

KNOWLEDGE PRODUCT

Animal Rights Extremism









Quarterly Bulletin

January – March 2011


The Hague, [01 July 2011]

This Europol product aims at sharing knowledge, which is available at Europol

Table of Contents

1	INTRODUCTION	3
1.1	BACKGROUND.....	3
1.2	AIMS AND OBJECTIVES	3
2	INCIDENTS IN MEMBER STATES	4
2.1	 AUSTRIA.....	4
2.2	 FINLAND	5
2.3	 FRANCE.....	6
2.4	 GERMANY	8
2.5	 ITALY	11
2.6	 SPAIN.....	13
2.7	 UNITED KINGDOM	14
3	CORRIGENDUM	15
3.1	 SPAIN.....	15
4	FINDINGS.....	16

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

The increase of Animal Rights Extremism (ARE) incidents in Europe for the past 5 years has forced EU MS to take this type of criminality into consideration.

During the Conference on Animal Rights Extremism (ARE) held in Stockholm, Sweden (14-16 May 2007), participating EU countries: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, and Sweden agreed that there is an urgent need to monitor ARE related incidents across Europe.

It was decided that ARE incidents should be contributed to EUROPOL by all EU Member States, and Norway and Switzerland.

EUROPOL compiles all these incidents in a document called the ARE QUARTERLY BULLETIN.

The European Police Chiefs Task Force in their meetings (October/November 2007) expressed a positive approach to this project.

1.2 Aims and Objectives

This bulletin aims at reporting ARE incidents from the competent authorities of EU MS, Switzerland and Norway only. It will not be supplemented by Open Source material. Furthermore it does not contain personal data.

2 Incidents in Member States

2.1 Austria

Number of incidents: 1

07/02/2011

2070 Retz, Riede: Im See

Five hunting towers were damaged by unknown perpetrators.



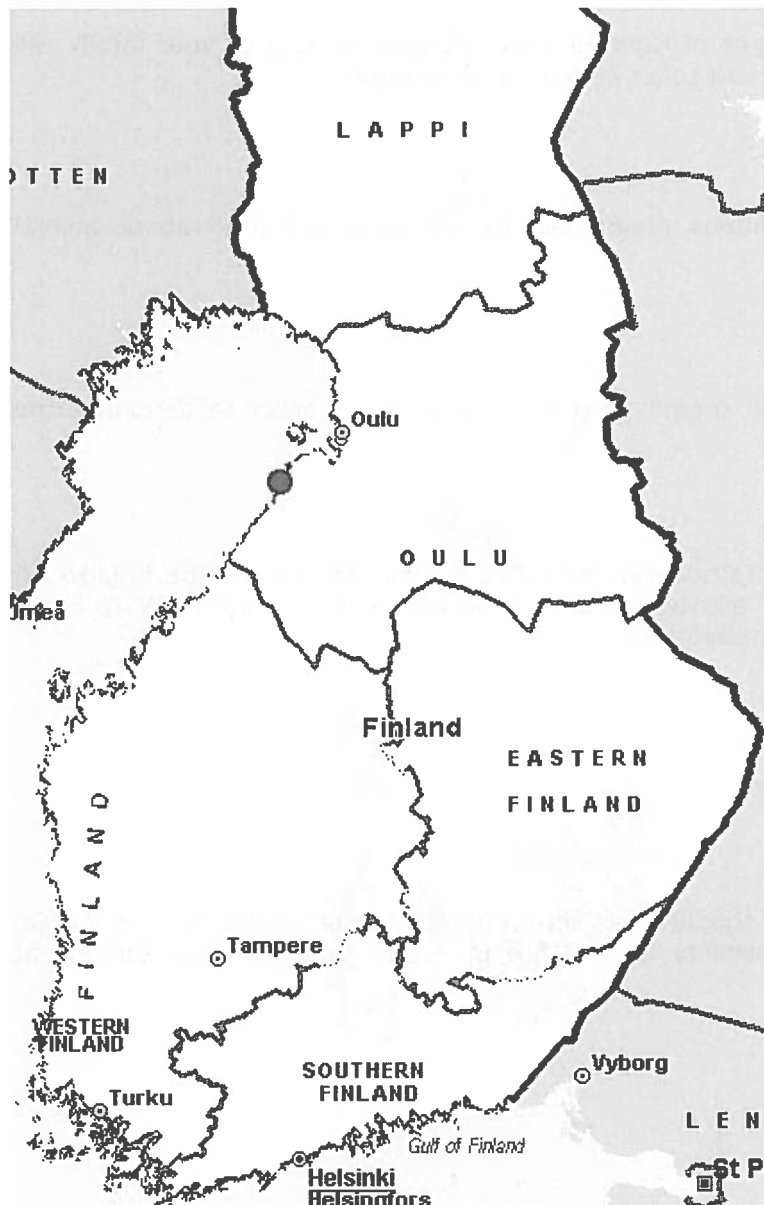
2.2 Finland

Number of incidents: 1

03/01/2011

North West Coast of Finland

Unknown individuals illegally visited a mink farm in the North West coast of Finland. Nothing has been damaged, or stolen in the farm.



2.3 France

Number of incidents: 7

15/01/2011

St. Pierre d'Amilly (17)

Arson in a factory that treats and dries orytag (race of rabbits bred for fur) skins.

21/01/2011

Montrouge (92)

Graffiti at the residence of an employee of Nomura bank: «Leave Nomura or your family will pay». Signed by ARM and ALF. Home visit to an employee of Nomura.

29/01/2011

Chapelle d' Andaine (61)

A mink breeder received an anonymous phone call by someone enquiring about animal farming. Suspicious behaviour.

12/02/2011

Senonches (28)

Approx. 20 militant members of DDA organised a hunt sabotage in order to denounce the practice of hunting.

16/02/2011

Charles River Laboratory

A client file of the Charles River laboratory was published on the Internet on the English AR website NAVA. The aim was to incite activists to attack the lab's clients. Incitement to home visit, harassment and malicious communication.

06/03/2011

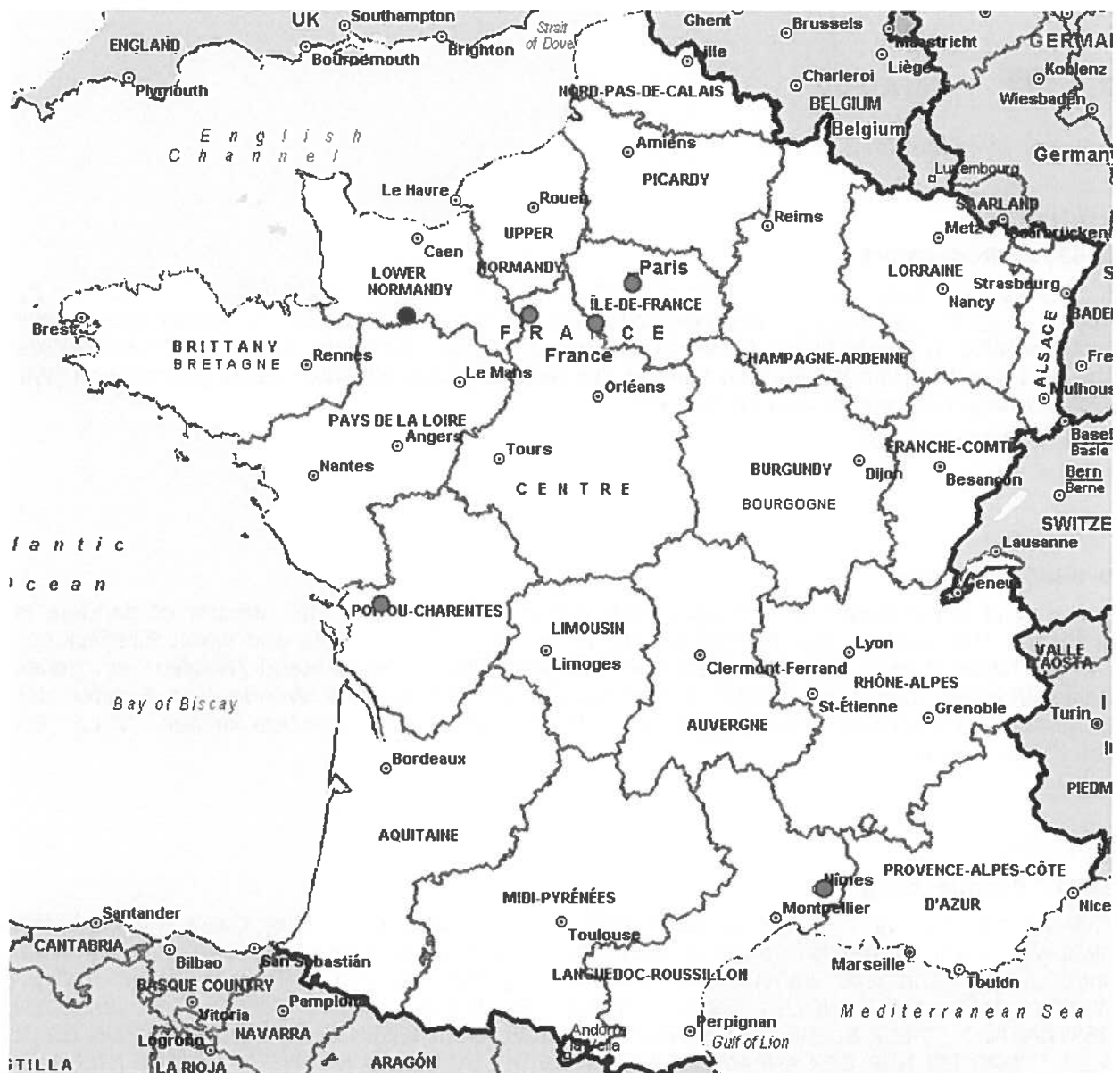
Rodilhan (30)

Anti-bullfighting graffiti on house walls.

24/03/2011

Boinville-le-Gaillard (78)

A vehicle owned by a slaughterhouse supplier was set on fire in the company's parking lot. On 31 March 2011, ALF claimed responsibility for the fire in « Bite Back ». Trucks torched at slaughterhouse supplier.



2.4 Germany

Number of incidents: 20

03/01/2011

D-63322 Rödermark

A fur shop was spray painted. The amount of damage is unknown. The incident was claimed by ALF on www.directaction.info and www.biteback.de: "In der Nacht vom 3. Januar haben zwei Pelzgeschäfte in Deutschland (Hessen) ein neues Design erhalten. Das Wort MORD wurde jeweils 10 mal auf die Wände und Fenster der Geschäfte mit blutroter Farbe geschrieben. Wir unterschrieben mit einem kleinen "A.L.F."

Bis jeder Käfig leer ist.

A.L.F."

03/01/2011



D-64807 Dieburg

The wall of a fur shop was damaged with graffiti saying "ALF". The amount of damage is unknown. The incident was claimed by ALF on www.directaction.info and www.biteback.de: "In der Nacht vom 3. Januar haben zwei Pelzgeschäfte in Deutschland (Hessen) ein neues Designerhalten. Das Wort MORD wurde jeweils 10 mal auf die Wände und Fenster der Geschäfte mit blutroter Farbe geschrieben. Wir unterschrieben mit einem kleinen "A.L.F." Bis jeder Käfig leer ist.

A.L.F."

08/01/2011

14776 Brandenburg

The window of a fur shop was damaged by unknown perpetrators. They threw a glass bottle filled with unknown liquids into the window. The amount of damage is unknown. In front of the shop ca. 50 handmade leaflets were found having the following written on them: "TÖTET WEITER TIER...&WIR HOLEN EUCH", "PELZ IST MORD A.L.F." "TIERQUÄLER WERDEN BESTRAFT..." , "PELZ &LEDER IST MORD! SCHLIEßEN SIE DIESEN SHOP ODER WIR TUN ES !!! A.L.F." "DAS IST NUR DER ANFANG". "WENN FISCHES SCHREIEN KÖNNTE, WÜRD NICHT NIEMAND MEHR ANGEL  '  THE NEXT A.L.F."

The incident was claimed on www.directaction.info: "Police have reported that the window of a fur and leather goods shop in the town of Brandenburg an der Havel was destroyed early in the morning of January 8. A glass bottle was thrown through the window. Damage is estimated at €1.800."

17/01/2011

D-73614 Schorndorf

Four hunting pulpits were damaged.

18/01/2011

D-28205 Bremen

Circus advertisement boards were damaged. The amount of damage is unknown.

02/02/2011

D-21261 Welle Kampen

Circus advertisement boards were damaged. The amount of damage is unknown.

03/02/2011

D-21256 Handeloh

Three hunting pulpits were damaged. The amount of damage is unknown.

03/02/2011

D-64807 Dieburg

The windows and walls of a fur shop as well as its truck were damaged with black graffiti saying "Mord" (murder) and "ALF". The amount of damage is unknown.

04/02/2011

D-63322 Rödermark

The front and the windows of a fur shop were damaged with graffiti saying "Mord" (murder).

07/02/2011

D-23569 Lübeck

Three hunting pulpits were damaged.

11/02/2011

D-50999 Köln

The entrance and the front of a butcher's shop were damaged with graffiti saying: "ALF" and "meat sucks".

18/02/2011

D-45130 Essen

The windows and the front of a fur shop were damaged by a plastic bag filled with paint.

18/02/2011

D-58119 Hagen

Five hunting pulpits were damaged. The amount of damage is unknown.

21/02/2011

D-58769 Nachrodt

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

02/03/2011

D-81675 München

In connection with the judicial proceedings against 11 ARE activists in Vienna, a trespass at the Austrian consulate was committed.

03/03/2011

D-23569 Lübeck

Between 28/02 and 08/03/2011 a total of 10 hunting towers were damaged by either overturning or sawing.

07/03/2011

D-04552 Borna

The front of a meat company was damaged by graffiti. The amount of damage is unknown.

10/03/2011

D-14532 Kleinmachnow

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

12/03/2011

D-12.03.2011

The private house of the owner of a chicken fattening farm was damaged with graffiti. The amount of damage is unknown.

17/03/2011

D-73262 Reichenbach

Five hunting towers were damaged.



2.5 Italy

Number of incidents: 4

03/01/2011

Parma

Electronic equipment

The incident was subsequently claimed by "A.L.F. – Animal Liberation Front" in an anonymous letter sent to local newspapers and the website www.directaction.info.

On 3 January 2011, unknown perpetrators entered the premises of the Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale della Lombardia e dell'Emilia "Bruno Ubertini" and damaged electronic equipment, causing damage of approx. 10,000 euro. On the building's outer wall they wrote: "AZIONE DIRETTA A CAPODANNO...AZIONE TUTTO L'ANNO".

10/01/2011

Ceremate (Como)

Unknown perpetrators, probably Animal Rights Extremists, freed geese and ducks from a local breeding farm.

24/01/2011

Campo San Martino (PD)

In the night, unknown perpetrators entered the mink farm PEGORARO and freed approx. 50 animals from a cage. On the building's outer wall they wrote slogans for freeing animals and the logo of "A.L.F.". The incident was subsequently claimed by "A.L.F." on the website www.informa-azione.info.

13/02/2011

Milano

Unknown perpetrators wrote on the walls of a building on Via Uberti n. 41, residence of [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: "Assassini!! Ora 6 nel mirino...muori [REDACTED] assassini..crepa [REDACTED].okkio al cranio!! Bastardo laper..basta omicidi di animali".



2.6 Spain

Number of incidents: 1

18/02/2011

CELLA (TERUEL)

Anti-bullfighting graffiti in the Plaza de Toros.

The graffiti was in white and black and in different fonts, which means that there were at least two perpetrators. The graffiti was on the gate, as well as on the inside of doors.



2.7 United Kingdom

The UK is currently restructuring the three domestic extremism units, the National Public Order Unit, National Domestic Extremism Team and National Extremism Tactical Coordination Unit. As of 1st June 2011 the governance of these units moved to the Metropolitan Police Service under a new single command. The new unit is the National Domestic Extremism Unit.

This new unit will be based at [REDACTED] London and the merger is due to be completed by mid July 2011.

In the short term there will be a temporary interruption to the products and services we provide. This is due to IT and building works, however we hope to resume a regular and more intelligence led service once these issues have been resolved.

3 Corrigendum

The following incidents happened throughout the fourth quarter of 2010 but were contributed to O4 at a later stage:

3.1 Spain

24/10/2010

Vizono-Abegondo a Coruna

Sabotage action that took place in a mink farm in Vizono-Abegondo (A CORUÑA) called COTO GRANDE. Some 500 minks were released by animal rights activists. All of these minks were finally returned to this farm since they did not actually leave the compound.

03/11/2010

Albalate del Arzobispo (Teruel)

Sabotage action that took place in a mink farm in Albalate del Arzobispo (TERUEL) called PIEL DE ALBALATE. Close to 200 minks were released by activists. Most of them were attacked by the dogs guarding the compound they were held in.

03/11/2010

SANT FELIU DE CODINES (BARCELONA)

Liberation of 36 dogs bred for experiments at the company ISOSQUIMEN S.L (related to HARLAN INTERFAUNA). The Catalan autonomous police investigated.

4 Findings

- A total of 34 incidents were reported to the police in the 1st quarter of 2011. The amount of incidents decreased from the 4th quarter of 2010 (59 incidents plus 3 – see Corrigendum). One reason for this can be seen in the missing contribution from the UK.
- One incident was reported as arson. Compared to 11 reported arson attacks in the 4th quarter of 2010, this shows a significant decrease. The arson reported happened in France. There was no further information on the modus operandi contributed. *The framed text in this document indicates the arson attacks.*
- More than half of all incidents (58.82%) were related to anti hunting or anti fur campaigns. Compared to the total amount of incidents the anti fur campaigns are on the rise for the last nine months. From only 4.4% in the third quarter of 2010 the amount of anti fur incidents increased to 16.9% in the 4th quarter and again to 26.47% in the first quarter of 2011. A significant increase of cases can also be seen in anti hunting campaigns. The cases increased from 3.8% in the 3rd quarter of 2010 to 15.3% in the 4th quarter and 32,35% in the first three months of 2011. Campaigns with an antivivisection background run up to 4 cases which cover 11,76% of the total.
- 12 incidents have reportedly been claimed by the Animal Liberation Front (ALF). One incident was reported as being claimed by the National Anti Vivisection Alliance (NAVA). The claims were made via Internet on either www.directaction.info or BiteBack.