

August 23, 2002

Ukiah Daily Journal

Editor K.C. Meadows

590 South School Street

Ukiah, California 95482

Dear Editor Meadows:

I was most gratified to see the front page color photo of air pollution in Mendocino County taken on August 21, 2002, and published in your paper on August 25, 2002.

I would expect smoke from a wildland fire to be a brownish haze as I have seen before. Your photo reveals something quite different. It shows long white plumes that are typical of lingering contrails, now a common sight in both Lake and Mendocino Counties. The white plumes in your photograph are quite similar to the plumes videoed in Lake County that day. The jets left huge grotesque emissions to float east and expand in the sky.

The Ukiah Daily Journal, in recognizing not only smoke, but lingering jet contrails as contributing to our air pollution, is taking a very important step forward toward identifying and solving these problems, especially when this form of air pollution is recognized as a health threat not only to trees, but to humans as well. Air pollution, has been, and continues to be a concern to many people.

Thank you again for the health warnings and bringing these issues to our attention.

Sincerely,

Rosalind Peterson