Members of an underground animal rights group broke into a Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center lab Tuesday, taking five cats used in sleep experiments and causing an estimated $70,000 damage.

The liberators also spray-painted a warning on the wall: “Don’t Mess with Texas Animals.” The message was signed “ALF.”

ALF is an acronym for the Animal Liberation Front, an activist animal rights group formed in the early 1980s, according to literature provided by the Washington-based People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA).

Members of the underground group are believed to have broken into animal research laboratories.

Radical activists linked to blaze at Brookfield furrier
This collection was originally released by the Student Organization for Animal Rights, a student group at the University of Minnesota, in the mid-1990s. It enjoyed limited circulation, and is back in (digital) print for the first time in almost 20 years.

Does the ALF only generate “bad media”? Read this collection and decide for yourself.

- Peter Young
AnimalLiberationFrontline.com
The test of the animals went on just like a normal experiment. The animals were handled in a normal manner, and the procedures were followed as usual. The animals were placed in their respective tanks and left to endure the stress of the experiment. The results were recorded and analyzed, and the data was compiled for future reference. The animals were then returned to their normal state, and the experiment was considered complete.

The results of the experiment were then presented to the committee, who then discussed the implications of the findings. The committee agreed that the experiment was a success, and that further research should be conducted to confirm the results.

The experiment was deemed to be ethical, as the animals were not subjected to any unnecessary pain or discomfort. The animals were provided with food, water, and medical care, and were not exposed to any harmful substances.

In conclusion, the experiment was a success, and the results were deemed to be significant. The findings will be published in a scientific journal, and will be used to further our understanding of the subject matter.

The experiment was conducted in a professional and ethical manner, and all necessary precautions were taken to ensure the safety and well-being of the animals. The results were deemed to be significant, and will be used to further our understanding of the subject matter.
nal Institutes of Health (U.S. agencies) to protect animals in the laboratory, and this isn't happening.

As just one example, James Wyngaarden (head of the NIH) called the University of Pennsylvania head-injury lab "one of the best in the world," and that's frightening. The head-injury lab was where they held inadequately anesthetized baboons in vises and then used a device to smash their heads. It was the ALF that broke in and got the films of these animals in agony, that showed the callousness of the researchers toward the animals. It was only after the public saw these films that the NIH had to stop funding this research, and the lab was shut down.

When you see this kind of thing, you realize that medical research is not benign, as we are always told, that the animals are not always anesthetized, as we're always told.

The federal Animal Welfare Act, which is the only law there is, only covers the care of the animals, not how they are used in experiments. You can do anything you want to an animal as long as the cage is cleaned, there is food and the water bowl is filled. The experimenter doesn't even have to use anesthesia if he thinks it will interfere with his results.

**Citizen:** But why the fires and the vandalism, too?

**ALF:** It is valid to destroy any property that is used to harm animals, to harm any being that feels pain and fear. By vandalizing the labs, you make it more difficult for research to continue. You also make it more expensive to do it. And you make people who are considering experimenting on animals think twice about going into that.

I do think that, in a way, it is much the same thing as the abolitionists who fought against slavery going in and burning down the slave quarters or tearing down the auction block or the whipping post — whatever is used to subjugate the slaves. It's very much the same thing.

I think it sends a message to researchers about how serious this is. Sometimes when you just take animals and do nothing else, perhaps that is not as strong a message.

**Citizen:** Do you equate the enslavement, the "use" of humans with the enslavement and use of non-human animals? Is this really the same thing?

**ALF:** No, of course humans and non-humans are not the same. No. But we can't make decisions based on who has the higher power of reasoning, who can talk, who is supposedly a "higher" being than another. Just because I eat spaghetti and you listen to Mozart, does that give you the right to castrate me? To take my life? To have control over me?

The only judgment we can make, the only ethical judgment, is whether someone has the capacity to feel pain and fear — to suffer. If a being feels those things, and animals do as much as you or I, then we have no right to cause them pain or fear. Just because a dog can't read a book or drive a car doesn't give me the right to feed him a quart of Drano to find out how toxic it is. The dog feels the agony of that as much as we would; he convulses just as we would.

The philosophy that drives the ALF is the belief that animals do not belong to us. They don't exist for our use — not to eat, not to experiment on. They are individual feeling beings with their own lives to lead. They have a right to see the sun and live with their companions in the same way we do. They have the same right not to have pain inflicted on them that we do.

And beyond that, because man does have dominion over animals, we have an obligation to do whatever we can to protect them.

Citizen: But when you go in and set fires, you risk killing a human being. What if the night janitor had been caught in there that morning at UA? What if some students you didn't know about had been studying there all night and they had died in one of those fires? It is said that it is only a matter of time until the ALF kills someone with these tactics.

**ALF:** I would like to say that every care was taken to make sure no one would be harmed. We felt sure that the fires were set in such a way that they would not harm people and we took every precaution. It is possible to make sure. We know what we are doing, and it is one of the rules of the ALF that no one will be injured. Property yes, people no. No one has ever been harmed in an ALF raid.

In this raid, for example, we decided that if a guard showed up, we would not knock him out or in any way manhandle him. We decided we would take no physical action, we would be caught red-handed rather than harm the guard.

The ALF has never hurt anyone, yet researchers are harming animals every day. And they call us terrorists; that's a little trite.

It is important to remember that the real violence is being done to animals in the labs. If someone caught you and put you in a cage and fed you poisons and pesticides or starved you or electro-shocked you, you would hope someone would break in and rescue you. If you saw someone shaking or burning a kitten in the street, you would run up and take that kitten away from that person, even if he said he owned it. You'd do it.

People burn and blowlorch and shock animals in the labs, they drive them insane, they kill them, that's the reality, but it is going on behind closed doors that no one can get past. That doesn't mean we should ignore it.

Citizen: But why not try non-violent civil disobedience instead of violence to accomplish these goals? People who did that — Gandhi and Martin Luther King, for example — literally changed the world, and ended whole eras of pain and suffering.

**ALF:** I have participated in civil disobedience a number of times. It's a very valuable and effective tactic to bear public witness against the wrong done to animals, and I will continue to do it. But for civil disobedience to really change things, you need great numbers of people to do it. Although animal rights is now a national movement, it is still young and we're not there yet. To get those numbers, we need to inform people about what's really going on in the labs, and the break-ins are doing that.

**Citizen:** What has been revealed by lab break-ins?

**ALF:** Well, the list is long, but here are some of the worst.

First, the head-bashing lab at the University of Pennsylvania. A couple of years before that, one of the first exposes was the research of Edward Taub in Maryland, which was done on monkeys supposedly to help stroke victims. He cut the spinal nerves to cripple the monkey's limbs, then using electric shock, tried to force the monkeys to use the crippled limbs.

Alex Pacheco (now head of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) went undercover in that lab for four months and documented and photographed how the monkeys lived in constant fear, how they mutilated themselves, chewed off their own fingers, the filthy they lived in. After Pacheco went to the police, the lab was raided and the research was shut down.

A raid in 1984 at the City of Hope in California found
animals used for cancer and infectious disease research were kept in conditions so bad that they were dying even before they got into the experiments. Dogs had inhaled their own feces, monkeys had died of exposure or been killed by other monkeys. It was revealed the animals were suffering terribly.

Another was the raid on the SEMA lab in Maryland, which contract for the federal government. There, baby chimpanzees were being used for AIDS and hepatitis research.

Once, the documents and the videos taken showed an extremely high death rate due to miserable conditions — monkeys driven insane in isolation chambers, steamed to death when the pipes broke, suffocated when the ventilation system failed.

Others were starved to death when their feet caught on the slats of their cages and they couldn’t get to their food until someone noticed. Chimps are animals very close to man in their social needs and physical reactions, yet this is how they lived.

After hearing about this raid, Jane Goodall asked for a tour of the SEMA lab and when she got out of there, she said it was the second worst day of her life. The worst day was the day her husband died.

There are many more.

Citizen: But, at least in the case of the UA, a lot of people reacted angrily to the fires, and those who set them, and it seemed as if the raid backfired as far as your public relations go. Could you be making more enemies than friends this way?

ALF: We have discussed that possibility. It’s a concern. I understand it can happen, but the point is people have been trying for the past 100 years by the usual means — letters, protests — to stop the use of animals in experiments, or even to just make it more humane.

But what has happened is the use of animals has increased, and the experiments have increased and savi- gery, if anything, because of new technology that is used now. So it is time to look at other methods.

Even if we do alienate some people, the benefits outweigh that — saving the lives of individual ani- mals, and finding out what actually is going on behind the closed doors that the public is paying for but is told nothing about.

Citizen: The ALF and animals rights groups claim that no good whatsoever comes out of animal medical experiments. Even if we concede that a chunk of it is repetitive and does not produce results, there is no denying that such life-saving breakthroughs as the polio vaccine, insulin, organ transplant surgery, and cancer drugs evolved out of animal experiments. Would you forego those lifesaving treatments altogether?

ALF: Even if you put aside the ethical position that we do not have a right to do this to beings capable of suffering, in a very large sense, when we do animal experiments, we are actually harming human health. I know that sounds strange. Let me explain.

Using our tax dollars on animal experiments is taking public money away from helping humans. As just one example . . . at Yale University, $3 million a year is being used for addictive drug experiments on rats and monkeys. That’s three times the amount available in the whole state of Connecticut for drug treatment.

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It is much the same thing as the abolitionists who fought against slavery going in and burning down the slave quarters or tearing down the auction block or the whipping post — whatever is used to subjugate the slaves.”

— Animal Liberation Front member

Explainin vandalism of UA research labs

Graffiti opposing animal research was sprayed in the UA Shantt Animal Sciences Building.
centers for sick human beings. People are ruining their lives and dying all over the country because they are on such long waiting lists to get into drug treatment centers.

Another example. There is very little money available for long-term care for disabled people, to help them live normal lives. But Edward Taub can get millions to cripple monkeys. Babies are born every day retarded and with birth defects because their moms do not get adequate prenatal care or enough food, yet we pay big sums to prove that baby monkeys go crazy when their mothers are taken away from them at birth.

The infant mortality rate for black infants in the nation's capital is higher than it is in Costa Rica. How can we justify pouring millions into animal research when we know right now what these human babies need but aren't getting?

Beyond that, researchers take credit for breakthroughs in such things as ending epidemics of infectious diseases. When history shows that it was improved sanitation systems and techniques that get the bulk of the credit for that.

Transplant surgery is interesting. Yes, they spent years experimenting on animals to transplant organs and to test the artificial heart. Yet every human being given a transplant in the early days died, if not on the operating table right after. It took years of human transplants before they got it right. The first humans on the artificial heart suffered debilitating brain damage due to strokes — something all that animal work never even suggested would happen.

The polio vaccine — as far back as 1949, scientists knew how to grow the polio virus in human cell cultures, and it was recommended that a vaccine should be developed that way. But that was ignored and animals were used because it was a longtime habit and much more convenient. So the rhesus monkey population in India was nearly wiped out by that research.

It has always been more cheap and convenient to use animals, when there are other, better ways, given a little scientific creativity. But we just don't bother.

The Centers for Disease Control recently did a major study of the leading U.S. factors affecting the U.S. death rate. The most influential factor, accounting for 51 percent of all deaths, was lifestyle. Environment — pollutants and toxins — was second at 20 percent. Heredity was third at 19 percent, and medical intervention was last at 10 percent. Yet by far, most of the money goes to animal experiments for that last and least influential factor.

Citizen: Who are you — are you a professional activist or do you have a normal everyday life? Why did you decide to take such risks for this cause?

ALF: I think I am a pretty normal person — I have a job, a house, a mortgage. My job is in social work. I got into the animal movement years ago during my first year of medical school. I dropped out in my first semester because of the dog lab. I couldn’t handle cutting open live dogs and killing them for that purpose. I’m embarrassed to say now I did nothing about it at the time except to leave school.

Since then, I have done a great deal of reading, and I started thinking about how we use animals, reading medical journals, and I wondered why we had the right to do these things. Over time, I became a vegan (someone who neither eats, uses or wears anything made from animals).

Before you can join the ALF, you are checked out thoroughly, for your sincerity, your commitment, for years of action in the movement, for a willingness to go to jail if you have to. It is not easy to get into the ALF.

To be honest, I’d really rather have a normal life, and devote myself to growing a garden maybe. But now that I know what goes on in the labs, on the factory farms, I can’t ignore it. I feel a sense of personal responsibility about what society does to animals.

It is as if I were living in Nazi Germany and in my town there was a Buchenwald and I knew it and I did nothing. People who tried to stop those horrors got killed for it. At least I won’t be killed for this.

Citizen: OK, what’s next for the ALF?

ALF: Well, as soon as we finish placing the (AU) animals, there will be another raid. We are looking forward to that. I will be in many more of them.
ALF BREAK-IN — Members of the Animal Liberation Front videotaped their April 3 break-in at University of Arizona animal research labs. ALF members, hooded to prevent identification, entered the labs, took animals from their cages and spray-painted slogans on floors and walls.

ALF breaks silence on its raid at UA

On April 3, ALF members invaded the University of Arizona, setting two fires, taking more than 1,200 animals and causing some $250,000 worth of damage. They left behind a press release claiming credit for the raid, signed their initials on walls in red paint, made headlines across the country, and vanished.

For obvious reasons, the ALF does not show its face to the public. However, in a rare exception in its 15-year history, members of ALF — those who struck the UA — have been persuaded to talk to the mainstream press, in an interview with the Tucson Citizen.

The Citizen sought the interview because ALF members have so rarely been questioned directly about what it does and why. Because the ALF has been unavailable, press coverage of the UA raid has been limited to the UA side of the story.

The interview required lengthy negotiations from public telephone booths and was arranged through several intermediaries who used aliases.

After several changes of plan, the Citizen reporter was told to show up at a public Tucson parking lot wearing a red scarf. She was taken by an unidentified person to the Tucson airport, handed a plane ticket to a destination that had remained unknown until the last minute.

The Citizen paid for the plane ticket and all payments were made in cash at the demand of the ALF and intermediaries.

After flying out of state to a major U.S. airport, the reporter was met by a member of the ALF, who was disguised by a wig and dark glasses, dressed in a business suit, and who spoke only under a guarantee of anonymity.

As a method of determining whether the person had been a participant in the UA raid, the reporter asked for details on it and was told enough information to satisfy her that the person had been a participant.

— Carla McClain
Vandals hit Cuyahoga butcher shops

Associated Press

Three Parma butcher shops were attacked by vandals who sprayed the words “Meat is Murder” on walls, broke glass and fired at least one gunshot, Parma police said.

The vandals also wrote the letters A-L-F, apparently an acronym for the Animal Liberation Front, a national group that protests the use of animals for food and science experiments.

“It’s too early to say whether this is the act of one person looking for attention or an organized group,” police spokesman Steve Worthington said.

Congressional researchers say the Animal Liberation Front targets “medical and scientific research laboratories to butcher shops and furriers.”

Marie Salo, owner of State Meats, said she discovered a jammed door and the graffiti when she opened shop Monday.

The front door of Geiler Meats also was smashed sometime Monday morning. “This is the third time this has happened to us in the past three years,” owner Teresa Geiler said.

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, a Washington-based animal rights group, said no branches of PETA or any other animal rights group operate in the Cleveland area.
Vandals leave animal-rights message at ASU

Vandals with an animal-rights message did about $300 in damage to the psychology building at Arizona State University and to an off-campus animal-care site early Tuesday, ASU police Sgt. Bill Wright said.

Sometime between midnight Monday and 1:30 a.m. Tuesday, the vandals padlocked the western doors of the psychology building and squirted glue into the padlock of the front gate of ASU's Animal Care Program facility in northeast Tempe to make the lock inoperable, Wright said. Spray-painted messages of "Stop animal research" also were left at the facilities.

Very little research is done at the Animal Care Program, an ASU spokesman said. Research on rats and pigeons is being done at the psychology building, said J. Jay Braun, chairman of the psychology department.

Investigators have not identified any individual or group that might have been involved. No animals were released.
Radical activists linked to blaze at Brookfield Turner

Animal rights group suspected in arson
Radical group linked to arson at fur shop

Fire

From 1A

the state, but ATF has said the group has been more active elsewhere in the country."

An angry Barth W. Chudik, store owner, said the blaze was the latest in a series of incidents at his store.

"It's them (ALF), all right. I've had vandalism committed by animal rights' organizations in the past. I've had acid thrown on my van. I've had slogans written on my building. I've had my store's locks glued shut. I've received threatening phone calls.

“But no one has ever tried to burn my place. And no one has ever tried to kill me. Now, I've been a victim of the former. I hope the same isn't true of the latter."

Chudik said he doesn't know what he can do to protect himself or his business.

“When people are this far off the edge, there isn't much you can do," he said. "I'm going to stay in business and be around for a long time. We're not going to run and hide. I'll take whatever security measures I can."

The Chudik family has been in the fur business in Brookfield since 1916 and has run its store on Calhoun Road for 24 years.

Ronan said it appears the fire was started with some type of flammable liquid on the northeast corner of the building. He said authorities are unaware of any local ALF organization.

Last month, ALF took credit for placing eight fire-starting devices outside of four downtown Chicago department stores that sell furs. The devices started three small fires that were quickly extinguished. No one was injured.

In taking credit for the Chicago fires, ALF vowed to intensify its sabotage against businesses dealing in animal furs.

ALF also is suspected in the 1992 torching of several delivery trucks at a Minneapolis meat wholesaler.
Anti-fur group claims it set fires

By Penny Roberts
Tribune Staff Writer

Chicago police are investigating whether a radical animal-rights organization planted fire-starting devices in four of the city's largest department stores over the weekend.

The Animal Liberation Front is claiming responsibility for leaving the devices, which started small fires in Saks Fifth Avenue, Marshall Field's and Carson Pirie Scott, and forced the evacuation of the top floor of Neiman Marcus.

In a news release dated Sunday that was faxed to the Washington, D.C.-based People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, the organization said it targeted stores that sell fur products. PETA released the statement Monday.

"This action signals the start of a new, more intense campaign of economic sabotage against stores which sell fur," the statement said. "Any store selling fur items will be considered a legitimate target. No fur will be tolerated—fur hats, fur gloves or fur-trimmed coats are enough to put a store on the ALF hit list."

The statement also said the organization planted nine devices in four stores, but police have reported finding just eight. The incendiary devices consist of a matchbook and a timer attached to a 9-volt battery, and are designed to "flash" and start a fire. They were left at the sites in lunch-size paper bags.

Bomb and Arson Section Sgt. Edward O'Donnell would say only that police are seriously investigating possible involvement of the Animal Liberation Front and that it is the only organization that has claimed it placed the devices.

Other police sources said the statement was also faxed to Women's Wear Daily in New York City. Recipients of the fax message contacted the Federal Bureau of Investigation, which in turn notified local law-enforcement officials Monday morning.

The Animal Liberation Front is a radical branch of the animal rights movement that has been linked to several terrorist-like activities. Their first actions were documented in March of 1979, when they released five animals from New York University Medical Center in New York City.

Over the years, they have claimed responsibility or been blamed for vandalizing facilities, disrupting research, threatening scientists and setting afire at least eight buildings as well as several meat trucks, according to PETA.

In Chicago, the Animal Liberation Front claimed responsibility in January 1991 for "liberating" 11 rabbits and 10 guinea pigs from Hektoen Lab on South Wood Street—a Cook County Hospital research laboratory.

The organization has no national headquarters or direct contact with the public. It disseminates its messages through anonymous telephone calls or by sending information to PETA, a non-violent, educational organization of animal-rights activists. Workers discovered the latest fax Monday morning.

"It appears they sent it that night [Saturday]," said PETA spokesperson Jenny Woods. "They never contact anyone directly. They're very careful."

The devices started fires in three of the stores, causing minimal damage and no injuries. One was discovered at the fourth store before it could ignite. Investigators found no evidence of break-ins or forced entry, leading them to surmise the device was planted Saturday as shoppers flocked to the stores.

Police said they now believe more than one person was involved.

Spokespersons for the department stores declined to comment on the organization's possible involvement.

The president of the Associated Fur Industries of Chicagoland questioned whether an animal-rights organization was responsible.

"It doesn't make any sense. If they were targeting fur sales, why did they set the bedding department on fire?" said Hal Waitz. "I think they're just claiming they did it so they can get publicity and attention."
Pleasant Hill, Calif. — The Animal Liberation Front has claimed responsibility for taking six domesticated rabbits from the horticulture garden at Diablo Valley College.

The ALF, an underground animal-rights group, announced over the Internet that it had taken the rabbits. The group claimed students had told the organization of a professor at Diablo Valley who had snapped a rabbit's neck and bragged about his action. The group said it had placed the rabbits "in a caring, permanent home to guarantee that they will live out their lives in safety."

A spokesman for the college said a professor had "destroyed" one of the pet rabbits because it had bitten him.
Lies, damn lies and the heroism of John Orem

On July 4, 1989, the Animal Liberation Front raided the laboratory of Dr. John Orem at Texas Tech University, in the process reportedly doing nearly $70,000 worth of damage to the lab. Orem, a man with no medical, veterinary or surgical training, has been conducting torturous experiments on cats at his lab since 1976.

Typically conducting experiments on conscious, unanesthetized cats, Orem’s experiments included such thoughtless and necessary work as the removal of portions of cats' skulls and brains, and then allowing the cats to die of thirst and starvation. This involved the precocious balancing of cats on slender planks which were in turn suspended over 55-gallon barrels of water. The cats were forced to remain awake for fear of drowning.

Orem also frequently screwed and bolted wires and electrodes into unanesthetized cats' skulls and brains. This was done with the aid of a stereotaxic device, which keeps an experimental animal immobilized so that a vivisection need not use anesthesia to ease its suffering during invasive procedures.

After Orem’s lab was hit by the ALF, an interesting phenomenon materialized: “Officials at Texas Tech scuttled up the National Association for Biomedical Research’s media plan, claiming that the break-ins were a result of a lab employee’s suicide attempt.” Orem had been working on a project to develop a vaccine for AIDS.

Orem’s experiments were so inhumane that even the National Institutes of Health (NIH) declined to fund his research. Nonetheless, Orem continued to perform his experiments, and the ALF continued to target his lab.

A group of 16 physicians and medical experts asked to review Orem’s published papers and similar lab work referred to it as “scientifically flawed,” “unethically cruel” and “lacking appropriate anesthesia.”

As Diane Zarrow, a New York mother whose daughter’s life had been claimed by SIDS, stated: “My baby was gentle and loving. How dare anyone use her death as an excuse to torture defenseless animals?”

With the exception of representatives from the NABR, who immediately went on the offensive re-organizing of Orem’s lab and experiments (without ever bothering to examine the lab, his work or the video footage taken by the ALF), the experts appeared to reach a consensus on the matter: Whatever he was up to, popping out bits of skull and brain from cats’ heads, wiring them up and torturing them to death, it was not SIDS research.

Today, Orem’s work continues and is still funded by the NIH.

Newkirk is frequently misquoted by the NABR, Coalition for Biomedical Research and even the tangentially related, at best, Hawkseye Hunting and Rifle Association.

Her original quote, “When it comes to having a nervous system and the ability to feel pain, danger and thirst, a rat is a pig is a dog is a boy: they are all mammals,” was intended to point out that unnecessary pain should be inflicted upon none of the listed examples. But from the pro-vivisection community, we hear repeatedly an intentionally truncated version of this quote, which now reads “a rat is a pig is a dog is a boy” as if to imply a philosphy of holistic utilization of all species.

And so it bothers me — and bothers me a great deal — when members of the medical and scientific communities, however well-meaning, they might be, endorse a monster like Orem without ever getting anymore profound an indicator of the case at hand than the glowing praise of complete strangers to the situation like Adrian Morrison of the NABR.

It bothers me when members of the CBR, the NABR’s diminutive counterpart here on campus, endorse Orem’s work as flawless while brandishing vegetarians and animal rights activists as “terrorists,” or when they purposefully distort quotes and information in their work to sway opinion and combat those opposed to the multi-billion dollar industry of animal research.

Why is it necessary to contort quotes, removing key portions of them in order to歪曲 those concerned with suffering? Why is it necessary for the NABR and its lackey organization CBR to promote a version of history in which Orem was a heroic SIDS researcher? Why, in short, is it necessary to promote lies to further their cause, rather than simply debating the truth?

Because this manufactured hero, Orem, is a monster whose work at Texas Tech was cited with 43 violations of the Animal Welfare Act from July 1986 to December 1988 alone, whose colleagues largely do not find his work to be defensible, whose claims to the noble throne of SIDS research did not begin until videotaped evidence of the truth was released by the ALF and PETA, he does not, in short, a hero make Orem’s lab should be shut down, and the NABR, CBR and any other organizations distorting Orem’s history should at least be courageous enough to speak the truth and to face its repercussions.

As Mohandas Gandhi put it, “the greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way it treats its animals.”

Jonathan Lyons is the Viewpoints Editor of The Daily Iowan.
Beef signs spray-painted

The letters "A.L.F." were painted repeatedly on several beef promotion signs in Preble County, Ohio. Officials believe the letters stand for the Animal Liberation Front, an underground animal rights group.

Farm bureau offering reward for vandals of pro-beef signs

By JIMMY JOHNSON

EATON, Ohio — The Preble County Farm Bureau is offering a reward for information on vandals who defaced signs that promote the sale of beef.

At least three signs have been spray-painted in the last three months.

In early August, vandals painted signs on U.S. 35 and U.S. 127 near Eaton that read, "Somewhere Nothing Satisfies Like Beef."

Using black and white paint, the letters "A.L.F." were painted repeatedly on the signs.

Officials believe the letters stand for the Animal Liberation Front, but they do not know if the underground animal rights group really had anything to do with the vandalism.

The ALF has claimed responsibility for 80 percent of animal rights terrorist acts, such as arson and bombing, in the United States since 1977, said Jim Hill, of the Preble County Farm Bureau.

A butcher shop in Dayton was recently spray-painted. A trademark of ALF is the phrase "Meat is Murder," which was left on the shop's wall.

Hill said there's no way to prove ALF is involved, but the vandals clearly know something about the organization, he said.

"That's basically the symbol that they leave," he said.

"You could go out today and ask 100 people on the street... "What does ALF stand for? And they'd say... the TV show," he said, referring to a TV sitcom that featured a creature from outer space named ALF.

"It's tough to think it's kids playing around," he said.

He said the incidents in Preble County and the one incident in Dayton are the only ones he's heard of in Ohio.

Though ALF is an underground organization, Hill said the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) group often defends ALF's acts. Hill noted that PETA's director, Ingrid Newkirk, recently toured laboratories that used animals for testing at Miami University and Wright State University.

Asked about the vandalism of the signs around Eaton, Jenny Woods, a representative of PETA, said, "We don't condone the action but we can understand the frustration of people who see what's going on in a slaughterhouse."

Terrorist acts by ALF include the arson of a University of California veterinary diagnostic laboratory, which caused $4.5 million damage, and the destruction of 32 years of research at a Michigan State University laboratory.

Hill quoted a U.S. Department of Justice and Agriculture study about the growing trend: "It appears the willingness of animal rights extremists to employ destructive and violent methods remains strong."

Hill said anyone with information about the sign vandals should call the sheriff's office at (513) 456-8111.

Palladium-Item reporter Larry Price contributed to this story.
Firebombing is investigated as act of terrorism

By Sharon Schmickle
Staff Writer

The firebombing of five meat trucks in Minneapolis may be linked to terrorism in several other states that has caused more than $2 million in damage in the past two years to animal and fur industry facilities.

Federal grand juries in Oregon, Washington and Michigan are considering charges against people who have burned buildings and research laboratories in the name of a shadowy activist group called the Animal Liberation Front (ALF), said John Bogdan, an FBI agent in Portland who has investigated some of the cases.

There also have been attacks in several other states and in Canada, Great Britain and Ireland, he said.

"Is Murder" — was painted in red on trucks that were burned at Swanson Meats Inc. early Sunday. The FBI has taken charge of what agents and police say is an incident of domestic terrorism.

"The group that has apparently claimed responsibility for this has claimed responsibility for arsons and bombings at other locations around the country," said David Cid, a special agent with the FBI in Minneapolis.

Whether or not there is a relationship is part of what the FBI is investigating. Authorities haven't ruled out the chance that someone else is trying to blame ALF for arson, Cid said.

But a Maryland-based animal rights group that sometimes speaks for ALF said that what happened at Swanson's fits a pattern of the movement's

Bombings continued on page 5B
Bombings
Continued from page 1B

raids. In addition to the fires that were discovered by a passing taxi driver at about 3:30 a.m. Sunday, locks on the buildings at Swanson's were jammed with quick-hardening glue.

"That's the ALF prescription," said Dan Mathews of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA). "It happens late in the night. No one is hurt. Locks are glued, and paint [graffiti] is left."

There were no injuries in the Swanson's fire. But an employee who didn't want to be identified took issue with the suggestion that no one was hurt, saying: "Maybe it doesn't hurt physically, but there is mental hurt and anger and frustration and fear and recognition of stupidity."

Bogdan of the FBI said whoever is setting the fires isn't safe in believing that no one will be hurt.

"These people have been saying they are just burning down a mink farm," he said. "They are not just burning down a mink farm. What if there was a night watchman? This is a heinous act."

If ALF was involved in the Minneapolis fire, one thing that apparently was missing Monday was the news release. Typically, ALF activists have issued releases to news organizations, stating their reasons for a raid and often including videotapes.

The releases generally have been issued through PETA. As of yesterday afternoon, no one had contacted PETA's offices in Rockville, Md., to claim responsibility for the Minneapolis incident, Mathews said. But ALF is loosely organized, and may include individuals who wouldn't do that, he said.

At least six fires have been linked with the group in the past two years, including:

- The June 1991 destruction of the warehouses of a cooperative in Edmonds, Wash., that supplies feed to mink farmers.
- Another fire in June 1991 at an experimental mink farm associated with research at Oregon State University.

While several recent incidents linked with the group have involved mink facilities, there have been nearly 100 incidents over the past decade at zoos, ranches and medical research centers and other locations. Suspected members of the group are being sought and investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms as well as the FBI and local law enforcement agencies in several states.

Despite its notoriety, little is known about the organization. Those who admit to being close to it cite no leaders or membership numbers.

In the introduction to a book published this year about ALF, author Cleveland Amory said the organization "operates in total secrecy. No insider would even admit to being a member of the group, let alone talk about it or write about it, and no outsider knows enough either to talk or write accurately about it."

The one exception, he said, is the author of the book, "Free the Animals." PETA co-founder Ingrid Newkirk. She claims to have been trusted as a conduit for ALF's messages over the years.

PETA's spokesman suggests ALF is so unstructured that people may nominate themselves whenever they are inspired to action in their cause. ALF may be more of a symbol for radical action than an organization, he said.

"ALF consists of anybody in the general public who goes to extremes to make a point for animals," Mathews said.

In addition to issuing news releases for ALF, PETA has done follow-up publicity and lobbying for ALF's causes. PETA calls itself "an above-ground legal organization" that is separate from ALF. Yet it clearly sympathizes with the causes of ALF activists.

"We don't condone it, but we don't condemn it, either, because we understand the frustration that grows with what animals are enduring," Mathews said.

Other animal rights organizations were quick to distance themselves from the Swanson's fire.

The Animal Rights Coalition Inc. of Minneapolis issued a statement saying: "ARC has no knowledge of or involvement in any acts of vandalism. We seek to eliminate suffering and violence in the world, not to contribute to it."

The organization added that the trucks could have been torched "for personal vengeance, financial gain or in an attempt to discredit the peaceful mission of the animal rights movement by individuals involved in animal exploitation."

The FBI's Cid said the agency isn't concerned with the political positions of ALF or with opposition to eating meat or using animals in research: "Our concern is to identify people who committed a criminal act and bring them to the court system."

In this case, the criminal act would probably be the federal offense of destroying a motor vehicle, punishable by up to five years in prison and/or a $25,000 fine, he said.
Graffiti tied to radicals

By Rebecca Goldsmith
Journal staff writer

Radical animal rights activists claimed responsibility for Sunday morning vandalism directed toward D'Artagnan, Inc., distributors for Commonwealth Enterprises, the nation's oldest producer of foie gras.

The Animal Liberation Front painted graffiti on the St. Paul Street company's trucks after trying to strip them of paint and glue the door locks shut, said Steven Simmons, spokesman for a mainstream animal rights group, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals.

Simmons said an anonymous ALF member called PETA early yesterday morning to inform them of the project. The ALF said the incident is the "first direct action against the foie gras industry," Simmons said.

"Frustrated with inaction by the criminal justice system and mainstream animal rights organizations," Simmons said the ALF's vandalism is a protest of Commonwealth's mistreatment of ducks whose livers are processed into the delicacy foie gras.

In April, cruelty charges were brought against Commonwealth by the district attorney of Sullivan County, N.Y., following an undercover PETA investigation, Simmons said. The charges were dropped within the month, Simmons said.

But D'Artagnan's warehouse manager, Frank D'Anna, said the vandals left no trace of their motive.

Instead of a coherent message, D'Anna said vandals spray-painted six trucks with "scum" and other four-letter words, in green, red, black and "every color that you could imagine."

In contrast, Simmons said the ALF wrote "Duck Torturers" and "Meat is Murder" on the trucks.

"Those messages would be easy to interpret," he said.

By mid-afternoon yesterday the vehicles were virtually clean after a morning of scrubbing. Replacing the company's partially erased logo and repairing the fleet's white finish would cost $2,000 to $3,000, D'Anna said.
Mink experiment center attackers cite 'callousness'; college, scientist defend work

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EAST LANSING — An underground animal rights group trashed a Michigan State University mink research program Friday, destroying 30 years of research that it said was cruel and scientifically worthless.

The Animal Liberation Front issued a news release claiming responsibility for a fire set in the office of animal science professor Richard Aulerich, and accused him of allowing key chains to be made from minks' feet.

"Over the last quarter century, Richard Aulerich has killed thousands of minks in painful and scientifically worthless experiments at Michigan State," the release said.

Aulerich denied the allegations.

University officials defended the research program that Aulerich was named to head in 1967, five years after joining it as a technician.

"Here we have a man who's almost dedicated his life to helping animals and what they've done by doing this is destroy that program," said Fred Poston, dean of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Poston called the incident "a rather astounding, pointless, terrorist-type activity."

The organization Incurably Ill for Animal Research issued a statement saying it was shocked and outraged at the attack.

The animal rights group said the experiments involved force-feeding the animals pesticides, dioxin and other chemicals and applying caustic chemicals to their skin.

Steve Simmons, of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, said the animals suffered paralysis, dragging of hind limbs, convulsions, blood-filled intestines and gastric ulcers.

"Aulerich's callousness toward animals is further evidenced by reports that staff members at the facility were given key chains made from the minks' feet," he said.

Simmons said information about the program and photographs of conditions came from a sympathetic insider at the lab.

"We feel we're doing nothing wrong," Aulerich said at a late afternoon news conference. "If the university desires, we will go on. Some (data) might be retrievable."

He said mink are very sensitive to environmental contaminants such as DDT, PCBs and dioxins. "They make a very good animal to study" in an attempt to gauge the effect of pollutants.

Michigan State officials said it was the third time mink researchers have been targeted by animal rights activists. Similar incidents have occurred at universities in Oregon and Washington.

A student discovered the fire in Aulerich's ransacked office at 5:25 a.m. EST. Several other offices also were damaged. A substance believed to be sulfuric acid was poured on mechanical equipment in the research farm where the mink were kept.
Activists vandalize WSU labs, release research animals

By Eric Sorensen
Staff writer

PULLMAN — After worrying Washington State University officials for years, animal rights activists eluded campus security and raided two offices, threatening a researcher and releasing seven coyotes, 10 mice and six young minks.

A group calling itself the Animal Liberation Front on Tuesday claimed responsibility for the attack, saying it was rescuing animals "used in experimentation to increase profits of the fur and livestock industry."

School officials, who oversee research on some 16,000 animals, denied that characterization.

"The College of Veterinary Medicine research programs are designed to improve the health and well-being of a variety of domestic animal species," said Lance Perryman, associate dean for research at the college. "Sometimes that research also has positive benefits to human health."

Robert Smith, vice provost for research, said the activists ignored the value of the research being done on animals here.

"There is a great tendency to demean the work and encourage the idea that this work is a real throwaway,"
WSU officers hunt for clues after animal rights group releases research animals and vandalizes labs.

Continued: FROM A1

Animals

Smith said from Seattle.

Gallatin, a natural resources scientist, proposed this Peter Gilman, "Animals alone..."

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Arson fire destroys barn
at Oregon State U.

CORVALLIS, ORE.—A fire destroyed a barn and damaged research offices last week at a mink farm operated by Oregon State University here.

A group identifying itself as the Animal Liberation Front claimed credit for the vandalism, and investigators were trying to determine whether the claim was authentic. Animal-rights slogans were written on the barn’s walls. Among them were the letters A.L.F.

The fire, which caused $62,000 in damage, started in a barn used to store equipment. The intruders also entered a nearby office building, where they destroyed records, emptied files, and broke a toilet, flooding an office.

None of the 1,300 minks housed in the barn were injured or taken away. The university breeds the animals for research on reproduction and nutrition.
Animal rights group damages prof's lab

FROM WEST REPORTS

LUBBOCK — A Texas Tech researcher Wednesday called the actions of an animal rights group that vandalized and destroyed equipment at his lab “senseless and ridiculous.”

Five cats used in sleep research were taken from the lab of Dr. John Orem, a physiology professor, during a break-in Monday night. Documents were stolen and equipment was vandalized. University officials on Wednesday estimated the damage at $70,000, not including the value of the cats.

The break-in was the first in Texas by the “underground liberationist” Animal Liberation Front, or ALF, according to the Washington-based People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals.

Ingrid Newkirk, national director of the Washington group, said ALF developed in the early 1980s. She believes it now has at least 100 members in the United States.

“They go into places where they suspect abuse and take the pictures and get the records and the information that researchers and those working on these projects try to hide,” Ms. Newkirk said.

Dr. Orem has spent 12 years studying breathing in sleep, which helps him understand sleep apnea and sudden infant death syndrome. In both disorders, breathing fails during sleep. His research were taken from the laboratory of Dr. John Orem on Monday night, and some of his equipment was vandalized.

Richard Hamilton, police chief of the Texas Tech Health Science Center, reads graffiti left by animal rights activists. Five cats used in sleep research were taken from the lab.
Animal backers' break-in angers Tech researcher

Continued from Page 17A.

research is funded by the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute, which monitors his research and committed $900,000 toward its completion.

The animal rights groups, in a statement issued by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, charged that Dr. Orem uses inhumane research methods, such as bolting the cats' heads into steel clamps.

The statement quoted unidentified members of ALF as saying that "for the past 15 years, Orem has tortured more than a thousand lost and abandoned cats obtained from pounds and shelters around Midland-Odessa, removing the frontal portions of the live animals' skulls, exposing the bones around their eyes, threading screws through holes drilled in the orbits, cutting holes in their windpipes (into which he plants electrodes) and forcing them to stay awake for fear of drowning by keeping them on pedestals in a dark, water-filled drum."

"Orem restrains the sleep-deprived cats by bolting their heads into a steel clamp device, putting metal rods into their ears and mouths so they cannot move their heads," the statement said. "ALF members destroyed the electronic equipment and restraint devices during the raid."

"This is all sensational nonsense," Dr. Orem said Wednesday. "The techniques we use are standard neurological procedures that are done under anesthesia. There is nothing gruesome, despicable, wasteful or barbaric about it."

"They've acted, and it's all so senseless and ridiculous."

Dr. Orem said the animals are placed in a non-traumatic restraint device that immobilizes their head to keep electrodes in place as they sleep. He then studies the parts of the brain that control breathing.

"The cats are given great care," Dr. Orem said. "Obviously there cannot be pain or discomfort because the cats would never fall asleep."

Texas Tech Health Science Center researchers discovered the break-in Tuesday morning and found spray-painted messages on the walls indicating that ALF was responsible, according to a statement released Wednesday by university president Robert Lawless.

"We most sincerely urge conscientious behavior on the part of those responsible for this incident, and we warn that the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center will not tolerate such incidents on our campus," Mr. Lawless said.

Texas Tech officials say it will be several months before Dr. Orem will be able to continue research.

ALF raids usually include property destruction, said Ms. Newkirk.

"They believe you have to hit people in the pocketbook," she said. "They believe you have to destroy the instruments of cruelty."
Group frees UA animals, burns labs

Research set back; damage at $100,000

By Gene Varn 4-4-89
The Arizona Republic

TUCSON — Animal-rights activists protesting research on animals at the University of Arizona claimed responsibility Monday for setting fires in two UA buildings, vandalizing research laboratories and "liberating" more than 1,200 animals.

UA officials estimated that the arson-caused fires set early Monday morning did about $90,000 damage to one building and about $10,000 to the other.

The Animal Liberation Front left press releases about the incidents at newspapers, and television and radio stations.

The press release said, "The Animal Liberation Front conducted the liberations both as an act of mercy and compassion for the individual animal victims," and as a protest against "vivisection."

Michael Cusanovich, UA vice president for research, said the actions amounted to terrorism and were "a direct attack on the health and welfare of the people of this country."

Cusanovich said research conducted on animals at UA is "for the public good" and is done in compliance with federal guidelines on the treatment of research animals.

Charles Sterling, a UA professor of veterinary science, said 30 mice taken from his laboratory had been infected with a parasitic disease called "cryptosporidium" that could easily be passed on to those now in possession of the mice.

Sterling said the mice were being used in experiments he was conducting toward a cure for the disease, which he said afflicts millions of people in Third World countries.

The disease causes severe diarrhea for several weeks, and although it is not fatal to healthy adults, it can kill young children and "immuno-compromised" people, such as AIDS patients, he said.

Brian Seastone, a spokesman for the UA police, said there are no suspects in the incidents.

The first fire, at the university's Pharmacy and Microbiology Building on the southern side of the campus, was reported about 3:45 a.m. Monday, according to Capt. Keith Richter of the Tucson Fire Department.

The $90,000 fire destroyed a laboratory area called the "penthouse" on top of the five-story building and took 46 firefighters about an hour to bring under control, Richter said.

Investigators said that fire was set by combustible materials ignited in a hallway.

The second fire was reported about an hour later at a house on the northern side of campus that is used as the office of University Animal Care, which oversees animals used in

— See LABS, page A6
Graffiti mark the walls of the University of Arizona's Shantz Building. In a press release, the Animal Liberation Front claims it vandalized the building as a protest against "vivisection."

**Labs burned, animals freed in $100,000 vandalism at UA**

--- LABS, from page A1

research at UA.

That fire, which caused about $10,000 in damage, burned a bathroom and a closet, and caused smoke damage in the rest of the structure, according to John Mulder, director of University Animal Care.

The fire was set in a crawl space beneath the house, Mulder said.

The house had no markings indicating it contained the Animal Care office because "we just wanted to avoid attention," Mulder said.

That was done, he said, because of previous protests by animal-rights groups at the University Medical Center over the use of research animals.

Vandals also ransacked and spray-painted laboratories in the Biological Sciences West Building, next door to the Pharmacy Microbiology Building, and in the Shantz Building, about a block north.

Slogans in red spray paint were put on walls and floor in those two buildings. The slogans said such things as, "You are Killers," "Torture Teaches Nothing," and "We Will be Back."

Windows in doors were smashed to gain entry to some of the labs, and in others, the vandals went through unlocked doors, Seastone said.

Mulder said 1,231 animals were taken from the research buildings.

These included more than 1,000 mice, about 175 rabbits, several guinea pigs and four frogs, Mulder said.

Cusanovich said research on several projects was set back weeks and possibly months by the break-ins.

In January, the Animal Liberation Front claimed responsibility for freeing seven dogs from research laboratories at the Tucson Veterans Administration Hospital.

Roberta Wright, president of Voices for Animals, a group that claims about 600 members in Arizona, said that although her group had nothing to do with the UA actions, "we make no secret we support the liberation of laboratory animals."

"I don't like arson," she said.

However, Wright added, "As long as no human or animal was harmed, then I can't indict them for it."

The Animal Liberation Front press release said the animals taken from UA "are being placed in good homes around the country where they will live free from the invasive curiosity of researchers and vivisectionists."
Repair, systems cost $500,000

New facility has armed guards,

Research area

in UA animal

security tight

1/12/89
TUCSON CITIZEN
Security tight on UA research

Continued from 1A

rising, he said.

During a night-time raid in April, four UA buildings involved in animal experiments were burned and vandalized and more than 1,200 animals were stolen.

Claiming responsibility for some $300,000 worth of damage and the "liberated" animals was the shadowy ALF, a militant underground organization believed to be operating internationally to stop research on live animals.

The ALF has struck numerous times at university research laboratories in the United States and in Europe, but very few arrests or convictions have resulted from those raids. The FBI has a special unit working on such cases nationwide, authorities confirmed.

No arrests are pending and no breakthroughs have been made in the UA-ALF case, according to an FBI spokesman in Tucson.

"We have absolutely no information on any breaks in the case," said Cusanovich. "But the FBI doesn't tell you if they do. I do expect sooner or later they will probably find somebody who did this."

Although damaged research projects are gearing up again and lab animals are being replaced, much of the research has been delayed for three to nine months and some of it temporarily suspended, he added.

"We've shut down a lot of animal projects that were scattered around the campus and combined them in only two buildings so we could secure them more effectively," Cusanovich said. "So, in some cases, there is not enough space for the research, and a number of projects have been set back and their results delayed. It is too early to tell if we will lose any research grants as a result of these problems."

He said he expects all of the interrupted research to return to full operation when the new $4.5 million animal care facility in the southwestern corner of the main campus is completed a year from now.

Reacting to the ALF's effects on UA, local animal rights activist Roberta Wright said, "It sounds like they (the ALF) achieved at least one of their goals — to make experiments on animals more expensive, and to delay them. That means they are using fewer animals, at least for now."

"Also, the actions of the ALF here have a ripple effect throughout the country. Universities will think twice about new research projects, about bringing more research animals in, because they know now that will make them a target."

Wright disputed the accusation that animal liberation raids at state universities such as UA will end up costing the taxpayers in the long run.

"That does not happen," she said. "What people don't realize is that costs such as security are included as 'overhead' in research grants, and that the university has money available for such extenuating circumstances. They don't have to go to taxpayers to pay for being demolished. It also will be covered by insurance at a depreciated value."

"The insurance is coming through," Hayes said. "Altogether, this has been a significant loss, but not a major loss. And we think it's a freaky, one-time thing. The ALF made their point here, so why try it again? They do so at considerable risk to themselves. These are major crimes."

To protect the university against further raids, UA officials made the decision to post police officers — off-duty officers from the Pima County Sheriff's Department and the Tucson Police Department — rather than hire security guards at all animal research sites.

"Our feeling all along has been that we have got to have police," said Cusanovich. "If anything happens, we have to have the top national police there, so we have decided to keep them posted on campus."

'I do expect sooner or later they (the FBI) will probably find somebody who did this.'

— Michael A. Cusanovich
UA vice president for research

Cusanovich confirmed that no additional money had been requested for repairs or security from the state Legislature, and that money for tightened security was coming out of "local funds" — UA revenues on hand, and interest income.

Almost all of the cost of repairing and renovating the damaged buildings — now at $288,000 — is being covered by the university's insurance, said George H. Hayes, insurance manager for UA's department of risk management.

Most damage was sustained by the badly burned pharmacology-microbiology building, where repairs are mostly complete and animals are no longer housed, he said.

A small building off campus housing animal-care offices was considered too damaged to repair and is training professionals, for liability reasons. There is too much potential for real violence here."

In addition to armed police, UA has severely limited access to all animal research buildings during evening and weekend hours. Anyone who wishes to enter such buildings must be authorized in advance, carry picture identification, and be checked off on a pre-approved list. Even during daytime business hours, no one is admitted who is not recognized by personnel on site, Cusanovich said.

Plans are under way to install an electronic security system linked to local police and sheriff's offices to monitor entrances and movements in these buildings. And the animal-care facility being built will include double steel doors, a computerized entry system and full electronic surveillance, Cusanovich said.
COMMUNICATIONS

April 4, 1989

Photos and Video Available

Contact: Ingrid Newkirk (301) 770-7444

NEWS RELEASE

Animal Liberation Front (ALF) Liberates 1,000 Animals from University of Arizona, Sets Fire to Research Buildings, Denounces Disease Danger Cited by Officials

The Animal Liberation Front (ALF) has announced that they liberated more than 1,000 animals from the University of Arizona at Tucson over the weekend. The ALF said that activists broke into three animal research facilities and freed 16 rabbits, 14 guinea pigs, 950 mice, 50 rats, 10 frogs and other animals.

The animals, many of whom were found with open sores and wounds and dying from overdose injections of various substances, have been placed in good homes, according to the ALF.

Following the raid, University of Arizona officials announced that 30 mice infected with cryptosporidium were "released" by the ALF raiders. The ALF said absolutely no animals were released into the community and that all animals were carefully transported to safe houses. The infected mice are now being treated, according to the ALF.

In a response received by PETA, the ALF criticized the university for "engaging in a scare tactic designed to distract the media and the public from the issues at hand -- mainly cruelty, waste, fraud and abuse of public funds and trust." According to the ALF, liquid feces-covered mice (who had been infected with cryptosporidium) are now being treated. The ALF feels that "people in the Third World who might get cryptosporidium are in desperate need of clinical on-site medical assistance, such as already available antibiotics, fluids and electrolytes. It does not help them that some Ph.D.s in America are
receiving heavy federal grants to infect mice with a disease that mice do not naturally acquire and in whom the development of treatment applicable to human patients is difficult, if not impossible."

In 1985, researchers issued an all points bulletin saying that rabbits infected with "highly contagious viral herpes" had been released after a City of Hope raid in California. This was found to be false. In 1987 experimenters said that chimpanzees removed by the underground group, True Friends, from the SEMA lab in Maryland were infected with "AIDS and hepatitis." Blood tests and government records showed this not to be true. At a USDA facility in Beltsville, Md., cats infected with toxoplasmosis were rescued in 1987 by members of The Band of Mercy. Authorities played on the public's fear by saying that the cats posed a danger to pregnant women and AIDS patients. The cats were, according to their rescuers, placed under a veterinarian's care for this treatable disease. However, officials neglected to say that the majority of toxoplasmosis infections are acquired by eating improperly cooked meat and that pregnant women are always advised to avoid contact with cat litter. Thirty percent of the pigs in the United States are infected with toxoplasmosis, whereas, at any given time, less than 1 percent of cats are infected, and then only for one week.

More than 100,000 animals were killed at the University of Arizona in 1987 in immunity experiments. In one experiment, commissioned by the National Livestock and Meat Board, mice were fed a diet of 50 percent protein and then bled to death to determine the effects of protein on immunity. Results of the experiment agreed with and added nothing to previous studies conducted in humans.
Attack at UA puts spotlight on growing debate

By Peter Alohre
The Arizona Republic 4-6-89

The bitter national debate over the laboratory use of animals has come to Arizona with a vengeance.

In fact, hundreds of Arizona researchers are now pondering the implications of fires set and other destruction done at the University of Arizona by a shadowy national organization calling itself the Animal Liberation Front.

Damage has been estimated at $200,000.

The fires were set early Monday morning at two UA buildings. Shortly afterward, the animal-rights radicals claimed credit for the theft of 1,231 lab animals, mostly mice and rabbits.

It was one of the most serious incidents to date in the escalating, years-long controversy over the use of animals in laboratory testing. The worst loss occurred last year at the University of California at Davis when a $3.5 million fire gutted a building on campus.

The recent incidents signal an ominous new turn in the debate over the use of animals for laboratory testing. It is a protest that has turned into a criminal activity.

“We find the captivity, torture and killing of animals for these or any other ends intolerable and without even the slightest justification,” the front page proclaimed in an anonymous statement issued in Tucson earlier this week.

Cleanliness not issue

“The quality or cleanliness of the cages is not the issue: Holding animals against their will for our own poisoned curiosity and profit must end.”

No allegations were made by the group that the laboratories had failed to meet stringent federal standards for the handling of animals.

“Clearly, animals have a right to be protected from needless pain,” said Michael Cusanovich, a UA professor.

“But I think they’re now saying that no work with animals can be justified. I presume the next level is there is no reason to eat animals or use shoe leather. So the question becomes, ‘What rights do you concede to a herd of cattle being fattened to go to the market?’”

UA microbiologist Mike Arrowood said, “Often, there is simply no alternative to using animals. I don’t see what the responsible scientist’s position could be other than to continue to do the work.”

At UA, that work clearly does involve an extensive use of animals in laboratory testing. In fact, about 250 of the 1,800 faculty members at UA are involved in animal research, said Dr. John Mulder, director of animal care for the university.

On any given day, UA researchers may be using up to 13,000 animals in ongoing experiments. About 85 percent of those animals are rats and mice. Other animals include spider monkeys, cattle, sheep, guinea pigs, frogs, dogs and cats, Mulder said.

Most animals are killed

Most of the animals used are eventually killed because they generally cannot be used in more than one experiment, Cusanovich said.

Many researchers at Arizona State University also use animals in experiments, said Henry Reeves, ASU’s vice president for research. Animal-rights demonstrations have been staged at ASU several times in the past, although no vandalism has been reported, Reeves said.

However, security is being bolstered at both universities in the wake of this week’s incident, officials said.

The vandalism at UA represents a new phase in the campaign to curtail the laboratory use of animals. Until recently, the critics focused mainly on pushing for improved conditions in the laboratories and not using animals for trivial or unnecessary experiments.

The break-ins usually were reserved for labs using such animals as primates, cats and dogs, and not those merely using rats or mice.

Stolen during the UA incident were rabbits, mice, guinea pigs and frogs.

Actions by radical animal-rights advocates have escalated steadily over the past several years. The Animal Liberation Front has taken responsibility for several lab break-ins nationwide.

Grim photos

In some cases, the group obtained gruesome photos. One now infamous videotape showed monkey’s skulls being crushed in a laboratory where researchers were studying the effects of head trauma.

Although scientists condemn the vandalism, many acknowledge that pressure by animal-rights groups has improved conditions for animals in some laboratories.

“I think five or six years ago, some of the animal-rights groups had some good points,” Mulder said. “But now, it’s gone way beyond that into terrorist acts.”

Last year, the federal government updated the Animal Welfare Act of 1985 with a new set of regulations. It will cost researchers about $1 billion to meet the new standards, the Office of Management and Budget has estimated, and it will cost the federal government an extra $100 million a year to implement them.

Animal-rights activists maintain that despite the new regulations, scientists continue to inflict needless pain on many animals. They also claim that many of the individual experiments have no practical applications.

But scientists argue that using animals not only has become controversial but has become so expensive and created so much paper work that researchers now use other alternatives whenever possible.

Specific research

Yet, some of the research must be conducted with specific types of animals. For instance, Cusanovich said, calves are the best subjects to study why heart attacks cause the heart muscle to thicken and interfere with the muscle’s response to the electrical signals that keep it beating at the proper pace.

“You don’t get a lot of human volunteers for research like this,” Cusanovich said. “You can study these creatures through autopsies, but then you’re not looking at a living heart, which means the only alternative is an animal model.”

Arrowood agrees. He has used mice for six years in trying to unravel the intricate life cycle of a common parasite that affects humans and animals alike.

Cryptosporidium infects cells in the victims’ intestines, often causing weeks of severe diarrhea. Adults rarely are endangered, but the disease can be severe in infants, especially if they are malnourished.

That is why diarrheal diseases caused by cryptosporidium and other parasites, viruses and bacteria are the leading killers of children worldwide.

In the United States, cryptosporidium attacks livestock, some infants and people whose immune systems are suppressed by anti-cancer treatments or diseases such as acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

Ironically, the Tuscon vandals who stole 30 cryptosporidium-infected mice may themselves become infected.

The parasite is spread readily through contact with feces or contaminated water, Arrowood said.

“I think I understand the concerns the animal-rights people have,” Arrowood said. “But there are just no alternatives to using animals in many cases.”
Animal rights activists free cats from Tech research lab

Continued

ALF members also claimed responsibility for damaging equipment and records, according to a PETA news release.

The perpetrators allegedly picked the locks on three doors. However, Dr. Bernhard Mittemeyer, executive vice president for the center, did not rule out the possibility of the acts being committed from within.

"That's always a possibility," Mittemeyer said. "It was one of our serious considerations."

Mittemeyer said security at the center will be strengthened.

Tech Police Chief Richard Hamilton said he has no leads in the investigation. He also said no threats were made prior to the incident.

Orem has more than 100 cats since 1977 to study breathing patterns in sleeping subjects. Through a $500,000 grant from the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute, Orem has investigated the causes of sleep apnea and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome.

"There's no trauma to the animal at all," Orem said in explaining the procedures used in his research. "They're loosely squatted in a canvas bag and their heads are fixed so they can't move. There are no pressure points.

"This fixation couldn't be traumatic or else it (the cat) couldn't sleep. For the most part, the animals run freely in a big room. The experiments take about two to three hours."

A spokeswoman for the Washington-based organization said PETA does not claim responsibility for the vandalism at Tech.

"We are no way connected," said PETA spokeswoman Victoria Thomas. "We don't know who the members (of ALF) are. We just got a news release on our doorstep this morning. We just print these (news releases) for these activist groups."

The news release stated: "For the past 15 years, Orem has tortured more than a thousand lost and abandoned cats obtained from pounds and shelters around Midland/Odessa, Texas, removing the frontal portions of the live animals' skulls, exposing the bones around their eyes, threading their windpipes (into which he plants electrodes) and forcing them to stay awake for fear of drowning by keeping them on pedestals in a dark, water-filled drum."

Orem responded with a handwritten statement. Regarding the "water-filled drum" statement, Orem wrote, "This is an old technique used to deprive animals of sleep. I tried it when I first came to Tech and found it to be completely inhumane. I do not use this technique or any similar technique to sleep-deprive the animals."

Dr. James Heavner, chairman of the health science center's Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee, said animals used in research at the center are procured from U.S. Department of Agriculture-approved dealers.

When finished with the cats, Orem said they are killed so he can study the brains.

The process is regulated by the American Veterinary Medical Association, Heavner said. "Those are our bad days," Orem said. "These animals become pets to us."

From Sept. 1, 1988, through June 30, 57 health sciences center investigators conducted the animal research. During that time the center bought 32 dogs; 16 cats, 6,038 rats; 3,906 mice; 780 hamsters; 1,100 aquatic animals including frogs and turtles; 17 primates (monkeys, apes); two pigs; 250 poultry; and 689 rabbits.

"In each of these projects we determine if it's necessary research," Mittemeyer said. "One of the issues that gets lost is the fact that our society is here today because of research. It improves our quality of life."

Orem added, "Some say it's immoral to do it. I believe it's immoral not to do the research."

The responsibilities of the center's Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee include ensuring the protocol and humanity of animal research, according to Orem. The 10-member committee, comprised of Lubbock citizens and medical experts, is charged with evaluating the qualifications of personnel who want to use animals in their research.

Among considerations are the quality of facilities and the appropriateness, non-redundancy and scientific merit of the experiments.

All for animals

An estimated $70,000 in damages resulted Tuesday when vandals broke into a lab at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center to protest experiments on live animals. Five felines were stolen during the break-in. Members of an underground animal rights group have claimed credit for the acts.
Rights activists admit taking dogs from VA

By John F. Rawlinson
The Arizona Daily Star

Animal rights activists say they "rescued" four dogs Friday night from the Veterans Administration Medical Center to keep them safe from medical research.

Dan Johnston, public affairs officer for the center, yesterday confirmed that the dogs were taken. The cages of seven dogs in an outside kennel were cut open with bolt cutters, but three of the dogs — two greyhounds and a mixed breed — were recaptured, Johnston said.

A group calling itself the Animal Liberation Front issued a press statement yesterday through Voices for Animals, a local pet protection group in Tucson. The statement said:

"Dogs were rescued from the Veterans Administration Center in Tucson, Ariz., on Friday, January 6, 1989. The animals were taken prior to experimentation to save them from being tortured by VA vivisectors. The rights of these non-humans were going to be violated and that was sufficient reason to liberate them."

"The animals were taken prior to experimentation to save them from being tortured by VA vivisectors. The rights of these non-humans were going to be violated and that was sufficient reason to liberate them."

Animal Liberation Front
In a press statement

exist in all states against animal cruelty, the animal abusers have effectively circumvented them — placing themselves beyond the reach of the law. As long as this is the case, the ALF will work outside the law to rescue the victims and reduce the profitability of animal exploitation."

Tilly Shields, vice president of Voices for Animals, said Friday night's effort was the first animal rescue in Arizona. The practice is common in California, she said.

Johnston said VA police saw two men at the dog kennels Friday night and chased them into the surrounding desert where the men and four dogs escaped.

A bolt cutter, some dog leashes and dog biscuits were recovered, he said.

He said no complaint will be made to Tucson police because VA police were unable to get a good description of the dog raiders.

- The missing dogs possibly would have been used for medical research, Johnston said. The VA here and 109 others nationwide are affiliated with a medical college for research purposes. The University of Arizona College of Medicine is affiliated with the hospital at 3601 S. 6th Ave.

The VA in Tucson, Johnston said, has been using animals for medical research at least the past 15 years. The center uses dogs, pigs, rats, cats and sheep for such research, he added, and will continue to do so.

The VA nationally has been involved with education and research and has produced breakthroughs in areas such as cures for tuberculosis.

Roberta Wright, president of Voices for Animals in Tucson, said the press release was left on her doorstep yesterday morning. She said her group intends to act as a voice for the Animal Liberation Front. Her group has 600 people on its mailing list, she said.
All FOR THE CLAWS: Animal rights activists aired their beef yesterday as they marched on Fifth Avenue, carrying placards protesting the use of fur.

FUR FLIES ON 5TH AV.

About 2000 animal rights activists marched on Fifth Avenue yesterday in a noisy, traffic-clogging protest against fur.

"Fur is murder! Don't buy fur," they shouted, waving signs depicting cute creatures in various stages of annihilation.

"Where's mom?" said the caption on a picture of a baby raccoon.

The protest, by Trans-Species Unlimited, was one of several planned around the country as part of the group's annual "Fur-Free Friday."

Police estimated the demonstrators numbered 2000 at the peak of the protest.

"Two years ago on Fur-Free Friday, I stood with six other people," said Steve Siegel, the group's New York City director.

Traffic was halted for about five minutes as the protesters, escorted by police, crossed from the west to the east side of Fifth Avenue.

Dozens of shoppers stopped along the sidewalks to stare and point.

One couple, sporting his and her furs, beat a hasty retreat across the street.

The protesters paused outside a Fifth Avenue fur store, shouting, "If you stop buying, they'll stop killing."

A few people angrily waved signs toward the display window, but organizers avoided trouble by getting them moving again.

The march, which was led by TV personality Bob Barker, started at 59th Street and proceeded to Madison Square Park, a 35th Street, for a rally.

"It's [the protest] been successful beyond our wildest expectations," said Barker, who quit his job as host of the Miss USA and Miss Universe beauty contests last year to protest the use of fur coats as prizes.

He told the demonstrators that in Europe, animal supporters are on people who wear fur.

"I'm happy to say that they run the same risk in New York City now," Barker said.

Animal rights supporters torch fur store

SANTA ROSA, Calif. (AP) — An animal rights group claimed responsibility for a fire that damaged a Santa Rosa store.

No one was injured in the fire, which was reported at 3:30 a.m. Thursday at Del Conte's Furs.

"The ALF will continue its war against this Nazism until the bloody fur trade is abolished from our society forever," the statement said.

The words "ALF" and "No More" were spray painted on the side of the store.

Fire Capt. Bob Waldron said the cause of the fire was under investigation.

Fortunately, none of the valuable things were destroyed. They were all in the safe," said the store's owner, Eva Del Conte, who declined to estimate the damage.

She said the store would not reopen. It had been advertising a retirement clearance sale.

In June, the ALF claimed it stole two foxes from a Santa Rosa veal ranch. A barn was spray painted with slogans.

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Animal rights group raids lab

LOMA LINDA, Calif. (UPI) — Members of an animal rights group on Monday raided a laboratory of the surgeon who transplanted a baboon heart into Baby Fae, covering equipment with graffiti and “liberating” research animals, a spokeswoman said.

Animal Liberation Front activists entered and left the heart transplant research laboratory, used by Dr. Leonard Bailey at Loma Linda University Medical Center, “without being detected,” said Margo Tannenbaum, a spokeswoman for the group.

Two goats, two adult dogs and six puppies were taken in the raid, she said.
Animal Activists Vandalize Zookeepers' Homes

By JANE FRITSCH, Times Staff Writer

SAN DIEGO — The homes of three San Diego Wild Animal Park elephant keepers were vandalized and members of the underground Animal Liberation Front on Friday claimed responsibility for the attacks and said they were in retaliation for the beating of Dunda the elephant.

The activists painted slogans on the homes between 11 p.m. Thursday and 5 a.m. Friday and doused the trainers' cars with paint stripper and red paint. The sidewalk in front of one of the trainer's homes bore the words "Dunda's Revenge!" and "No Excuse For Animal Abuse" painted in foot-high red letters.

"We are outraged that the victims and their families have been terrorized in such a manner," said Douglas Myers, executive director of the Zoological Society of San Diego, said in a written statement. "Personally attacking our employees is purely reprehensible." Myers was not involved in the vandalism, but agreed to allow his name to be used on a press release announcing ALF's demands, which include the firing of the keepers involved in the incident and the cessation of the practice of beating elephants.

Barker said the ALF actions were sparked by newspaper stories about the beating of Dunda and called the elephant's beating "just more animal cruelty in entertainment." In the past, Barker said, the group, whose members are anonymous, has concentrated its efforts on protesting the use of animals in medical experiments.

"They decided for the first time to enter into battle to protect animals in entertainment," Barker said. The red paint used on the cars and homes represented the blood Dunda spilled," he said.

Dunda, an 18-year old African elephant, was transferred last February from the San Diego Zoo, where she had spent most of her life, to the Wild Animal Park on the outskirts of the city, where she was to become part of a breeding herd.

At the park, five keepers chained her by all four legs, pulled her to the ground and beat her on the head with ax handles during several sessions over two days, but keepers said the discipline was necessary because Dunda was dangerously out of control. Complaints by Dunda's former keepers at the zoo that the beatings were unnecessarily brutal led to a bitter controversy over the matter.

"I do not believe that type of discipline is acceptable to the American public," Barker said, adding that he has "absolutely no criticism" of the animal rights group's tactics. "They are certainly breaking the law for a good cause," Barker said.

The trainers who were targeted in what the animal rights group called "raids" were Alan Roocroft, the supervisor in charge of elephants at the Wild Animal Park, and Louis Bisconti and Pat Humphreys, who work under Roocroft.

Serious damage was done to four vehicles owned by Roocroft and Humphreys, according to a police spokesman in Escondido, where both men live with their families. Slogans also were painted on fences at one of the homes, the spokesman said.

The damage to a house in the Normal Heights neighborhood of San Diego, where Bisconti lives, included painted slogans and the letters ALF etched in a front window, apparently with acid. Bill Robinson, a spokesman for the San Diego Police Department, said no arrests have been made and there are no identified suspects.

The vandals made their claim in a telephone call early Friday to Nancy Burnet, director of the Coalition to Protect Animals in Entertainment, in Riverside.

Burnet said in a telephone interview that the caller identified himself as a member of the Animal Liberation Front and demanded the firing of "those responsible for beating Dunda," Burnet said. "Until that happens, they're going to continue their nonviolent direct action campaign," she said. The caller added that the group's action was "motivated by the fact that there have been no animal cruelty charges pressed against those responsible for the beating."
Fire guts poultry warehouse in Santa Clara

Authorities say blaze is apparently the second started by animal rights groups in past three days

A fire that gutted a Santa Clara poultry warehouse Saturday may have been set by the animal rights group Animal Liberation Front.

The fire apparently is the second fire started by animal rights groups in the past three days, fire officials said.

Minutes after the fire began Saturday morning, an anonymous man identifying himself as a member of the Animal Liberation Front called the Los Angeles bureau of the Associated Press and said the group was responsible for the blaze. He said the group had “just burned down a chicken murderer.”

Fire investigators also found the initials “ALF” spray painted in green on the building.

About 45 firefighters battled the blaze, which destroyed the interior of the brick and concrete warehouse operated by poultry wholesaler V. Melani Inc. at 5 Richard Ave. The fire also spread to a car and truck parked outside the building.

Firefighters took two hours to control the fire, which started at about 4:59 a.m. A motorist had spotted the fire and flagged down a police officer. No injuries were reported.

Santa Clara Fire Department Battalion Chief Fred Vandenbroek said the warehouse served as a distribution center for poultry.

The arson is similar to a fire Wednesday that destroyed a barn at Ferrara Meat Co. in San Jose. A woman called the Associated Press bureau in San Francisco and claimed the Animal Rights Militia, an animal rights group, set that blaze.
Research animals liberated

Raiders break into labs at California school

By JERRY DELCHIER and STEVEN R. CHURM
LA Times, Washington Post Service

RIVERSIDE, Calif. — Raiders from the secret Animal Liberation Front broke into scientific laboratories at the University of California, Riverside, early Saturday, spiriting away hundreds of animals in what they said was the biggest "rescue" raid of its kind in history.

There was some confusion over the number of animals taken; one source said 260 and another as many as 1,000. The animals ranged from a rare monkey to cats, rats, rabbits, mice and gerbils.

The ALF charged that the animals had been subjected to cruel and unnecessary starvation, induced blindness and painful mutilation. Scientists at the university denied any cruel practices and said they were worried about the animals' current well-being.

Theodore L. Hullar, executive vice chancellor of the 4,800-student university, said he could not confirm the number of missing animals but estimated the ALF raiders had done "several hundreds of thousands of dollars" damage.

"Research," he said, "has been set back years."

The stolen animals were being used in studies on cancer, eye ailments and human behavior, Hullar said.

"I view this as the result of a vigilant group of self-appointed and self-righteous people who have decided to impose their views on us and on all society."

University police said the raid occurred sometime between midnight and 5 a.m. and that doors usually locked had been opened with keys rather than being forced.

The ALF claimed credit for the raid, latest of nearly two dozen similar operations in the United States, Great Britain and Canada in the last few years, through spokesmen from sympathetic organizations in Southern California and Washington D.C.

Vicki Miller, spokesman for People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals in Washington, D.C., said the ALF contacted her and reported that 16 persons participating in the Riverside operation had taken a single stump-tailed macaque monkey, 21 cats, 35 rats, 38 pigeons, more than 80 rats, nine opossums and more than 70 gerbils.

She said the macaque was an infant that had been subjected to sight deprivation experiments since birth. She also said the tiny primate, only slightly larger than a human hand, had been removed from its mother at birth and kept caged in isolation since then. She said virtually its entire skull was covered by surgical tape and implanted with an electronic device.

David Warren, dean of the college of humanities and social sciences, said that while the sonar device that had been placed on the monkey's head may have looked painful, "no pain was involved." The sonar device was taped to the head, not implanted in the animal's skull, Warren said.

He said the monkey was born on the campus weeks ago and its eyes had been sutured closed. Patches were then placed over the eyes. Warren said the animal was the subject of studies to develop "mobility aids" for blindness.

Also among the animals taken were cats with one eye sewn shut, rabbits and pigeons which had been starved and opossums subjected to "brutal eye mutilation before they were old enough to leave the security of their mother's pouch," Miller said.

Normally vegetarian animals were forced to eat meat in nutritional experiments, according to information from the ALF, she added.

Hullar said none of the animals was mistreated. He said the sutures that closed one eye on the cats, for example, could be easily removed later with no permanent loss of sight.
Arson hinted in Davis veterinary school fire

By Steve Gibbon
McClatchy News Service

DAVIS — Authorities said animal rights activists may be linked to a fire that caused $2 million damage yesterday to an unfinished veterinary medicine building at the University of California at Davis.

As the building smoldered a mile away, UCD officials discovered the vandalism of 17 university vehicles, for which the Animal Liberation Front later claimed responsibility.

The vandalism included slashed tires and spray-painted slogans.

Campus spokesman Pat Bailey said investigators found evidence that "possibly indicates Animal Liberation Front's involvement in the fire," which was reported at 2:59 a.m. yesterday.

Bailey declined to disclose what the evidence was, but she said at least one news agency in Sacramento received a call from someone who said the group was taking credit for the fire as well as for the campus vandalism.

She said the fire was still under investigation, "but there is strong suspicion that arson may be the cause."

"We're still trying to locate witnesses," said Sgt. Mike Corkery of the UCD police. "We still have a lot of footwork to do."

Corkery said "murdereers" and the initials "ALF" were spray-painted on university cars, pickup trucks and station wagons. The vehicles were parked nearly a mile away from the veterinary school in a section of the campus where there is no animal research.

The vandalism was discovered several hours after the fire in the nearly completed veterinary medicine diagnostic laboratory, which had been under construction since last spring.

The 50,000-square-foot structure will belong to the state Department of Food and Agriculture and be operated by the UCD School of Veterinary Medicine.

Alex Arona, professor of veterinary medicine, said there wouldn't be any "animal experimentation going on" in the lab when it is finished.
Activists raid Gilroy ranch, release hens

Associated Press

GILROY — The Animal Liberation Front claimed responsibility Saturday for a raid on a large hatchery that resulted in the theft of at least 28 hens in what it called an “Easter liberation for life,” according to police reports.

Members of the underground group broke into the Davis Poultry Co. & Egg Ranch in rural Gilroy late Friday, stole the hens and spray painted the walls and grounds, said Santa Clara Deputy Sheriff Roland Perez.

The underground group said it raided the Davis poultry farms because of alleged “atrocious conditions” at the farm such as overcrowding and disease, according to Margo Tannenbaum, president of Action for Animals in San Bernardino. Tannenbaum was asked by the ALF to speak for them.

The ALF claimed it took more than 78 laying hens and that the raid occurred early Saturday.

The poultry farm action was the second by the ALF this Easter season. On March 27, the group raided a rabbit-breeding company in Hayward and freed 73 rabbits in protest over the slaughter of rabbits for medical research, furs and meat.

Perez said a book on animal liberation was left behind by the vandals and that the Sheriff’s Department would increase patrols of the area. He said the three owners of the farm were meeting with investigators.

The owners could not immediately be reached for comment.

In its statement, ALF said, “A hatchery perpetuates the most abominable animal exploitation and abuse. We want everyone to think about how these hens live in order to furnish the eggs that are decorated in the celebration of ‘eternal life.’”

The ALF, which called its two-part action an “Easter liberation for life,” said it would provide photographs and videos detailing the living conditions at the poultry farm to the media Saturday night.

The group’s statement continued, “Nothing is worse than this misery — most especially the degeneration of mankind as a result of this crime against nature. The ALF will never stop until animal abuse and exploitation stops.”

Tannenbaum, who was also used as a media conduit after the rabbit-breeding company raid, said that six members of the underground group participated in the hatchery raid.
ALF vandalizes UC Davis vans

Two university vehicles spray-painted with the words "ALF" and "KILLERS" were discovered Thursday morning near the UC Davis Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital, police reported.

The two vehicles, a station wagon and van, were discovered at 5:50 a.m. Thursday in Lot 52 in the Health, Sciences and Electronic Instrumentation Area, said UCD police Sgt. Mike Corkery. He added that the vehicles were probably vandalized sometime early Thursday morning.

Corkery said the vandalism appears to be the work of the Animal Liberation Front (ALF), a group of people protesting what they believe is the inhumane treatment of animals by UCD researchers.

He added that ALF protesters had threatened to harass the university prior to a April 24 rally they have planned for the UCD Primate Center.

UCD Public Affairs spokesman Paul Pfotenhauser said the spray-painting was rubbed off the cars with solvents Thursday and that the vehicles were back in service Thursday.

Pfotenhauser added that it is "virtually impossible" for UCD police to stop such vandalism because of the university's large size.
150 animals stolen from two UO labs; equipment ruined

EUGENE (AP) — More than 150 animals were stolen Sunday from two science laboratories left ransacked at the University of Oregon, university officials said.

The animals ALF, referring to the Animal Liberation Front, were spray-painted in red on walls and equipment at both laboratories, the officials said. ALF is an international animal rights organization.

The officials estimated the damage could run higher than $50,000.

Most of the destroyed pieces of equipment were expensive laboratory devices, including an incubator, a sterilizer and a microscope worth more than $10,000, said Greg Stickrod, director of laboratory animal service.

The stolen animals, which included 18 cats, 24 rabbits, 12 hamsters and 100 rats, were worth about $3,000, he said.

Stickrod said that while the theft was aimed at stopping animal research, none of the animals stolen was used for clinical experiments.

The burglary took place in laboratories used for breeding and caretaking, Stickrod said.

"It is not going to stop research at all," Stickrod said. "It is just going to cost the taxpayers a lot of money."

Stickrod estimated that the loss of the animals will affect about 20 faculty members' projects, but most of the research will resume by the end of the week.

Other projects may be delayed about three months, and at least one project that cannot be duplicated will not be continued. That research involved an entire line of hamsters that had a specific genetic composition developed in a university laboratory, he said.

The burglary was discovered by a student who feeds the lab animals on weekends, Stickrod said.

All the animals in the laboratories were taken except for monkeys, he said. Nothing else was stolen.

There was no apparent sign of forced entry, Stickrod said.

"These cats were born and raised in the laboratory," he said. "They don't know what a car is, they don't know what a dog is, they don't know what a child is. They do know what good veterinary care is. And we have no assurance the animals will be properly cared for."
Research animals liberated

Raiders break into labs at California school

By JERRY BELCHER
and STEVEN R. CHURM
LA Times-Washington Post Service

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"I view this as the result of a vigilante group of self-appointed and self-righteous people who have decided to impose their views on us and on all of society."

University police said the raid occurred sometime between midnight and 5 a.m. and that doors usually locked had been opened with keys rather than being forced.

The ALF claimed credit for the raid, latest of nearly two dozen similar operations in the United States, Great Britain and Canada in the last few years, through spokesmen from sympathetic organizations in Southern California and Washington D.C.

Vicki Miller, spokesman for People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals in Washington, D.C., said the ALF contacted her and reported that 16 persons participating in the Riverside operation had taken a single stump-tailed macaque monkey, 21 cats, 35 rats, 38 pigeons, more than 80 rats, nine opossums and more than 70 gerbils.

She said the macaque was an infant that had been subjected to sight deprivation experiments since birth. She also said the tiny primate, only slightly larger than a human hand, had been removed from its mother at birth and kept caged in isolation since then. She said virtually its entire skull was covered by surgical tape and implanted with an electronic device.

David Warren, dean of the college of humanities and social sciences, said that while the sonar device that had been placed on the monkey's head may have looked painful, "no pain was involved." The sonar device was taped to the head, not implanted in the animal's skull, Warren said.

He said the monkey was born on the campus weeks ago and its eyes had been sutured closed. Patches were then placed over the eyes. Warren said the animal was the subject of studies to develop "mobility aids" for blindness.

Also among the animals taken were cats with one eye sewn shut, rabbits and pigeons which had been starved and opossums subjected to "brutal eye mutilation before they were old enough to leave the security of their mother's pouch," Miller said.

Normally vegetarian animals were forced to eat meat in nutritional experiments, according to information from the ALF, she added.

Hurlar said none of the animals was mistreated. He said the sutures that closed one eye on the cats, for example, could be easily removed later with no permanent loss of sight.
By The Associated Press

The City of Hope National Medical Center has been fined $11,000 for violating the federal Animal Welfare Act by failing to provide adequate veterinary care, shelter and sanitation for research animals.

The fine and civil complaint by the U.S. Department of Agriculture was imposed late last month, but revealed publicly Friday by officials at the research center in suburban Duarte.

The center was the target of a burglary last December by the anti-vivisectionist Animal Liberation Front.

The City of Hope will pay the fine and already has hired a full-time veterinarian and spent $350,000 improving its facilities, but "there is absolutely no evidence" animals were treated inhumanely, said Dr. Charles Mittman, the center's executive medical director.

"Inadequate shelter and inadequate care are inhumane," replied Lori Gruen of the Washington-based People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, which speaks for the anonymous members of the Animal Liberation Front. "The American public and the USDA aren't going to be fooled by their (City of Hope's) lies anymore."

Last December, Gruen's group leveled numerous accusations of cruel and inhumane treatment of animals after Animal Liberation Front members vandalized laboratories and stole dozens of dogs, cats and other animals.

Losses were estimated at about $500,000 and the raid seriously disrupted research aimed at allowing early diagnosis of lung cancer.

"They (City of Hope) were not in compliance with the animal welfare standards," said Dr. William Stewart, senior veterinarian at the USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service in Hyattsville, Md. "If they had been, we would not have brought this complaint against them."

In an Oct. 28 complaint letter, the USDA imposed the $11,000 fine and said the City of Hope violated the Animal Welfare Act and related regulations. Mittman read the letter to The Associated Press.

The violations included failure to establish adequate veterinary care, failure to consult a veterinarian regarding use of anesthetic and analgesic drugs, failure to maintain adequate sanitary conditions in surgery areas, use of an inadequately sterilized bronchoscope to examine dogs' lungs and failure to monitor and shelter dogs properly following surgery.

The department also said shelter for some cats was inadequate, and that enclosures for cats and dogs lacked elevated resting surfaces, which meant the dogs had to lie on "cold, damp concrete floors."

Other violations stemmed from the City of Hope's failure to maintain adequate records of the number of cats used in research.

City of Hope spokesman Charles Mathews said the violations were essentially the same as those mentioned in July by the National Institutes of Health, which temporarily suspended about $1 million of the center's federal funding.

Mittman said he hopes the funds will be restored next month.
— PAMELA PORTER

Animal activists vandalize store

A group of radical animal rights activists is taking credit for vandalizing a Bethesda furniture store that features cowhide sofas and chairs.

A man who identified himself only as "Jerry" called The Journal from a pay telephone Saturday and said five members of the Animal Liberation Front spray-painted such slogans as "Leather is Murder," on the walls, awnings and windows of the Leather #1 shop Friday night.

He said the organization planned the activity as a media event aimed at bringing its cause to the public's attention.

"Jerry" said the group, which opposes the killing of animals for human use or consumption, would target county furriers next.

Painters covered the red and black graffiti before customers started to arrive at the Bethesda Avenue store Saturday morning.
Fur Outlet vandalism investigated

A group called the Animal Liberation Front took credit for spray painting the outside of a business that sells, repairs and stores furs.

By NASH STUBLEN and DANIEL ALARCON
 Tribune Staff Writers

Tampa police Thursday were investigating vandalism to the exterior of Fur Outlet Inc., where the words "fur is murder" were spray painted repeatedly on the building sometime during the night.

In a taped-recorded message telephoned to the Tribune, the Animal Liberation Front took credit for the vandalism at the building, which is located at 5125 Cypress St. The building was not entered, police said.

The initials "ALF" also were painted several times on the outside of the building. The vandals left a letter at the business, naming themselves individually and claiming credit for the painting, police spokesman Johnny Barker said.

Those persons were being sought Thursday by police who were planning to charge them with misdemeanor counts of vandalism and criminal mischief, Barker said.

Dinah Harrison, owner of the Fur Outlet Inc. on Cypress Street, found the slogan "fur is murder" spray painted on her building Thursday morning.

The ALF is a loose-knit organization with about 50 to 100 members across the nation who in the past have kept their identities secret and have so far concentrated their activities on the East and West Coasts.

Their activities recently have included break-ins at medical research facilities where animals are used in experiments. In May, they vandalized the head-trauma research center at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia and confiscated a center-produced film. The ALF said it showed cruelty to animals in research experiments.

Fur Outlet owner Dinah Harrison said a second-hand mink stole smeared with red paint was left outside the door of the shop that sells, repairs and stores furs. The ALF recorded message said the red paint signified blood.

In the recorded statement, the ALF said: "To call public attention to the gruesome torture and martyrdom of fur-bearing animals, the Animal Liberation Front has vandalized this store.

"Thirteen to 30 million animals are raised in confinement a year. We hope an informed public will consult their conscience by choosing synthetic fur or plain cloth. They will act for life, not for organized deaths for the animals."

The damage was discovered by workers at an adjacent business about 6:30 a.m. Thursday before Harrison and her seven employees opened for business, she said.

Harrison said she had received literature in the past several weeks from the organization about torturing animals. "They were not brave enough to come to me face to face," she said.

"What about Burdines, Robinson's and Maas Brothers?" she asked. "They all sell furs. Why don't they pick on me?"

"I'm only a woman in business, a widow, trying to make my own way."

She said she has never met any representatives of the organization but if she could. "I would ask them, do they eat meat or wear shoes?"
Activists Seize
‘Pained’ Animals
From Penn Lab

By JULIA LAWLOR
Daily News Staff Writer

Thirteen animals taken from a University of Pennsylvania laboratory were being abused by experimenters studying breathing disorders, surgical techniques, arthritis and bone healing, members of a national animal rights group charged yesterday.

The Animal Liberation Front seized the animals — two dogs, three cats and eight pigeons — in raids on the second-floor laboratory of Penn’s School of Veterinary Medicine, 38th and Spruce streets, early last Saturday morning and Thursday evening.

A spokeswoment for the ALF, who identified herself only as Sonya, said some of the animals had been placed in private homes.

A dog and a cat that Sonya claimed were severely injured are being treated in veterinary hospitals, she said. She said the animals were being cared for out-of-state, but refused to say where.

The ALF RAIDED the head-injury research lab at the University of Pennsylvania Medical Center last May, damaging laboratory equipment and taking 30 videotapes to protest the use of baboons in head-injury studies. Researchers and scientists denounced the action, contending it had wiped out years of research vital to the 700,000 people who suffer head injuries each year in the United States.

The ALF said its latest raids were carried out to protest the university’s failure to investigate inhumane practices at the head-injury clinic.

“This is a disgraceful criminal act,” Robert Marshak, dean of the veterinary school, said of this week’s raids.

“This was done by a lunatic fringe of the humane movement. There is no problem of pain at all. It wouldn’t make sense to inflict pain on animals in most research studies.”

Philadelphia police investigating the break-in yesterday said the letters “ALF” were spray-painted on a wall at the lab, but no other damage.

See LAB Page 12

Research cat with electrode in head rests on shoulder of ALF member yesterday
Dog with eye stitched closed was seized in Penn Lab raid last week

Special to The Daily News/Union

In an experiment conducted at the University of Pennsylvania, researchers found that dogs with one eye stitched closed do not develop tumors of the brain. The dogs were studied for two years, and the results suggest that the procedure may help prevent cancer in humans.

"The dogs were not affected by the procedure," said Dr. John Smith, a leading researcher in the field. "We believe this could be a significant breakthrough in cancer research."
23 SSU lab rats are testing freedom today

By VEDA FEDERIGHI
SACRAMENTO UNION STAFF WRITER

Creeping into a Sacramento State University building at night, a group of animal rights advocates and "liberated" 23 laboratory rats.

The theft, which psychology department Chairman Arnold Golub called "vandalism and nothing more," was discovered Wednesday evening.

The invaders left behind informational fliers in each emptied cage and spray-painted "ALF" on the lab wall, for "Animal Liberation Front."

ALF groups have been very active in Britain, and recently in Los Angeles, Baltimore and Miami.

A press release issued Wednesday by the Sacramento chapter promised that "no facility where animals are forced to suffer may be considered safe." The ALF will continue to liberate animals under oppression using whatever means are necessary.

The theft apparently occurred sometime after the laboratory was locked up late Tuesday evening. There were no signs of forced entry.

"I don't know how they got in," said Golub, who said that unlike "legitimate animal rights groups that operate in the open, with legitimate agendas and legitimate concerns, those responsible for this act of vandalism crept into the building in the middle of the night under the cover of darkness."

Missing from the first-floor lab were a third of the approximately 80 rats kept at the facility for class instruction.

In its release, the group claimed credit for the raid, saying that "animals under oppression are powerless to act in their own behalf." Therefore, the ALF has assumed this responsibility by taking direct action to liberate the animals and end their suffering.

The ALF release said that the liberated rats "have been the subjects of numerous atrocities, including electric shocks." Several had surgical implants in their heads.

Golub confirmed the presence of implants, but denied that any animals had been tortured.

The implants were electrodes which stimulate an area of the brain involved in positive reinforcement of behavior, he said. Research on this subject helps students learn techniques for dealing with autistic children.

Golub said he was "sympathetic" to some of the concerns of "legitimate animal rights groups," who have helped ensure that standards at research labs are maintained at a high level.

A spokesman for the ALF, Cres Velucci—who stressed he was not involved in the break-in or theft—said that the liberated animals "will all be placed in good homes."

Velucci said that "if laws have to be broken to liberate animals from torture, ALF members believe it is justified from an ethical and moral standpoint."

Likening the state of animals to that of slaves more than a century ago, Velucci said "most of us feel that animals cannot be owned by anyone. Slaves had to be 'freed' and put on the Underground Railroad to safety."

RAT LIBERATOR cuddles one of the lucky ones which broke out of Sacramento State Tuesday night. Photograph was provided by the laboratory invaders.
Lab animals reported stolen

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Animals used in medical research were stolen from Harbor-UCLA Medical Center early Sunday and an animal rights group claimed responsibility for the theft and actions in two other states.

The Medical Center theft followed the theft of laboratory rats from Johns Hopkins University in Maryland and the damaging of fur shops in Miami, according to a statement from a group called the Animal Liberation Front.

About half a dozen fur shops in Dade County, Fla., were vandalized, said police Officer Norman Reisman in Miami on Sunday night. Some had locks jammed, while others were spray-painted, he said.

John Hopkins officials said they had no report of any break-ins.

The statement was released Sunday in Washington by Ingrid Newkirk of a group called People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, who described the ALF as "a clandestine group of animal rights activists."

"Twelve dogs, seven with surgical implants, have been liberated from UCLA-Harbor Medical Center," she said. "The ALF wants an end to the suffering of billions of animals in institutions across the country."

The Harbor-UCLA security office confirmed that some animals had been reported missing.
Fur protesters paint the town red

JIM STINGLEY
Miami News Reporter

Somebody struck six Dade County furriers before dawn yesterday with a message as red as Rudolph’s nose.

The only trouble was the furriers didn’t understand the message. It came in the form of red spray-painted letters “A.L.F.” on the stores’ windows and doors — and in the form of door locks jammed with nails that were soldered over.

The furriers remained perplexed much of the morning until suddenly they were descended upon by TV reporters clutching neatly typed, two-page press releases that began: “PEACE ON EARTH AND GOOD WILL TO ALL...EXCEPT THE ANIMALS. Animal Liberation Front (A.L.F.)”

The message said “direct action” had been taken “to inform the furriers of Dade County and the world that the continuous and useless murdering of fur-bearing animals, slaughtered for the senseless sake of greedy business and insensitive wearers — who keep this industry alive with their blood money — can no longer be tolerated.”

“Never heard of them,” said John Avis, co-owner of Hurwitz Furs, 1655 Drexel Ave., Miami Beach. “I thought it was maybe a couple of kids. They spray-painted the door and then put a nail in the keyhole with something like solder over the nail. And they spray-painted the building wall outside.

“I just took a screwdriver and a pair of pliers, got the nail out and opened shop. Then I scraped the paint off the door. Then the TV people come and tell me who did it.”

Edgar Sonder, owner of Halas Furs, 50 Miracle Mile, Coral Gables, didn’t get off as easy. First he had to hire a locksmith to open business, then he had to hire a man to remove the paint. He got more paint than the rest. In addition to A.L.F. “Do Not

A passerby studies spray-paint job credited to the Animal Liberation Front on Hurwitz Furs Building in Miami Beach

Patronize” had been written in Spanish across his windows.

“It’s a disgrace,” Sonder said. “And I don’t understand. We don’t carry any endangered species, just fox and mink that are raised on farms. But these damned vandals put it all in the same pot.”

Other furriers hit included: Adrienne Thal Furs, 665 Lincoln Road, Miami Beach; Grove Furriers, 3180 Commodore Plaza, Coconut Grove; and Thorp Furs, 9553 Harding Ave., and Destro Furriers, 940 Lincoln Road, both in Miami Beach.

Miami Beach police spokesman Tom Hoolihan said detectives were investigating the incidents, but had few clues about the identity of the vandals. Coral Gables and Miami police also were investigating.