And the campaign goes on...

The national day of action called by the Simon Jones Memorial Campaign on 24th April saw the offices of Personnel Selection in Brighton, the employment agency that sent Simon to his death four years ago to the day, shut down. There were about a dozen other protests organised locally across the country.

About 100 people gathered at noon outside the Personnel Selection offices in Brighton with banners, music, balloons, mums with kids, students from Sussex University where Simon studied, a local councillor and a dragon. The road was blocked, cars honked in support and the public, who are aware of the campaign, showed their support. Simon's parents, Chris and Anne, went into the offices to demand the office shut down for the day and this was agreed to. The door was shut at 2pm to the sound of the Velvet Underground's "Close the doors". The police targeted two individuals for arrest for obstruction while Simon's parents were inside Personnel Selection. In the

> evening the annual building industry awards at a plush five star hotel in London's Park Land saw a spirited protest to round off the day.

Police intimidate rural grannies!

out what this box is for

Protesters closed down an A-road in Sussex for several hours on May 26th in a big protest against a threat to ancient woodland. Hundreds of residents – including

parents and children - and supporters of Protect Our Woodland! defied warnings

CONTACT US

EF Action Update! New details!

Dept 29, 22a Beswick Street, Manchester M4 7HS. UK 0161 226 6814

www.eco-action.org/efau efactionupdate@bigfoot.com

by police that their demonstration was illegal and took over Titnore Lane in Durrington, west of Worthing. Despite crap weather and police warnings of 'militant Newbury veterans' both residents and 'militants' turned out to show their anger over a proposed housing development and road widening. However as residents made their way home police decided to remove a banner from the A259 roundabout and manhandled the banner bearers into the road, causing people to react angrily, with one man being set upon by several officers and thrown screaming into a police van. Another man and women were arrested but all were released without charge. An elderly man from the area, who joined the protest, said that: "because of speeding traffic it's the first time in 30 years I've been able to walk along here, I'm so happy." More info from www.worthinga27.freeserve.co.uk

"I'm a lumberjack and I'm...a bit confused'

British Colombia's Forest Action Network volunteers have been putting forestry giant Interfor's loggers in a bit of spin – by hiding their signposts. Activists paid a visit to the remote

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Takush Valley to remove flagging tape and paint over survey markings which indicate which trees are to be felled and where roads are to be cut into the forest. Much of the logging done by Interfor in the Takush has been clearcutting, which destroys the habitats of creatures such as the grizzly bear and several species of salmon.

Forest Action Network

Box 625, Bella Coola, BC, Canada V0T 1C0 Tel: +1 250 799 5800, Fax: +1 250 799 5830

Are those the Northern Lights or do you have a radioactive glow in your policy portfolio?

For Mother Earth are asking for support in fighting the latest convert to the cause of nuclear power – the Finnish government. Finnish campaigners are afraid that, given the strength of the corporate nuclear lobby claiming that building radioactive timebombs capable of producing loads of fuel for atomic bombs is actually an intelligent way to address climate change, the adoption of nuclear by Finland will also encourage other European countries down this road. It is hoped that a 'European Anti-Nuclear Platform' will help to spread information about which countries might be planning to build more nuclear plants, and form an early warning system so that action can be taken.

Info from jussi@motherearth.org

name: address:

Subscriptions cost a minimum £5 for 10 issues (£8 Europe £12 rest of the world). Send more if you can so we can distrubute free to prisoners etc. Cheques/Postal orders payable to Earth First! Action Update. Worried about security? You may wish to consider a false name & c/o address.

EF Action Update!

Dept 29, 22a Beswick St., Manchester M4 7HS. UK

If this circle is ticked your subscription has run out - Please renew it NOW! #Action Update **July 2002** ssue 83

round-up of ecological and other direct action from around Britain

A monthly

Bollocks to the Jubilee

I trust everybody enjoyed their street parties then? Well, just in case you missed some of the opposition to the rosy jingoistic glow, here's a quick roundup of recent anti-Royal actions, jubilee related and otherwise:

- 30th May: Whilst having the cheek to make a little visit to patronise the proles in Hackney, Edward & Sophie were kept from a cakey fate only by the speed of their pet thugs after BBB Agent Royally Pissed Off launched her sugary attack. The potential pie-er was dragged off by police, shouting that Hackney needed nurseries, education and basic services, not royal visits, and was bailed not to attend any pro or anti golden jubilee events. I'm sure she was devastated.

- A group of anarchists who decided to visit a Jubilee appearance by the queenly head of the inbred Windsors ended up being nicked and driven around London in a van, then dumped at a bus stop. This despite having no placards or banners or indeed any other evidence that they were planning anything other than a patriotic day out...the Met can expect another lawsuit from that one. Details from freethepeeps@hotmail.com
- Sixty people were nicked at the Execute the Queen street party in the Tower Hill area of London, in yet

another session of the Met's fave pastime, curbing the right to demonstrate or indeed express an opinion diverging from anything that might be found in a Telegraph editorial...

- An innocent bystander who got a kicking from the police who assumed that she was about to launch an attack on warnings of violent protesters were again ol' Charlie-boy during a visit to Gravesend in 1998 is suing them. The police attack included being sprayed with CS gas, strip-searched and punched in the face.

May Day Mayhem

Aaaah...seems so far away now. Here's a round-up of some of the events of Mayday 2002:

direct action to confront, stop and eventually reverse the forces responsible for the destruction of the Earth and its inhabitants. It is not a cohesive group or campaign rather a convenient banner for those interested in

The philosophy behind Earth

hierarchical organisation and

First! is the use of non-

- over a million people hit the street of France for mass protests against right-wing threats in the presidential elections and further government efforts at liberalisation from the outgoing socalled socialists. Opposition to Le Pen's Front Nationale included the chant "N like a Nazi. F like a Fascist."
- in Berlin and Zurich police used water cannon, teargas and rubber bullets against anti-globalisation protesters. There were also clashes with police in Turkey and Stockholm
- in London the usual hysterical police proved to be publicity-seeking bollocks. A group of Wombles were up in court that day too, with their appearance supported by a 150-strong picnic breakfast and the presence of Critical Mass cyclists (how terrifying). The cyclists then moved onto various points around London, including the US embassy. Meanwhile, by the end of the week, five of the Womble 7 had had their

PTO>>

The EF! AU is produced to aid the sharing of news, information and ideas amoungst those interested in taking action. It is edited by a different collective each year to avoid the centralisation of power and information. We welcome submissions and articles (max 150 words) so if you've set up a group, taken action or want to publicise a campaign or project please let us know. No matter how big or small it seems, we'd like to share your news and inspiration. Feature articles and ideas are also appreciated.

50p where sold - Anti-copyright - photocopy and distribute

charges dropped or were found not guilty, while 2 were fined £100 each for charges which the police should be embarrassed by for their pathetic crapness. One police officer also managed to blurt out the fact that internal 'intelligence' (fnarrr) reports had branded the Wombles as 'extremely violent.'

- In other cities, trade unionists marched in more traditional May Day parades, calling for better workers' rights and against the prospect of an expended 'war against terror.'
- In Damascus, Athens, El Salvador and Costa Rica workers' rallies also turned into shows of support with the Palestinian struggle against Israeli racist violence.
- in Caracas thousands marched in support of president Hugo Chavez and against his brief expulsion by a CIAengineered coup. Protesters in Mexico also opposed their country's increasingly warm relations with Bush's regime
- in Nicaragua and Guatemala, 2 of the poorest and most highly indebted countries in the world, people protested at corruption in their US-backed governments.

It's a (in)Sin(erator)

Mid-June, and a bunch of antiincinerator campaigners from all over the country decide that their beds aren't where they want to be at 6.30 on a Monday morning, and actually they'd rather spend a few nights dangling from helicopter cargo nets on the top of Basingstoke incinerator, or camped out on the roof. The 100 activists were whittled down to five, but only after work was stopped for 3 days. The action was one of over 50 as part of Global Anti-Incineration Day, which in Britain opposes the building of new incinerators (we're in for 43 by 2010) and the government's insistence that dousing us all with carcinogenic chemicals is actually an environmentally friendly way of disposing of rubbish...

It's GM season again!

The Pink Castle posse scored a victory over Aventis after their occupation of a planned field scale trial site prevented the crop ever being established. After a seven week occupation a party on the 15th July wound up the protest, after both the farmer and Aventis announced that they had given up on the trial. The farmer has announced that he will be

continuing with the non-GM control crop as a commercial planting. See www.say-hi.to/thecastle for the full story.

Meanwhile, on 8th June 250 protesters, mainly locals, turned up at a trial site at Newport in Fife, where 70 of them got on with the important business of trampling the crop. 4 were arrested. The trial farm has been the site of vigils for several months. Aventis is also responsible for the trial site at Munlochy in the Highlands, where there has also been a vigil and actions (see www.munlochygmvigil.org.uk)

Aventis have also been coming to grief in the Netherlands after a field planted with GM oil seed rape was trashed in April.



GM-Free Cheshire crop rally

GM Free Cheshire are holding a rally on Saturday 20th July at a Farm Scale Test site near Lymm, Cheshire.

The rally will be followed by a picnic and a public inspection of the crop of GM maize. There will be a meeting at

maize. There will be a meeting at 12.30pm at Lymm Village Hall and transport will be leaving from Lymm to go to the field at 2pm. Coaches will leave for Lymm from outside 8th Day Cafe, Manchester at midday.

For more info or to book transport call 07759 031 931 or contact gmfreecheshire@yahoo.co.uk

Keep suing them coppers...

A US federal jury awarded a total of \$4.4 million in damages to 2 US Earth First!

Members after it was found that 6 out of the 7 police and FBI officers named in the suit were indeed guilty of framing them for the bombing of their own car in 1990. Judi Bari died of cancer in 1997, but fellow activist Darryl Cherney and Bari's estate will benefit from the damages.

Going Dutch

On June 4th activists from GroenFront! stopped work by occupying a crane at Schipol airport in Amsterdam in protest at plans for expansion. The airport is the biggest producer of CO2 emissions in the Netherlands, and the action was part of a month of 'ecological insurgence' planned to commemorate GroenFront!'s sixth birthday. It's not the first action against Schipol expansion by the group, which on previous occasions has dug landing strips in the transport minister's garden and squatted houses on the site of planned expansions. In the UK actions against the perpetrators of climate change have included the demos, involving 4,000 people at 400 petrol stations, against the evil Esso. More info on www.stopesso.com

Mark Barnsley update

Hopefully by the time you read this Mark Barnsley will be a free man. Mark, an anarchist from Sheffield, has served 8 years of 12-year sentence which resulted from him getting the daylights kicked out of him by a bunch of pissed students. There has been a sustained direct action campaign in support of Mark, which has included actions on Crown Prosecution Service offices in Sheffield and Nottingham and, this April, a surprise visit to David Blunkett (home secretary and Mark's MP) at his surgery. Needless to say Blunkett, that bastion of participatory democracy, strenuously avoided actually meeting any of the

A release fund has been set up for Mark. Send cheques/POs payable to 'Mark Barnsley Release Fund' to the Sumac centre, Box CC, 73 Beech Avenue, Nottingham, NG7 7LR. More info from www.freemarkbarnsley.com

For all you bleeding-heart liberal Guardian readers out there...

It may allegedly have a few lefty credentials but the Guardian Media group, which made a profit of £12.4 million last year, has been the target of

Deliver your message to DEFRA

Wednesday 24 July 2002

12 noon: Bring your own picnic: Victoria Tower Gardens, next to Houses of Parliament

2pm: DEFRA, Smiths Square, Westminster

Nearest tube: Westminster (District or Circle Lines)

We are nearing the end of the GM farm scale crop trials which have been contaminating our countryside during the last three years without our consent. Now the government have acknowledged the need for a consultation on the commercialisation of GM crops in Britain. So let¹s tell them what we think! And whilst we are about it, let this be a celebration of five years of resistance to GM crops!

Bring messages from your own locality, bring people, letters, petitions, placards and banners. Express your message with creativity and artwork. Bring musical instruments and songs. Invite your kids, friends and relatives. Wear costumes and fancy dress.

By delivering our message together and by representing local groups from all over the UK we have an opportunity to show that resistance to GM crops will prevail.

This event is still open to suggestions as to how it can be improved. If you want to help and get involved please ring: 020 7272 1586 or 01273 628441.

NOTO GM CROP COMMERCIALISATION www.geneticsaction.org.uk

Corporate murder continues...

The CPS – surprise, surprise – has announced that it's wussing out of prosecuting McGinley's employment agency, Balfour Beatty or Railtrack over the death in October 2000 of Michael Mungovan, a 22-year-old Irish students from Brunel Uni who was hit by a train at Vauxhall station. He had had just 9 hours of training before being sent out onto the track. Balfour Beatty are, of course, famous for other such demonstrations of their concern for human safety as the Ilisu Dam, the Hatfield rail crash and the shooting dead of pickets in Lesotho.

Itoiz hopes dashed (or, never trust a judge...)

At the beginning of May a Spanish Supreme Court judge threw out the appeal of the regional government of Navarra against the 1997 verdict that the Itoiz Dam is illegal. But, in a display of weak-kneed corporate complicity worthy of the British justice system, a lesser court has declared that the judgement is 'legally unenforceable.'

Several high-ranking officials and ministers from the Navarra government are serving prison sentences for corruption associated with the dam, and engineering experts have labelled the project as

potentially disastrous if completed. 9 villages and 3 national parks will be flooded if the reservoir is filled.

The case is still under review in the European Court of Human Rights, and the campaign goes on. Despite some spectacular direct action – including the cutting of construction cables which set building work back by a year and publicity stunts at the Brandenberg gate, the Millenium Wheel and St Peter's Dome at the Vatican – the dam is pretty much built now, and the fight focuses on preventing it from being filled. Companies involved in the Itoiz programme include our old mates Burson-Marstellar.

Blitzing it!

The Blitz Festival runs from 20th- 27th July in Manchester. It's described as 'an international arts event devised by a Manchester collective, designed to provoke and inspire'. Events include an 'arts show from the political underground' running for the week, an open air music festival on the 20th and various film screenings. For more information visit www.nato.uk.net or

Diary dates

Range of **Peat Alert! actions** planned for the summer and beyond...contact info@peatalert.org.uk or write c/o CRC, 16 Sholebroke Ave, Leeds LS7 3HB.

Rising Tide Tour, taking action on climate change. Various dates and locations around the UK. Check www.risingtide.org.uk for details

July

10-14 Earth First! Summer Gathering, Devon.

July 10th-August 14th, CeLtlc SaFaRi BiKetOur

Biketour is a politically active DIY biketour through England, Wales and Ireland, ending at Ecotopia (www.ecotopia2002.org) in Dingle. Along the route we do actions, give workshops and have fun. A unique opportunity to meet people from all over the world doing grassroots activism and actions. www.thebiketour.net, tour2002@yahoo.com or tel: 07870 467 231.

16-18 **Groundswell Gathering**, Sheffield, 20 Community Renewables Initiative Launch, Norwich,

19-28 **No Borders action camp**, Strasbourg, France , www.no-borders.co.uk or www.noborder.org

20 **GM Free Cheshire crop rally**, Lymm, Cheshire 07759 031931 gmfreecheshire@yahoo.co.uk

20- 27 The Blitz Festival

An international arts event devised by a Manchester collective, designed to provoke and inspire. tacticalarts@yahoo.co.uk www.nato.uk.net

24-28 Big Green Gathering

August

10-20 Ecotopia, Dingle, Eire

3-11 Crossover summer camp, Cottbus, Germany. Will cover issues including: orientalism, racism and sexism, queer, transgender and intersex issues, gender, work and migration, eastern and western europe, antisemitism, anticapitalism and globalisation, reproductive technologies and population politics. Contact: summercamp@squat.net, www.summercamp.squat.net

3-17 **Vegan Camp**, Park Foot Caravan and Camping Park, Penrith. www.vegancamp.org 0845 3303918

22-26 **Northern Green Gathering**, Pontefract, www.ngg.org.uk 0113 231 9090

29-31 **Eastern Green Gathering**, Bury St Edmunds www.easterngreengathering.com or 01284 728559

Bulgarian Action Camp contact ffilka@lycos.com or zemiata@iterra.net for details of the Pirin action camp (climbers etc especially needed) against a planned ski resort in a Bulgarian national park.

26th-4th (Sept) **Earth Summit**, Johannesburg, South Africa. Day of Action called August 31st. www.aseed.net

October

19 This year's **Anarchist bookfair** is on 19th October, and meetings starting soon. Details from mail@anarchistbookfair.org

November

21-22 **NATO summit in Prague**. Contact intersec@csaf.cz



Action Groups

are local FFI contacts some are active groups others need more people to get in touch

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

Dartmoor EF! c/o PO Box 77, Totnes Devon TQ9 57J

Grampian EF!

PO Box 248, Aberdeen AB25

grampianearthfirst@hotmail.com

Gwynedd & Mon EF! The Greenhouse, 1 Trevelyan Terrrace, Bangor, Gwynedd LL57 1AX

01248 255 821 bangorwerdd@yahoogroups.com

Leeds EF! c/o CRC, 16 Sholebroke Av Leeds LS7 3HB O113 262 9365 leedsef@leedsef.org.uk

London Reclaim The Streets PO Box 9656, London N4 4JY 020 7281 4621 rts@gn.apc.org

Manchester EF! Dept 29, 22a Beswick St, Manchester, M4 7HS 0161 2266 814 mancef@nematode freeserve coluk

(Newcastle) TAPP PO Box ITA, Newcastle NE99 1TA ne991ta@yahoo.com

Norfolk and Waveney EF! c/o PO Box 487. Norwich NR2 3AL 07944 874 393 norfolk-earthfirst@email.com

Nottingham FF c/o 245 Gladstone Street Nottingham, NG7 6HX 0845 458 9595 nottsef@veggies.org.uk

Reading Roadbusters R.I.S. Centre 35-39 London Street, Reading, Berkshire RG1 4PS 0118 954 6430 roadbusters@gn.apc.org

Sheffield EF! c/o Brambles Resource Centre, 82 Andover St, Sheffield S3 9EH 0114 279

jimthackery@yahoo.co.uk

South Devon EF! c/o PO Box 77, Totnes, Devon TQ9 5ZJ

SWAN Network

PO Box 70. Newport NP10YDS wangroup@yahoo.co.uk

Contacts List July 2002

Warwick- the old group's folded but someone wants to set up a new one! Tomgreaves@hotmail.com

York LEAF c/o SU Centre, University of York, Heslington, YO10 5DD

Support Groups & Information **Networks**

Activists' Legal Project 16b Cherwell Street Oxford, OX4 1BG 01865 243 772 activistslegal@gn.apc.org

Anarchist Teapot Mobile Kitchen Project 6 Tilbury Place, Brighton BN2 2GY atchoo22@gurlmail.com

Blatant Incitement Project (outreach & small group support), c/o Manchester EF! doinit@nematode.freeserve.co.uk

CAGE Network (against the prison system) c/o 245 Gladstone Street, Nottingham, NG7 6HX 0845 458 9595

Corporate Watch 16b Cherwell St, Oxford OX4 1BG 01865 791391 mail@corporatewatch.org

Farth Liberation Prisoners Support Network BM Box 2407 London, WC1N 3XX earthlibprisoner@mail.com

Genetic Engineering Network GEN. Archway Resource C'tr. 1a Waterlow Road Archway, London, N19 5NJ 020 7272 1586 genetics@gn.apc.org

Primal Seeds www.primalseeds.org mail@primalseeds.org

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

Publications

Counter Information Autonomous Centre E'burgh 17 West Montgomery Place Edinburgh EW7 5HA 0131 557 6242

Do or Die c/o Prior House, 6 Tilbury Pl Brighton BN2 2GY doordtp@vahoo.co.uk

FINs - for a full list of Free Information Networks, send SAE to: London FIN

c/o 99 Torrinio Avenue London NW5 2RX

Genetix Update c/o Totnes GenetiX Group PO Box77, Totness Devon TQ9 57.1 01803 840 098 info@togg.org

Green Anarchist BCM 1715, London WC1N3XX

Peace News 5 Caledonian Road London N1 9DY

Schnews PO Box 2600, Brighton East Sussex BN2 2DX 01273 685913 schnews@brighton.co.uk

The EF!AU has a list of local radical publications. Send an SAE or e-mail.

Virtual News

www.ainfos.ca a mulitilingual news service by, for and about anarchists

Bevond TV - Activist and campaigns resource site www.beyondtv.org

Allsorts - UK based e-news for activists allsorts@gn.apc.org www.uk.indymedia.org

Video

i-Contact video network 76 Mina Road, Bristol BS29TX 01179140188 i-contact@videonetwork.org RadiX-video archive for

direct action radix@enviroweb.org www.enviroweb.org/radix

Other Contacts

Advisory Service for Squatters 2 Saint Pauls Road, London N1 2QN 020 7359 8814 advice@squat.freeserve.co.uk

ALF Supporters Group BCM Box 1160, London WC1N3XX 1003021616@compuserve.co.uk

Anarchist Federation c/o 84b Whitechapel High St., London F1 7QX

Chianasl ink Box 79, 82 Colston St, Bristol chiapaslink@yahoo.com

Disabled Action Network 3 Crawley Road, Wood Green, London N22 6AN 020 88891361

Box Z. 13 Biddulph St. Leicester LE2 1BH 0116 210 9652 lynx@gn.apc.org

Friends of People Close to Nature (FPCN UK) 33 Gould Close, Welham Green, Hatfield, AL9 7EB 01707 885 994 rains@fpcn-global.org

www.oneworld.org/delta

GenetiX Snowball Box 13, 43 Gardner St Brighton BN1 1UN snowball@onet.co.uk

Haringey Solidarity Group PO Box 2474, London N8

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

ndustrial Workers of the World 75 Humberstone Gate, Leicester LE1 1WB

The Land is Ours (TLIO) 16b Cherwell St, Oxford OX4 active campaigns that have 1BG 01460 249204 office@tlio.demon.co.uk

Legal Defence & Monitoring Group BM Haven, London WC1N 3XXIdmgmail@yahoo.co.uk 020 8245 2930

London GreenPeace & McLibel Campaign 5 Caledonian Road, London N1 9DX 020 7713 1269 info@mcspotlight.org

Making Waves PO Box 1377, Sheffield S36 4BZ 01226 764279 pp3office@aol.com

No Platform anti-fascist network PO Box 127, Leeds LS3 1TS

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

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

Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty Campaign (SHAC) PO Box 38, Cheltenham, Gloucs GL50 1YN 0845 458 0630

Trident Ploughshares 2000 42-46 Bethel St, Norwich NR21NR 0845 458 8366 tp2000@gn.apc.org

Women Speak Out wsoall@hotmail.com

Protest Camps

Aldermaston Women's Peace Camp, 33 Heron Rd, Bristol BS5 0LT 0117 939 3746

Elvaston Park Camp dot@theadora.screaming.net 07769 534725

Faslane Peace Camp Shandon, Helensburgh, Dunbartonshire G84 8HT Scotland 01436 820 901

9 Ladies Anti-Quarry Camp Lees Cross, Lees Rd, Stanton Lees. Matlock Derbyshire 07876 311709

Sellafield Women's Peace Camp, Box Z (as Leeds EF!) 0113 262 1534

Vallee d'Aspe Camp Mobile+336 72634905

..and beyond

had protest camps in the

Action Against the Toll Motorway (AtoM) 0121 643 9117 actionagainstthetollmotorway @hotmail.com

Golden Cross Road Action Group (Essex) 01702 541 267 07957 915 977

Hockley Housing 01702 206 181

Third Battle of Newbury PO Box 5642, Newbury RG145WG 07000 785 201

International

For International contacts we recommend the list in Do or Die 9 or.

Peoples Global Action (PGA) against the WTO and neoliberalisation, www.apg.org

Earth First! Journal POB 3023, Tucson AZ 85702 USA Tel: (520) 620-6900 Fax: (413) 254-0057 collective@earthfirstiournal.org www.earthfirstjournal.org

strike action because that's apparently not enough for it to pay its staff a decent wage. The strike included pickets at Greater Manchester Weekly Newspapers, Salford Advertiser and Rochdale Observer offices. The strike finally gained a victory when pay rises, especially for trainees, were promised, and meal allowances increased.

And the campaign goes on

The national day of action called by the Simon Jones Memorial Campaign on

24th April saw the offices of Personnel Selection in Brighton, the employment agency that sent Simon to his death four years ago to the day, shut down. There were about a dozen other protests organised locally across the country.

About 100 people gathered at noon outside the Personnel Selection offices in Brighton with banners, music, balloons, mums with kids, students from Sussex University where Simon studied, a local councillor and a dragon. The road was blocked, cars honked in support and the public, who are aware of the campaign,

showed their support. Simon's parents, Chris and Anne, went into the offices to demand the office shut down for the day and this was agreed to. The door was shut at 2pm to the sound of the Velvet Underground's "Close the doors". The police targeted two individuals for arrest for obstruction while Simon's parents were inside Personnel Selection. In the evening the annual building industry awards at a plush five star hotel in London's Park Land saw a spirited protest to round off the day.

Prisoner Support

Part of a biography by Jeff Luers ('Free'), a US political prisoner

"On June 16, 2000 I torched 3 SUV's. I took extra care and used specific fuels to ensure no one would be injured.

I was arrested on Criminal Mischief One. a charge that carries about one year. In the course of one week that charge would multiply into 10 felony counts, including 3 counts of Arson One.

Getting to trial took the course of a year. By trial I had accumulated 13 felony counts, now including conspiracy with persons unknown. I was looking at a little over 100 years. I refused to take a deal.

Trial was a joke, literally. We proved evidence had been tampered with, officers had lied and that the prosecutor had manipulated evidence to get a legal search. In the end I was convicted of 11 felony charges. I was sentenced to 22 years and 8 months. I have

no possibility of parole.' For more information contact me directly at: Jeffery Luers #13797671, OSP, 2605 State Street, Salem, OR 97310 or my defense network at: Free's Defense Network, PO Box 50263, Eugene, OR 97405 or contact howl_for_freedom@yahoo.com

The Legal Defence & **Monitoring Group**

The Legal Defence & Monitoring Group provides legal observers for protests/ demonstrations - we cannot cover every event but are always willing to advise. We also provide unconditional support for anyone arrested on protests where we had legal observers. We can be contacted by post: LDMG, C/o BM Haven, London WC1N 3XX (please send a stamped self-addressed envelope); by e-mail: ldmgmail@yahoo.co.uk and by 'phone: 020 8245 2930 (24hr answerphone). To subscribe to the email update send a blank e-mail with "SUBSCRIBE" in the subject line to Idmgmail@yahoo.co.uk.

Prisoners

Wayne Heaton, an anti-fascist activist, has been sentenced to 18 months for violent disorder during the Burnley riots last summer. Wayne Heaton - GK 7292, Wing G1 8, H.M. Prison, 2 Ribblestone Lane, Preston PR1 5AB.

John Bowden, long time prison resister involved in Strangeways Uprising in 1990, currently residing at Her Maiesty's pleasure in HMP Bristol, 19 Cambridge Road, Bristol, BS 7

Neil Bartlett, FW7083, HMP The Verne, Portland, Dorset, DT5 1EQ, England. Four years for making bomb-hoax telephone calls to animal & earth abusers

Rae Newlands, GN6613, HMP Winchester, Romsey Road, Winchester, SO22 5DF, England. 41/2 years for aggravated harassment of Huntingdon Life Sciences shareholders. Dave Blenkinsop EM7899, HMP Bullingdon, Oxfordshire OX6 0PZ England. 3 years for attacking the Managing Director of HLS. Also serving 18 months for rescuing 600 guinea pigs from a lab supplier.

Europe

Dr. Yurl Bandazhevsky, Ul. Kalvarijskaya 36, PO Box 35K, Minsk 220600, Belarus. 8 years for revealing the true extent of nuclear radiation levels around Chernobyl.

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. Geert Waegemans, Begijnestraat 42 2000 Antwerp, Belgium. Serving 4 years for an attempted arson. Awaiting sentencing for 4

more arsons Grigory Pasko, SIZO Institution IZ-25/1. Partizanskyj Prospekt 28-b, 690106 Vladivostok, Russia. Eco-journalist serving 4 years for exposing the Russian Navy dumping nuclear waste in the Pacific Ocean

International

Black Panther and anti-jail prisoners, inside for over 30 years: Albert Woodfox #72148, CCR Upper B Cell 13, Louisiana State Penitentiary, Angola, LA 70712 USA and Herman Wallace #76759, Camp J, Cuda 2/Left #13, Louisiana State Penitentiary, Angola, LA

Ted Kaczynski (04475-046). US Pen - admin Max Facility, PO Box 8500, Florence Colorado 81226, USA. Multiple life sentences for the infamous 'Unabomber' bombing & murder campaign, carried out against symbols of technology.

Craig Marshall, #13797662, SRCI, 777 Stanton Blvd, Ontario, OR 97914 USA. 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 (93341), 1107 Recharge Rd., York NE 68467, USA. An eco-activist serving Life for shooting dead, in selfdefence, a stalker who had broken into her

Helen Woodson, 03231-045 FMC Carswell, POB 27137. Fort Worth, TX 76127, USA. Serving a total of 27 years for three separate actions. 1) robbing a federal reserve bank of \$26,000 before torching the money to denounce the materialism that causes environmental destruction, 2) mailing warning letters with bullets affixed to Government and corporate officials. 3) carrying out a Ploughshares direct disarmament against a Minuteman II missile silo.

Mordechai Vanunu. Ashkelon prison. Ashkelon, Israel, 18 years for telling world media about Israel's nuclear capabilities Eric Wildcat Hall, #BL-5355, Unit I/A 10745 Route 18, Albion, PA 16475-0002, USA. 35-75 vears for helping ship arms to Central American indigenous activists.

MOVE is an eco-revolutionary group. There are currently eight MOVE activists in prison each serving 100 years after been framed for the murder of a cop in 1979. 9th defendant, Merle Africa, died in prison in 1998.

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), SCI Camp Hill, PA 17011-0200, 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. Currently awaiting resentencing after having his death penalty

For guidance on writing to prisoners, and up-

to-date lists of these and short-term prisoners, visit www.spiritoffreedom.org.uk. Online newsletter from earthlibprisoner@mail.com, or urgent bulletin at animalearthliberation@bigfoot.com. Advice and other listings from Anarchist Black Cross, c/o 6 Tilbury Place, Brighton, BN2 2GY or www.geocities.com/bristol abc or

www.brightonabc.org.uk/organisations.htm

Every effort is made to keep this contact list as up to date as possible, but we haven't time to check every contact every month. If you have trouble ising any contact on this list please let us know. Also please make sure you tell us of any changes. We appreciate receiving any ideas to improve thi list and make it as useful as possible All additions and alterations each month are shown in bold. The inclusion of a contact on this list in no way implies the support of the AU

editorial collective for that group, it's ideas, actions or indeed anything else.



The ISM, along with GIPP (Grassroots International Protection for Palestinian People) have for the last year or so concentrated on bringing internationals to the West Bank and to a lesser extent Gaza. Both as grassroots movement, combining the efforts of local Palestinian organisations and international activists living both in Palestine and in Europe and the USA. The ethos behind both is that internationals, working at the request of and in co-operation with local people, can often do things that for Palestinians would by definition result in death, injury or imprisonment. A typical ISM programme, like that in December 2001, might include opening up checkpoints, acting as human shields for Palestinian marches, digging out roadblocks, accompanying farmers onto land where they are threatened by settlers...and flyposting Israeli Army tanks. Of course, in a situation like that in the Occupied Territories the best-laid plans often go awry, and those of who went for the ISM fortnight of action (the plans for which looked very much like those described above) quickly realised that much of what we were intending to do would be impossible. But as internationals, again, we were able to do much that Palestinians couldn't, such as go out into the curfews to deliver food and medicine or access the international media to counteract the lies and propaganda being perpetuated by the Israeli government and army. And the very presence of internationals in refugee camps, riding with ambulances or accompanying released Palestinian prisoners may, in many cases, have made the difference between deaths or attacks and a relative degree of safety. Certainly those refugee camps in Bethlehem where the presence of internationals was well publicised suffered nothing like the harassment they've experienced before or the slaughter seen in Jenin and Nablus.

The ISM is always prepared to find ways for internationals coming to the West Bank to help. There will also be an ongoing campaign of actions called Freedom Summer from the 24th June until 17th August; all are welcome.

UK Actions

In Leicester, an office occupation highlighted Caterpillar's sale of bulldozers, like those used to demolish houses in Jenin, to the Israeli military. Many of the staff leafleted were sympathetic to and some even took fliers to pass on to colleagues! Two of the eight activists involved were held for questioning by the police for 15 hours - one was interrogated about 'terrorist links' and the other

learned that her parents' house had been raided at 4am.

- In June, apparent customers at Selfridges' food hall suddenly got disruptive when their Israeli settler goods had been rung through the tills...after being ejected by security, they continued to leaflet
- In Manchester, a banner drop detailing Land Rover's sale of vehicles to the IDF was met with irritation by the garage manager, who complained that the protest was damaging his business. Good to know that you're having an effect! An Israeli passer-by stopped to tell the demonstrators about how he wasn't racist, but 'you simply can't trust these Arabs...'
- In **London**, 15 activists were violently repelled by security guards with metal batons whilst trying to hang banners on the Israeli Embassy on Kensington High Street. Undeterred, they proceeded to take their message to the local M&S, and then to London El Al offices, to protest the airline's involvement in the deportation of humanitarian protesters from Palestine.
- A picket met Ariel Sharon's visit to Downing Street. Nice to see Tony Blair hob-nobbing with the man responsible for the massacre of thousands of Palestinian refugees at Sabra and Chatila in 1982 and hundred in Jenin in 2002.
- In Manchester, there was a die-in involving 150 people at St Ann's Square in the centre of the city, attracting media attention and providing a high-profile leafleting opportunity!
- There have also been large marches in London and a smaller one in Manchester

Further afield:

- In **Pretoria**, **South African** women chained themselves to the gates of the UN offices to protest UN inactivity at the human rights abuses being perpetrated by the Israeli state. Their statement particularly focused on the effects of Israeli occupation on Palestinian women and children.
- In New Mexico, a number of people were arrested for chaining themselves to petrol pumps at a Texaco garage, during a demonstration emphasising the connections between the occupation of Palestine, US geopolitical interests, and the oil politics of the Middle East.
- Mayday marchers in Bogota and elsewhere in the world incorporated the situation in Palestine and the international community's apparent willingness to let Sharon get away with

murder - literally - into their protests and demands.

In Warsaw, demonstrators linked the genocide of the Jews in Poland during WWII with Israel's present racist policies. Banners at the protest read "You can't drown freedom in blood."

Environmental impacts

The Israeli occupation of the West Bank does not only impact on the daily lives of the people living there, but on the long-term sustainability of the area's habitats and agricultural land. Massive water extraction for Israel's 'greening the desert' programme (the source of many fruit and vegetable imports into the UK, especially for organic market. Watch out for those avocados and peppers!) has resulted in the dramatic shrinking of the Jordan River in the East of the West Bank, destroying wildlife habitats and drying out farmland for miles around. This is also exacerbated by the fact that the average Israeli uses 16 times more water than the average Palestinian – you can see the contrast between the two if you visit affluent Israeli neighbourhoods, which often have swimming pools and sprinkler systems, despite the essentially desert nature of the

More direct environmental damage is also occurring. The Barkan industrial zone, near Salfit, is one of the largest industrial zones in the Middle East. Local activists say that the Israelis site factories there if they are deemed too polluting or dangerous to be built within Israel itself. Products made in the Barkan zone include: Barkan Cellars wines, Barkan sweets, Ahva halva & candy, Beigel & Beigel pretzels. Some of these products are sold in Selfridges. The industrial effluent from Barkan is run straight into the valley below, untreated, creating a brightly-coloured, foul-smelling slick beside which Palestinian farmers are still trying to raise crops for want of anywhere else to go.

Barkan is also an settlement, illegal under international law, as is Ariel, its neighbour over the hill. This is one of the West Bank's largest settlements, with a resident population of 20,000 which doubles during working hours. The sewage outlet from Ariel is a series of cracked pipes running down to an overflowing tank which is polluting the former nature reserve it is sited in the middle of. It stinks, and used sanitary products and household waste litter the stream it runs into. Again, local farmers are still trying to make a

And finally, the environmental damage which seems to hurt many Palestinians most deeply is the destruction of the olive groves. These stately trees, many of which are said to have been planted by the Romans, are the mainstay of the Palestinian rural economy, providing fruit, oil and wood. But they also occupy a significant spiritual place in Palestinian hearts and culture, and the bulldozing or chainsawing of entire groves by settlers, with the protection of the Israeli army, is the cause of much

Vital Statistics

The State of Israel was founded in 1948 on land previously occupied by Palestinians, around 10% of whom were ethnically Jewish at that time. After the 1967 war the Israeli army also occupied the West Bank. Many of the refugees forced out of their homes in 1948 fled from the West Bank to join others already in Jordan, Lebanon and Syria.

There are currently around 5 million Palestinian refugees, the largest and oldest refugee population in the world.

The UN World Food Programme recently announced that it will be helping to feed 500,000 Palestinians who are increaingly suffering from malnutrition due to Israeli army controls on food coming in and the inability of the vast majority of Palestinians to reach their places of work. This includes some 360,000 rated as 'extremely poor,' including many one-parent families who have lost breadwinners to the Israeli occupying forces.

Between the beginning of the First Intifada in 1987 and 31st January this year, 433 Israeli minors have been killed by Israeli forces or settlers in the Occupied Territoies, of which 115 were under 13.

According to B'Tselem's research, since the beginning of the intifada (9 December 1987) and until the end of 1997, Israel has completely demolished in the Occupied Territories at least 449 houses as punishment, partially demolished 62 houses, completely sealed at least 296 houses, and partially sealed 118 houses. This punitive house demolition policy has been resumed since early

Contacts

Palestinian Centre for Rapprochement Between Peoples/ International Solidarity Movement

www.rapprochement.org, www.palsolidarity.org

Bt'Selem, Israeli human rights research organisation www.btselem.org

Palestine Solidarity Campaign UK

www.palestinecampaign.org or Palestine Solidarity Campaign, Box BM PSA, London WC1N 3XX

Indymedia Palestine

http://jerusalem.indymedia.org

