Animal Rights Extremism Quarterly bulletin

<July - September 2009>

Caveat

Europol's ARE quarterly bulletin is based on contributions by the Member States and is intended for European Union (EU) law enforcement, as well as that of Switzerland and Norway.

The ARE Quarterly briefly summarises events related to Animal Rights Extremism, as contributed by Member States, as well as Switzerland and Norway, during the previous term. It does not contain personal data. There is no information from Open Sources.

ARE quarterly bulletin is compiled by Europol's CT OSINT Team. Comments and suggestions can be sent to:

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Key facts:

- > A total of 85 incidents were reported in the 3rd quarter of 2009
- > Twelve arson attacks were committed in seven countries. Eleven out of the twelve attacks were successful and one was attempted. The framed texts in this bulletin indicate the arson attacks.
- Improvised Incendiary Devices (IID) were used in seven of the twelve arson attacks. In five incidents there was no information on the potential use of an IID.
- > Three of the arson attacks happened in the framework of home visits.
- > The pharmaceutical company Böhringer Ingelheim was targeted in a total of 22 incidents in Hannover/Germany, as well as in another two incidents in Ingelheim/Germany where the company's headquarters are located.

Austria

Number of incidents: 2

19/07/2009

4981 Reichersberg

On 19/07/2009, at 04:40, a small van located in the grounds of the ESCADA Logistik GmbH Company, in 4981 Reichersberg, Kammer 35, was set on fire by an unknown perpetrator. The quick intervention of the fire brigade and the activation of the fire extinguishers installed in the building prevented the fire from spreading to the company building. The fire completely destroyed the vehicle. The logo 'ALF' was found close to the location of the fire. The fire was started with a rag soaked in flammable liquid, which was placed under the vehicle next to the front left-side tyre. The van that was destroyed in the fire was located in the eastern side of the outer wall of the office building next to the burned van.

03/08/2009

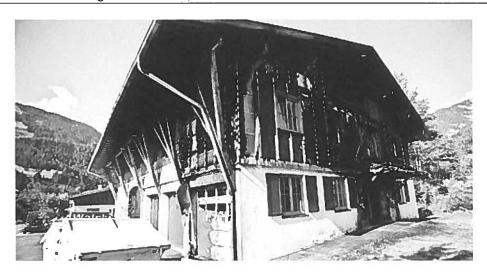
6653 Oberbach, Bach 36c

In the night of 2/3 August 2009, at around 03:15 a.m., unknown perpetrators committed an arson attack on

Bach. The house burnt down completely. The unknown perpetrator(s) used a pot, similar to a bucket, as fire activator. In the pot were placed several canisters filled with fire accelerant. The perpetrator(s) probably used a candle and wooden shavings to start the fire.

On 05/08/2009, a group called "Militant Forces Against Huntingdon" (MFAH) Austria claimed responsibility for the arson on Biteback magazine.

The financial damage runs to 400,000 Euro.





France

Number of incidents: 1

12/07/2009

Paris

In the night of 12 to 13 July 2009, all in all 4 cars were burnt down inside the parking garage of the professional academy of Butchers in Paris 12eme arrondissement. The incident was claimed on Biteback website on 30/07/2009.

Germany

Number of incidents: 42

01/07/2009

D-10178 Berlin

Breach of the peace at a public event of the ESCADA fashion company.

02/07/2009

D-30559 Hannover

Violation of the law on public gatherings.

The incident is related to the planned construction of an animal laboratory by Böhringer Ingelheim. Since 13/05/2009, there have been numerous incidents in the Hannover area.

02/07/2009

D-86152 Augsburg

Unknown perpetrators threw paving stones at the shop front of a shop selling furs. The amount of damage is unknown.

08/07/2009

D-14727 Premnitz

Two hunting platforms were damaged. The amount of damage is unknown.

11/07/2009

D-37073 Göttingen

Violation of the law on public gatherings during an anti-fur demonstration.

11/07/2009

D-55413 Weiler bei Bingen

A hunting platform was damaged. The amount of damage is unknown.

12/07/2009

D-30559 Hannover

The building of the Veterinary School was defaced with graffiti. The amount of damage is unknown. The incident is related to the planned construction of an animal laboratory by Böhringer Ingelheim. Since 13/05/2009, there have been numerous incidents in the Hannover area.

12/07/2009

D-93059 Regensburg

Contamination of a fur shop with an unknown skin-irritating substance.

The entrance to a shop selling fur was contaminated with an invisible, colourless skin-irritating substance. On touching the substance, the shop's owner and his son suffered mild skin irritation and burns in the face.

13/07/2009

D-55413 Weiler bei Bingen

A hunting platform was damaged. The amount of damage is unknown.

23/07/2009

D-30539 Hannover

Two persons working on the planned buildings of Böhringer were prevented from working by 5 ,squatters'. The incident is related to the planned construction of an animal laboratory by Böhringer Ingelheim. Since 13/05/2009, there have been numerous incidents in the Hannover area

23/07/2009

D-52066 Aachen

The entrance to an animal park was damaged with "Animal Liberation front" graffiti. The amount of damage is unknown.

24/07/2009

D-55296 Gau-Bischofsheim

A hunting platform was defaced with graffiti. The amount of damage is unknown. Further, a steel bar with a sharpened tip was buried near the platform, which resulted in a female passer-by being injured in the foot. It is believed that the iron was planted by animal rights activists, in order to damage the tyres of a hunter's vehicle.

25/07/2009

D-37073 Göttingen

Violation of the law on public gatherings during an anti-fur demonstration.

09/08/2009

D-30559 Hannover

Two unknown perpetrators damaged the entrance to the Böhringer Ingelheim construction site, so that it could no longer be opened from outside.

The incident is related to the planned construction of an animal laboratory by Böhringer Ingelheim. Since 13/05/2009, there have been numerous incidents in the Hannover area.

09/08/2009

D-30559 Hannover

The fence of the veterinary school was damaged. The amount of damage is unknown. The incident is related to the planned construction of an animal laboratory by Böhringer Ingelheim. Since 13/05/2009, there have been numerous incidents in the Hannover area.

12/08/2009

D-30167 Hannover

On three occasions, there was resistance against enforcement officers trying to break up a demonstration at the invaded Böhringer grounds.

The incident is related to the planned construction of an animal laboratory by Böhringer Ingelheim. Since 13/05/2009, there have been numerous incidents in the Hannover area.

12/08/2009

D-30451 Hannover

Graffiti was sprayed on a building on the Böhringer grounds. The amount of damage is unknown.

The incident is related to the planned construction of an animal laboratory by Böhringer Ingelheim. Since 13/05/2009, there have been numerous incidents in the Hannover area.

14/08/2009

Stadtgebiet Hannover

Following the evacuation of the Böhringer construction site, there were 11 instances of damage by graffiti on public buildings and ways in the area of Hannover.

The incident is related to the planned construction of an animal laboratory by Böhringer Ingelheim. Since 13/05/2009, there have been numerous incidents in the Hannover area.

15/08/2009

D-30163 Hannover

A butcher's vehicles were defaced with graffiti "Fleisch ist Mord" (Meet is Murder) and "Mörder" (Murderer); the amount of damage is unknown.

15/08/2009

D-88400 Biberach

Violation of the law on public gatherings during a demonstration against Böhringer.

15/08/2009

Stadtgebiet Hannover

Three cases of house facades in Hannover defaced with graffiti:

"No Böhringer", "Vegan", "Fuck Böhringer". The amount of damage is unknown.

The incident is related to the planned construction of an animal laboratory by Böhringer Ingelheim. Since 13/05/2009, there have been numerous incidents in the Hannover area.

16/08/2009

D-30655 Hannover

Graffiti "Artgerecht ist nur die Freiheit! ALF" was seemingly randomly spray painted on the garage walls of a private residence. The amount of damage is unknown. The incident is related to the planned construction of an animal laboratory by Böhringer Ingelheim. Since 13/05/2009, there have been numerous incidents in the Hannover area. The owner of the garage has no known link to Böhringer.

17/08/2009

D-30419 Hannover

Graffiti "Böhringer unrentabel machen" was seemingly randomly spray painted on a house wall. The amount of damage is unknown.

The incident is related to the planned construction of an animal laboratory by Böhringer Ingelheim. Since 13/05/2009, there have been numerous incidents in the Hannover area.

19/08/2009

D-30926 Seelze

Arson attack on a butcher's vehicle. There is no evidence that fire accelerants were used. The amount of damage is unknown.

22/08/2009

D-30559 Hannover

Serious breach of the peace

16 persons invaded the construction site of the planned research facility of Böhringer Ingelheim.

24/08/2009

D-30159 Hannover

The mayor of Hannover received a threatening letter, apparently linked to the planned Böhringer construction work, since there was an informative exhibition on the matter at the city hall at the time.

24/08/2009

D-30419 Hannover

The windows of a public building were broken. The amount of damage is unknown. The incident is related to the planned construction of an animal laboratory by Böhringer Ingelheim. Since 13/05/2009, there have been numerous incidents in the Hannover area.

25/08/2009

D-55218 Ingelheim

Slander / Verbal abuse

Flyers were distributed near Böhringer. The incident is linked to the planned construction of an animal research facility by Böhringer. The company's headquarters are in Ingelheim.

26/08/2009

D-30167 Hannover

Attempted arson of a city truck and damage to a house wall with graffiti. The amount of damage is unknown.

The truck was loaded with flammable rubbish (e.g. mattresses); under it had placed two 1.5 liter PET bottles filled with a yellowish liquid.

Investigations showed that the liquid was a fire accelerant (probably petrol). One of the bottles was melted by a third. It is possible that the perpetrators tried to ignite the PET bottle with a fuse soaked in accelerant but did not succeed.

The incident is related to the planned construction of an animal laboratory by Böhringer Ingelheim. Since 13/05/2009, there have been numerous incidents in the Hannover area.

26/08/2009

D-55218 Ingelheim

Slander / Verbal abuse

Flyers were distributed near Böhringer. The incident is linked to the planned construction of an animal research facility by Böhringer. The company's headquarters are in Ingelheim.

26/08/2009

D-86150 Augsburg

Graffiti "Pelz ist Mord" was spray painted on the shop window of a furniture shop. A possible motive is he fact that the shop sells leather furniture. The amount of damage is unknown.

27/08/2009

D-30625 Hannover

The walls of an apartment building were spray painted with graffiti. Construction foam was sprayed on vehicles parked in front of the building. The building houses the offices of a company that has undertaken construction work for Böhringer. The incident is related to the planned construction of an animal laboratory by Böhringer Ingelheim. Since 13/05/2009, there have been numerous incidents in the Hannover area.

04/09/2009

D-25548 Kellinghausen

Locks were glued, graffiti.

The locks of the location of a pet market were glued. The words: "Tiere sind keine Ware" (Animals are no goods) were spray painted on a wall.

05/09/2009

D-72072 Tübingen

Graffiti on circus vehicle; the amount of damage is unknown.

06/09/2009

D-30599 Hannover

A banner with the inscription "Fuck You Böhringer" was hung next to the Böhringer grounds. The incident is related to the planned construction of an animal laboratory by Böhringer Ingelheim. Since 13/05/2009, there have been numerous incidents in the Hannover area.

07/09/2009

D-04758 Oschatz

The walls of a laying hen battery were spray painted with graffiti. The amount of damage is unknown.

07/09/2009

D-30159 Hannover

Violation of the law on public gatherings.

The incident is related to the planned construction of an animal laboratory by Böhringer Ingelheim. Since 13/05/2009, there have been numerous incidents in the Hannover area.

09/09/2009

D-30159 Hannover

Breach of peace during a demonstration at the Hannover town hall. The demonstration protested against the planned construction of an animal laboratory by Böhringer Ingelheim.

11/09/2009

D-30625 Hannover

Breach of the peace against a demolition company which works for Böhringer Ingelheim.

11/09/2009

D-30851 Langenhagen

A meat factory's truck was damaged by fire. There is no evidence of the use of a fire accelerant. .

Possible connection to the incidents against Böhringer. The damage amounts to 100.000 Euro.

12/09/2009

D-30459 Hannover

The wall of a primary school was spray painted with "Fuck Böhringer". The amount of damage is unknown.

23/09/2009

D-30539 Hannover

In the night, unknown perpetrators threw stones at the security personnel on the Böhringer grounds.



Italy

Number of incidents: 8

03/08/2009

Manerbio (BS)

In the night of 3 August, unknown perpetrators, having entered the hare farm "Ceresotto" in Manerbio (BS), liberated about twenty hares and wrote "BASTA CACCIA - ANIMALI LIBERI".

18/09/2009

Lodi

Unknown perpetrators painted the windows of a shop called: "Max" with orange paint.

18/09/2009

Faenza (RA)

Nine young individuals went into a shop called: "MAX&Co." They introduced themselves as members of animal rights groups before damaging the fur in the shop with eggs and wheat flour.

18/09/2009

Lugo (RA)

Ten young individuals went into the shop called: "MAX&Co." They introduced themselves as members of animal rights groups before damaging the fur in the shop with eggs and wheat flour. The incident showed the same MO as in the incident in Faenza on 18/09/2009.

21/09/2009

Rho (MI)

Unknown perpetrators damaged the fashion shop called "MAX&Co". In addition they spray painted the words "Assassini basta pwllicce" (Killers stop furs).

21/09/2009

Cusano Milanino (MI)

Unknown perpetrators damaged the windows of the shop "Max Mara" by (spray) painting the words: "Venditori di cadaveri....basta pellicce" (sellers of dead...stop furs) on it.

22/09/2009

Castel di Sangro (AQ)

The owner of a mink farm reported to the Carabinieri that 70 to 80 mink escaped from their cages. They could be found in the forest later on.

29/09/2009

Albinea (RE)

Unknown perpetrators spread diesel oil in front of the gates of the company "Marmotti" (Italian plus size fashion company). Further on they distributed flyers saying "NO PELLICE" (No fur). During the same evening a secondary attack occurred on the home address of This attack involved the use of eggs and paint vandalising the house wall.



Luxemburg

Number of incidents: 2

09/09/2009

L-3447 Dudelange, 1, rue Pierre et Marie Curie

Unknown members of the 'Animal Rights Militia' threw an IID in the garden near the house of an employee of BDO Luxemburg, a subsidiary of Anchor Sub Funding Ltd. Moreover, a wall of his house was spray painted with slogans like 'SCUM - DROP HLS OR ELSE' and 'ARRETEZ AVEC HLS OU MOURREZ' (Drop HLS or die).

The perpetrators claimed that the victim must stop giving loans to Huntingdon Life Sciences / Life Sciences Research.

The financial damage runs up to 2.000 Euro.

09/09/2009

L-5322 Contern, 10, Op der Haangels

Unknown perpetrators of the 'Animal Rights Militia' burned down the car of an employee of BDO Luxemburg, a subsidiary of Anchor Sub Funding Ltd.

The perpetrators claimed that the victim must stop giving loans to Huntingdon Life Sciences / Life Sciences Research. The financial damage runs up to 30.000 Euro.



The Netherlands

Number of incidents: 4

03/08/2009

At the beginning of August, the shops which sell fur received a letter offering the "option" "Stop selling fur and sign this 'contract" otherwise we will start a special campaign to take care that your store is fur free".

These incidents are not displayed on the map.

07/08/2009

Wageningen

Graffiti scratched into the building "Lumen" of the Wageningen University: "ALF watching".

27/08/2009

Uitgeest

Fight between activist and employee of the Belly Wien circus.

01/09/2009

Hilversum

The babysitter of a former was tackled by a person on a motor cycle about the behaviour of her (former) boss.



Sweden

Number of incidents: 2

09/08/2009

Skellefteå

The Greyhound Racing clubhouse was burnt to the ground by DBF (Djurens Befrielsefront).

16/07/2009

Umea

The clubhouse of a hunting club (Umeå Jaktskytteklubb) was burnt down outside the town of Umeå. Initials of the Swedish Animal Liberation Front, DBF (Djurens Befrielsefront), were painted on the club's sign outside the premises. This action was not directed against a certain person, but against the hunting club.



Spain

Number of incidents: 1

11/09/2009

Maranchón / Guadalajara

An arson attack was carried out by ARE activists in a bullfighting arena. The fire started by delay device, resulting in serious damage.

Graffiti claiming responsibility was spray painted on the arena's walls. Moreover the incident was claimed by Frente Liberacion Animal – ALF (Animal Liberation Front in Spain) on the following websites: www.lahaine.org, www.directaction.info and www. accionvegana.org. Last but not least a video of the preparatory work of this incident can be found on www.youtube.com. It is named: "ALF arson against bullring in Spain".



Switzerland

Number of incidents: 5

16/07/2009

Risch / Canton Zug

On the night of 16-17/07/2009, a small chapel in the village of Risch (Canton Zug/Switzerland) was smeared with typical SHAC slogans. The texts were directed at The chapel is located very close to house. The perpetrators are unknown. This incident was not claimed on any of the respective ARE websites.

27/07/2009

Chur / Canton Graubünden

On the night of 27-28/07/2009 two graves were desecrated at HOF cemetery in Chur (Canton Graubünden/Switzerland).

The letters "MFAH" (Militant Forces against Huntington Life Sciences) were sprayed on the gravestone of family grave. Two wooden crosses were put underneath both with the messages,

'and is birthday.

The second grave was opened and the urn of mother was dug out and stolen. The words "Drop HLS now" were sprayed on the gravestone. The perpetrators are unknown. The urn has not been found to date.

On 18/08/2009 the Novartis Company received e-mail letters from SHAC in which amongst other things, they claimed to have taken the urn of mother.

06/08/2009

Basel

Three similar letters were sent to three different Swiss companies (Actelion, Syngenta and Novartis) demanding that they sever the links with HLS. The letters were posted in the Netherlands and arrived in Switzerland on 12 August 2009.

14/08/2009

Bern

An attack was committed at the office of Novartis by use of butyric acid. There was acknowledgement by presumed left-wing activists to support the assaults on but no tags or references were found, as typically seen amongst animal rights extremists.

15/08/2009

Zürich

A member of the Harlan Laboratories Ltd. Advisory board, which also conducts animal research for Novartis, received an intimidating phone call. A male voice said: "Die Stunde der Abrechnung wird kommen, du wirst für deine Schandtaten büssen." (The day of reckoning will come; you will pay for your infamous actions.) The caller used a public phone booth where the police could secure DNA residues.



United Kingdom

Number of incidents: 18

12/07/2009

'The Big Weekend', Parkers Piece, Cambridge

The two protestors were asked to move. One of the protestors then took their placard and continued to cause a disturbance. Following several complaints from the public, this protestor was arrested under Section 5 of the Public Order Act 1986.

12/07/2009

Thermo Fisher Scientific, Loughborough, Leicestershire

Thermo Fisher Scientific received a malicious letter addressed to an ex-employee.

15/07/2009

Sequani Ltd, Ledbury, Herefordshire

One protestor was given a warning and later charged with obstruction of police and aggravated trespass.

30/07/2009

Simmons & Simmons, CityPoint, Ropemaker Street, London

An envelope delivered to Simmons & Simmons contained white powder which, when examined, was found to be glucose powder. In 2007 the company became solicitors for Oxford University. Previous correspondence has taken place between SPEAK and the company.

06/08/2009

Binbrook Hill Farm, Market Rasen, Lincolnshire

A suspected petrol bomb was thrown through an office window and burned a hole in the carpet. This property is listed as a SHAC site and has links with Sartorius.

09/08/2009

Hy Fly Game Hatcheries, Pilling Lane, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancashire

An insecure gate was opened by an unknown person allowing a number of ducks to be released from an enclosure.

09/08/2009

Western Wildfowl, Cefngwyn Hall, Pennant, Ceredigion, Wales

Person(s) unknown entered the game bird (duck) hatchery and released chicks by removing perimeter barriers surrounding the hatchery.

12/08/2009

Home Address, Sparrowhawk Way, Hartford, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire Criminal damage to a car window.

The victim is a senior scientist at HLS. No other crimes in area of similar nature, nothing stolen from vehicle and no signs of entry. It is not known if the vehicle was targeted due to the occupation of the owner or if this was random criminal damage.

17/08/2009

Vion UK, Lanark Road West, Edinburgh, Scotland

Poultry rearing sheds were entered by forcing padlocks. The environmental controls were tampered with resulting in the loss of approximately 136,000 birds.

The modus operandi appears to have required specialist knowledge of the ventilation system. At this stage there is no indication that the incident is connected to animal rights extremism although investigations are at an early stage.

26/08/2009

Welsh Assembly Government, Pierhead Street, Cardiff, Wales

The letter was addressed to an an addressed to an an addressed that if they found any badger traps they would be sabotaged.

28/08/2009

Ciba Vision (Novartis), Hedge End, Southamton, Hampshire

One protestor was arrested under Section 3 of the Protection from Harrassment Act 1997 as they were in breach of an injunction.

28/08/2009

Fillios Shoot, Doddings, Wareham, Dorset

Pheasants were released and pen destroyed.

08/09/2009

Cefngwyn Hall, Aberaeron, Cerdeigion

Game birds were released overnight from the property.

09/09/2009

Oxford University Biomedical Research Centre, Oxford

A menacing letter was sent to Oxford Biomedical Research Centre by an unknown source.

09/09/2009

Timsbury Village Hall, Timsbury, Bath, Avon

The Village Hall wall was spray painted. Overnight, red graffiti was painted on the wall of the village hall, claiming that HLS is a "puppy killer".

10/09/2009

HLS employee, on holiday in Somerset

A malicious telephone call was received by an HLS employee whilst on holiday in Somerset.

15/09/2009

Cancer Research UK, London

A suspect package containing believed human faeces was received. Not known if this incident is related to animal rights extremism or related to ongoing matters within the organisation.

26/09/2009

Manor Farm, Ockbrook, Derbyshire

Glass bottle smashed on drive of private farm on a shooting estate. Unknown persons smashed glass bottle filled with paint on the drive of a private farm that has a shooting estate. League Against Cruel Sports (LACS) leaflets were left behind.

