### **Peatland Defence**

Since March this year there have been three reported incidences of sabotage to defend peatland sites, and (we suspect) several unreported incidents.

· In early March over £30,000 worth of damage was done to stocks at the Scotts plant on Hatfield Moor, South Yorkshire, when stacks of peat bags on pallets were slashed. (reported by Scotts at a bail hearing during the Easter Blockade, late March 2002)

· On May Day one of two wooden pylons which bring electricity into the Scotts plant at Hatfield was felled and a serious attempt was made on the second one.

· In early July at Bolton Fell in Cumbria (site belonging to William Sinclair Ltd), digging equipment was disabled and plastic sheeting protecting stockpiled peat was destroyed. Posters demanding an end to peat extraction were displayed.

There will be a mass trespass at Hatfield Moor on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> August (bank holiday weekend) during the nearby Northern Green Gathering. There

will also be an action camp on the site previously used for the blockade camp, straight after the NGG, Wednesday 28th - Sunday 1st September. Peat Alert hope to run talks and tours of the site as well as leaving plenty of time for action. More info from <a href="https://www.peatalert.org.uk">www.peatalert.org.uk</a> or on <a href="mailto:info@peatalert.org.uk">info@peatalert.org.uk</a>

### **Down Under...**

**29**th **June** - Refugee Advocates freed asylum seekers from the Woomera Detention Camp, where around 160

# **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

asylum seekers were holding a hunger strike. Many of them had sewn their lips together in protest at their treatment by the Australian Government. Around midnight on Friday 28th June, a group of 25 refugee supporters went in to the main compound area of the centre (a former missile test site) in South Australia to show their support for the hunger-striking asylum seekers inside by performing a 'noise' action. Once it was known that people were outside supporting them, children came out to the fence first, followed by men then women. Moved by the suffering of these people, the refugee supporters proceeded to try and free as many of these suffering people as possible. It is estimated that between 20 -25 asylum seekers were freed before detention centre staff stopped them. Police set roadblocks up in the area, but there were no immediate arrests. Some of the asylum seekers were later captured. More info on http:// www.melbourne.indymedia.org>.

### Sisters are doin' it...

**Mid-July:** hundreds of women from the Nigerian Ijaw people take over several ChevronTexaco oil pumping stations, in protest at the environmental destruction

caused by the company's operations in the Niger Delta, and its failure to create jobs or bring other social benefits. The initial occupation, at Escravos, lasted for a fortnight, and at least four more stations were taken over in subsequent actions. Employees were either driven out of the stations or (gently) taken hostage, but Ijaw men were said to have threatened to burn down all the company's facilities if the women were harmed. In other protests in the area, protesters in several Nigerian cities were teargassed by police after demonstrating against that old villain Shell's activities in the region.

### **News in brief**

### Football carzy...

31st July, Leyton-Tel Aviv football match in London. Deciding to surpass distributing leaflets outside, several activists got onto the pitch with boycott banners and Palestinian flag. The crowd was pretty hostile, and three protesters were arrested. They were charged with invading the pitch under the Football Offences Act 1991.

### New book

The 4th edition of Resources for Radicals, an "annotated bibliography of print resources for those involved in movements for social transformation" will soon be available. The price (including postage and handling) is (international) \$15.00. (U.S. funds). Cheques should be made payable to Toronto Action for Social Change. Orders should be sent to: Toronto Action for Social Change P.O. Box 73620, 509 St. Clair Ave. West Toronto, Ontario M6C 1CO 416-651-5800 tasc@web.ca

# **Subscribe to the EF! Action Update**

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inhabitants.

these ideas.

direct action to confront, stop

destruction of the Earth and its

It is not a cohesive group or

campaign rather a convenient

banner for those interested in

First! is the use of non-

Climate Chaos compilation



### **Bike Tour Critical Mass**

July 2<sup>nd</sup>: a group of about 25 cyclists, some part of the Ecotopia Bike Tour, head off for a Critical Mass tour of companies involved in the oil and gas pipelines scheduled to be built between 2003-5 from Azerbaijan, through Georgia, to Turkey. The firms were BP the IFC (International Finance Corp), the National Portrait Gallery (recent recipients of a fat wad of BP sponsorship), Enterprise IG ('brand consultants' to the pipeline). Not only will the products of the pipeline belch millions of tones of CO2 into the atmosphere every year for 30 years, but The cyclists successfully blocked the road across Vauxhall Bridge and then rode through town to finish at LARC.

For more info on the campsign against the pipeline and the environmental destruction and humn rights abuses associated with it.

Contact Rising Tide at:

www.risingtide.org.uk tel: 01865 241 097 or London Rising Tide:

shells@gn.apc.org

### **Dump nuclear**

The British government is engaged in another 'public consultation,' this time on energy policy. Shock, horror, it will be using it to try and get nuclear energy in through the back door, and to sell it as a 'climate friendly' alternative.' The nuclear energy is 'encouraging' its employees to use the consultation to

promote it. For information on the campaign against this, visit www.dumpnuclear.org.

### **Conference disrupted**

July 8th: those busy bees from London Rising Tide disrupted a conference on 'Monetising carbon credits in emerging economies' at the Carlton Tower Hotel. The conference was yet another effort by a crowd of corporates and shady multilateral bodies to promote carbon trading, one of the prime methods of watering down any attempts to address climate change on an international level. Schemes such as forest sequestration also involve the exploitation of some of the world's most vulnerable environments and oppressed peoples. Organisations involved (and present at the conference) include Vivendi and the World Bank. Despite the thousand-pound price tag on tickets, the protester toddled easily in, to be shouted down by the speaker and being accused of being

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

### **Prisoner Support**

Callum Currie, Michael Davison, Malachi Nicholls, Howard Oakes and John Winfrow have all been sentenced to 9 months for involvement in an anti-fascist counter-demonstration. They would love to receive letters, but please send them to: c/o Prisoner Support Group, Bradford Art and Resource Centre, 17-21 Chapel St, Bradford, West Yorkshire. They have also asked not to be sent political books and materials that may attract attention from fash in prison.

American SHAC prisoner, Benjamin Persky, has been moved to a new address. This is: Benjamin Persky #1410212600 George Vierno Ctr. 0909 Hazen Street East Elmhurst, NY 11370, USA. People can e-mail letters of support to Ben at lettersforbenjamin@hotmail.com. Please note NO PRISONER has access to e-mail. The letters of support which are e-mailed to Ben will be collected by one of his supporters and posted off to him once a week, DO NOT EXPECT A REPLY VIA E-MAIL. If you wish Ben to reply to your e-mail, include a return postal address. Ben is facing 2-6 years for his involvement in SHAC campaigns, and is being held on remand after failing to post a \$15,000 bail demand, which may not be posted by any activist!

Since 1938, the US Navy has been expropriating land on the Puerto Rican island of Viegues in the Caribbean. The Navy now controls 26k of the island's 33,000 acres and carries out large-scale military testing there which has brought widespread pollution and high rates of diseases such as cancer and asthma. A substantial proportion of the island's population, as well as other Puerto Rican and international activists, have been jailed for there attempts to defend their rights. For more information, and to write to Viegues prisoners, see www.viequeslibre.org.

A 22 year old man from Stockholm recieved a 5 year sentence, the hardest verdict from the EU-summit in Gothenburg 2001. He has also been retained in custody since the trial in the middle of June and the city court decided the keep him there until the verdict has been legally binding. He will appeal. Letters of support can be sent to him by addressing your letters to: Man jailed for 5 years c/o Solidarity Group GBG c/o Syndikalistiskt forum Box 7267 SE-402 35 Gothenburg SWEDEN e-mail: solidaritetsgruppen@hotmail.com

In December 1996, Samar Alami, a Lebanese Palestinian woman, and Jawad Botmeh, a Palestinian man, were wrongfully convicted of conspiracy in relation to the bombings of the Israeli Embassy and Balfour House in London in 1994. Both have been sentenced to an extraordinary twenty years in prison, after which they face deportation.Freedom and Justice for Samar & Jawad is determined to fight this miscarriage. of justice by explaining why it is believed that Samar and Jawad are innocent of these charges, providing information about the case, and co-ordinating efforts to free them. For info, see <a href="http://www.freesaj.org.uk/">http://www.freesaj.org.uk/</a>

For more info on prisoners and how to write to them, see www.spiritoffreedom.org.uk or http://www.geocities.com/bristol\_abc/ resources.htm

### **ELP Newsletter**

ELP's hardcopy publication, is available for a donation to: BM Box 2407. London. WC1N 3XX. England. You can download a PDF version. Urgent ELP! is a project which distributes the names & details of any new eco-prisoner as soon as ELP gets their details. Urgent ELP! only exists as an e-mail service.

If you would like to receive the Urgent ELP! emails contact

animalearthliberation@bigfoot.com. For details on women prisoners, contact Women in Prison, 22 Highbury Grove London N5 2EA, http:// www.womeninprison.org.uk/

For advice on activist legal issues, try Activists' Legal Project, 16b Cherwell Street, Oxford OX4 1BG, 01865 243772,

activistslegal@gn.apc.org, www.activistslegalproject.org.uk/contact.htm

### UK

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, Partizanskyi 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,

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 years 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-

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 upto-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

### **Action Groups**

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

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

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

Grampian EF! PO Box 248, Aberdeen AB25 grampianearthfirst@hotmail.com

Gwynedd & Mon EF! The Greenhouse, 1

Trevelyan Terrrace, Bangor, Gwynedd LL57 1AX

bangorwerdd@yahoogroups.com Leeds EF! c/o CRC, 16 Sholebroke Av Leeds LS7 3HB

01248 255 821

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

(Newcastle) TAPP PO Box ITÁ, Newcastle NE99 Support Network 1TA ne991ta@yahoo.com

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

Nottingham EF! 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 7164 jimthackery@yahoo.co.uk

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

SWAN Network PO Box 70. Newport NP10YDS wangroup@vahoo.co.uk

# **Contacts List August 2002**

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

York I FAF 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 

> Earth Liberation Prisoners 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

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

Primal Seeds

### **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@yahoo.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 5ZJ 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

Beyond 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 E1 7QX

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

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

**DELTA** Box Z, 13 Biddulph St, Leicester LE2 1BH 0116 210 9652 lvnx@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

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

The Land is Ours (TLIO) 1BG 01460 249204 office@tlio.demon.co.uk

Legal Defence & Monitoring Group BM Haven, London WC1N 3XX

Idmgmail@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

16b Cherwell St. Oxford OX4 active campaigns that have 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@earthfirstjournal.org www.earthfirstjournal.org

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 using 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 this

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.

'boring' for raising the issue of climate change. Despite being led out by hotel security, a spokesman from Environmental Finance (more greenwash- earthsummit02@yahoo.co.uk or ASEED meisters) came to try and schmooze his way into the group's affections. See previous RT contact details.

### **Airport protests**

In Mexico, hundreds of irate farmers with machetes and petrol bombs held hostages to protest against plans to build a new international airport outside of Mexico City. You, dear reader, may be instantly concerned about the planet's atmosphere...their more immediate concern is that the scheduled location is smack in the middle of their land. In return for the hostages, protesters are demanding that they be allowed to keep their land. Sounds reasonable enough, but the pro-business government of Mexican President Vicente Fox has ruled out any changes to its plans to build the £1.3 billion airport.

And then there's British airport expansion plans...the government is planning a massive growth in airport capacity, with at least 6 new runways around the country, focusing on the south-east. Cue the destruction of communities, ecosystems and the global environment...more protect camps, anyone? AEF has launched Airport Watch. www.aef.org.uk. See also www.hacan.org.uk and www.rspb.org.uk.

### **World Summit on Sustainable Develoment**

And talking of greenwash...from 26 August to 4 September the world's leaders will be meeting in Johannesburg for the World Summit on Sustainable Develoment (WSSD) to come up with cunning plans to cure the world's environmental and social ills, building on the landmark successes of the Rio Earth Summit ten years ago. Or, more likely, sell the environment and people of the planet even further down a highly polluted and overheated river, courtesy of corporate organizations like the ICC and BASD, who feature little darlings like Cargill, Dow Chemicals, Monsanto, Nestle, RTZ, Shell and Unilever. Sponsors also include that well-known murderer of both the environment and its workers (as long as they're black...), Anglo-American (owner of Tarmac and much of the world's diamond industry). Sustainable development, anyone? Not, perhaps,

coincidentally, a Global Day of Action against a corporate UN has been called for on 31 August 2002 - contact Europe for details of events.

### **International GM roundup**

### **DEFRA** demo

Lunchtime, Wednesday 24 July, over 150 people, including families with children in bumblebee costumes, held a colourful demonstration at the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) in Smith Square. London. They left large bags of GM crops from trial sites around Britain, carried in wheelbarrows and shopping trolleys, at the entrance. They were calling for no commercial growing of GM crops and an end to GM crop trials, especially given the obviously stitched-up nature of the government's 'consultation' on the topic. Communities from Scarborough also delivered 500 sticks of rock with their message "Scarborough Rock Solid Against GM." More info from: Genetic Engineering Network, 1a Waterlow Road, Archway, London, N19 5NJ, 0207 2721586, gen@gn.apc.org, www.geneticsaction.org.uk

### **Action overseas**

mid-June: ELF activists 'disinfect' a GM field trail using 'elvenwine.' The trial, in the Botanical Gardens of Utrecht University, was destroyed as part of Groenfront's anniversary month of direct action. Details of the action were forwarded to Action Magazine Ravage, Van Ostadestraate 233n, 1073 TN

Amsterdam, http://www.antenna.nl/

22<sup>nd</sup> June: the Indian government reverses its March decision to approve Monsanto's GM Bt cotton (sold through local partner Mahyco) for commercial growing in India. The campaign against the cotton had included lobbying by groups such as Greenpeace, and some more spectacular opposition such as the torching of seed shops with GM stocks and fields of GM crops by groups such as the KRRS (Karnataka State Farmers' Union). The cotton, if allowed to go ahead, would have been the first crop to be legally commercialized in India, but the companies involved were said to have conducted invalid trials and not to have told the government of the development of resistance to pesticides by the target parasite, cotton bollworm.

### In the UK

This summer has seen a number of public rallies at test sites around the UK. One such event took place at Lymm in Cheshire on July 20th. After a concerted campaign of letter writing and petitions local people decided to take matters into their own hands. A public meeting at Lymm Village Hall was followed by a trip to the nearby field of GM-maize. A samba band led around 30 of the crowd into the field and people began to decontaminate the area. Proceedings were only interupted by the cops who arrested 9. People were kept in Warrington station until 6am the following moring with cops complaining; "These things take time if you will get arrested on mass" - poor things.



Activists from around the country dump GM crops outside DEFRA in London

### Other activities...

### Blitz...

Blitz festival hit the streets of Manchester from 20-28th July with a mind-expanding explosion of artful propaganda, actions and information, timed to offer an alternative vision to the Corporatised Commonwealth Games. Blitz was the result of six months of organising by the Northern Arts Tactical Offensive who provided the overall structure for visual arts, film, music, street theatre and protest, in collaboration with UHC arts collective, BEyondTV, i-contact, Fanclub, a Spacehijacker and many other individuals. NATO aims to bring together people working on social, cultural and political issues and to promote art that is spontaneous, conscious and public. The Blitz highlighted all that is street-level, independent and potentially illegal from the dissenting inhabitants of Manchester.

It went a bit like this: **AgiTATE**- brazenly located in the middle of a budding "Great Northern" shopping mall this exhibition in the belly of the beast took over a swathe of unused warehouse space and transformed it into the most beautifully presented and ideologically challenging collection of art work Manchester has ever seen. Starting from the premise that the third world war will be fought in our heads, through images, on the airwaves (etc), the exhibition housed work from local graffitti artists to a "live sound installation" (read- "pirate radio station") see link on Nato website. Over 2000 people came through in a week.

**OUTDOOR LIVE MUSIC-** The punk bands swearing loudly, playing to three shoppers at 1pm, the installation (skate) "ramp" under the "no skating" sign and the pointless graffitti wall made it feel like a subcultural spectacle at times, but the real problem was the rain, as ever. FILM- Not to be thwarted, the organisers limped on to 4 film events filled with mostly unknown people, they led punters further down the Blitz slippery slope and so on until the inevitable protest, or in fact as it turned out a "skate attack cum critical mass" and a march FOR capitalism. The police held back for the skateathon round Manchester city centre as cyclists and skaters teamed up and lapped round the town. A small but effective demo and a partnership we want to repeat.



The splendid March for Capitalism, kicked off with cucumber sandwiches and G and T's in a park in central Manchester. An impeccably dressed, if slightly creased, rabble rallied round a 3- headed corporate monster on a route "negotiated" with the police. Members of the public reacted interestingly to the placards "Bomb Other Countries," "The environment can kiss my ass" and others. Some people boo-ed because they saw through our heavy irony, others because they didn't, some joined in because they were drunk, and others were genuinely bemused- many mutterings of "Bombs not Bread?" were heard thoughout the course of the day. One policeman seemed suitably convinced that a less-creased member of the march for capitalism had traveled down from London in order to pledge his support for the cause, having read about it on the internet, and kindly pointed the demonstrator on the direction of some posh shops. The three headed monster was escorted out of town by the police, despite the fact that he encouraged shoppers to buy more things and praised the Officers' commitment to the public good. Meanwhile the rest of the crowd went off to monopolise the queue at WHSmiths with monopoly boards. As if the tourists were not confused enough already an alternative guide to the city appeared for the Games, an exact replica of the Council tourist guide, it gave the other side to the city council spin and directed people to the Blitz events. Despite the fact that council workers are rumoured to have read it for up to 5 minutes before realising it was a spoof, they cottoned on in the end and began throwing their weight around as usual, threatening any places that displayed it with libel. However, "volunteers" in special Commonwealth Games purple shell suits with yellow vomity shoulder splats were happy to make sure that distribution was not adversly effected. Curiously adapted logos also began appearing all over the city's billboards, as well as paint bombs and graffiti.

Finally a visit to the Biotech breakfast of the Commonwealth Games Business club by carrots and real people bearing puddings and pies for Biogen's Mr Paul Cobban (see indymedia) brought us to the end of an exhausting and exhilarating Blitz 2002.



Outside the Biotech Breakfast - mmm nice!

## **Diary dates**

### August

5-19th: Trident Ploughshares Disarmament camp at Coulport, Scotland Tel 01324 880744 www.gn.apc.org/tp2000/

10-20 Ecotopia, Dingle, Eire

11th: 5pm, Simon Jones Memorial Campaign Film with campaign speaker, Phoenix Theatre, Upper Brown Street, Leicester £3/£2:

12th: **Demonstration** organized by CMHF etc against the **Draft Mental** Health Bill. 12noon, Dept of Health, Richmond House, Whitehall. Consultation for the Bill ends in September. More (biased) info on the bill can be found on: www.doh.gov.uk/ mentalhealth/draftbill2002/index.htm>

16th noborder camp in hamburg, socalled schill-y-out-days [referring to racist interior minsters ...] more information [in german]: www.nadir.org/nadir/kampagnen/ landinsicht

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

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

26- 4 Sept, World Summit on Sustainable Development (Rio+10) -Johannesburg, South Africa www.aseed.net or www.johannesburgsummit.org

28-31, European Symposium on Biochemical Engineering Science, Delft. The Netherlands. This event is organised by the Section of Biochemical Engineering Science of the European Federation of Biotechnology. Mostly scientists, but of course also Novartis and DSM will be present. <www.esbes4.tnw.tudelft.nl/>

31st, Global Day of Action against a corporate UN.

### September

3rd: Trial of 4 Simon Jones Memorial Campaign supporters from a demo last December. Next hearing 2.15pm, Worthing Magistrates Court, Christchurch Road, Worthing. All face a possible 6 months if convicted.

20 Global - Car-Free Day www.carbusters.ecn.cz

22 Reclaim the Streets, 2.30pm St Stephens Green, Dublin www.indymedia.ie/

### October

1st-3rd, Annual Meetings of the World Bank and IMF - Washington, USA

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

### **November**

21-22 NATO Summit, Prague, Czech Republic. Held at the same Congress Centre where the IMF/World Bank met two years ago. This is the first time a NATO summit takes place in former Eastern Bloc. Actions are being planned against the summit, more info: intersec@csaf.cz

<mailto:intersec@csaf.cz>

# Support resistance in the Philippines



Tribal warriors in West Papua

# Agta indigenous peoples and rainforest protection centre

The Philippines are home to some of the last surviving gatherer-hunters. In the rainforest of Luzon Island the Agta live off the land's coconuts, fish, leaves, crabs, fruit and occasional larger animal,s as they have done for generations. Compatible with the local ecology, their lifestyles and culture are also largely non-hierarchical and non-gendered. They are one of the few truly free and ecological societies left in the world.

Like many tribes across the world the Agta have seen their numbers fall to the low hundreds and their traditional ways of life made increasingly impossible. Their land is stolen, their children taken from them by government officials, the forest on which they depend for food is cut down and they are forced into the farms and factories. They have become landless refugees in their own land.

As Western radicals, anarchists, ecologists and conservationists, it is essential that we act in solidarity with the tribal peoples who defend themselves and their land. If we are ever to succeed in creating free and ecological communities in our own lands we will have much to learn from them

In 2001 the non-development organisation Friends of People close to Nature raised £8000 and bought 10 hectares of stolen Agta tribal land in Dipuntian on the North-West coast of the Luzon island. This land now houses 8 Agta families, a significant section of the Agta population, and has also become a base for action against logging of the rainforest.

Here is an opportunity to give direct aid and on-the-ground solidarity to an endangered gatherer-hunter community struggling to protect an ecology within one of the 3 hottest of the global hotspots. The importance of action on this field cannot be overstated.

### **Visit Dipuntian**

Although only Agta live on the reserve, western visitors are invited to stay there to learn from the Agta and to help stop the destruction of the forests:

There is a lot to do. You can help the Agta in their daily difficulties, plant fruit trees, protest about logging, teach Agta children to stop them being stolen off to school, build huts, administer medical treatment and keep missionaries off the land.

Even if you don't do anything you would probably be useful in Dipuntian. The Agta feel safer when foreigners are around.

Anyone wanting to visit Dipuntian should contact the Philippines Solidarity Group. We have tapes and books in Tagalog available on loan, plus other information and contacts.

### **Raise Money**

In addition to the £8,000 already raised, a further £10,000 is now being collected to buy an adjoining piece of land to house a further 100 Agta. For £18,000 most of an endangered anarchic primal tribe can be pulled back from the brink of cultural and personal extinction! The Philippines Solidarity Group aims to have raised the necessary £10,000 by the end of this year. We need your help. Providing financial aid should not be seen as charity but as a tool of solidarity that we have available to us as a result of our position in the highly moneterised West.

Make cheques payable to "Agta Support Group" and send to the address at the end of the article.

### **Solidarity Actions**

### **Philippines Solidarity Group**

c/o Leeds Earth First!,

Cornerstone Resource Centre, 16 Sholebroke Ave, Leeds, LS7 3HB e-mail: threeovus@hotmail.com www.leedsef.org.uk

The Philippines are an area of immense ecological importance. Home to many rare and amazing birds and mammals, including the monkey-eating eagle, it is the plant life which really marks it out as exceptional, with the virgin rainforest containing a greater diversity of flora than anywhere else in the world.

All is far from well however for this beautiful environment. Most of the rainforest has been destroyed, largely by Western logging interests, and the destruction continues at a horrifying rate. Many species are extinct or threatened with extinction. Dam building destroys landscapes and communities and mineral extraction rips open the land, It is the vast scale of its destruction, combined with its incredible bio-diversity, which has seen the Philippines classed as one of the top three environmental hotspots. In other words, one of the three most important areas to defend in the world.

If we ecologists in the West are serious then we cannot afford to ignore the global hotspots. Financial aid, solidarity actions and other support must be given to these areas as a matter of urgency. The Philippines Solidarity Group has been set up to do just this. The following are all struggles in the Philippines with which we can act in solidarity with real effect.

### **Davao Earth First!**

The Philippines is one of the few 3rd world countries with active Earth First! Groups. Davao City EF! have taken action in support of indigenous people, opened an anarchist/ecologist info shop, trashed genetically modified crops and taken part in local conservation projects. Located as they are in one of the global

hotspots, these "eco-warriors of the 3rd world country" must surely be a key target for as much support as we can provide.

Davao Earth First! have asked for literature for their info shop as well as for a video camera. Check out their fantastic website on: www.geocities.com/efdavao

### **Week of Action**

The Philippines Solidarity Group is one part of a wave of action in support of ecologists, radicals and indigenous peoples in the South Pacific. West Papua is currently engaged in low intensity warfare. The OPM, and others resisting Indonesian occupation are suffering vile human rights abuses and known figures are being "disappeared". A speaker from West Papua will be touring later in the year. Contact the South Pacific Solidarity office for more details.

A week of action in support of resistance in the Philippines and West Papua has been called for the 6th - 13th of October, 2002. Take action against any or all of the companies mentioned in this article. Check the Leeds EF! Website for more information on targets nearer the time.

### **ASSOCIATED INDIGENOUS STRUGGLES**

Resistance to mining and dams in the Philippines has been intense. In April 1998 the "Unity Pact" was forged in the Cordillera Region increasing the levels of militancy used by indigenous peoples to stop environmental destruction of their area. Indigenous people in southern Mindaneo followed suit and also took up arms recently. The Cordillera people are the first to have stopped a World Bank funded project (Chico River Basin Development Project).

The Cordillera People's Alliance (an alliance of various indigenous groups) have also been at war with golfers. There was armed resistance to the Manila South Coast Development Agency turning native land into a golf course.

Most recently, on May 1st the Aeta performed a ritual protest outside the US embassy in Manila to protest about US military exercises causing environmental damage.

The indigenous people of the Philippines have plenty of enemies. We are currently doing research into these, (any information gratefully received), but most of these companies at war with nature are based in Canada, Australia or the Philippines. We have however dug up some links in the UK, and are sure to find further ones.

- \* **Rio Tinto** are (of course) one of the arch enemies of those living close to nature, and they have offices in London and in Bristol. Give them a bell on 0207 9302399, or pop into visit at 6 St James Square, London.
- \* TVI Pacific are a Canadian Company committing a host of human and environmental abuses on Philippino shores. They are assisted in this by mining expert consultants Steffan, Robertson and Kirsten, whose head offices are in Cardiff.
- \* Crew Development are fighting the Department of Environmental and Natural Resources who cancelled their nickel mine proposal for



Demo at the Indonesian embassy

Mindoro. If it goes ahead 12 Manguan communities will be displaced. Mindoro is ecologically incredibly precious. Crew also have their fingers in many other pies. They are Canadian, but David Williamson Associates are their London consultants, and can be found at 15 St Helen's Place, London EC3A, or rung on 0207 6283989.

### FRIENDS AND FURTHER INFORMATION

The following are an assortment of groups we found useful and have contacted. They are all different and may not share all of the political ideas of Earth First! (eg they may be hierarchical organisations).

### www.nispop.org

solidarity group - check out the links

### www.golfwar.org

produced video on armed resistance to the golf project

### www.philsol.nl

Philippines solidarity group

### www.minesandcommunities.org

info on various indigenous resistance to mining

### www.forestsmonitor.org

especially for reports on the Philippines and logging

### www. fpcn-global.org

info on Agta and Dipuntian plus slide show

### www.leedsef.org.uk

our website where we will paste future info on targets etc

The South Pacific Solidarity Office will open in Brighton on August 1st. Contact on tel: 01273 695505 Email: solidaritysouthpacific@yahoo.co.uk Up to date information on the website:

www.ecoaction.org/ssp

