

Animal Rights Extremism Quarterly Bulletin

October – December 2009

<02 March 2010>

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: [REDACTED]

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Key facts:

- A total of 75 incidents were reported to the police in the 4th quarter of 2009.
- Three arson attacks were committed in three countries. One of these attacks happened in the framework of a 'homevisit'. *The framed texts in this bulletin indicate the arson attacks.*
- More than 50% of the reported incidents were related to Anti Fur (34%) and Anti Meat (17%) campaigns.
- Six mink farms were attacked. In total 21750 animals were released. Four out of these 6 incidents happened on the same day in Spain.



Germany

Number of incidents: 26

01/10/2009

D-14467 Potsdam

Graffiti was spray painted on the walls of a shop selling furs; The extent of damage is unknown.

Graffiti: "Pelz ist Mord" (,Fur is murder').

06/10/2009

D-14119 Berlin

Graffiti was spray painted on the front window of a shop selling furs; The extent of damage is unknown.

Graffiti: "Mörder" (,Murderers').

10/10/2009

D-53840 Troisdorf

Graffiti was spray painted on the front window of a shop selling furs; The extent of damage is unknown.

Graffiti: "Pelz tötet" (,Fur kills'), "Mörder" (,Murderers').

14/10/2009

D-40217 Düsseldorf

Light bulbs were filled with paint and thrown at the front of a shop selling furs; The extent of damage is unknown.

14/10/2009

D-52355 Düren

Graffiti was spray painted on the front window of a butcher's shop; The extent of damage is unknown.

Graffiti: "Blut" (,Blood'); "Vegan"; "ALF".

19/10/2009

D-52349 Düren

Property was damaged when the door lock of a butcher's shop was glued shut; Graffiti was sprayed on the front window; The extent of damage is unknown.

Graffiti: "Vegan".

30/10/2009

D-66115 Saarbrücken

An arson attack was committed on 2 hunting platforms; A claim of responsibility was left saying the following: "Eine Aktion der militanten Jagdgegner Abtl. Südwest" (An action of militant hunting opponents, Div. Southwest).

03/11/2009

D-30559 Hannover

Graffiti was spray painted on the walls of the Hannover Veterinary College; windows broken; The extent of damage is unknown.

The act is to be placed in the context of the planned construction of an animal testing facility of Böhringer Ingelheim. Since 13/05/2009 there were several incidents in the wider Hannover area.

03/11/2009

D-72108 Rottenburg

Graffiti was spray painted on the entrance and walls of the city slaughterhouse.

Graffiti: "Mörder" (Murderers')

07/11/2009

D-14467 Potsdam

Graffiti was spray painted on the walls of a shop selling fur; The extent of damage is unknown.

Graffiti: "PELZ IST MORD" (Fur is murder').

15/11/2009

D-10997 Berlin

Graffiti was spray painted on the pavement, among others by a McDonald's restaurant; The extent of damage is unknown.

Graffiti: ""Freiheit wäre viel lustiger" (Freedom would be much nicer'); "Frieden ist was für Veganer_innen" (Joy is for vegans); "Get you ass to Copenhagen"; "Tiere sind Lebewesen. Keine Lebensmittel" (Animals are creatures, not food); "Herrschaft Sucks" (Power sucks').

17/11/2009

D-22117 Hamburg

Destruction of 22 windows and 2 glass doors of the fashion shop 'ETRO MILANO' with liquid acid. The motivation is unknown; there is no claim of responsibility. ETRO also sells fur and leather.

ETRO has already been targeted in Germany. There is information available on actions against ETRO abroad.

20/11/2009

D-33602 Bielefeld

Graffiti was spray painted on the shop window of a deli.

Graffiti: "Fleisch ist Mord" („Meat is murder”).

20/11/2009

D-48153 Münster

Graffiti was spray painted at an animal transport facility; The extent of damage is unknown.

Graffiti: "Fleisch ist Mord" („Meat is murder”).

20/11/2009

D-70188 Stuttgart

Graffiti was spray painted on the walls of a house. The extent of damage is unknown.

Graffiti: "FINGER WEG VON PELZ" („Stay away from fur”); "PERVERSE MORDE" (perverted murder).

21/11/2009

D-47058 Duisburg

Graffiti was spray painted on the shop window of a butcher's shop; The extent of damage is unknown.

Graffiti: "Mörder" („Murderers”).

21/11/2009

D-57413 Finnentrop

Property damage of 3 hunting platforms; The extent of damage is unknown.

22/11/2009

D-47051 Duisburg

Graffiti was spray painted on the shop window of a shop selling furs.

Graffiti: "Mörder" („Murderers”).

22/11/2009

D-57462 Olpe

Graffiti was spray painted on 8 vehicles and one gate of a meat market; The extent of damage is unknown.

Graffiti (among others): "Fleisch ist Mord"; "Mörder"; "ALF".

26/11/2009

D-57413 Finnentrop

Graffiti was spray painted on the building of a meat factory; The extent of damage is unknown.

Graffiti: "ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT"; "FLEISCH=MORD"; "ALF"; "MORD".

28/11/2009

D-39104 Magdeburg

A fur shop window was damaged with stones.

12/12/2009

D-80539 München

Intimidation in connection with a demonstration against ESCADA

14/12/2009

D-72800 Eningen

Paint was thrown at the residence of an ESCADA executive; The extent of damage is unknown.

21/12/2009

D-16866 Kyritz

The entrance to a butcher's shop was destructed; Graffiti was spray painted on the walls. The extent of damage is unknown.

Graffiti: "FLEISCH IST MORD"; (meat is murder) "ALF".

27/12/2009

D-82467 Garmisch-Partenkirchen

Graffiti was spray painted on the shop window of a shop selling fur. The extent of damage is unknown.

Graffiti: "Pelz ist Mord"; (fur is murder) "A.L.F.".

28/12/2009

D-53175 Bonn

Stickers against the consumption of animal products were put on the walls of a farm; The extent of damage is unknown.



 Italy
Number of incidents: 15*01/10/2009***Castel di Sangro (AQ)**

Monitoring of ARE websites revealed that, in the night, unknown perpetrators entered the mink farm of [REDACTED] and freed approx. 130 animals. The incident was not reported by the owners of the farm but it appeared in the local newspapers.

*03/10/2009***Milano**

Three youths with their faces covered left paint, eggs and excrement on the pavement in front of a branch of "La Rinascente"; they then escaped on two bicycles and a motorcycle.

*09/10/2009***Rimini**

Five youths--4 women and one man--threw flour and confetti inside a "Max Mara" shop. They also threw some clothes to the ground. Before escaping, they threw a smokebomb and leaflets against the "Max Mara Faschion Group". At the same time, in Riccione, six youths—four men and two women—carried out a similar attack on another Max Mara shop.

*12/10/2009***Mantova**

Unknown perpetrators spray painted the shop window of a "Max Mara" shop with the word "assassini".

*19/10/2009***Torino**

In the night, unknown perpetrators wrote "Vegan Rivolt" on the shutters and the walls of two butcher's shops. They also left stickers showing a face hidden by a balaclava, an AK47 gun and the A.L.F. logo.

*02/11/2009***Sansepolcro (AR)**

In the night, unknown perpetrators defaced the entrance to the Max&Co shop on Via XX Settembre with red paint. A leaflet was found with the text: "CHIUSO PER LUTTO PER LA MORTE DI MILIONI DI ANIMALI PER LA LORO PELLICCIA - MAX MARA FASHION GROUP". The same shop was targeted in a similar incident on 22 January 2009.

A claim of responsibility was published anonymously on the website finoallafine.info with the following content:

2.11.09 SANSEPOLCRO (AR)

RED PAINT RAIN FOR MAX&CO AND A SPECIAL MESSAGE: "MMFG=GUA!" IN THE MEMORY OF BARRY HORNE AND DEDICATED TO THE PRISONER [REDACTED]

██████████ FLA". ON 5 NOVEMBER 2001 ██████████ ENGLISH ACTIVIST FOR ANIMAL LIBERATION, DIED FOLLOWING COMPLICATIONS OF A HUNGER STRIKE (THE FOURTH ONE, THE PREVIOUS ONES HAD ALREADY WEAKENED HIM), HE WAS SENTENCED TO 18 YEARS IN PRISON. AT THIS TIME EACH YEAR THERE ARE ACTIONS AROUND THE WORLD IN THE MEMORY OF ██████████'.

06/11/2009

Sassuolo (MO)

In the night, unknown perpetrators set fire to the back entrance of a branch of the Zoolandia chain of shops in Via Po n.35. The burnt remains of a plastic container with traces of petrol, a brown 'diabolina' slab of fuel to start the fire and a white granulated substance similar to sugar were found at the site.

13/11/2009

Montecchio Emilia (RE)

In the night, unknown perpetrators poured motor oil on the entrance of a "Zoolandia" shop.

15/11/2009

Torino

In the night, unknown perpetrators spray painted the wall of the "Pellicceria Adorno" with: "PELLICCERIA = TORTURA ALF" ('FUR=TORTURE ALF')– "WWW:ALF.COM" – ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT" – "OKKIO" – KILLER" – and the anarchist symbol of the A in a circle. On the pavement outside the shop were found animal bones, probably from a butcher's shop, painted red.

29/11/2009

Torino

In the night, unknown perpetrators poured red liquid on the shutter of the "Pellicceria Adorno" and left animal bones on the pavement outside the shop.

01/12/2009

Montecchio Emilia (RE)

A cardboard box from which emerged electrical cables and a note with the text "RIVOLTA ANIMALE A.L.F." was found before the entrance of the "Zoolandia" shop. The incident was claimed on the website www.directaction.info.

03/12/2009

Torino

Unknown perpetrators damaged the shutters of the shop "Pellicceria Adorno" and left a leaflet with the text "PELLICCERIA = TORTURA" ('FUR=TORTURE') and the anarchist symbol of the A in a circle, as well as the URL of www.animaliberationfront.com.

05/12/2009

San Palo d'Enza (RE)

Unknown perpetrators damaged 4 vehicles of the transport company "Fratelli Cursi s.r.l.", tasked with transporting the animals of "Stefano Morini s.a.s.", by spray painting them with black paint and writing "MORI-MERDE E BASTA". Subsequently, the same individuals entered the neighbouring farm "Stefano Morini s.a.s" and, forcing the entrance to a warehouse, freed animals and wrote on the walls "MERDE e ALF-X".

18/12/2009

Carbognano (VT)

Unknown individuals, having entered a mink farm, freed about one hundred animals and wrote "NON C'E' NATALE TRANQUILLO PER GLI AGUZZINI" ('THE TORTURERS WILL NOT HAVE A QUIET CHRISTMAS'). The incident was claimed on the website www.finoallafine.info.

18/12/2009

Torino

Close to the seat of the former Honorary Consulate of the Netherlands the following graffiti was found: "RIEKE LIBERA!" followed by "A.L.F.", the acronym of the "Animal Liberation Front".



The Netherlands

Number of incidents: 1

01/10/2009

Barchem

During the night of 29 to 30 October 2009 animal rights activists have released 4000 mink from a farm in Barchem. One person was arrested in due time. Another two suspects, a male and a female, were arrested on 17 November and 5 December 2009.





Spain

Number of incidents: 5

19/10/2009

Abelendo-Montouto-Abegondo (La Coruña)

Breaking of access door and cage locks

Liberation of 3,150 minks at GRANJA FERNÁNDEZ GARCÍA

19/10/2009

Cotogrande-Vizoño-Abegondo (La Coruña)

Breaking of access door and cage locks

Liberation of 9,500 minks at GRANJA COTO GRANDE

19/10/2009

Lubia (Soria)

Breaking of access doors and cage locks

Liberation of 1,000 minks at the SOCIEDAD AGRARIA DE TRANSFORMACIÓN VISONES ALDI farm

19/10/2009

Vizoño-Abegondo (La Coruña)

Breaking of access door and cage locks

Liberation of 4,000 minks at GRANJA CONFECCIONES RAMILO

30/10/2009

Marugán (Segovia)

Cutting of wire fence, breaking of fence posts and damaging of a Land Rover vehicle

Liberation of 35 pregnant does (female deer) at the VENISONDEER farm.



United Kingdom

Number of incidents: 27

03/10/2009

AstraZeneca, Macclesfield, Cheshire

Guard was dragged from the car and the window smashed, then "roughed up" and a liquid poured over him, which smelt of detergents. No descriptions of assailants. No CCTV of area. Investigation ongoing.

05/10/2009

Home Address, Clifton, Avon

Vehicle on driveway had its tyres slashed by persons unknown. Victim has FORMER links to AstraZeneca (retired). Investigation underway.

06/10/2009

Billboard, Advertising Persil Washing Powder, North Yorkshire

Criminal damage to a bill board advert for Persil. Written on the board in black paint were the words 'tested on animals' and a black smiley face.

06/10/2009

Zippos Circus, Hampstead Heath, London

The front gates of the circus were daubed with 'ALF' and 'Free The Slaves'. One vehicle had the words, 'Animals are not your toys' written across it and others had a corrosive substance poured over them. Investigation underway.

07/10/2009

Home Address, Portishead, Avon

Car's paintwork damaged and a tyre slashed. Two tyres on another car also punctured. The words 'ALF' and 'puppy killer' were sprayed on the house. Believed to be a case of mistaken identity as victim's name is similar to a researcher at AstraZeneca. Being investigated.

ALF slogan believed to be misleading and used as a scapegoat to protect culprits. This could be a possible case of mistaken identity.

09/10/2009

Sanofi Group, Fawdon, Newcastle, Tyne and Wear

Two protestors were arrested - one for refusing to remove a banner which read 'kill cops, not pigs'.

14/10/2009

Cemex, Egham, Surrey

An envelope containing a wet sponge - believed to have traces of a cleaning agent - was sent to 'The Board of Cemex'. No claim for responsibility [REDACTED]

14/10/2009

Zippos Circus, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire

Posters advertising circus in Cambridge, due 22-27 October, sprayed over, ripped off and torn up. Some had Animal Cruelty posters stuck on them.

15/10/2009

Lush, Maidstone, Kent

A kebab had been smeared across the shop front and the words "F**k You" etched into the glass. Lush cosmetics had launched a fund-raising campaign to support the Hunt Saboteurs Association (HSA).

18/10/2009

Scottish Agricultural College, Dumfries, Scotland

When a member of staff arrived at work, cattle had been released from the pens. The staff member was approached by three persons, all wearing hooded tops and masks covering their faces. They verbally abused the staff member whilst one video recorded the incident.

20/10/2009

Noah's Ark Zoo Farm, Somerset

Following a demonstration, [REDACTED] made a complaint of criminal damage stating that a stone wall had been damaged and had partially collapsed, and ink running from protestors' banners had spoiled the zoo's signage. [REDACTED]

21/10/2009

Lush, Plymouth, Devon

Posters were stuck to shop window using super glue. Lush cosmetics had launched a fund-raising campaign to support the Hunt Saboteurs Association (HSA).

22/10/2009

Zippos Circus, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire

Protestors were instructed by police officers to move. Three protestors continued to cause problems and were arrested for breaching Section 14 of the Public Order Act 1986.

24/10/2009

Tedworth Hunt, near Marlborough, Wiltshire

Hunt supporters drove two quad bikes over two hunt monitors, causing minor injuries. Investigation underway.

27/10/2009

Noah's Ark Zoo Farm, Somerset

Person(s) unknown cut the 6ft security metal fence which runs around the deer park. Investigation ongoing.

28/10/2009

AstraZeneca, Luton, Bedfordshire

Police issued a warning to all 5 protestors giving them 1 hour to protest. 4 of the protestors continued protesting after 1 hour and were arrested under Section 14 of the Public Order Act 1986.

28/10/2009

Bobby Roberts Circus, Hitchin, Hertfordshire

Paint stripper had been poured over three lorries, a chemical had been sprayed through the window of the kiosk and "ALF" painted on a sign. Estimated about £3000 of damage.

30/10/2009

Home Address, Badminton, Avon

Unknown person(s) slashed tyres and poured paint stripper on 2 vehicles at a home address of an AstraZeneca employee. An investigation is underway.

31/10/2009

Cherry Valley, Manor Farm, Lincolnshire

An attempt was made by person(s) unknown to force open the doors to a unit housing ducks. On a previous occasion (22-29/10/2009) the doors to the farm's generator shed were damaged. Investigation ongoing.

31/10/2009

Southdown & Eridge Hunt, Nr Lewes, East Sussex

An alleged altercation between a hunt monitor and a hunt supporter was reported in which the hunt monitor received facial injuries.

05/11/2009

Spirit of Christmas Exhibition, Olympia Exhibition Centre, London

5 CAFT activists were arrested under Public Order whilst protesting at the 'Spirit of Christmas' exhibition at the Olympia Exhibition Centre

11/11/2009

Noah's Ark Zoo Farm, Bristol, Somerset

Exotic birds were removed from a locked enclosure by means unknown with no signs of forced entry. It is unclear as to whether this is related to previous incidents of an animal rights nature.

13/11/2009

Novartis Pharmaceuticals, bridge over Harwood Road, Horsham, Sussex

A dummy was hung from a bridge with a white lab coat and a sign reading 'Novartis Animal Abuser'. An investigation is underway subject to Section 5 of the Public Order Act 1986.

28/11/2009

Blankney Hunt, Lincolnshire

Unknown protestor sprayed water in the face of a hunt member, recorded as a Common Assault. However the victim refused to substantiate the allegation and wanted no further police action in relation to it.

28/11/2009

McDonald's Restaurant, Gorgie Park Road, Edinburgh, Midlothian

ALF graffiti was sprayed on each side of a McDonald's building in Edinburgh. The individual appeared to be under the influence of alcohol and "thought it would be a good idea".

06/12/2009

Moda Show, Brick Lane, London

A known protestor was arrested under Section 5 of the Public Order Act 1986.

16/12/2009

Home address, Little Lever, Bolton, Lancashire

A company vehicle was set on fire. The extent of damage/method of ignition is unknown. The victim works for Mettler Toledo. The company has had troubles with animal rights groups due to selling lab equipment to pharmaceutical companies. The informant also reported two previous incidents - spouse's car had been set on fire and paint thrown over their car. All three incidents occurred on their driveway.



Switzerland

Number of incidents: 1

18/12/2009

Ticino

A threatening letter was sent to the newspaper "Corriere del Ticino" and to "Radiotelevisione Svizzera" saying: "SE VI PIACE LA CARNE MANGIATEVI QUESTA. ABIA-MO AVVELENATO DIVERSI CAMPIONI DI CARNE IN TICINO"

"If you like meat eat this. We poisoned various meat products in the canton of Ticino". A salami was enclosed. Tests showed that this meat was not contaminated. The letters were posted 17.12.2009 at CH-6826 Riva San Vitale.

