Animal-Liberation! intergalactic gathering



Berlin, July 22. - 29. 2000

Welcome to the Intergalactic Animal Liberation Gathering: This is being held in the Köpi (Köpenickerstr. 137) and Drugstore. (Potsdamer Str. 180) This is a grassroots gathering by and for animal rights and liberation activists, about animal liberation. Grassroots means that it's self organised - if you want the gathering to happen, you have to take part in it and do something! This gathering is an opportunity to get together with activists from all over the world; to exchange skills, information, ideas, to discuss how animal liberation can be achieved and to network and cooperate internationally.

And now for the obligatory (Paranoia attack.... Take care when talking about "illegal" actions (whether planned or those that have already happened) Say nothing! that could endanger yourself or others! The police will be listening....

so what's going on?

Ok- it's <u>Saturday</u>, you've got here, had something to eat and been handed these bits of paper – what now? There'll be a meeting in the Köpi around 8 o'clock where things will be explained, the basic structure of the gathering and the important things to know. Questions will be answered (just nothing difficult, ok?), and then you'll be shown where you can sleep and which rooms we can use.

Here's the basic timetable for the first two days and a list of all the workshops, films and actions which can happen during the week. If you want to add anything else to the list, PLEASE DO. A large poster will be hung out in both Drugstore and Köpi and anyone offering to do a workshop is asked to write down the days and times you'd like to do it on. We want to have at least two workshops running parallel, so that people will always have a choice of which they want to go to, and it would be good if all workshops could be held more than once so that nobody needs to miss anything. You see, YOUR input is vital for your enjoyment of the gathering. You have as much say about what happens as the organisers do.

<u>Sunday</u> begins with breakfast from 8:30 onwards. At 10:30 there'll be a big meeting in the main room of the Köpi in which all the people and groups present can introduce themselves. We'd like this to be a bit more than: "My name's Bob and i come from over there...". We all want to know what sort of thing's your group does, what the situation's like where you're from, etc. If you have something to show us – photos, magazines, reports, films... so much the better!

At around 12:00 (or whenever this is over) the first workshop will begin. They are:

"Building and using lock-ons" "animal research in universities"

15:00 "Resistance movements and the animal liberation movement." "Computers"

17:00 "using scanners"

19:00 Evening meal

21:00 Film Huntingdon- the truth Tierbefreiung ist nicht nur ein Wort



Workshops (hopefully there will be more):

- Lock picking. It's dark, it's cold you've lost the keys to you're house this workshop will show you how to get in you're house without having to ask the police for assistance.
- Computers. PGP, hacking, internet, whatever you want to know, our expert can show you.
- Legal rights in berlin. Laws which may effect you, what to do if you're arrested, the german legal system ...
- Non animal tested products and cosmetics with the people from Berlin's vegan shop.
- How children are brought up to be speciesist. The german educationalist Erika Gartman has formulated in her book "The need of a new human-animal relationship" seven theses about how children are suffering of a trauma in their young years when seeing that animals are abused by adults. We want to talk about theses thesis and about tactics of the animal exploiting industries to shape young people into speciesists and about our strategies to oppose these tactics.
- animal research in universities
- Banner making for the demo, RTS and other things during the week
- Climbing. Now what could this involve?
- C&A Campaign against department stores selling fur
- Resistance movements and the animal liberation movement. Short overview over resistance movements and the "right to resist" in the past their goals, tactics, theories and problems and links to the animal liberation movement, ist beginning and its present struggle.
- Lock-ons: How to build them, how to use them, what you might expect during a blockade

- Self defense
- Hunt and shooting sabotage: Different types of bloodsports how to find a hunt and how to sab them most effectively.
- Fighting the fur industry: How to smash it.
- Constructed boundaries: problems and danger of drawing a line between us and other animals and the role of science in the origin of speciesism. Speciesism has many roots. One lies in the anthropology and ist biological determination and reduction when speaking of what was man and what was animal. Putting animals in the category "nature" makes them being "resources", "brutes", beings without rights. From the book "Humans and other animals" from the dutch anthropologist Barbara Noske we want to start a talk about the mistakes of the mainstream sciences and develope our own idea about how to meet the other animals.
- Working class and animal liberation: How the two subjects relate and conflict with each other
- Gender
- Scanners: How, when and why to use them
- Sea Shepherd: About the group
- Bull fighting
- Animal Rights and socialism
- Starting and running an ALF Supporter's Group
- Tripods: Building them and using them
- MRT (Men organising Radical Therapy)
- Manouver's: Something like an assault course for activists just for fun.
- Networking: A big workshop near the end of the week. Do we want to/need to network our movement more? How can we do this best? Where do we go from here?



Here's a timetable of all events which have to happen at these times. The other times will be decided during the week.

	SAT 22.07	SUN 23.07	MON 24.07	TUE 25.07	WED 26.07	THU 27.07	FRI 28.07	SAT 29.07
8:30		Breakfast	Breakfast	Meat is murder!	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
10:30		Meeting	Meeting		Meeting	● ^a Day out to a laboratory	Meeting	Last meeting
	11.00 Breakfast							
12:00		*Lock-on-wkshop *animal research in universities	*Legal rights in Germany					
15:00		*resistance movements and the animal liberation movement *computers	*16:00 non-animal tested products		*16:00 how to make tripods		▲ 16:00 DEMO AGAINST ANIMAL EXPLOITATION	
17:00		*using scanners	*fighting the fur industry		Lock-on-wkshop			
	18:00 Evening							
	meal							
19:00		Evening meal	Evening meal	Evening meal	Evening meal	Evening meal	Evening meal	Evening meal
	20:00 first meeting	<u>Films:</u> Huntingdon – the truth. Tierbefreiung ist nicht nur ein Wort.						Party

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Films we have up to now are:

*Huntington – The truth. English. Sometimes horrific, but powerfully motivating video about antivivisection campaigns



*Tierbefreiung ist nicht nur ein Wort. Without speech. Beautiful documentation of a mink liberation in Germany

*Mordmanns (Un)Heil. German. Hunt sabotage video

*ALF - The movie. The old classic

*1994 without speech film about animal abuse

*Angels of mercy english video about Keith Mann

Events planned so far:

*Tuesday (early morning): action against meat. Listen out for more infos!

*Thursday: Fun with laboratories. Haven't you always wanted to congratulate a vivisector for his good work. Really party, give him a pie, paint your message loud and clear on the walls, throw confetti? And all that in a laboratory? Maybe this could be your big chance...

*Friday: Demo against animal exploitation.

*Saturday 29th there will be a big end of gathering and post-RTS party and concert in Köpi with 3 bands, Drum 'n Bass room, techno cellar, ambient/chillout room, long drinks bar, light show, performances....

There may be other gigs during the week. You'll hear more about them at the time.... Besides all that, Berlin is a big, interesting city with loads going on . Go out and enjoy it.

If there's anything at all you feel is missing from this line up, speak about it at the meeting and see if you can organise it. It has been suggested that women's meeting is held everyday.

There was also the idea to hold an open discussion every evening. Possible themes could be: Safety measures for activists Doing effective research Tactics/strategies. What works? Animals in the society. What are the chances...?



HOW TO GET FROM KÖPI TO DRUGSTORE

To get from Köpi to Drugstore you go to U-Bahnhof Heinrich-Heine-Strasse (U8) and travel four stations to Hermannplatz. Change there on to the U7 and travel 6 stations to Kleistpark.

GETTING ABOUT

Elsewhere in this booklet there is a map of the area around and between Köpi and Drugstore/Potse. You should also be given an underground (U-Bahn) and overground (S-Bahn) train plan. In every station there is a map of Berlin including all public transport routes.

Using public transport.

A day ticket costs 7DM and a ticket for the week costs around 40DM. They can be used on all public transport in Berlin. However chances are you won't want to pay this so here's a few tips for travelling for free. On the U-Bahn you will only be checked by uniformed staff, so look out for them. If any board your train, it's best to get off. Sometimes they check tickets on the platform too, so watch out. On the S-Bahn, the inspectors wear plain clothes and so are harder to spot. Busses and trams tend to be inspected much less often (but that's not a promise, ok) Although, after 20:00 you have to show your ticket on boarding. If you do get caught, you'll be asked to get off the train and show your passport or ID card. Your name and adress will be taken down, and they'll ask you for 60DM. You won't have this on you, so they'll give you a bill (which you won't really have to pay if you live in another country – they're not going to go to the hastle of bothering you there) Depending on how shit they are, they might call the police.

If you travel in large group, they probably won't be able to do anything there's more of you.

If you're not from germany, playing the confused tourist sometimes helps. You didn't know, you're sorry, you won't do it again. And, of course, if you have the chance – RUN.

LEGAL RIGHTS IN GERMANY

In Germany you're obliged to have your passport or ID-card on you at all times and to be able to show it to the police on demand. If you don't, you may be taken into custody for max. 48 hours while they check to see if your details are correct.

Cards covering your basic legal rights will be given out at the start of the gahtering. They are available in English, German, French, Spanish, Russian, Polish, portuguese, Turkish and Vietnamese.

On Monday a legal rights workshop will be held which should be adviseable to go to.

Demos etc.

- **Don't** bring drugs, alcohol, adress book, note book or other personal things, CS gas, weapons (that includes knifes and steel toe-capped boots).
- **Don't** wear make-up, creams, lip-balm etc. as CS/CN gas reacts particularly strongly on fats.
- You're <u>not allowed</u> to keep your face covered on demos in Germany but look out for police cameras, they usually film and take photos on demos.

Bring:

Passport or ID card, pen and paper, medicines you need to take regularly, EA phone number, small change or phone card.

Wear (darkish) clothes which don't stand out to much, are strong and allow you to move easily.

In case of police attacks:

Don't panic, breathe deeply, stay still and tell others to do the same. Try to keep together, link arms to form "chains". If nothing else is possible, go back slowly all together.

In case of injuries:

If you or anyone near you gets injured, try to bring the injured person away from the demo and, if necessary, to hospital. Try to find a hospital a bit further away so that they won't be connected with the demo. It has often happened that hospitals have given the names of injured demonstrators to the police and that can cause you many more problems...

After the demo:

It's often advisable not to go home alone. Try to stay in a group in case police try to make more arrests of individual people. If there was trouble at the demo, get in touch with friends or people you came with so they know you're not missing.

If you were a witness of an arrest or attack, write a statement about it.

You need to include this:

- * Place and time of the arrest or other things like evictions, use of water cannons, beatings...
- * Name of the arrested or injured and of other witnesses (or a description of the person) what happened
- * The number of police and a detailed description of them (not just "moustache")
- Write the statements as soon afterwards as possible, so you remember everything.

In case of arrest:

Make yourself noticable and shout your name so other people hear it and can give it to the EA. When you're being driven to the police station, speak to other arrested people about your rights but don't say a word about what you have or haven't done. This wouldn't be the first time that one of you then speaks to the police. Take care of each other and make it clear that none of you speak to the police or anyone. Exchange names and adresses so the first one to be released can inform the "EA" At the station:

The only things you're obliged to tell the police are:

Name, date of birth, address and occupation. Nothing else. Nothing at all.

Don't make a statement to them. Don't fall for any of their tricks or threats. Don't think you have a good story which they'll fall for and, even if you know you're not guilty and just want to explain things, PLEASE

DON'T. Wait until you have been released, had time to think things through, have written your own statement and your solicitor has received your files from the police.

If you speak to the police, you can only endanger yourself or other people. Don't say anything.

You have the right to telephone twice. Have enough 10 Pfennig pieces with you. If they refuse to let you phone, don't give up, threaten to sue them, and make it clear you know it's your right. If they take your photo and fingerprints, immediately say you want to appeal against this and make sure they make a record of this. Don't sign anything.

LEGAL HOTLINE (EA)

The EA can be phoned during all planned demos and actions. They collect the names of all arrested or injured people and can sort out solicitors for people. If you get, or see someone get arrested or injured, phone them up and tell them the name and the date of birth. When someone gets released after their arrest, they should also get in touch with the "EA" and bring them a statement about their arrest. Witnesses of arrests and attacks by the police should also get in touch there so they can be reached by the person or their solicitors if the case comes to court.

NUMBER: 0172 30 17429 or (030) 6922222 (answerphone which will listened to every 15 minutes)



