

KNOWLEDGE PRODUCT

Animal Rights Extremism








Quarterly Bulletin

July – September 2011

The Hague, [?? December 2011]

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

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

The increase in the number of Animal Rights Extremism (ARE) incidents in Europe in the past five 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), the 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, as well as 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 their approval of 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

2.1.1 Number of incidents: 2

12/09/2011

7562 Eltendorf, Burgenland

Unknown perpetrators cut through the fence of a wild pig enclosure. 30 animals escaped.

16/09/2011

8243 Pingau - Steiermark

Unknown perpetrators cut through the fence of a wild animal enclosure.



2.2 France

2.2.1 Number of incidents: 6

16/07/2011

St Germain sur l'Arbresle (69)

ALF sent a threatening e-mail to the town hall. The mail mentioned the attack carried out in June 2008 against the Charles River laboratory which is based in the town. The author of the e-mail was arrested on 17 August 2011.

07/08/2011

Marguerittes (30)

Graffiti against bullfighting signed by ALF on the bullfighting arenas in the town.

28/08/2011

Villeneuve de Marsan (40)

Graffiti against bullfighting were put on the walls of the town's arenas: "CORRIDA = TORTURE ASSASSINS!" and the ALF logo.

02/09/2011

Générac (30)

Graffiti against bullfighting signed by ALF on the bullfighting arenas in the town.

03/09/2011

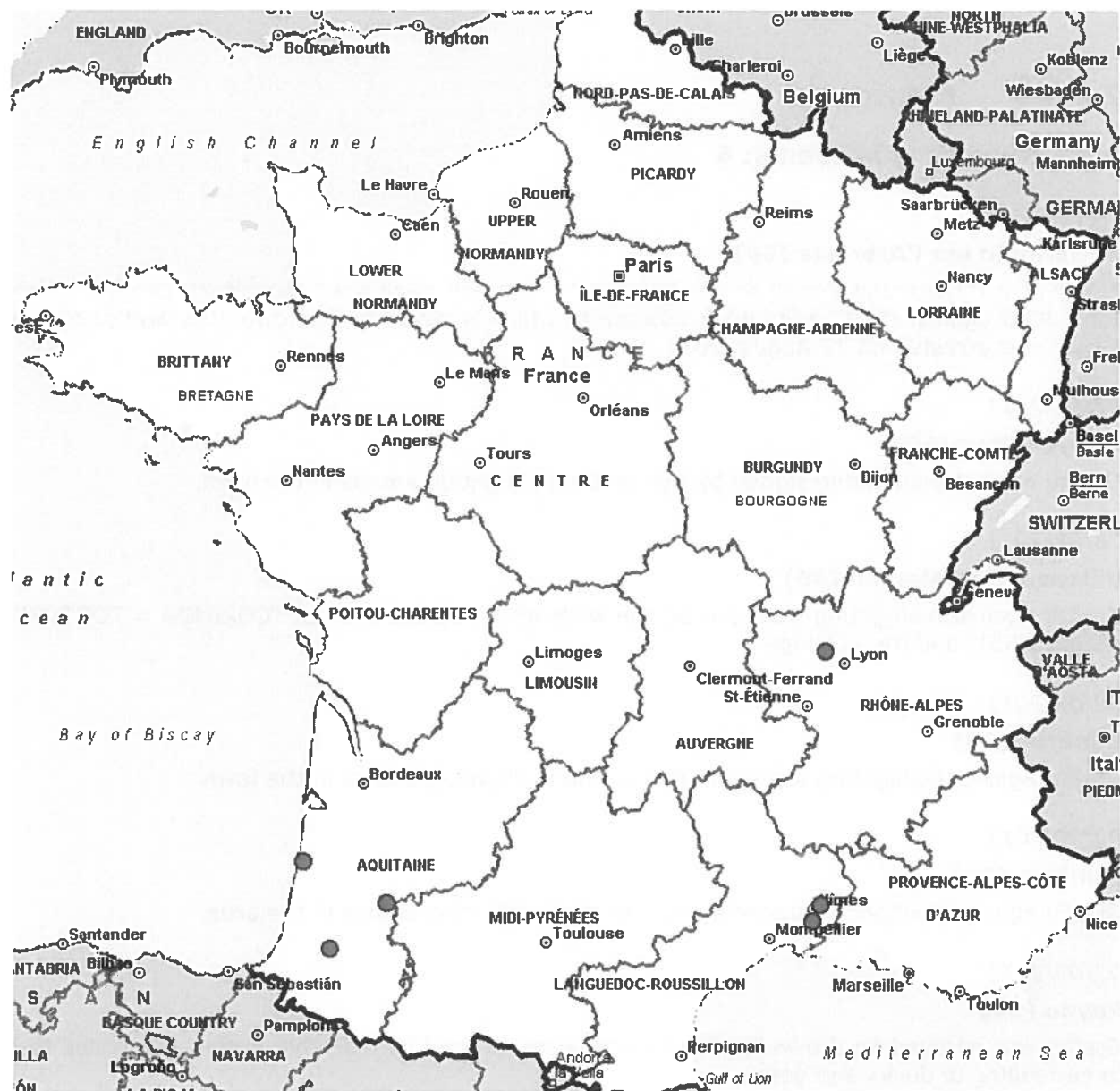
Mimizan (40)

Graffiti against bullfighting signed by ALF on the bullfighting arenas in the area.

03/09/2011

Puyoo (64)

Graffiti was sprayed on the walls of two duck farms. Signed by ALF, the graffiti denounced the force-feeding of ducks and geese.



2.3 Germany

2.3.1 Number of incidents: 17

04/07/2011

D-16816 Neuruppin

Bite Back:

"Last weekend activists opened the cages of an 'animal park' near Berlin/Germany and allowed lynxes, wildcats, barn owls and other animals to escape. According to news, one lynx and one barn owl took the opportunity to disappear in the dark. Sadly the lynx was caught again next morning.-until every cage is empty-"

08/07/2011

D-30475 Hannover

Graffiti was sprayed on the truck of a meat factory. The amount of damage is unknown.

Graffiti:

"Tiere sind keine Ware", "Tiere sind Lebewesen keine Lebensmittel",
"Mörderpack" "Fleisch=Mord"

09/07/2011

D-20259 Hamburg

Acid was thrown at the windows of a butcher's shop. The amount of damage is unknown.

10/07/2011

D-73614 Schorndorf

Two hunting towers were damaged.

16/07/2011

D-38159 Vechelde-Alvesse

A poultry fattening farm was set on fire. The arson is to be considered in conjunction with the construction of a poultry factory in Wietze/NI. This factory (approx.. 135,000,000 slaughters per year) is served by up to 400 fattening units in a radius of 150km from Wietze/NI, one of which is the one that was attacked in Vechelde-Alvesse/NI.

Responsibility for the attack was claimed by unknown persons on the BiteBack website in English:

"In the night of 16.07.2011 we burned down a factory farm between Alvesse and Üflingen. Legal protest, like a squat, could not stop the construction. The most effective way to stop the murder before it starts was to burn down the factory farm... We think that actions like this are necessary. Everyone should think about which action is the best, and everyone should take care that no living being is hurt by any action. Consequently against this shitty system, further in resistance."

20/07/2011

D-21339 Lüneburg

Two persons tipped a bucket of horse manure on the pavement of the local council and left signs with the inscription "Massentierhaltung ist Mist" "An das Gewerbeaufsichtsamt Lüneburg".

28/07/2011

D-26419 Schortens

The truck of a circus was defaced with graffiti:

"Circus=Folter" "1, 2, 3 Tierquälerei" "animal liberation now"

01/08/2011

D-31228 Peine-Wendesse

Theft of surveying poles from a piece of land destined for the construction of a chicken fattening plant. The theft is to be considered in conjunction with the construction of a chicken factory in Wietze/NI. This factory (approx.. 135,000,000 slaughters per year) is served by up to 400 fattening units in a radius of 150km from Wietze/NI, one of which is the one that was attacked in Peine-Wendesse/NI.

10/08/2011

D-29462 Wustrow-Teplingen

The following announcement was published on bitebackgermany.net:

"In der Nacht vom 8. auf den 9. August haben wir "Mastanlagen einheizen " Klima schützen! - an die Hauswand von [REDACTED] der momentan eine Hühnermastanlage in [REDACTED] bauen lässt, gemalt. Mit dieser Aktion wollen wir vor allem auf zwei Punkte aufmerksam machen. Auf der einen Seite soll auf den Zusammenhang zwischen Tierhaltung und Klimawandel hingewiesen werden und auf der anderen Seite [REDACTED] und allen anderen gewillten Mastanlagenbetreiber*innen deutlich gemacht werden, dass es entschlossenen Widerstand gibt....

Graffiti:"Mastanlagen einheizen. Klima schützen"

The announcement is to be considered in conjunction with the construction of a chicken factory in Wietze/NI. This factory (approx.. 135,000,000 slaughters per year) is served by up to 400 fattening units in a radius of 150km from Wietze/NI, one of which is the one that was attacked.

12/08/2011

D-30890 Barsinghausen-Groß Munzel

The piece of land destined for the construction of a chicken fattening plant was squatted. So-called tripods were put up. The participants chained themselves to a buried concrete pillar. 12 persons were investigated for civil disorder.

On 17/08/2011 more tripods and banners were put up. No persons were present.

The squat is to be considered in conjunction with the construction of a chicken factory in Wietze/NI. This factory (approx.. 135,000,000 slaughters per year) is served by up to 400 fattening units in a radius of 150km from Wietze/NI, one of which is the one in Groß Munzel.

13/08/2011

D-14461 Potsdam

The nets of a fresh water fishery were destroyed. The amount of damage is unknown. Responsibility was claimed on the Bite Back website:

The Institute of Fresh Water Fishery, which conducts lethal research on fresh water fish species, was hit last night by ALF activists, resulting in hundreds of fish swimming free in the lake of Sacrow (near Berlin). The activists destroyed several nets, enabling the fish to swim out into the lake, escaping life long captivity and certain death. Until every cage is empty. ALF"

17/08/2011

D-95208 Hof

The shop window of a furrier was shattered. The façade was defaced with graffiti: "Pelz ist Mord"

28/08/2011

D-23569 Lübeck

Two hunting towers were damaged.

01/09/2011

D-50677 Köln

Graffiti on the shop window of a butcher's shop, The amount of damage is unknown.

Graffiti: "Fleisch ist Mord" "Mörder" "Bluten sollt ihr" "eat fascists not animals"

09/09/2011

D-23552 Lübeck

Circus posters, amount of damage unknown.

10/09/2011

D-50667 Köln

In the framework of an annual anti-fur demonstration ("Köln Pelzfrei"), police officers were injured and the windows of a fur shop were damaged.

27/09/2011

D-63739 Aschaffenburg

Circus posters were damaged. The amount of damage is unknown.



2.4 Italy

2.4.1 Number of incidents: 1

16/09/2011

Pistoia

Unknown perpetrators set fire to two trucks parked inside the town's slaughterhouse and graphitised "A.L.F.". The responsibility for the incident was published on 23 September on "Youtube" and "directaction.inf" with the publication of a video by the perpetrators. The incident was claimed by ALF.



2.5 ■ The Netherlands

2.5.1 Number of incidents: 8

05/07/2011

Oude Ebbingestraat 19, Groningen

Three persons were arrested because of destruction. They attached stickers (poison soja) to meat products in a supermarket in Groningen.

20/07/2011

Louis Pasteurlaan 5, Zoetermeer

On 27 July 2011, SHAC held an unlawful demonstration at Astra Zeneca in Zoetermeer. The protesters forced themselves into the building only the vestibule was open. The secretary at the frontdesk had shut down the main entrance in time. The same day they also demonstrated at the company BMS in Woerden and Bayer in Mijdrecht.

25/08/2011

On 25 August 2011 SHAC held three unlawful demos at the companies TEVA (Utrecht), BMS (Woerden and Medimmune Pharma(Nijmegen). Same modus operandi as always: a lot of noise (megaphone), showing of nasty pictures of animals and shouting at people. The protesters are all dressed in black.

09/09/2011

Soestdijkerstraatweg 172, Hilversum

The airline KLM/Air France has been targeted for the last few months by animal rights extremists. KLM/Air France is a target of animal rights extremists because of the transportation of test animals all around the world to different laboratories. A number of demonstrations have been held in front of the companies' buildings in different places. In the night of 7 to 8 September 2011 greens were destroyed at the KLM Open Golf Event, possibly with a shovel. Also a couple of golf cups were excavated. Destructions were claimed on the internet site www.directaction.info.

21/09/2011

On the evening of Wednesday 21 September 2011 a home visit took place at a rabbit farm, called 'De Kninepleats' situated in one of the northern provinces of the Netherlands, Friesland. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] heard some noises on the courtyard. Outside a couple of animal rights extremists were shouting. One man screamed in a megaphone: 'animal torturers, rabbit killers, animal killers, you shall not sleep anymore'. A sign was destroyed and a container with dead rabbits was tossed over.

21/09/2011

Boelenlaan, Friesland

On the same night (home visit rabbit farm) a mink farm was also visited by animal rights extremists. They shouted through a megaphone and then left.

22/09/2011

Coats with fur were damaged at the sports shop Wim Jaquet. The coats were damaged by a certain acid.

30/09/2011

Louis Pasteurlaan 5, Zoetermeer

On Friday 30 September 2001 the action group Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty (SHAC) has organised a worldwide action day. The actions are directed at the company Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS) and companies linked to HLS. HLS is an animal-testing company which conducts tests on around 75,000 animals a year for different pharmaceutical companies.

On this action day SHAC has held a demonstration at the pharmaceutical company Astra Zeneca in Zoetermeer. The demonstrators shouted and forced to get into the building. Employees of the company tried to avoid this and one of them was attacked by four of the animal rights extremists. The four suspects were arrested by the alarmed police on suspicion of assault and also their vehicle, a blue Volkswagen Polo was seized. A couple of hours before their arrest they forced entry into a building in Woerden (Bristol Myers Squibb) and attacked an employee.



2.6 Spain

2.6.1 Number of incidents: 1

13/09/2011

TORDESILLAS (VALLADOLID)

During the celebration of the "TORO DE LA VEGA", a woman started pepper spraying the participants and the Guardia Civil agents who tried to defend them. She was arrested for public disorder, attacking agents of authority and resisting arrest. This incident was claimed on/by ANTITAUROS.



2.7 United Kingdom

2.7.1 Number of incidents: 8

05/07/2011

Abbeystead Estate, Abbeystead, Lancaster

A three mile stretch of wire fencing was damaged.

Offender(s) have approached three miles stretch of wire fencing and at varying intervals have cut the wire fencing a total of 46 times. The cost of damage is estimated as £5000.

05/07/2011

Highgate Lane, Normanby By Spital, Lincolnshire

At approximately 0216hrs on Tuesday 5th July 2011, an arson attack occurred at Highgate Farm, Highgate Lane, Normanby By Spital, Lincolnshire. Initial enquiries indicate that offender(s) attacked a parked unattended Mercedes Benz Sprinter Van parked on the premise near to the owners dwelling, by throwing an incendiary device into the interior of the vehicle. The device set the vehicle ablaze causing extensive damage.

A further incendiary device was thrown at the ground floor of the owners dwelling causing minor damage to the fabric of the building.

05/07/2011

██████████ Keelby, Lincolnshire

Later that same morning at approximately 0406hrs an arson attack occurred at ██████████ Keelby, Lincolnshire. (This is approximately 23 miles from Highgate Farm). Offenders set fire to two vehicles parked on the driveway of the premises and the cause of the ignition is currently unknown. Two occupants of the Keelby address are ██████████ based at Immingham, Lincolnshire. A similar arson attack took place at Highgate Farm in July 2010. DFDS Seaways are a Dutch based company involved in the transportation of live animal exports from Dover, UK.

11/07/2011

Harlan UK, Wyton, Cambridgeshire

Malicious Communication Email sent to Harlan UK stating "From animal liberation front find all dogs a new home within one month and do no more experiments on animals we will give you one month from this letter we will blow you up"

13/07/2011

Hunton Bridge, Kings Langley

Threatening letter or e-mail series. No further information provided.

18/08/2011

Harlan UK, Loughborough, Leicestershire

Malicious telephone call to Harlan laboratories, Hillcrest site claiming that protests would be held at all of Harlan UK sites on Friday 19/08/2011 at 12:00. The caller further stated that about 30 each site.

03/09/2011

Great British Circus, Orsett Show Ground, Essex

A circus trailers and tents were damaged. On the following day, two cars belonging to protestors were found to be damaged. During the period the circus was sited there were small demonstrations during the performances by anti circus protestors. There was damage caused to circus trailers and the tent. The following day two cars belonging to protestors were found damaged.

24/09/2011

Tadcaster, North Yorkshire

Offender charged with assault by beating and failure to remove item worn on demand by constable. Hunts party



3 Findings

- A total of 43 incidents were reported to the police in the 3rd quarter of 2011. The amount of incidents decreased from the 2nd quarter of 2011 by 10 (53 incidents in the 2nd quarter).
- Four incidents were reported as arson attacks. Three of them were committed by IIDs. Two incidents happened in the UK targeting Highgate Farm and employees of the Dutch company DFDS seaways. The incident in Germany caused major damage to a poultry factory farm still under construction. The fourth arson was reported in Pistoia/Italy.

<i>The framed text in this document indicates the arson attacks.</i>
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- The financial damage caused by the reported incidents ran up to at least 586.864 € with 500.000 € of damages for one single incident at the poultry factory farm in Germany.
- The 3rd quarter was dominated by anti fur and anti meat campaigns which represented 34,9% of all incidents. The increase in anti fur campaigns may be related to the upcoming winter month. The anti bull fighting campaigns demonstrate an unusual high amount of incidents compared to previous reporting. The incidents however happened solely in Spain and Italy. Antivivisection campaigns ran up to three incidents in total and targeted the usual companies such as Astra Zeneca and KLM.