

3.

RESISTANCE #3

EARTH LIBERATION FRONT 1997-2002

Capitalism teaches us that heroic acts of sabotage against those profiting from the destruction of the natural environment are acts of terrorism. It teaches us that the systematic destruction of everything that keeps us alive-- air, water, and soil-- is progress.

The system murders and destroys the lives of those who dare to do what it's going to take in order to maintain life on this Earth. It lays down a path to follow to achieve positive social change that is a complete waste of energy by design, because positive social change is fundamentally in contrast to the capitalist ideology. And those who recognize this contradiction and forge new and effective ways of combating the deadly force of capitalism are vilified by the system.

The Earth Liberation Front (ELF) is an underground organization that commits acts of economic sabotage against those who profit from destroying the Earth, often in the form of break-ins, vandalism and arsons, while taking extreme precautions to make sure that no human or animal life is harmed in the process. They have claimed responsibility for over a dozen actions in North America over the last three years through anonymous communiqués sent to the targets, the media and to aboveground supporters who have passed the message on to the public nation-wide. The message is simple: The true "terrorism" comes from a system that makes commodities out of the Earth and those living on it, and it must be stopped by any means necessary.

Since 1997, the ELF has been responsible for well over \$30 million in economic sabotage. Given the relatively low number of individuals estimated to be taking part in these actions, the ELF, and the use of covert tactics in general, have proven extremely effective. While thousands follow the system's path to achieve social change, an increasing number are realizing that it is simply not enough to reform the system and that a much more fundamental change is desperately needed if we wish to sustain life on this planet.

The government doesn't want the public to know the social and political motives behind these actions. It wishes to foster a common opinion that the ELF is a violent terrorist organization, hence the term "ecoterrorism" widely spread throughout the media. But the true violence and terrorism is coming from the hands of governments and corporations that value power and greed over the Earth and those who inhabit it.

RESISTANCE #3

This can be seen in the rapid deforestation and species extinction, genocide of indigenous peoples, the tampering with the genetic makeup of our food, the continued drive for technological advancement despite the obvious side effects of physical and psychological illness, those murdered overseas over economic disputes and those murdered at home by policing agencies and the death penalty.... The list goes on and on, and the damages massively outweigh any of the supposed “terrorism” against those perpetrating these injustices.

This issue is dedicated to the Earth Liberation Front. *Resistance* promises to speak the truth about the motives and actions of both the ELF and the system against which it struggles. In a cesspool of corporate-controlled media and government-spread misinformation, *Resistance* vows to tell it like it is.

Grand juries Target ELF Activity Three years of Harassment with No Success -Craig Rosebraugh

I was first subpoenaed to testify as a witness before a federal grand jury in Portland, Oregon in September 1997. At that time I had spoke out in support of two acts of eco-sabotage committed in Oregon by an underground organization known as the Animal Liberation Front (ALF). The organization I worked with at the time, Liberation Collective, had received two communications from the ALF claiming responsibility for these occurrences. After many visits by the FBI and the ATF, a subpoena was finally issued to me to give information to aid in the investigation of the crimes.

The subpoena commanded my appearance in federal court less than a week later. After realizing this I immediately called the Assistant U.S. Attorney in Portland and asked to have the date delayed so I could have time to obtain and consult an attorney. My request was granted and the proceedings were delayed for a month.

Early on an October morning, on my way to the U.S. Courthouse, I delivered a formal letter of objection to the U.S. Attorney’s office on the grounds that I was being harassed. A protest against the grand jury was held outside the courthouse and attended by forty or so individuals angry at the secret government proceedings that were about to occur inside.

EARTH LIBERATION FRONT 1997-2002

At 11:00 a.m. I went inside, confident that the grand jury, being members of my local community, would be able to see I had done nothing wrong and that the U.S. government was simply grasping at extremely small straws. U.S. Marshals immediately led me into a waiting room filled with FBI, ATF, and other government agents. Shortly thereafter, I was taken into another room and led up to the front, where I was told to sit. In front of me were the twenty-three members of the grand jury. To my left was the Assistant U.S. Attorney and to my right the court reporter and three forepersons of the grand jury.

As soon as I sat down the questioning began from the Assistant U.S. Attorney. By the time the third question was asked I began to take the Fifth Amendment, using my right to protection from self-incrimination but knowing full well that this could be challenged at any time.

(In grand jury proceedings, witnesses called to testify do not have the right to take the Fifth Amendment unchallenged. Those who do take the Fifth and refuse to answer the questions run the risk of imprisonment on contempt charges for up to eighteen months. Furthermore, in federal grand juries witnesses called to testify do not have the right to counsel inside the grand jury room.)

After an hour or so, questions began to come from the grand jurors themselves.

The first thing I noticed about the grand jury was that it was entirely white, hardly an accurate representation of the Portland area. (Compared to other cities Portland is an extremely white town but definitely not to the extent represented by that jury). Secondly, each individual seemed over the age of forty and many quite older than that. I had no knowledge of what was said about me prior to my appearance but it was clear by the tone of the grand jurors' questions that they considered me guilty of some sort of serious crime before I ever walked into that room.

To roughly seventy-five percent of the questions I took the Fifth Amendment and remained silent. The questions I did choose to answer related directly to the philosophy of the social movement and information about my organization, both of which were already public knowledge.

The grand jury seemed more interested in arguing with me over the ethics

RESISTANCE #3

of a particular social movement than focusing on their task at hand--investigating the two crimes that had occurred. I was frequently cut off when trying to answer ideological questions and often snickered at when offering my viewpoint on a given issue. It became extremely frustrating, especially when I noticed two jurors dozing off in the back row. It was comforting to know that tax dollars were spent to have these individuals sleep during a court proceeding.

After an hour and a half of questioning, I was led outside the room and told to wait in the hall while the Assistant U.S. Attorney spoke with the grand jury to determine if there was any interest in asking more questions. I was soon taken back inside, where I sat through another fifteen minutes of questions, again exercising my Fifth Amendment right.

At this point I was told that I was finished for the day and reminded that I could be called back at any given time to face more questions. A U.S. Marshal then escorted me down the elevator and out of the building. I did not expect to be released that day or really for a length of time as I figured my Fifth Amendment protection would be challenged and I would be held in contempt. As I walked out the doors of the courthouse my mind was in a complete daze. The psychological stress that was invoked in that hostile atmosphere was simply unimaginable, especially from individuals who consider themselves to uphold the law.

Two months later, On December 12, I received two more subpoenas at my personal residence. One was for me to testify again, and the second was for the production of materials and/or objects belonging to Liberation Collective that relate in any way to the now-three incidents listed in the subpoena: (1) The November 29-30, 1997, trespass, burglary and fire at the U.S. Bureau of Land Management Wild Horse Corral in Harney County, Oregon; (2) The July 21, 1997, trespass, burglary and fire at the Cavel West, Inc. facility in Redmond, Deschutes County, Oregon; and (3) The May 30, 1997, trespass, burglary and "mink release" at the Arritola Mink Farm in Mt. Angel, Marion County, Oregon. These three incidents alone totaled over \$1.5 million in damages.

Once again the date for my appearance was less than a week away so I called the Assistant U.S. Attorney and asked for a delay to obtain counsel. I was denied this delay without hesitation over the phone. After putting my request in writing, I faxed it to the U.S. Attorney's office asking once again for a delay. This too was denied.

EARTH LIBERATION FRONT 1997-2002

On December 16, one day before I was commanded to testify, I put forth a motion to the court to disclose illegal electronic surveillance and to quash the subpoena. My interest in doing this was to attempt to learn whether or not illegal electronic surveillance had been used to gather information to obtain the subpoenas. Early the next morning, the court clerk called and told me a judge had denied my motion that very morning and that I was still commanded to appear.

The same day, another demonstration was held outside the U.S. Courthouse in Portland. I had made up my mind that I would not even go into the courthouse due to the continued harassment I was feeling from the situation. At 11:00 a.m., an ATF agent came outside and asked me if I was planning on going up to testify. I said I was not. He went back in only to re-appear ten minutes later when he informed me that the Assistant U.S. Attorney had commanded me to testify. The ATF agent then asked me again if I was going to testify. I told him I was not. The agent went back in the courthouse and almost immediately came back out with a U.S. Marshal. Together they proceeded to arrest me, placing me in handcuffs claiming I was going to be held in contempt of court.

I was taken to the second floor and into a large room where the Assistant U.S. Attorney, U.S. Marshals, an ATF agent and a court reporter were all present. Soon a judge entered the room and, still in handcuffs, I was told to sit down at a table near the Assistant U.S. Attorney. The judge then asked why I was refusing to testify. I told him that I had three reasons that I felt were more than adequate for my refusal. The first was that I had only been given five days, two of which were on the weekend, to obtain and consult an attorney. Secondly, I had put forth a motion the day before asking for disclosure of illegal electronic surveillance and I felt that should be dealt with before proceeding. Finally, I had been in the hospital during the prior week and a half with paracarditis, and I was in no condition to sit through another grand jury inquisition.

Needless to say, the judge did not find any of these reasons valid enough to excuse me from testifying. He ordered the U.S. Marshals to take me down to the grand jury room where I would be forced to sit through more questioning. They led me into the room, sat me down, and took off my handcuffs. In front of me once again was the grand jury. This time, to my right was the Assistant U.S. Attorney and to my left were the court reporter and the three forepersons of the grand jury.

RESISTANCE #3

Immediately I noticed that the atmosphere seemed worse than the first time. Not only was I back in front of this group of people that had been led to dislike me, but the lighting was unbelievably oppressive. I was in what felt like a spotlight with the Assistant U.S. Attorney, while the grand jury sat in wrap-around audience-style seating with dim light. It was a spectator sport and unfortunately I was the unwilling subject at hand.

The questioning began once again from the Assistant U.S. Attorney. This time to just about all the questions I took the Fifth Amendment, as I felt I was going to be held anyway for contempt. An hour later the Assistant U.S. Attorney asked where the materials and objects were that were subpoenaed from Liberation Collective. I replied that the only items Liberation Collective had were copies of press releases that were already in possession of the court. The Assistant U.S. Attorney then told me that I had been commanded to bring all copies of any relevant materials. In addition, he said that if I was willing to go and get the copies and be back in a couple of hours, I would be free to leave.

At this point I did not know whether to believe him or not. I figured that there would be no harm in giving copies of documents to the U.S. Attorney's office that the Court already had. So I was released to go and get the press releases.

Upon retuning I was led back into the grand jury room where I sat through another fifteen minutes of questioning, and then sure enough, I was told I was done for the day. Both to the disbelief of myself and my support committee outside, I walked out the front doors of the courthouse after being handcuffed just hours earlier.

In January 1998, I received a fourth subpoena from an FBI agent. This time it commanded me to submit to fingerprinting by the FBI on or before February 28, 1998. I began working on a motion to quash this subpoena based on my belief that giving my fingerprints would be in violation of my Fifth Amendment protection against self-incrimination.

On January 26, I put forth this motion in Federal Court hoping to quash the given subpoena. I received word from the court the next day that once again my motion had been denied and I was still commanded to give my fingerprints or be subject to contempt charges.

EARTH LIBERATION FRONT 1997-2002

At 9:00 a.m. on January 28, I was fingerprinted by agents of the FBI in the U.S. Marshal's office in the U.S. Courthouse. Many states already had my prints on file, and I figured if I were arrested for contempt the FBI would get a new full set anyway so I agreed to the fingerprinting. An hour later I walked out of the courthouse wondering just how long it would be before I was further harassed.

For the next couple of years the pressure from the grand jury slowed down a bit in Portland. While there were no subpoenas issued, the FBI and ATF occasionally showed up attempting to question me about the ongoing actions.

In other U.S. cities, especially in 1999, activists were not so fortunate. Strictly relating to Earth Liberation Front activity, a grand jury convened in Boulder, Colorado to investigate the October 1998 fire that caused some \$26 million in damages to Vail Resorts, Inc. Local aboveground activists, largely from Ancient Forest Rescue, were severely targeted by the grand jury. When push came to shove, the U.S. Attorney's office in Colorado decided not to hold any activists in contempt of court for refusing to cooperate with this grand jury. That particular grand jury term was scheduled to expire in March of 2000.

On February 2, 2000, I was just getting out of bed when I heard loud knocking from my front door. Before I could get my clothes on a second knock came with a man's voice yelling, "FBI! Search Warrant! Open Up!"

As I began to head for the door, instantly it flew open and agents came pouring in, guns drawn, screaming at me and my roommates to gather in the kitchen. We were lucky the door was unlocked as the agents had a battering ram ready and waiting. They proceeded to search us explaining they had a search warrant for property relating in any way to several ELF and ALF actions.

The warrant stated that a wide variety of items were to be seized in the raid. It cited the following actions as those under investigation in the grand jury: (1) The December 31, 1999 fire at the Agriculture Hall of Michigan State University; (2) The December 25, 1999 fire at the Northwest headquarters of Boise Cascade in Monmouth, Oregon; (3) The December 27, 1998 fire at U.S. Forest Industries in Medford, Oregon; (4) The October 18, 1998 fire at Vail Resorts, Inc. in Colorado; (5) The November 29, 1997 fire and

RESISTANCE #3

horse release at the Bureau of Land Management Horse Corral in Burns, Oregon; (6) The July 21, 1997 fire at the Cavel West Horse Slaughterhouse in Redmond, Oregon; and (7) The May 30, 1997 release of some 12,000 mink from a fur farm in Mt. Angel, Oregon.

We were then told that we could either leave the house (and if we left we would not be permitted back in until the search was completed) or we must all sit on the couch in the living room-- coincidentally out of view from the rest of the house. So there I sat for six hours while a team of twelve or so federal robbers picked through every nook and cranny of my home.

During the search I was presented with another subpoena to testify before a new federal grand jury in Portland on February 29 at 11:00 a.m. A grand jury, which had convened in January 1999 in Portland, had taken over the investigation into ELF and ALF activity. That investigation had grown immensely.

About halfway through the search, more agents arrived and entered my home carrying briefcases. They stayed for roughly an hour or so and then left without any explanation to me. One agent also went outside and searched the interior of my vehicle during this process. To my knowledge nothing was found or taken from the vehicle. After six hours, the agents began bringing full, closed, moving boxes out into the living room. I was then presented with an inventory list, which I was not allowed to compare to the actual physical property. The items listed included three computers, videos, magazines, books, address books, media directories, mailing lists, photographs, receipts, and much more. The boxes were then taken and loaded into a government vehicle and finally the agents left.

Two rooms in particular were purposefully trashed by the agents during the raid. One was the basement, which contained a great number of files, computer equipment, and more. The other was my bedroom, which also contained a home office. The bedroom afterwards looked like a classic burglary scene from a movie in which the entire area was trashed. It appeared as though agents made a special attempt in the bedroom to make it known they were there. Left on top of the pile among other items were a torn painting made by my partner, Elaine Close, and a crumpled funeral announcement regarding my recently-deceased grandfather.

On February 15, FBI agent Daniel Feucht re-appeared at my door with a letter from the U.S. Department of Justice stating that I was considered a

EARTH LIBERATION FRONT 1997-2002

target of the grand jury. This meant that the grand jury not only wanted me as a witness but also sought to file federal charges against me.

The federal charges, which are being looked into by the grand jury and the U.S. Attorney's office, include 18 U.S.C. Section 844 (I), Use of fire or explosive to damage property used in interstate commerce; 18 U.S.C. Section (f) (1) Use of fire or explosive to destroy United States property; 18 U.S.C. Section 1951, Interference with commerce by threats of violence (Hobbs Act); 18 U.S.C. Section 43, Animal Enterprise Terrorism; 18 U.S.C. Section 371, Conspiracy to commit (such) offense; and 18 U.S.C. Section 2, Aiding and abetting.

Before leaving Feucht told me that he didn't like being referred to as "Agent Bastard," a remark obviously intended to inform me that the federal government was still reading my e-mail.

On February 29, a protest was held outside the U.S. Courthouse in Portland, attended by some 150 people. Leslie Pickering, one of the individuals working with the North American ELF Press Office, was arrested at this action for allegedly blocking traffic as he crossed the street an hour earlier. Support protests were also held that day in front of the U.S. Embassy in England and in front of federal buildings in ten other cities, including Minneapolis, Eugene and Bloomington.

With my attorney I entered the U.S. Courthouse in Portland and made my way up to the grand jury room. As I entered, the familiar oppressive atmosphere hit me. Instantly, the questioning began from Assistant U.S. Attorney Stephen Peifer. The questions covered a broad range of subjects and actions (see questions below). To all of the questions, excluding my name, I took the Fifth Amendment and remained silent.

After about an hour I was told to go out and wait with my attorney and that Peifer wanted to speak with my attorney before I left. When Peifer came out, he handed my attorney an order compelling testimony applying towards me. This order related directly to information surrounding the fire at Boise Cascade and would apply toward my future appearances before the grand jury. At that time, Peifer also notified my attorney that I was going to be commanded back to the grand jury in a month or so.

In late March I received word that I had been commanded back to the grand jury on April 26. Once again, the organizing began for another national

RESISTANCE #3

day of action against state repression. A call was put out internationally for actions on or around April 26 targeting U.S. federal buildings and embassies. The response was even greater this time, and not only from supporters.

I received a call on April 20 from a reporter on the East Coast asking if I had a response to the press release issued by members of Congress the day before. I replied I had no knowledge of such a release. The reporter then faxed me a copy of the release issued by Representative George Radanovich, a Republican from California. Its headline read, "Federal Buildings Threatened by Environmental Extremist; Western Caucus Chairman Writes Reno Seeking Protection." It continued:

Rep. George Radanovich (R-California) joined Congressman Don Young (R-Alaska) and others in sending a letter to Attorney General Janet Reno seeking additional protection for federal buildings following an e-mail received from the North American Earth Liberation Front. The e-mail called on "militant demonstrations targeting U.S Federal buildings and embassies" on Wednesday, April 26th and was dated April 1, 2000.

"We are requesting the Attorney General Janet Reno institute a criminal investigation of those responsible for sending out this e-mail threat and we ask her to respond to us by 4 PM EST today with her intentions," said Radanovich, who serves as chairman of the 56 member Western Caucus.

"As we remember the 5th anniversary of the Oklahoma City bombing today, it is important that we take every threat seriously. The Clinton-Gore administration has aligned themselves with the organized national environmental extremists in the past; however, I hope they do the right thing and investigate this e-mail before somebody gets hurt," he concluded.

The Congressman seeks to have the Justice Department use the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization (RICO) prohibitions against interstate criminal organizations. Copies of this e-mail sent by Craig Rosebraugh from the North American Earth Liberation Front are available upon

EARTH LIBERATION FRONT 1997-2002

request.

The e-mail Radanovich was referring to was a tame, usual organizing notice that appeared as follows:

April 1, 2000

I received notice two days ago that I have been commanded to appear before the grand jury in Portland once again on April 26th. They have already granted me immunity and are commanding my testimony regarding the burning of the Northwest headquarters of Boise Cascade in Monmouth, OR, which happened on December 25, 1999.

As soon as I take the Fifth Amendment or refuse to answer any questions I will be immediately subject to a contempt hearing.

We are organizing a national day of action against state repression on April 26. All individuals and groups concerned about government harassment and/or who support the Earth Liberation Front are asked to hold militant demonstrations targeting US Federal buildings, embassies, etc.

If you are interested in setting up a demonstration please contact us in Portland to coordinate actions. Literature on grand juries, the ELF, and government harassment is available upon request.

Craig Rosebraugh
North American Earth Liberation Front Press Office

The letter from members of Congress to Janet Reno was a bit much, I would have to say.

A few days before the 26th of April, my attorney put forth a motion in court to have my subpoena dropped due to a procedural error on the side of Peifer. On February 29, Peifer already had the order compelling testimony completed before I ever testified. Usual procedure is that one waits to see what actions or inactions a witness takes before such an order would be completed.

RESISTANCE #3

However, Peifer was effectively able to argue that based on my prior dealings with him and the grand jury he had reasonable suspicion to believe that I would be taking the Fifth Amendment on the 29th of February. Therefore, a judge declared that Peifer was not out of line by having the order completed ahead of time. Thus, I was still commanded to appear on April 26 and would be under the order compelling testimony for Boise Cascade.

When April 26 rolled around, support protests were held in Portland, Sacramento, Los Angeles, Washington D.C., Denver, Minneapolis, London and other cities. The Portland protest attracted another 100 or so participants. As I entered the grand jury room yet again, I knew I had a very slim chance of leaving a free person that day.

With my attorney's assistance, I worked through question after question one at a time for two hours. After each question was asked I went outside and discussed the matter with my attorney. To questions outside the scope of the order compelling testimony I took the Fifth Amendment again. To other questions within the realm of the order I replied that I could not recall the answers. With all of the stress from the grand jury harassment and pressure from federal authorities, I simply had and continue to have a major memory problem. Of course what this meant is that legally I could not be held in contempt of court for not answering the questions. The answers I gave, though frustrating to Assistant U.S. Attorney Peifer, were the answers I had to the questions presented. (See questions below.)

After two hours of repetitive questioning, Peifer told me he needed to talk to my attorney and that I would be called back. He told my attorney that I would be called back in a month or so for further questioning. At that point, I walked out of the U.S. Courthouse and back into the world. This was another day of success in two areas: First, I did not cooperate once again with the grand jury and second, I remained out of prison.

So the U.S. Attorney's office and the grand jury commanded me to return to the grand jury on May 24. Only this time a second individual had been subpoenaed for the same time on the same day in Portland. I was uncertain as to how this would work but figured one individual would just be made to wait outside while the other was in the room of much hell.

Josh Harper, a Northwest activist who had been working with Ocean

EARTH LIBERATION FRONT 1997-2002

Defense International in the Olympic Peninsula trying to stop the Makah whale hunt, received a subpoena also for May 24. He was actually in a boat on the water when coast guard cutters surrounded his vessel. Agents then boarded his boat and issued him the subpoena. This was Harper's first subpoena to a grand jury.

Prior to the 24th, more organizing was done to try and place some pressure on the grand jury system. When the day rolled around support protests were once again held in Portland, Los Angeles, Bloomington, Minneapolis, and San Diego.

I received notice late in the afternoon on May 23 that my subpoena had been called off. The reason given was that apparently the grand jury did not have time to deal with both Harper and myself on the same day at the same time. Peifer told my attorney that I would be called back to the grand jury some time either in June or July. Harper was still commanded to appear the next day.

The next morning, some 100 people gathered once again in front of the U.S. Courthouse at 8:00 a.m. to protest the ongoing harassment of the grand jury system. At 9:00 a.m., there was no sign from Harper so I read a statement from him to the crowd detailing his reasons for resisting the grand jury:

WHY I AM RESISTING THE GRAND JURY

My name is Josh Harper. I am a green anarchist currently residing in Seattle, WA. I was recently attempting to interfere in the killing of whales off of the Olympic Peninsula when the vessel I was aboard was surrounded by the coast guard. I was boarded and issued a subpoena commanding me to appear May 24th in Portland, OR. I have decided to defy this subpoena and wish to explain my decision to fellow activists.

First and foremost, this world is dying. All that is beautiful about the world is being destroyed and paved over. The animals are being either killed or turned into machines for human consumption. Our society, which was for thousands of years mostly peaceful and egalitarian, is now filled with neurosis, discontent, and alienation. But there is more out

RESISTANCE #3

there! All of our rage, all of our anger at this system can be focused into positive action. This grand jury wants to stop that positive action. Although the ALF and ELF are only small parts of a larger effort for autonomy, freedom, and a progression to an intact Earth, they are important because they show us that we can fight back, and WE CAN WIN! I will not betray them by speaking with their enemies.

Secondly, as an anarchist I would never willingly cooperate with the grand jury system. The very idea that this government presumes they can command me to do anything shows how very little they know me. My life is my own, my thoughts are my own, and what I decide to do will not be dictated to me by judges, attorneys, and their lackeys with guns. If they want me, let them come and get me. They can drag me to the grand jury room, but they can never make me speak.

I send Craig Rosebraugh all of my respect. He has faced down this grand jury, and even though he has chosen a different tactic than me, I understand his motivations. The media he is gaining is invaluable; he is awakening even more people to the path of resistance. To the ALF and ELF - I do not know you, but I send you my endless admiration. Keep fighting. You are my sisters and brothers; perhaps someday you can remove the masks so that we may celebrate victory together. Until then, let us all remain in utter defiance of those who would try to stop us.

Harper, in his admirable complete resistance to the grand jury, decided not to show up at all. He has not been heard from since. Later in the day on the 24th, I received a call from my attorney, who said that Peifer had called, demanding the original of Harper's statement. I told him I did not have the original.

As of this writing (June 9, 2000), I have not heard anything new from the U.S. Attorney's office. This grand jury term is set to expire in late June and a new one will convene most likely in July. The possibility of endless harassment from the grand jury is great, considering the seven-year statute of limitations on arson.

EARTH LIBERATION FRONT 1997-2002

The beauty in all of this misery is the plain, simple fact that in all of the U.S. ELF actions (as far as we at the press office know), not one individual has been caught. Although the grand jury harassment is annoying, it is pleasing to realize that I have been heavily targeted because the U.S. Attorney's office has no real suspects. Long Live the ELF. Down with Grand Juries.

Questions Asked of Craig Rosebraugh at the February 29, 2000 and the April 26, 2000 Grand Juries

February 29, 2000:

- 1) Regarding the development in the Bloomington, IN area, who committed the crime (of burning down a new house)?
- 2) Did you have any prior knowledge of the crime before it was committed?
- 3) A communiqué from the ELF claims that on October 23, 1999, six pieces of logging equipment were damaged in the Bloomington area. Did you receive prior notice of this crime? Who committed this crime?
- 4) Re: fire at MSU, December 31, 1999. Did anyone communicate with you about this incident before? Who communicated with you over e-mail about this? Do you have any knowledge about who did it?
- 5) Who is Sandy Banks? Re: Nturebatslast@yahoo.com. Who is this? Is this a false name used by someone you know?
- 6) Re: National Review magazine article on MSU fire. What is your philosophy on arson? Did you have a grand jury appearance in 1997? Here? Do you recall this?
- 7) You once supported nonviolence, have you had a change in philosophy?
- 8) Re: Boise Cascade fire, December 25, 1999. Are you familiar with this? Did you receive a communiqué about this? What was the source of that communiqué? Who did it? Did you know about it before it happened?
- 9) Why do you have no association now with Liberation Collective?
- 10) Re: U.S. Forest Industries fire. Did you issue a news advisory? What was the source of the communiqué? Who did it?
- 11) Do you know Darren Thurston? Is he an ELF member? Is he out

RESISTANCE #3

- of Canada? Did he send you an e-mail asking you to conduct a press release?
- 12) Re: Vail fire. What was the source of the communiqué? Who did it? Did anyone tell you before hand? Did you have any prior knowledge?
 - 13) Re: November 29, 1999 Bureau of land Management incident: Did you issue a news advisory? What was the source of the communiqué? Do you have any knowledge of the individuals involved? Did you have any prior knowledge?
 - 14) Re: July 21, 1997, Cavel West fire. What was the source of the communiqué? Did you have any prior knowledge of the incident? Did anyone tell you about the incident?
 - 15) Re: Arritola mink release. What was the source of the communiqué? Did you have any prior knowledge of the incident? Did anyone tell you about this incident?
 - 16) Re: February 9, 2000 University of Minnesota. On the Animal Liberation Frontline Information Service, why was there not an association with your name regarding this incident? What was the source of the communiqué? Did you have any prior knowledge of this incident? Who did it?
 - 17) Re: Schumacher Fur vandalism in Portland last week. Do you know anyone involved? Did you have any prior knowledge of this incident?
 - 18) Do you ever verify information you receive from the ELF/ALF?
 - 19) Re: letter received from someone in Monmouth, OR. Who is Lucas Szabo (sp?)? Did you respond to his letter? Did you encourage his activity in animal liberation? Do you know him?
 - 20) Re: aerial photographs of mink farms on the Oregon coast. Why were you in possession of these? Why were they taken?
 - 21) Re: e-mail stating that you wanted to close the Oregon Regional Primate Research Center at any cost. What are your intentions?
 - 22) Re: aerial photographs of the Oregon Regional Primate Research Center. What is the purpose of having these? Where did you get these?
 - 23) Re: vendor lists from the Oregon Regional Primate Research Center. What was the source of these? Why were you in possession of these?
 - 24) Re: videos of raids of laboratories. Why were you in possession of these?
 - 25) Re: e-mail from Josh Harper. Did he talk about a rabbit farm raid in Philomath, OR? Did he give specific information to you before

EARTH LIBERATION FRONT 1997-2002

- the raid? Didn't you give information seeking housing for rabbits on your website? Did Josh Harper live in the same house as you?
- 26) Do you know David Barbarash? Why did he e-mail you asking for photographs of ELF/ALF?
 - 27) Re: e-mail stating that you want to disrupt the Americans for Medical Progress. Do you want to disrupt this organization? What is your intention?
 - 28) Re: private computer e-mail list. Are you a member? Don't individuals have to be nominated by at least two people to be on the list? Do you know Alison Smith? Did you send an e-mail nominating Alison Smith to the list?
 - 29) What is your affiliation with People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA)? Doesn't PETA post bail for those committing violent acts? Did you get an offer for full-time employment for PETA?
 - 30) Do you know Katie Fedor? Did she e-mail you asking for your assistance in sending a press release in Illinois?
 - 31) Was the fire in Redmond at the same time they were slaughtering those wild horses there?
 - 32) Has anyone ever been harmed or killed in these incidents?
 - 33) Are there ever mice in building that burn down? Does this concern you?

*additional comments from the grand jury included, "Yeah, he's got no vocabulary!" and "I bet those shoes are leather!"

April 26, 2000:

State your name.

- 1) Are you aware of the order compelling testimony regarding the Boise Cascade fire? Do you recall appearing in front of Judge King? Are you aware the order is in full force?
- 2) Did you receive any written notice claiming responsibility for the Boise Cascade Fire?
- 3) Did you use the Animal Liberation Frontline Information Service website to promote the Boise Cascade fire?
- 4) Why is your name on the internet posting retrieved from the Frontline Information website?
- 5) How did you receive the communiqué?

RESISTANCE #3

- 6) Did you have any part in composing the press release?
- 7) Why did you send out the press release? Why was it newsworthy? Why was it important?
- 8) Was it your purpose by putting forth the press release to further the goals of the ELF in burning down the Boise Cascade office in Monmouth, OR?
- 9) Do you consider the Boise Cascade fire to be economic sabotage? What does economic sabotage mean to you in relation to Boise Cascade?
- 10) (The assistant attorney reads the ELF communiqué for the Boise Cascade fire.) Do you recall this communiqué?
- 11) When you received the communiqué did you consider it economic sabotage?
- 12) Did anyone assist you in writing the press release? If so, who?
- 13) In 1999 were you aware of anybody who resided in Monmouth, OR?
- 14) Were you still with Liberation Collective in December of 1999?
- 15) Did you communicate with Lucas Szabo (sp?)?
- 16) Was a search warrant executed on your home on February 2, 2000?
- 17) Did you receive or have any knowledge of the fire at Boise Cascade prior to it occurring?
- 18) Where did you send the press releases?
- 19) Do you support the burning of Boise Cascade?
- 20) Does your memory lapse concern you? Have you seen a doctor about your memory? How do you function on a day-to-day basis with such a memory problem?

ELF Supporter Arrested by Squad of Riot Police while Peacefully Demonstrating against the Grand Jury

When authorities are unable to capture underground guerrillas, they turn to repressing their public supporters. Those who work to ideologically support covert acts of sabotage have been finding their Constitutional rights cut short and have found themselves facing government harassment and false arrests.

On February 29th, 2000 after a demonstration against the grand jury convened in Portland, Oregon investigating several actions claimed by the ELF and the Animal Liberation Front (ALF), Leslie James Pickering

EARTH LIBERATION FRONT 1997-2002

was detained by an “Arrest Squad” consisting of twelve riot police in formation. Leslie was dragged away, held for over two hours and charged with “disorderly conduct,” a misdemeanor that holds a potential six-month jail sentence.

Officer Mack, who authored the report on the incident, stated that at several specific times throughout the demonstration Leslie allegedly disrupted the flow of traffic, both pedestrian and automotive. According to Officer Mack’s report, “Pickering’s action’s showed a total disregard for other citizens. He was blocking the sidewalk.... and then entering the roadway.... causing traffic to stop.”

While Leslie supports and at times engages in that type of action, during this particular demonstration his conduct was anything but “disorderly.” The incidents described, which occurred nearly an hour earlier, are referring to exact moments when Leslie put his foot of the curb to take a photograph or cross the street while no traffic was present.

When referring to why the arrest didn’t take place until the end of the demonstration, Officer Mack’s report states, “Pickering was not arrested initially as this action would only serve to incite the crowd which is probably what he wanted.”

The Portland police force knows that Leslie is an organizer of the resistance against this grand jury and recognize him as a force for change both locally and nationally. Leslie’s arrest on February 29 was an attempt to stifle the resistance against the grand jury and to once again harass those who struggle on the side of the natural environment.

The arrest was also part of a coordinated effort to distract attention from the unexpected release of grand jury witness Craig Rosebraugh’s from the proceedings. As Rosebraugh began to be lead out of the building, an agent of the FBI radioed down to officers outside that Rosebraugh was coming out. At that exact moment a suspicious man standing near Leslie was paged and left the demonstration as the riot police marched forward in formation and proceeded to surround Leslie and make the arrest. Few noticed moments later when Rosebraugh emerged from the building a free man, as the crowd had either scattered or was distracted by such a blatant form of political repression.

As this issue goes to print, Leslie faces a jury trial on charges relating

RESISTANCE #3

to this incident. If authorities have it their way, everyone who struggles on the side of the natural environment will be subdued as agencies and corporations continue to profit from decimating the Earth.

