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# PRESS RELEASE

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BADGER BOOKS INC.  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## PIONEER VIGILANTE IS ANCESTOR OF TODAY'S TERRORISTS

OREGON, WI, November 10 -- Some say he was the last of the pioneers. The stand of John Dietz against the lumber barons and the government during the early years of the 20th Century captured the public's imagination nationwide. Dietz was a forefather of Timothy McVeigh, the Oklahoma City bomber, and the Unabomber.

Angry over what he claimed were unpaid back wages, Dietz stopped the logs from floating through his property along the Thornapple River. He became a folk hero and a symbol of the common man's resistance to wealth and power.

In *Pioneer Vigilante*, a new book that profiles the Dietz case, author Gunnard Landers dramatizes the Dietz story, taking us inside the household as sheriff's posses surround the farmhouse. Landers portrays Dietz as principaled to a fault as he jeopardizes his family's safety for his own political beliefs.

Gunnard Landers of Altoona, Wisconsin is the author of four novels published by Walker & Co., Dell and Arbor House. Two additional novels in his series about undercover game wardens will be published this fall and next year by Willow Creek Press of Wisconsin.

*Pioneer Vigilante* is one of seven books in the Badger Heritage Series, published by Badger Books Inc. to commemorate Wisconsin's sesquicentennial in 1998.

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# ***Badger Books Inc.***

*Waubesa Press*

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Online catalog: [www.badgerbooks.com](http://www.badgerbooks.com)

## **Pioneer Vigilante**

### Fact Sheet

**TITLE:** *Pioneer Vigilante : The legend of John Dietz*

**AUTHOR:** Gunnard Landers

**PUBLICATION DATE:** March 1998

**PRICE:** Trade paperback: \$14.95

**FORMAT:** 5.5x8.5 trade paperback

**ISBN:** Trade paperback: 1-878569-53-8

**CATEGORY:** Non-fiction

**IMPRINT:** Badger Books Inc.

**PAGES:** 288

**SUMMARY:** A true account of the story of John Dietz, who gained national fame for his stand against lumber companies and the government in blocking a logging drive for six years at his homestead along the Thornapple River in northern Wisconsin.

**DISTRIBUTION:** General bookstores or directly from Badger Books Inc. P.O. Box 192, Oregon, WI 53575 for \$12.95 plus \$3 shipping.



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## *Waubesa Press*

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### **Gunnard Landers**

Gunnard Landers of Altoona is the author of four novels, including *The Hunting Shack* (Arbor House:1979; Dell:1980), *Rite of Passage* (Arbor House:1980), *The Deer Killers* (Walker & Co.:1990) and *The Violators* (Walker & Co.:1990).

His series of novels are about undercover game wardens. Two additional novels in the series will be published this fall and next year by Willow Creek Press of Wisconsin.

In *Pioneer Vigilante: The Legend of John Dietz*, Landers offers a dramatic portrayal of Dietz's stand against the lumber companies and the government during the early 20th Century. The book focuses on Dietz's family life and how he put his family at risk for the sake of his own political beliefs.