

KNOWLEDGE PRODUCT








Animal Rights Extremism **Quarterly Bulletin**

January – March 2010

The Hague 02 June 2010

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

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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, 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 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.

CORE PART

1.3 Incidents in Member States

1.4 Austria

1.4.1 Number of incidents: 5

04/01/2010

Wien 1040, Gußhausstraße 23/1/1

The front of a house was spray painted with various red graffiti and the word MURDER.

19/01/2010

6450 Sölden, Dorfstraße 88

A threatening letter was sent with the message that a letter bomb will follow.

21/01/2010

6450 Sölden, Giggjochstraße 18

A threatening letter was sent with the message that a letter bomb will follow.

23/02/2010

2700 Wr. Neustadt, Leithakoloniestraße 54

Unknown perpetrators forced their way to a chicken farm for documentation purposes. The photos were published on the website "vier pfoten".

02/03/2010

1100 Wien, Favoritenstraße 91

The windows of a shop were smashed by stones.



1.5 ■■ France

1.5.1 Number of incidents: 1

03/01/2010

Paris

During the night of 2nd to 3rd January, the locks of a fur shop in Paris were filled with glue. In addition the windows were smashed. The incident was claimed on 7 January 2010.



1.6 Germany

1.6.1 Number of incidents: 9

08/01/2010

D-27386 Hemslingen

A total of 4 hunting towers were damaged. The extent of the damage is not known.

08/01/2010

D-86152 Augsburg

Graffiti was spray painted on the window of a butcher's shop:

"Mörder"

"Fleisch ist Mord"

"Go Vegan"

10/01/2010

D-27356 Rothenburg

Graffiti was spray painted on a hotel sign; the extent of the damage is unknown.

23/01/2010

D-31515 Wunstorf

A hunting tower was set on fire using newspapers.

17/02/2010

D-40225 Düsseldorf

The University received a threatening phone call: "This is [REDACTED] voicemail; this house will soon be blown sky high".

02/03/2010

D-30625 Hannover

The fence of the animal laboratory of the Hannover Medical School was damaged. The extent of the damage is unknown. The sheep did not escape the enclosure.

02/03/2010

D-81675 München

In solidarity with animal rights activists appearing in court in Austria, 7 individuals of the Austrian AR group "RespektTiere" and of the Munich AR group "Münchener Antispeziesistische Initiative" (M.A.I.) squatted the Austrian general consulate in Munich. They chained themselves using a bicycle chain lock and handcuffs. Some individuals are being investigated for disturbance of the peace.

14/03/2010

D-14947 Frankenförde

Unknown perpetrators broke into a mink farm and released approx. 4,000 mink. They also damaged the water installation of the farm and destroyed many cage doors.

In Blechzaun, which is close to the mink farm, they sprayed an approx. 50 x 150 cm large graffiti with "TSEK" ("Tierschutzeinsatzkommando") with dark paint. The perpetrators filmed themselves releasing the animals and damaging the water installation and published the video on the Internet (www.youtube.com/user/tsek2010). According to the press, the damage extended to approx. 180,000 €.

17/03/2010

D-57334 Bad Laasphe

A hunting tower was damaged.



1.7 Italy

1.7.1 Number of incidents: 4

01/01/2010

Reggio Emilia

In the night, in front of the secondary entrance to the restaurant "Roadhouse Grill", owned by the [REDACTED] an explosion of an IED made up of 5 gas canisters, caused damage to the door and an adjacent electric cabin. The following day, the action was claimed with a communique with the title "Fuoco al [REDACTED] posted on the Internet and signed "ELF - Fronte Liberazione della Terra", containing expressions of solidarity with "[REDACTED] e alla Brigata Garibaldi Antifascista". The names are probably referring to 3 anarchists arrested in Bologna on 12 December 2009 for resisting arrest and aggravated property damage.

05/01/2010

Cortina D'Ampezzo (BL)

In the night, on the shop windows of the "Pajaro" fur shop, unknown perpetrators put up posters signed by the association "centopercentoanimalisti" calling for the liberation of animals and against the use of fur in clothing.

The action was advertised with the publication of the posters' photos on the website www.centopercentoanimalisti.com.

14/01/2010

Verona

In the night and on the shop windows of the "Pajaro" fur shop, unknown perpetrators put up posters signed by the association "centopercentoanimalisti" calling for the liberation of animals and against the use of fur in clothing.

The action was advertised with the publication of the posters' photos on the website www.centopercentoanimalisti.com.

29/01/2010

Reggio Emilia

In the night, unknown perpetrators threw six eggs filled with red and green paint at the wall of the residence of [REDACTED] of the company "Max & CO", of the "Max Mara" group; on the threshold of the house they used red paint to spray "Stop pellicce - [REDACTED] - Prezioso Assassino Basta Pellicce".

In the same night, a similar act was carried out at the residence of [REDACTED] of the company "Maxima Srl", co-owned by the "Max Mara" group. "[REDACTED] Assassino" was spray painted on the entrance of the building and "Max Mara Uccide- Basta Pellicce" was spray painted on the pavement outside the entrance. "[REDACTED] - Merda" was spray painted on the wall of the building.



1.8 The Netherlands

1.8.1 Number of incidents: 1

28/01/2010

Emmern

Graffiti was spray painted on the window of a fashion shop (Mulder Mode in Emmen), that sells fur. Text graffiti: FUR.

The shop owner had already removed the graffiti, no further damage.

No claim on Internet sites found.



1.9 Spain

1.9.1 Number of incidents: 1

17/03/2010

Albalate del Arzobispo (Teruel)

Sabotage at a mink farm called "Piel de Albalate" and release of 64 animals.



1.10 United Kingdom

1.10.1 Number of incidents: 16

02/01/2010

Badsworth and Bramham Hunt, Hillthorpe Hall, Pontefract, West Yorkshire, WF8 3EH

A farmer was assaulted (slight injury to a finger by a wrench used by protestor) when farmer asked protestor to get back on the footpath.

15/01/2010

Richmond House Antiques, Malvern, Worcestershire

Protestors entered the premises and were hostile to staff. This culminated with one of the protestors spitting on the Sales Assistants face whilst pretending to cough. This person was to be arrested for Common Assault.

02/02/2010

Home Address in Kent, Tonbridge, Kent

The individual received a number of email messages overnight via Facebook, shaming the chef for shooting game.

03/02/2010

Blackmore Vale Publishing, Sturminster Newton, Dorset

██████████ received a package in the post that contained a hand written note that stated "You clearly support hunting" and a picture of one of the publishers magazines that covered a local hunt. Also in the package was a bag of excrement.

05/02/2010

Kowa Research, Winnersh Triangle Estate, Wokingham, Berkshire

Between 2100 hrs on 05/02/2010 and 0700 hrs on 08/02/2010, a small fire was set close to one of the fire doors at the premises. The flames caused a reinforced glass window in the centre of the door to blacken and crack. An item looking similar to a laptop bag was left charred and melted at the seat of the flames.

10/02/2010

Bicester Veterinary Centre, Bicester, Oxfordshire

Overnight the cash till at the veterinary centre was stolen. Police are treating this as DE (domestic extremism) at this time due to the victims sensitive connections with ARE targets.

12/02/2010

Bicester Veterinary Centre, Bicester, Oxfordshire

The word "Killers" was written on the front door in black marker pen. Police are treating this as DE (domestic extremism) at this time due to the victims sensitive connections with ARE targets.13/02/2010

Bradford University, Bradford, West Yorkshire

Approximately 70 animal rights protestors marched through Bradford City Centre to Bradford University and demonstrated outside the campus against vivisection work conducted by the University's Life Sciences Department. Protesters used face coverings and 1 officer received a minor injury. Two arrests made for public order offences (one later found to have class B drugs upon them).

20/02/2010

[REDACTED] Forfar, Angus, Scotland

A malicious letter was sent to [REDACTED] after local media reported allegations [REDACTED] were using illegal chemicals to poison protected species.

20/02/2010

HLS, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire

A telephone call was received at the security gatehouse at Huntingdon Life Sciences. Once answered, the caller said, "Murdering b*****s" and hung up.

23/02/2010

HLS, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire

Four abusive calls were made to HLS between the hours of 0037 and 0050 by the same person. The tone of the language lowered as the calls increased starting off with "You're cruel" to "I want to slit your throats the lot of you".

26/02/2010

Novartis UK, Horsham, West Sussex

Abusive voicemail message left. NOVARTIS have a Protection of Harassment Injunction and this action may be in breach of the terms of this Injunction.

08/03/2010

Home address, Master of South Hereford Hunt, Sellack, Herefordshire

Two cars had tyres slashed and acid poured over the paintwork whilst parked overnight outside the home address. May be linked to an incident the previous week in which the hunt Master was assaulted. An investigation is underway.

11/03/2010

Home address in Horley, Horley, Surrey

Overnight, a car displaying pro-hunting stickers had its tyres let down and an offensive message relating to fox hunters was written in dirt on the car.

The victim stated they required no police attendance and did not wish to make any allegations.

22/03/2010

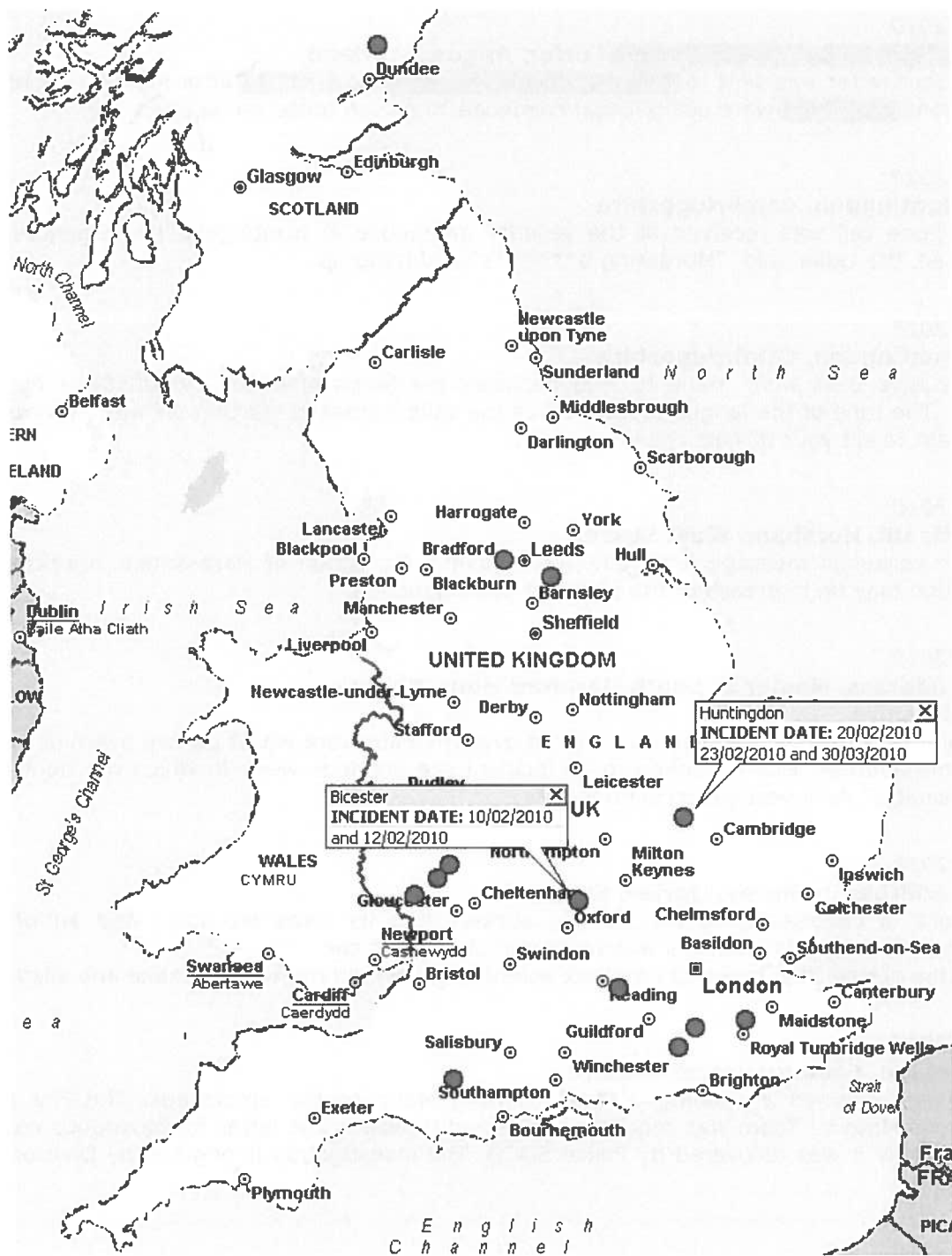
Sequani Ltd, Ledbury, Herefordshire

The letter contained a staining of fluid, causing alarm to the employees. The Fire Rescue Hazardous Material Team was requested to attend to assess the letter for hazardous contents. Subsequently it was recovered by Police SOCO. The investigation is ongoing by Divisional CID at this time.

30/03/2010

HLS, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire

Caller stated they were from the ALF and that they were coming to get them with a knife. The caller had a welsh accent and did not withhold their number.



2 CONCLUSIONS

- A total of 37 incidents were reported to the police in the 1st quarter of 2010. The amount of incidents decreased by 50% compared to the last quarter of 2009 (75 incidents).
- Three arson attacks were committed in three countries. One out of these three incidents was committed by an IID. *The framed texts in this document indicate the arson attacks.*
- 29% of all incidents were related to threatening letters, emails or phone calls. The majority of these incidents happened in the UK (8 out of 11).
- 18% of all incidents were related to Anti Fur campaigns.