Animal Rights Extremism Quarterly bulletin

July - September 2008

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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Italy

Number of incidents: 4

06/09/2008

Rome

During the day, an employee of "ESCADA Italia s.r.l." registered a complaint with the police because, on 2 September, unknown individuals had written her name and surname followed by "ASSASSINA!" on the walls of her residence. The same employee also mentioned that, while browsing the Internet, on the website "FINO ALLA FINE. INFO", she had found a document with the title "COLPITA DIPENDENTE ESCADA", responsibility for which was claimed by the "ANIMAL ANGRY BRIGADE". She also mentioned that, on 3 September, unknown individuals broke into the cupboard containing employee information at the company's Roman seat and that they had put up insulting posters in the raea around her house.

24/09/2008

San Martino Buon Albergo (VR)

On 24 September, unknown individuals entered the mink farm of San Martino Buon Albergo (VR) and freed approx. 3,000 animals, claiming responsibility for the act with the logo ALF (in June and October 2006, the4 company had been victim to 2 similar episodes – liberation of animals and arson of two lorries).

25/09/2008

Gomarolo di Conco (Vicenza)

On 25 September, in Gomarolo di Conco (VI), unknown individuals freed approx. 9,000 minks damaging 3,000 cages, causing damage estimated at approx. €250,000.

30/09/3008

San Martino Buon Albergo (VR)

On 30 September, an animal extremist group once more entered the mink farm of San Martino Buon Albergo and, having immobilised the guardian, freed all animals that had been recaptured following the earlier attack. No group has claimed responsibility for the attack.

Spain

Number of incidents: 9

05/09/2008

Ahigal de los Aceiteros (Salamanca)

Damage to the grave and theft of the bust of the bullfighter

Responsibility was claimed on the website www.acionvegana.org by the Iniciativa Charra Contra La Desaparición Del Tauricidio.

06/09/2008

Santoña (Cantabria)

Demonstration by anti-bullfighting groups.

14/09/2008

Tordesillas (Valladolid)

Demonstration organised by PACMA (Partido Antitaurino Contra El Maltrato Animal).

18/09/2008

Galapagar (Madrid)

The residence and dry cleaners' owned by the family of the bullfighter were defaced with the word "ASESINOS".

20/09/2008

Algamesí (Valencia)

Demonstration by anti-bullfighting groups.

21/09/2008

Negreira (La Coruña)

Demonstration by the group Galicia Mejor Sin Toros.

30/09/2008

Plaza Del Pilar (Zaragoza)

Group Animanaturalis

Demonstration in defence of the animals, 50 participants carrying signs STOP A LAS CORRIDAS DE TOROS.

31/08/2008

Tordesillas (Valladolid)

Against bullfighting

CONVOCA: ACTYMA, ALDEBA, AMNISTIA ANIMAL, ANIMANATURALIS, ASOCIA-CION PROTECTORA DEL CONEJO, ASOCIACION PROTECTORA HUELLAS, AVAT, COLECTIVO ANDALUZ CONTRA EL MALTRATO ANIMAL, CAS, COORDINADORA I ASESORA DE PROTECTORES D'ANIMALES, CLUB ANIMALISTA GALILEO 13, CYD SANTA MARÍA, EQUANIMAL, FUNDACIÓN ALTARRIBA, FAADA, GALGOS SIN FRONTERAS, ECOLOGISTAS EN ACCIÓN DE LEÓN, EDITORIAL TORO DE HIERRO, LIBERA!, LOS JÓVENES VERDES, ONG SODEPAZ, PACMA, PLATAFORMA SOS, PROTECTORA AMIGOS DE MILORD, PROTECTORA AMIGOS DE LOS ANIMALES DE GUARDO, LAS MERINDADES, PROTECTORA SCOOBY, PROTECTORA BRAGADO (ARGENTINA), PROYECTO GRAN SIMIO, and VIDA UNIVERSAL.

17/08/2008
Calahorra (La Rioja)
CONVOCA: ANIMANATURALIS
Anti circus/rodeo

Germany

Number of incidents: 20

05/07/2008

D-10117 Berlin (Mitte)

Fur Retail

Violation of Assemblies and Processions Act during a demonstration against an "ESCADA-Store"

Anti fur

08/07/2008

D-14169 Berlin (Grunewald)

Hunting tower, estimation of damage is unknown Sprayed: Jagd=Mord ALF-symbol Anti hunting

12/07/2008

D-55413 Niederrheimbach

Hunting tower was set on fire Anti hunting

21/07/2008

D-24256 Schlesen

Theft (liberation) of animals claimed on Bite Back (directaction.info) in an anonymous communiqué (translation):

"We could smell the horrible stench long before we reached the fur farm in Schlesen near Kiel on the night of July 22, 2008! The animals were locked-up four to a cage! The whole farm was in terrible condition! There were many we could not help this night! But we released at least 2000 mink! We gave them a chance to escape. A chance is better because in a few months they will be killed by the farmer. These animals deserve freedom! This action is dedicated to the imprisoned Austrian animal activists!"

2,000 minks were set free, most of them (1900) could be captured again

26/07/2008

D-55743 Idar-Oberstein

Graffiti on the wall of a butcher shop window; estimation of damage unknown Sprayed: "Fleisch ist Mord" and "ALF"
Anti meat (butchers/ supermarkets)

28/07/2008

D-60320 Frankfurt/Main

Shop window of a fur shop was sprayed with the word "Mörder"

Anti fur

28/07/2008

D-27711 Osterholz-Scharmbeck

The wall of a train station was sprayed with the words "meat is murder"; estimation of damage is unknown

Anti meat (butchers/ supermarkets)

09/08/2008

D-96123 Litzendorf

A hunting tower was sprayed with the word "ALF" Anti hunting

15/08/2008

D-30938 Burgwedel

The wall of a coliseum was sprayed with the slogans "Fleisch=Mord"; "Lieber nackt als Pelz"; "Peta2.de". Estimation of damage unknown Anti fur; Anti meat

15/08/2008

D-55413 Weiler

Two hunting towers were sprayed with the word ALF, estimation of damage unknown Anti hunting

16/08/2008

D-55411 Bingen-Büdesheim

Four hunting towers were sprayed with the word ALF, estimation of damage unknown Anti hunting

18/08/2008

D-20095 Hamburg

The target - BIBA - is a clothes shop owned by the Escada group and therefore part of the "Anti-Escada-Campaign" (Global Network against the Fur Industry")

20/08/2008

D-20255 Hamburg

The shop windows of a fur shop were sprayed with the words "Pelze=Mord"; "Mörder"; and "No Pelz". Estimation of damage unknown

21/08/2008

D-14513 Teltow

The facade of a McDonalds restaurant was sprayed with the word ALF and the slogans "McMörder" and "Fleisch ist Mord"; stones were thrown against the entrance door and

the shop windows; estimation of damage is unknown

01/09/2008

D-30175 Hannover

The advertising panels of a circus were sprayed with the words 'Anti circus/rodeo'.

02/09/2008

D-45481 Mülheim an der Ruhr

Two hunting towers were sprayed with the words 'Jagd = Mord' by ALF.

09/09/2008

D-37073 Göttingen

The advertising panels of a circus were sprayed with the words 'Anti circus/rodeo'.

11/09/2008

D-21244 Buchholz

The advertising panels of a circus were sprayed with the words 'Anti circus/rodeo'.

12/09/2008

D-10178 Berlin

Violation of the Assemblies and Procession Act during a demonstration against an ESCADA store.

12/09/2008

D-21244 Buchholz

The advertising panels of a circus were sprayed with the words 'Anti circus/rodeo'.

Austria

Number of incidents: 3

14/07/2008 1100 Wien, Favoritenstr. 98

Red paint on shopping window and entrance door. A.L.F. was spray painted

13/08/2008

2700 Wr.Neustadt, Maximiliangasse Nr.3

A bus with which suspects were transported. The varnish was scratched.

05/08/2008

1100 Wien, Quellenstraße

Leaflets with anti-fur slogans were glued on shopping windows

United Kingdom

Number of incidents: 53

04/07/2008

Gloucestershire - Various locations

Graffiti at various locations

Persons unknown left the words 'Free in red graffiti at various locations in the Gloucester area.

04/07/2008

The Poultry Farm, Lane Site, Okeford Fitzpaine, Blandford

Persons unknwon left 'ALF', 'ELF' and 'Meat is murder' in red graffiti on the walls and huts and 'Animals are not machines' sprayed on the ground of the farm. Owner was away and the chicken sheds were empty as they were being cleaned before the arrival of a new batch of chickens. No previous AR incidents.

08/07/2008

Merley Hall Farm, Willett Road, Ashington, Wimborne

Overnight between 8/9 damage caused to a lorry. Tyres were slashed and 'Animal Auschwitz, Killers' and the anarchy symbol were painted on the vehicle.

13/07/2008

Merley Hall Farm, Willett Road, Ashington, Wimborne

Overnight between 13/14 unknown persons caused damage to a variety of vehciles. Tyres were slashed but no graffiti was left at the scene on this occasion.

16/07/2008

Home address, Marthall, Knutsford, Cheshire

ALF

'ALF' graffiti on front and side of property and on garage door. Vehicle also sprayed. Occupant of the house is a retired AstraZenecca employee and a councillor.

18/07/2008

Bowland Wildboar Farm, Chipping, Preston

All the fences at Bowland Wildboar park were cut overnight and wild boar escaped.

17/08/2008

Ash Drive, Eye, Suffolk

Overnight, unknown person(s) caused damage to a motor vehicle parked on the drive at an HLS animal technician's home address. Brown paint was thrown over the vehicle. The vehicle's owner was previously targeted in 2002 when they lived in Diss, Norfolk. HLS security are not aware of any similar, recent incidents.

23/07/2008

Dorset - Various Locations, Weymouth Bay

Purple 'ALF' graffiti was discovered on all signposts on the coast road from Overcombe Corner to Weymouth Bay.

30/07/2008

Huntingdon - Various Locations, A1 NBC between Brampton Hut/Wooley turn

Overnight, unknown person using pink spray paint has sprayed the wording 'HLS CLOSE IT DOWN' on a road sign half a mile short of the Wooley Road turn on North bound carriageway.

31/07/2008

Huntingdon - Various Locations, A1 NBC Brampton Hut slip road

Overnight, unknown persons have painted with pink spray paint an animal rights message 'HLS PUPPY KILLERS' in letters approx two feet high, on the road surface of lane one of the slip road.

01/08/2008

Huntingdon - Various Locations, Flyover A1 at junction for Alconbury.

Overnight another incident of damage was carried out to a road traffic directions sign. The sign had a message in two foot high letters spray painted in pink paint and read HLS PUPPY KILLERS.

01/08/2008

Pheasant Breeder, Hollingley Farm, Denton Moor, Ilkley

Unknown person(s) caused damage to a pheasant pen. Pen posts were kicked down, plastic netting was cut, feeders were damaged and a metal trap was cut in half. The word +ALF, was painted on a nearby tree.

The incident was claimed on the Biteback website on 7th August 2008.

02/08/2008

Weymouth Sorting Office, Weymouth, Dorset

Over the weekend of 3rd - 4th August 2008, a wall of Weymouth Sorting Office, Weymouth, was painted with the letters 'ALF'.

03/08/2008

Pheasant Breeder, Pateley Bridge, North Yorkshire.

Damage has been caused to pheasant release pen, theft of feeders and release of pheasant poults.

03/08/2008

Monmore Green Racing Stadium, Sutherland Avenue, Wolverhampton

During a demonstration at the greyhound stadium, a push and shove by some of the protestors resulted in a steward falling over and injuring their arm. The injured steward

was later discharged from hospital with a bruised arm.

04/08/2008

Chinese Embassy, Portland Square, London

Ten people protested outside the Chinese Embassy. They attempted to hand in a petition to highlight the poor treatment of moon bears in China. Four were arrested for offences under the Public Order Act 1986.

06/08/2008

Devonshire Arms Hotel, Skipton, North Yorkshire

Company vehicle had paint stripper type substance poured over the body work and all four tyres punctured.

ALF

08/08/2008

Hay & Brecon Farmers, Ffrwdgrech Industrial Estate, Brecon, Wales

Overnight, unknown persons spray painted the words 'NO CULL' on two signs at the premises. It is believed this incident is linked to six other similar incidents that happened on the same day, located in Dyfed Powys and Gwent.

The farmers have been vocal in their demands for a badger cull in Wales.

08/08/2008

Hay & Brecon Farmers, Builth Wells, Powys

Four external business signs at the location had NO BADGER CULL sprayed onto them in red paint.

08/08/2008

National Farmers Union Offices, Llandovery, Wales.

The words NO CULL were spray painted onto premises fifteen times in red paint. Front door locks have been filled with possibly super glue.

08/08/2008

National Farmers Union Offices, Aberaeron, Wales

The words NO CULL were spray painted onto the external wall of the building twelve times in red paint.

08/08/2008

National Farmers Union Offices, Aberystwyth, Wales.

Superglue was put into the locks of the premises.

08/08/2008

National Assembly For Wales, Plaid Cymru Constituency Offices, Pier Street, Aberystwyth

Superglue was put into the locks of the premises.

08/08/2008

National Farmers Union building, Llanbadoc, Wales

Graffiti of NO CULL was sprayed in orange paint several times onto the building.

10/08/2008

Barclays Bank, Cottingham Road, Hull

At 1300 hours, the cash slot of the bank's ATM was found to be filled with superglue, preventing money being dispensed. The glue was still warm and tacky indicating that the attack had been recent.

12/08/2008

Unilever, Hesketh House, Liverpool Road, Warrington

Unknown person(s) wrote the words 'ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT ALF DITCH ANIMAL TESTING' in marker pen on the Unilever premises.

17/08/2008

Starbucks Coffee, Eastgate Street, Gloucester

Overnight, unknown person(s) caused damage to four city centre premises. Starbucks had the front door locks superglued and the word 'SCUM' spray painted on the front window.

The graffiti was cleaned up prior to police arrival.

17/08/2008

Thomas Cook, Eastgate Street, Gloucester

Overnight, unknown person(s) caused damage to four city centre premises. Thomas Cook had animal rights, slogans spray painted on the front window.

The graffiti was cleaned up prior to police arrival.

17/08/2008

All Sports Store, Eastgate Street, Gloucester

Overnight, unknown person(s) caused damage to four city centre premises. All Sports had animal rights, slogans spray painted on the front window.

The graffiti was cleaned up prior to police arrival.

17/08/2008

Cherish, Kings Square, Gloucester

Overnight, unknown person(s) caused damage to four city centre premises. Cherish Clothes had the words 'FUR SCUM' spray painted on the front window.

The graffiti was cleaned up prior to police arrival.

20/08/2008

Riverside Poultry Farm, Teignharvey, Newton Abbot, Devon

Theft (liberation) of animals

Overnight, unknown person(s) forced open the doors to a barn on a chicken farm and ripped off the front grill of a cage containing eight chickens. The chickens were released from the barn. All the eight released chickens were later found on the farm. There have been no similar incidents at this location.

22/08/2008

Ledbury Hunt Supporters Club, Bromesberrow, Herefordshire

Overnight, unknown person(s) caused damage to a marquee by tearing the fabric and leaving graffiti. Mobile chemical toilets were also turned upside down.

The incident happened prior to a horse and dog show.

24/08/2008

Chicken Farm, Hereford, Herefordshire

Theft (liberation) of animals

Overnight, unknown person(s) cut the locks to a chicken farm and stole an unspecified number of hens.

24/08/2008

Pheasant Breeder, Ledbury, Herefordshire

Theft (liberation) of animals

Overnight, unknown person(s) caused damage to the farm's perimeter fence which allowed seven hundred pheasants to escape. The bird feeders were also damaged and parts of the feeders were taken. The farm is a repeat victim of animal rights related crime.

24/08/2008

Charitable Exbury Gardens, near Hythe, Southampton, Hampshire

Overnight, unknown person(s) entered the public gardens and sprayed blue and black graffiti onto various objects. Some plants were also damaged. The graffiti referred to Barclays Bank and the bank's involvement with HLS.

"ALF" was also sprayed in the gardens is connected to the Exbury Estate, and Barclays is a current animal rights target as SHAC claim that the bank is an investor in the American arm of HLS on the NYSE.

29/08/2008

University Of Cardiff, Park Place, Cardiff, Wales

Threatening letter or e-mail series

Two unsolicited emails from a named author were received by The first email demanded the end of animal tests and the second threatened to target Cardiff University, attacking its operations and finances.

01/09/2008

Hay & Brecon Farmers, Brecon, Wales

Unknown persons painted the word "Badger" on a sign belonging to the company.

03/09/2008

Shayler Concrete Pumping Ltd, Greenlands Farm, Cow Lane, Moulsford, Wallingford

Overnight, unknown person(s) entered the company's yard and sprayed the words "ALF" and "Drop Oxford Uni" in black across the windscreens of nine lorries. Paint stripper was used on the lorries' bodywork; some locks were superglued.

Shayler hire out vehicles for building projects. There is an ongoing protest against the new Biomedical Research Centre at Oxford University. The incident has been claimed on the BiteBack website.

04/09/2008

Blades Biological Ltd, Cowden, Edenbridge, Kent

Overnight, unknown person(s) forced a window at the premises then superglued the locks and left graffiti.

Blades Biological supply living organisms to schools and universities.

06/09/2008

Sequani Ltd, Bromyard Road, Ledbury, Herefordshire

Approximately 120 protestors held a planned demonstration between 1000 and 1800 hours. As part of the conditions of the demonstration, only 15 protestors were allowed outside the main gates at any one time. Several speeches were given. The protestors marched along the designated route, and used a megaphone and displayed banners. Two of the protestors entered the courtyard of Sequani Clinical. Twenty protestors held a further demonstration outside Sun Valley Foods, Hereford. Five protestors were arrested for offences under the Public Order Act 1986.

11/09/2008

AstraZeneca, Stanhope Gate, London

Four protestors held a demonstration outside AstraZeneca from 0845 hours. Two protestors were arrested for offences under Section 14 of the Public Order Act 1986.

12/09/2008

A1 underpass, Perry Road, Buckden, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire

Overnight, unknown person(s) spray painted the words "CLOSE HLS", "WWW.SHAC.NET" and "CLOSE THE TORTURE LABS" in red and black graffiti onto the walls of the underpass.

It is believed this incident is linked to three other similar incidents that happened along the A1 near Huntingdon in late July 2008.

13/09/2008

Sequani Ltd, Bromyard Road, Ledbury, Herefordshire

A malicious communication was received by Sequani via a clinical trial application on the internet. The communication referred to animal testing and contained abusive language.

14/09/2008

Encombe House, Kingston, Wareham, Dorset

Theft (liberation) of animals

Overnight, unknown person(s) released partridges from cages in the grounds of Encombe House. The partridges were valued at £8,000. Bird feeders were also destroyed.

15/09/2008

Thompson's Poultry, Boathouse Poultry Farm, Filby, Great Yarmouth

An anonymous malicious letter was received by the owner of a free range chicken farm. The communication referred to the farm trade, and contained abusive and threatening language.

15/09/2008

A1 roundabout, on A507 (junction 10) near Baldock, Bedfordshire

Unknown person(s) spray painted the words "WWW.SHAC.NET" onto a temporary roadworks sign.

It is believed this incident is linked to three other similar incidents that happened along the A1 near Huntingdon in late July 2008.

15/09/2008

Barclays Bank, East Street, Alresford, Hampshire

Between 1630 hours on 15/09/2008 and 0900 hours on 16/09/2008, the bank's ATM was found to be filled with glue. There was also red paint over the ATM and front door of the bank.

16/09/2008

Bobby Roberts Circus, Three Counties Showground, Malvern, Worcestershire

Advertising signs and posters were defaced overnight with the word "scum" written on them.

The circus has performing animals.

17/09/2008

Wild Boar Farm, Holsworthy, Devon

A mobile home on the premises of a wild boar farm was set alight. The residents were not at home when the fire started. An anonymous telephone call alerted the local fire station of the fire.

The wild boar farm has been previously targeted by animal rights activists in which boars have been released from the farm.

17/09/2008

Barclays Bank, Botley Bank, Park Gate, Southampton, Hampshire

Overnight, unknown person(s) spray painted the words "Murderers" and "ALF" in black graffiti on the front of the building. A glue substance was thrown over the doors and an attempt was made to glue the locks.

19/09/2008

Georgetown Road, under the A1, Sandy, Bedfordshire

Unknown person(s) left the following graffiti on a tunnel under the A1: "CLOSE HLS" and "WWW.SHAC.NET".

It is believed this incident is linked to three other similar incidents that happened along the A1 near Huntingdon in late July 2008.

20/09/2008

Watermoor Road, Cirencester, Gloucestershire

Unknown person(s) caused damage to a motor vehicle parked outside the owner's home address. Paint stripper was poured over the vehicle which was believed to have had a pro-hunt sticker displayed in the rear window.

20/09/2008

Wickham Laboratories, Fareham, Hampshire

Ninety-seven protestors held the annual national demonstration. The march complied with the designated route around Wickham. Several speeches were given; the group then moved on to hold a speech and vigil outside the laboratories. The protestors exceeded the time limit imposed under Section 14 of the Public Order Act 1986 and as police moved them away from the laboratories, nine individuals held a sit down protest. One protestor was arrested for an offence under Section 5 of the Public Order Act 1986.

Ireland

Number of incidents: 1

27/08/2008
Castle Market, Dublin 2.
Fur Retail
Silk wedding dresses in a shop.