘Manufacturing Dissent’ is great but more importantly it reads really well. Illustrated throughout are a whole host of articles by Rob that put together here in one collection read like they flow together well.

There is some information on Rob’s life-history in the introduction, some background to the June 18th 1999 riot in Eugene that led to Rob’s subsequent imprisonment, articles on illegalism, chaos, direct action and even Rob Los Ricos Vs Chumbawamba.

It’s definitely worth going out and getting this whether you’ve read Rob’s other zines or not as there is a lot of new stuff in here.

VEG@NARSI. PRICE FROM VEGANARSI@MAIL.COM.

Veg@narsi is a green anarchist zine from Turkey. It apparently includes green anarchist, primitivist and vegan-anarchist articles and has had four issues since the project was started in 2000.

However I don’t understand Turkish so you will have to be satisfied with the description of this zine as a fairly chunky cut and paste job jam packed full of graphics and articles.

The author translates a lot of stuff from english language anti-civilization websites and distributes them through this zine. It certainly seems like a project worth supporting and maybe someone out there can even translate the odd article from Turkish? Get in touch at the email address above.

Many more reviews in next issue...!

GREEN ANARCHIST SAYS

AN OPEN FORUM

At this year's Earth First! Gathering, at a well-attended meeting of anacho-primitivists from across Europe—including the hosts of this May's anti-civilisation conference in Barcelona—GA was enthusiastically welcomed as an open AP forum.

Of course we welcome such an initiative, though GA has served as a forum for free discussion of AP and direct action for the best part of a decade, initially sharing this responsibility with the Anacho-Primitivist Network's Missing Link (founded by John Moore and Leigh Starcross out of Ian Bone's 1994 Anarchy In the UK festival) and certainly not seeking to be some sort of exclusive voice now.

As the last three issues' editorials have shown, we are committed to free speech in a way those carrying such claims on their mastheads are not. Too many movement publications are committed to free speech for themselves—even demanding it of other publications more principled than themselves—but will refuse a word's space to their critics, even in response to blatant defamations.

In our experience, those keenest to shout "censor", "liar" or "sectarian"

at others are typically also those most afraid of the plain truth about themselves seeing print. Some even elevate this refusal to debate with those they can't refute into a political strategy, hoping readers aren't well-read enough to know the full picture and find such glaring omissions laughable indictments in themselves.

More insidious are those who are maintaining that printing contrary opinions is 'divisive' or 'unrepresentative of the movement'—as they

see it, of course—which means that only what is unchanging and unchallenging ever sees light of day, the very opposite of revolutionary dialectic.

Such arguments are often used in the most absurdly self-serving way—one north American eco-action journal so keen not to 'upset the apple cart' that they regularly rejected 'unrepresentative' contributions (including a near-world exclusive) in favour of those from a banal local contributor who happened to generously give them access to her swimming pool!

If there are 'divisions' in a movement, there is usually good reason for them, of otherwise unacknowledged power inequalities. If opinions are deemed 'unrepresentative', then 'ware those claiming they 'represent' the movement! What is so irreproachably attractive about cultivating illusions of 'unity' at such costs anyway - except to wannabe politicians? As revolutionaries seeking to transcend all mediation, we should at

least deal with realities, not their misrepresentation.

Our view is that we aren't wiser than the movement *Green Anarchist* is situated in, certainly not wise enough to decide what should and shouldn't be said, even if it appears inarticulate or stupid to us as individuals.

We're just here to provide space for it to speak for itself in all its diversity and for readers to decide for themselves who is inarticulate, stupid or just plain wrong and contribute their own responses in turn.

We are not Leninists, believing we can somehow nurture free thought and a free society under the heavy hand of 'provisional' / 'transitional' censorship, even if—the most typical but patronising rationalisation from such types—this makes for the best propaganda.

Green Anarchist 71's deadline is around April 2004. We're very keen to open *Green Anarchist* out beyond

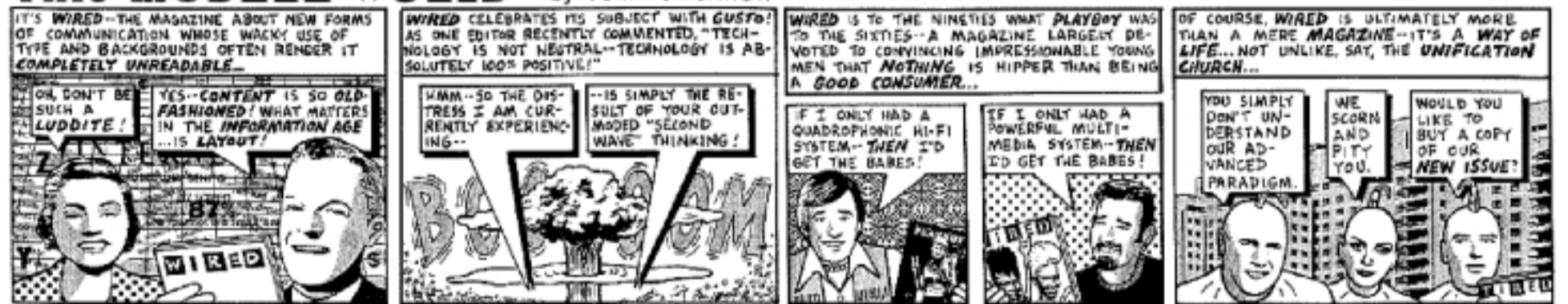
the usual circle of editors and regular contributors, so it'd be good to get a meeting together before then to discuss future input to the mag, as well as mutual cooperation on ideas, projects and action. In addition to the paper, *Green Anarchist* now has a much-expanded website and on-line discussion forum for easier reader access and rapid reaction to events between issues and we'll shortly be launching our own newsgroup. Be in touch now!

TWO DECADES OF DISORDER

Come 2004, *Green Anarchist* will have been publishing for twenty years. It's certainly come a long way since the eclectic *Greenzine* that came out of Easter '84's Stop the City demo and subsequent Poison Girls' benefit.

We'll be celebrating this with a retrospective next issue, *Green Anarchist* 71, and we're inviting reminiscences from early contributors now. Hear from you soon!

THIS MODERN WORLD by TOM TOMORROW



NEXT ISSUE: THE VOYEUR SOCIETY

It seems that we live in an ever more voyeuristic society. Surveillance is encroaching more and more on many parts of our daily lives. From chips in Gillette razors to chips in the clothes you buy.

From 'reality' TV shows to the wide array of webcam websites. Everything from piss-cams to internal-cams! It appears that pretty soon every part of modern life will be either on camera, on a database or on record somewhere.

People seem unhappy just getting on with their daily existence, they need to be seen to be living. So instead of people getting on with living they're own lives in pursuit of their desires, they sit at home watching other people on television through big brother style programmes getting on with theirs. Mostly, it seems, in the hope that someone will get naked or people will fall out and have a fight More and more people seem happy to settle for a simulation of a life with real

experiences, happy with a mediated world of virtuality. It's not just a simple case of state surveillance Big Brother style, but a case of 'self-surveillance'.

An increasingly alienated world of mirages engulfs us. From ID cards through RFID chip technology, store loyalty cards and GPS tracking systems to mindlessly banal 'reality' TV shows, webcams and CCTV. We want your articles on the rise of this voyeur society

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GREEN ANARCHY NOW

WHO ARE WE?



The State spent £10m jailing GA's editors in an attempt to shut us up. We're still here...

WHY SMASH CIVILISATION?

Civilisation is the exploitation of mass society. Specialisation, division of labour creates hierarchies to maintain the complex web of production and consumption that is our techno-industrial mass society.

Exploitation divides mass society and the individual on the grounds of class, gender, ethnicity and sexual preference. Mass society can't be reformed. It must be replaced.

DISINTEGRATION IS BEAUTIFUL

In small communities each person is respected as an autonomous individual. Self-determination replaces hierarchy and so the city ends. Mass can't fight mass. The Left's living proof.

LAND OR DEATH

All life derives from the land
.Civilisation alienates us from the Earth using nationhood and property law. We must take back the land and living self-suffi-

ciently, re-establishing our relationship with the Earth. Those of us who are most exploited by Civilisation live in the South, the Third World, the fruits of our labour are exported to the rich North.

We have nothing to lose in fighting for self-governing, self-sufficient small communities. Both North and South we need to expand our culture of resistance to free ourselves from alienation from our Earth..

DIRECT ACTION

Build an alternative green and black eco-nomy and enjoy yourselves in the smashing of banks, multinationals, military bases, labs, exploiters, bigots and developers. Organise underground in networks of autonomous small groups.

Green Anarchist,
BCM 1715,
London
WC1N 3XX, UK
info@greenanarchist.org

LETTER FROM THE U'WA PEOPLE CURRENTLY UNDER OCCUPATION BY THE COLUMBIAN STATE

U'wa Communique

The U'wa people are tired of the proliferation of false promises that the Colombian government has made to us. We, the U'wa, are the guardians of this, our ancestral territory of thousands of years, and each day, the government and corporations are violating our sacred territory.

According to the State, indigenous people are the minority, but we, the U'wa, say that we are only a minority in the white society; in reality, we are the majority, because we know and live with Nature. Because of this, the father and mother of the sky, and all of the spirits of nature, care for and protect our struggle to defend the natural world, even if it means that we lay down our own lives.

It is for this reason that the U'wa have one Law only, unchanging and inviolable; the Law that was given to us by the creator, which is unwritten and yet woven into our cultural practices: to protect Nature, to love her, to care for her, and to use her gifts well. But the government follows other laws, and the laws that they have made are changeable and breakable, so that frequently they will do away with those laws they do not favor. This is why Colombia is a country wherein so many laws fail; laws are violated, and written by a minority for everyone to follow, while the Law of the U'wa passes from one generation to the next, unaltered.

As the government has invented its Law, they therefore say that the riches of the ground and beneath the ground belong to the State; and now, we ask, "Who made the Earth and its riches, the water, the plants, mountains, the sun, the moon, the stars? Who made man himself? Where are the tools that they use to destroy nature taken from? This is to say, where do men get the materials that they use to age the world and bring destruction to it? Moreover, we want them to demonstrate for us that their laws and codes are capable of creating anything like the earth that we live in; if they cannot, then they have no claim to ownership of the Earth and its riches.

This is why we require that the Government and the industries respect the sacred ancestral territory. And not only should they give respect to our ancestral grounds and to those titles given to the U'wa under colonialism, they should see that the U'wa also constitute a State, with our own laws and codes to manage and protect nature.

We will continue defending our ancestral territory, though we have already been victims of kidnapping, torture and death. We have lost a boy

and three indigenous rights advocates from North America (Ingrid Washinawatok, Lahena'e Gay, and Terence Freitas) who came to support the U'wa cause. How long will it be until we are left in peace? Or will they drive to extinction the entire U'wa people, so that they can take all of the resources in our sacred ancestral territory?

If the company takes all of the resources of our Mother Earth, where are they going to get the materials they need to exploit the riches of the ground and the substrate? What will happen? And where are we going to live? Under the earth, in the air, in the sky? When nature and the creator of this world and those forces beyond it send their punishment for the disrespect of the natural world, their punishment will not be communicated to anyone; no one will know the day and hour of the destruction of the Earth.

If the government and the company think that money is God, as well as progress and development, then the god of money will save their lives while the U'wa will die in the defense of nature; therefore, the U'wa will not go to toil for industry. We are born to die or to live, and no single human being may save himself, or defy the rule of God, or of Nature. Perhaps if the company and the government have faith in their Money God, and if he really exists, he will save them, making another world for them to destroy; if he does not, they will all die.

Historically, the territory of Indigenous Peoples was ample, limitless; we were free to go to any part of the indigenous territory in the Americas, from North America to Chile, and beyond. We did this without private interest; we traveled to exchange gifts, and to learn each other's customs.

But when the Spanish invaders arrived, they changed all of this, and now we live on tiny, limited parcels of land. Currently, they are trying to put an end to our culture through their invasions: through the Church, industry, and the government, as well as those who compete to strip our sacred territory in order to get petroleum and the other resources above and beneath the ground.

We the U'wa demand that the government, oil companies, colonists, and armed groups respect our sacred territory, and that white society's abuse of our daughters, mothers, and wives is halted- we want no more of the Mestiziation which is the result of the Spanish invasion and the rape of our women.

We ask you whites: are you not yourselves descended from indigenous ancestors? You are. Therefore help us

to protect our culture and cease the abuse of this planet, which is home to us all. Before the arrival of the Spanish, white people did not exist on this continent; oceans separated this from the white world. Thanks to the Spanish, there are now white people here, and thanks to those indigenous people you coupled with, there are Mestizos who you now refuse to recognize.

Why won't you leave our Ancestral Territory and the lands that you occupy— which is property of indigenous peoples— in PEACE? The whites who do not understand us abuse indigenous women more and more each day. Therefore we demand that the government punish whites that abuse indigenous people. This is why the government makes laws, and if this law isn't complied with, what good are laws?

We want ECOPETROL to leave our territory, since its presence is a form of the violation of our culture. Oil is not development. Instead, it brings war, hunger, poverty, death and destruction. The government says that oil brings "progress and development", but we the U'wa do not want our territory to become another IRAQ, and we know that oil brings progress only to a few rich and established capitalists. We don't know where the money derived from our resources goes. It only benefits a few individuals and families.

If you do not listen to us, if you regard us only with rage, or hatred, or grudging, we the U'wa are prepared to lay down our lives when the day of invasion comes. We will die defending our territory when you send your troops to kill all of the U'was, because we are tired of receiving, from the companies and the government, so many threats to destroy our territory, its resources, and our culture.

We the U'wa have faith in God, faith in our Mother Earth, faith in the Gods of Nature, faith in the spirits of Nature, and thus we know that they will revenge the destruction of this world. We know which is the owner of this world, between you or God. And if the Earth really is the State's, then they should control the furies of Nature, because for God, nothing is impossible.

If an U'wa disagrees with cultural principles, he is not U'wa, he isn't anything.

—THE INDIGENOUS U'WA PEOPLE

"Cultures with principles have no price"

ROYALLY SHAFTED

Dear Sir,

I am writing to you because I believe that the Animal Rights Movement has been unjustly blamed for a very public crime staged by others. I am referring to a device taped on to a butcher's shop window (Taylers) in Moray Way, Rise Park, Romford back in February of this year. There is also an issue of the persecution of a long-term local environmentalist.

I have phoned the anti-terrorist branch on four occasions and been told every time that "animal activists are responsible" however we are now in September and there have been no arrests, no charges and nobody held for questioning. However, the association with animal rights activists has remained—encouraging the smearing of any green campaign in the area as "terrorism" to a political audience whipped-up about crime by Andrew Rosindell MP.

I had distributed leaflets in Rise Park, before the device, advertising myself as a local journalist. I had also been accepted as the Green Party candidate in a council by-election for the ward of Rainham and Ennington. Around the same time, the build-up to a royal visit to Romford was taking place. About two weeks after I had distributed leaflets the device was taped on the butcher's window. It was well known by local Tories that I was both involved in Green politics and campaigns. It is my suspicion that the heightened security around the royal visit was used by Andrew Rosindell MP to try and smear the Green movement by an association with terrorism. Rise Park is a Tory area and they don't want green campaigners setting themselves up as local journalists and trying to reduce their majority - hence, I believe, the bomb.

Also, the manager of the Romford Oxfam shop and long-term animal

rights campaigner Tony Edwards was sacked after a complaint was made about him. I worked part-time in the Oxfam shop myself for a couple of years. Tony Edwards was the manager for over twelve years and refused to take a salary to help Oxfam's aims even further. Tony Edwards is a pacifist, a vegan and a committed environmentalist. However, somebody had him expelled from his position. At no time before Andrew Rosindell became an MP had Tony Edwards come under attack in any way. At no time before Andrew Rosindell became an MP had a bomb been planted in my local butcher's shop—and all within the space of a few months—designed to coincide with the first ever official visit by the Queen to Romford. Andrew Rosindell MP is an ardent royalist who has been accused many times of having links with extreme right-wing terrorist groups.

For your general information, the device was reported to police on 27th February 2003, and was given the reference number CAS1439. The crime report number is 5403726/03.

Yours faithfully,

David Peacock, Director, Gooseberry Pie, Romford.

TATTOOS

hi!

sorry to disturb you. I am a green anarchist I want to find a tattoo models about green-anarchy, anarchy, animal-earth liberation, primitivism and vegetarianism that I can make I am searching tattoo models. if you know a site can you direct me towards that site...

and I am searching the graphics of hammer and monkeywrenches.

please help me....

fourteenyears@hotmail.com

Send your letters to Oxford Green Anarchists, BCM 1715, London WC1N 3XX, but remember:-

- We print all letters received on a 'no censorship, no endorsement' basis. Your letters are your responsibility, not ours. We think readers are grown up enough to think for themselves, so won't usually comment on letters we print — even those we don't agree with — unless asked. The only exception to this are letters from fascists and other such bigots and piss-takers. These will be binned, though we will note their arrival.
- We will ruthlessly edit all letters we think too long or boring. So keep 'em short so everyone can have their say too. Cut letters are marked with a [] with the original number of words inside the bracket.
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BAYER DOWN BUT NOT OUT MEET THE NEW BOSS...

A key GM crop developer, Bayer, has decided to halt UK trials of genetically modified plants. The move is seen as a major blow to the industry. Bayer was the last company carrying out GM trials in the UK, though it said yesterday it hoped to start up again soon when conditions were 'more favourable'.

Until last week, Bayer CropScience, Bayer's crop subsidiary, believed it was close to a deal that would allow GM crop

test sites—which are regularly destroyed by protesters—to be kept secret. The Advisory Committee on Releases to the Environment had said this was 'acceptable in terms of risk assessment', as one might expect of industry stooges, but at the last minute the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs told Bayer it would not support this change in regulations.

Most GM crop trials carried out over the past few years have been sabotaged, not only those of Bayer. Other companies have pulled out. Now Bayer, the last to continue with them, has decided to call it a day. The current 'brain drain' of greedy British agricultural scientists to the US and Canada is now likely to intensify. Good riddance too.

Although this is good news, it doesn't mean that Bayer have pulled out of GM completely, just that they're not going to do any more trials in the UK this season—they can still potentially produce the 9 seeds that are due to be commercially grown. However, it shows they're on the retreat already and with continued pressure they'll abandon their plans for GM in the UK altogether.

www.stopbayergm.org/



After many years of night-time crop trashings, and hundreds of arrests and raids, with the withdrawal of Bayer all the companies doing trials of Genetically Engineered crops in the UK have pulled out.

MEET THE NEW BOSS...

The African National Congress government is using colonial-era principles to justify refusing to hand back a lucrative South African diamond mine to the tribes who originally lived on the land.

In a case with huge constitutional and financial implications, the Nama community has accused the government of being as racist as the whites who created apartheid.

The Nama once lived at Alexander Bay, on South Africa's north-western coast, but were evicted from the land after diamonds were discovered there in 1925. Since then the mine has produced millions of carats, and the tribe is demanding compensation which could run in to billions of pounds, as well as the return of their land.

But lawyers representing the ANC in court cited an old, colonial-era principle, claiming that the Nama were so "uncivilised" that they could not enjoy any land rights. Citing the British principle of terra nullius, empty land, the lawyers argued that even though the Nama lived in the area they were so backward that they did not warrant ownership rights.

ANC backers said the party remained committed to land restitution but the case of the Nama people must be opposed because it threatened to "open the floodgates" for countless frivolous claims.

Yet another outcome of yet another pointless nationalist struggle, supported and misrepresented here to us by lefties.

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PIES FLYING EVERYWHERE

Our esteemed leaders are getting hot (and cold) under the collar as the anarchist Biotic Baking Brigade steps up its campaign of ridicule and disrespect.

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, August 28: U.S. Ambassador Peter Allgeier, co-president of the FTAA, was pied during a press conference by Bakers Without Borders (pics above). The press release didn't say what the FTAA is but its sounds the same as the WTO so fair play to 'em! These people are so boring it probably stands for free trade agreement of amerika.

Los Angeles, California, August 12: Former presidential candidate Ralph Nader got a pie in the face at an event with one of the people running for California governor. At the end of a news conference, a man ran into the room, shoved a pie in Nader's face, and ran out. Nader threw some of the pie at the unidentified man as he took off — but the police didn't catch him.

Alberta, Canada, July 9: Monday morning, in Calgary, Alberta's premier was busy

flipping flapjacks and beef sausages (because he can't sell them to his friends in the USA anymore) when a team of dedicated pie-throwers delivered him the long awaited dessert that he deserved: a succulent banana-cream pie.

Ralph would not permit that in his province, even though the rest of Canada's governments will stop harassing gay citizens and let them marry.

Is it surprising to see Ralph Klein opposing the Kyoto Accord for the right of big corporations to pollute, the same corporations that finance his campaigns? Talk about democracy in action! He even threatened to separate from Canada for his friends' right to pollute.

And there's still a bolshevik party! The campaign to clean up electioneering by Russia's top electoral official, Alexander Veshnyakov, has got off to a bad start. As he closed a five-day conference involving 27 political parties in Moscow, the mud-slinging, or rather the mayonnaise-sling-

ing, began. A radical activist from the National Bolshevik Party squirted a packet of salad dressing at the Electoral Commission's chief. Veshnyako, his suit splattered with mayonnaise, retorted by calling the young activists "Scumbags". Taking part in the closing ceremony of the Elections-2003 forum were the Communist leader Gennady Zyuganov, the LDPR leader Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, and secretary of the general council of United Russia among others

The Biotic Baking Brigade.....coming soon to a pie-o-region near you.

Look for "Let Slip the Pies of War: The BBB Cookbook," to be published by AK Press <akpress.org> in early 2004.

PLEASE NOTE: the BBB has a new email address and website...

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