



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Domestic Terrorism Symbols Guide

(U) Animal Rights or Environmental Violent Extremism

(U) SUMMARY

(U) The following symbols and key terms are used by animal rights or environmental violent extremists (AREVEs). AREVEs believe criminal actions are necessary and justified to end perceived cruelty, harm or exploitation of animals, or destruction of natural resources and the environment. AREVE symbols and key terms are often found on propaganda, online platforms, memes, banners, tattoos, etc. Some common themes for animal rights violent extremists include ending the use of animals for medical and research purposes, eliminating or reducing our consumption, production, and use of animals and animal products, the inhumanity of captivity hunting or being used for entertainment. Some common themes for environmental violent extremists include reducing dependency on the use of fossil fuels, potential consequences of greenhouse gas emissions, climate change, air, land and water population, negative effects of population growth and deforestation on ecosystems.

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(U) SYMBOLS AND KEY TERMS



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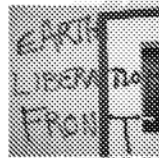
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(U) **"Open Rescue"**: term used to describe an often overt daytime action in which animals are illegally removed ("rescued") by unmasked individuals. "Open rescues" are often committed to publicize perceived atrocities and increase public support and awareness.



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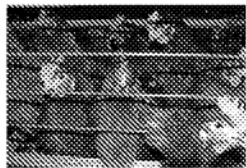
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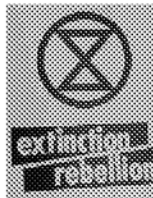
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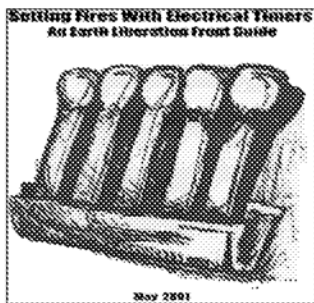


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(U) EXAMPLES OF EARLY AREVE PUBLICATIONS

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(U) RECENT EXAMPLES OF FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

2019	2020	2021
<p>(U) September - Iowa</p> <p>(U) Federal authorities indicted two environmental violent extremists in connection with several pipeline-related incidents from 2016-2017.</p>	<p>(U) September - Idaho and Utah</p> <p>(U) In late September 2020, an anonymously posted communique on a public animal rights-related Website claimed responsibility for "two raids on fur farms" in Idaho and Utah that resulted in the release of nearly 2000 mink.</p>	<p>(U) June - Virginia</p> <p>(U) Four individuals secured themselves through the use of "sleeping dragons" to an eight foot tall wooden structure.</p> <p>(U) The four were safely removed and charged with trespassing, obstructing free passage and interfering with property rights.</p>
	<p>(U) December - Washington</p> <p>(U) Federal authorities charged two environmental violent extremists for placing an obstruction (shunt) on railroad tracks.</p>	<p>(U) June - Minnesota</p> <p>(U) Local authorities arrested more than 200 individuals as hundreds blocked access to a pipeline pumping station being built.</p> <p>(U) Some chained themselves to fences, set up barricades, and damaged equipment.</p>



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Anarchist Violent Extremism

(U) SUMMARY

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(U) SYMBOLS

(U) The word "anarchy" comes from the Greek anarkhia, meaning "without a ruler." Anarchist theory contends all forms of government are oppressive and undesirable and should be abolished. Anarchists believe anarchy ultimately makes possible the creation of a society ordered by individual freedom and mutual cooperation and without social, political, or economic hierarchies.



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(U) **Individual Throwing a Molotov cocktail:** Image sometimes depicted on flyers likely to encourage criminal activity.



(U) **ACAB or 1312:** Acronym for "All Cops Are B*stards" or "All Capitalists are B*stards." Instead of letters, sometimes the numbers "1312" are used.



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(U) **"ANTIFA"** (short for anti-fascist): refers to individual(s) who oppose fascism.

(U) It is more an ideological concept than a single organization or group, but likeminded individuals may collectively act together or form an anti-fascist group.



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(U) The color black may be used to illustrate revolution, opposition to the notion of nation-states, or rejection or defiance of authority.



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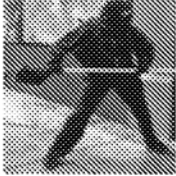
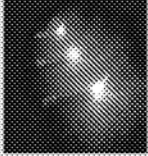
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<p>(U) Targets</p>	<p>(U) Political and economic events, and events related to social issues; Perceived racists and fascists; Law enforcement; and Property (commercial, government, law enforcement, and personal)</p>
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<p>(U) Tactics</p> 	<p>(U) Black Bloc: tactic often used during mass mobilizations to hide one's identity during criminal activity by dressing in black or dark clothing and covering one's face with bandanas, balaclavas, costume masks, or gas masks.</p> <p>(U) Grey Bloc: a means to blend into a crowd by dressing in or donning street clothing before or after criminal activity. AVEs often break away from the main group to participate in criminal activity.</p> <p>(U) "Be Water" or "Be Like Water:" phrase to encourage others to move quickly and fluidly to evade law enforcement detection.</p> <p>(U) "No Cameras/No Press:" used as a reminder to avoid or limit the chance for photographic or video evidence of criminal activity that may later be used in arrests or for prosecution.</p> <p>(U) Doxing: is the research and public release of personal identifiable information obtained through social media or open sources. (Note: Some doxing may be legal, and may be First Amendment protected-speech, depending on the specific communication and context.)</p>
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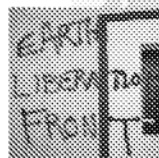
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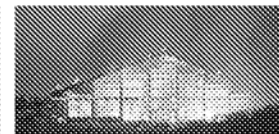


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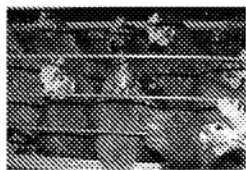
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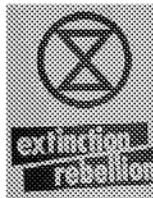
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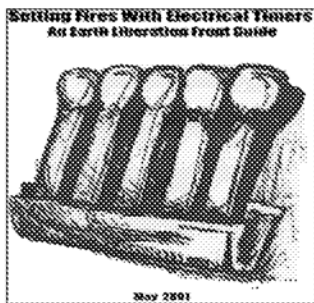


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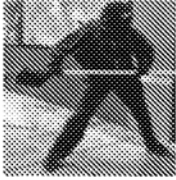
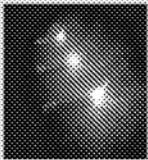
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(U) Militia Violent Extremism

(U) SUMMARY

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(U) SYMBOLS



(U) **Boogaloo:** Alludes to the film *Breakin' 2: Electric Boogaloo*; used by some MVEs to refer to violent uprising or impending second Civil War. Common imagery incorporates igloo and/or Hawaiian shirts/flowers.



(U) **Anarcho-Capitalism ("anacp"):** An ideology held by some MVEs advocating the State be eliminated or minimized and that public services be provided by private companies competing in a free market. Represented by a black and yellow flag.



(U) **Punisher Skull:** Several variations of skulls, used by III%ers and Molon Labe etc.



(U) **Warrior Culture:** Military themes both historical and contemporary (Spartans, Valhalla).



(U) **2A:** MVEs justify their existence with the Second Amendment, due to the mention of a "well regulated Militia," as well as the right to bear arms.

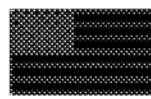


(U) **"MolonLabe", "ΜΟΛΩΝΛΑΒΕ" and "Μολον Λαβε":** Greek phrase, translates as "come and take it" and "come and take them."

COME AND TAKE IT



(U) **Electrical resistance symbol:** A way to identify as a resistor.



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(U) COMMONLY REFERENCED HISTORICAL IMAGERY OR QUOTES



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(U) Sources: Previous FBI products, FBI information and open source information. This document derives from multiple sources of information collected by the FBI.

(U) MVEs employ a number of tactics, some of which may be criminal and others of which may constitute exercise of rights guaranteed by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. The FBI may not base any investigative activity solely on the rights guaranteed by the First Amendment.

(U) COMMON PHRASES AND REFERENCES

- (U) "When tyranny becomes law, rebellion becomes duty," and variations.
- (U) "We are everywhere" and "expect us," "I will not comply," and "All enemies foreign and domestic."
- (U) "The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots and tyrants."
- (U) "I became unreasonable"
- (U) "His name was Duncan Lemp"
- (U) "Well Regulated American Militia"

(U) MVEs consider the following individuals to be Martyrs:

- (U) Vicki Weaver (Ruby Ridge 1992)
- (U) Marvin Heemeyer (Killdozer 2004)
- (U) LaVoy Finicum (MNWR 2016)
- (U) Duncan Lemp (2020)
- (U) Ashli Babbitt (Capitol Siege 2021)

(U) SYMBOLS OF MILITIA NETWORKS SOME MVEs MAY SELF-IDENTIFY WITH



(U) **Three Percenters, III%ers, 3%ers, Threepers:** A US ideology based on the myth that only 3% of Americans fought back against the British during the Revolutionary war. Often represented by the roman numeral "3" surrounded by 13 stars to represent the original 13 states.



(U) **Oath Keepers:** A US-based, loosely organized militia group consisting of current and former military, police, and first responders who pledge to fulfill the oath that all military and police take to "defend the Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic."

(U) SIGNIFICANT EVENTS MVEs MAY REFERENCE

(U) Ruby Ridge:	(U) 21 August 1992, 11-day armed siege at the Weaver residence, Naples, Idaho.
(U) Waco:	(U) 28 February 1993, Armed siege at the Branch Davidian Compound, Waco, Texas.

(U) NOTABLE ATTACKS OR CRIMINAL ACTIVITY THAT INSPIRE MVEs

(U) Timothy McVeigh:	(U) 19 April 1995, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah building. Targeting the US government, killed 168, several hundred injured.
(U) The Crusaders:	(U) October 2016, three MVEs were arrested for planning to conduct an IED attack on an apartment complex in Garden City, Kansas, where Muslim immigrants from Somalia lived and worshipped.
(U) Steven Carrillo:	(U) In late May and early June 2020, two ambush-style attacks by alleged MVE occurred against security personnel and law enforcement officers. 2 were killed and 3 injured.

(U) TIMELINE OF KEY EVENTS IN MVE HISTORY 2014 - PRESENT

2014	(U) April	2016	(U) January-February	(U) June	2017	(U) August	2019	(U) April	2020	(U) March	(U) June	2021	(U) January
	(U) Bunkerville, Nevada standoff at Bundy Ranch between LEOs and Bundy supporters over unpaid cattle fees		(U) 41-Day occupation of Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in Princeton, Oregon after armed MVEs seized and occupied the building	(U) Plot to bomb a Bureau of Land Management cabin		(U) Minnesota mosque bombing		(U) MVEs misrepresent themselves as law enforcement, detain migrants at the southern border illegally		(U) Duncan Lemp killed during a no-knock warrant in Maryland	(U) An MVE is arrested after a shootout with LEOs; writes "BOOG" on a car		(U) Individuals, including some MVEs, participate in a siege of the US Capitol Building



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION Domestic Terrorism Symbols Guide

(U) Militia Violent Extremism

(U) SUMMARY

(U) The following symbols are used by Anti-Government or Anti-Authority Violent Extremists, specifically Militia Violent Extremists (MVE). MVE symbols are often found on propaganda, online platforms, memes, merchandise, group logos, flags, tattoos, uniforms, etc. Widespread use of symbols and quotes from American history, especially the Revolutionary war, exists within MVE networks. Historic and contemporary military themes are common for MVE symbols. **The use or sharing of these symbols alone should not independently be considered evidence of MVE presence or affiliation or serve as an indicator of illegal activity, as many individuals use these symbols for their original, historic meaning, or other non-violent purposes.**

(U) SYMBOLS



(U) **Boogaloo:** Alludes to the film *Breakin' 2: Electric Boogaloo*; used by some MVEs to refer to violent uprising or impending second Civil War. Common imagery incorporates igloo and/or Hawaiian shirts/flowers.



(U) **Punisher Skull:** Several variations of skulls, used by III%ers and Molon Labe etc.



(U) **2A:** MVEs justify their existence with the Second Amendment, due to the mention of a "well regulated Militia," as well as the right to bear arms.



(U) **Electrical resistance symbol:** A way to identify as a resistor.



(U) **Anarcho-Capitalism ("anacp"):** An ideology held by some MVEs advocating the State be eliminated or minimized and that public services be provided by private companies competing in a free market. Represented by a black and yellow flag.



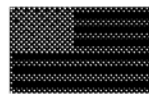
(U) **Warrior Culture:** Military themes both historical and contemporary (Spartans, Valhalla).

ΜΟΛΩΝ ΛΑΒΕ



COME AND TAKE IT

(U) **"MolonLabe", "ΜΟΛΩΝΛΑΒΕ" and "Μολων Λαβε":** Greek phrase, translates as "come and take it" and "come and take them."



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