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Karen Silkwood's Nuclear Death

by Bob Chen and Al Campbell

Four years ago a young union activist named Karen Silkwood died in an auto crash en route to a meeting with a union representative and a *New York Times* reporter. The papers in her car which documented illegal and unsafe working conditions at the large Kerr-McGee plutonium plant where she worked were never found; a private investigation by her union, the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers International Union (OCAW), showed that the car appeared to have been run off the road.

Thus started a battle which is still raging. On the one side is the nuclear industry, trying to squash investigations into Karen's death, into the unsafe working conditions, into possible black-market plutonium sales, and into many of their other activities. On the other side is a growing coalition of groups ranging from her family and her union to anti-nuclear activists, feminists, environmentalists, unions, religious organizations, and civil libertarians, who all see in this case the many diverse dangers of a nuclear society.

This week began with the fourth anniversary of Karen's death. All across the country, memorial services, teach-ins, and rallies are in progress. In the Boston area, activities on a dozen different campuses will culminate in a rally at the Arlington St. Church on Sunday evening. Representatives of the New England Supporters of Silkwood, the National Supporters of Silkwood, the International Association of Machinists Union, the United Auto Workers, and other groups will discuss the case and the particular issues at stake.

THE CASE:

Karen began work at the Kerr-McGee plutonium plant in Cimarron, Oklahoma, in August of 1972 as a nuclear laboratory technician testing plutonium fuel rods for a fast-breeder test facility in Richland, Washington. Within months she became involved in a strike by the OCAW local, which sought higher pay, safer working conditions and better training. The union's complaints stemmed in part from continuing incidents throughout the previous two years, including the serious exposure of some twenty-six different workers in three separate accidents. Employees described the lack of safety training, the storage of plutonium in unsafe containers - including leaky drums and desk drawers - and continued production despite spills and contaminated air in

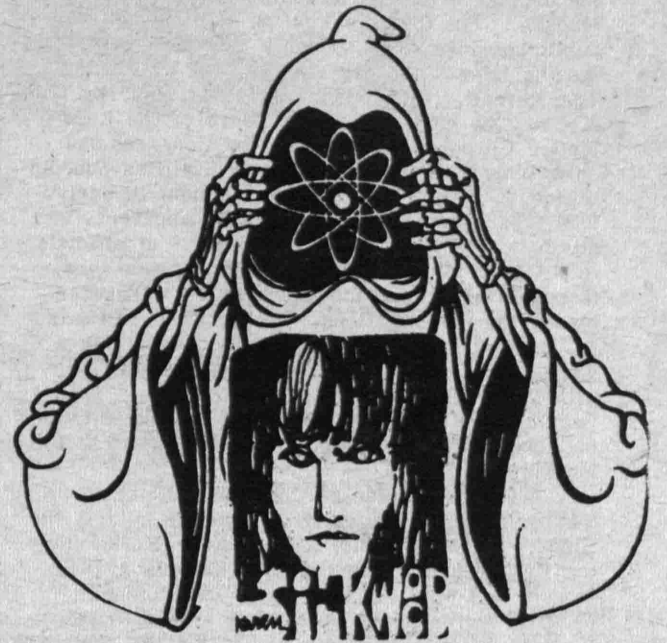
order to circumvent the Atomic Energy Commission's (AEC) reporting regulations. In all, during the four years from the plant's opening in mid-1970 to the fall of 1974, seventy-three workers had been internally exposed to airborne plutonium - among them, Karen herself.

The dangers of such exposure are extreme. Once inhaled or ingested, radioactive particles become permanently imbedded in body, organ, or bone tissues. The radiations produced may induce cancer, which normally remains hidden for one or more decades, and can cause genetic damage. In high doses, poisoning by radioactives can be painfully fatal.

In the month after her initial exposure in July, 1974, Karen became active in the OCAW local and began the documentation of grievances. She also noticed other seeming improprieties at the plant, including the possible falsification of test results and other records. Then in early November, she discovered that she - and her entire apartment - had been contaminated by plutonium. Inspectors pinpointed the source of contamination: packages of bologna and cheese in her refrigerator. How the deadly plutonium got there remains a mystery, although two opposing theories seem prevalent - that Karen, for some reason, contaminated herself with smuggled plutonium, or alternatively that others attempted to intimidate her into stopping her investigations.

Despite this discovery, Karen continued in her participation in the union's activities and arranged to meet with a national OCAW official and a reporter from the *New York Times*. On the way to the meeting on November 13, just seven miles from the cafe she had left, Karen's Honda Civic crashed along the highway. A state trooper who arrived on the scene found loose papers blowing around which he gathered and put back in the wreck. The Oklahoma State Highway Patrol concluded that Karen had fallen asleep. However, an outside expert noticed two fresh dents in the Honda's rear bumper and fender, apparently made by another car. In addition, the manila folder of evidence, which Karen had said she was bringing, disappeared from the wreck after an inspection ostensibly for plutonium contamination was carried out by Kerr-McGee and AEC inspectors. No papers, either loose or in a folder, were among the personal effects listed by the medical examiner.

Since Karen's death, bits and pieces of information have emerged which not only support Karen's original contentions, but also extend the



web of intrigue throughout the government. In December of 1974, reports appeared in the press that described the inability of Kerr-McGee to account for some forty to sixty pounds of plutonium at its plant. In January of 1975, the AEC confirmed many of the OCAW local's grievances, including failures to report accidents, lack of proper training, and improper storage of plutonium; on the other hand, the agency claimed no substantiation of the alleged wholesale falsification of records. However, OCAW officials assert that the AEC's inquiry may have been inadequate: for example, one employee in a sworn affidavit states that he was never interviewed by the AEC, despite the agency's claim to the contrary. In April of 1975, the investigation of Karen's death by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) concluded in a five-page 'Fact Memorandum' that the auto crash was accidental - yet the author of the memorandum, according to congressional investigators, ignored many inconsistencies and did not even contact the field agent in charge of the case. And in December of 1975, the Kerr-McGee plutonium plant closed, its government contract not renewed apparently because of new safety regulations and questions about the quality of the fuel rods produced.

(continued on page 2)

"My point is simple: we have a country, and we intend to keep it. We don't want the U.S. to boss over us and to rob us of our wealth. The same applies to Russia. The one takes our gas, the other grabs our oil. Iran has become a dinner table for the superpowers to feast upon.

"What do we demand? Only the right to run our country ourselves. It is our people, not any other, that should benefit from our land, our waters, our oil, our rich resources; we will fight the flight of resources from our homeland.

"No one has the right to assign us leaders and prescribe us Governments. It's got nothing to do with you how we choose to determine our future and the fate of our resources. You have absolutely no right to assert we can't run our country, pretending to know better what's good for us. Our society will only begin to prosper and develop once the parasites feeding upon our resources have been expelled from our national fabric. This includes the Shah and everyone associated with his dynasty for the past 50 years. It also includes the superpowers, whose appetite for our resources on the cheap appears boundless."

AYATOLLAH KHOMEYNI
Paris, addressing students

The Americans looked hard. But they couldn't find it. The Russian hand just wasn't there, and the CIA analysts were all perplexed about it. The revolution appeared quite genuine. "There was no single party—on the Bolshevik model— presently organised to bring the Shah down. What Iran is experiencing is a popular revolt. In this situation the Shah can rely on no one."

(Alexander Cockburn, *Vil. Voice* N. 13)

Iran is a country that has had enough. The Harvard and Oxford-educated Ph.D's in Economics all returned to Iran 15 years ago and created from above this textbook case of "economic development" a la West. The sociologists, historians and political scientists weren't around to tell them that Development is not just money, factories, flashy cars and tidy



by Homayoun Khalili



little 'Plans'. They were more likely to be found in the jails, graves or university faculties mainly because dictators prefer economic development to political development

But after fifteen years of increasingly irrelevant development from above, Iranians have had enough. While agriculture is nosediving, 15 nuclear reactors are ordered from abroad. While road links remain medieval, the National Airline is busy ordering Concorde and Jumbo Jets. While clerks and bank tellers hardly make ends meet for themselves and their families, in come the American advisors and businessmen with chauffeur driven cars and \$5,000 salaries. Something went way wrong with Iranian development. Instead of serving 40,000,000 Iranians, it began to serve Grumman, Lockheed, Siemens and a whole host of other multinationals. \$2.2 billion of Iran's oil revenues are spent each year on the 20,000 U.S. technicians involved in installation and training of military hardware, an average \$9,000 per man per month. Another two billion is spent on imported cars, largely Mercedes and BMW's. Ten billion goes to arms and nuclear reactors...

To express their dissatisfaction with this perverted development imposed from above, Iran's middle and working classes increasingly turned to a newly revitalised and Progressive Shi'ite Islam for guidance and self-expression. Key to this revitalization was Dr. Ali Shariati, a graduate of Sorbonne University and sociologist by profession. The latter had a key role in redefining certain aspects of Islam in such a way to make Muslim political commitment possible in Iran, and his works are being avidly read by young literates all over the country. Just as Khomeyni is providing the moral backbone to the Islamic movement, Shariati provided it with its intellectual backbone.

Far from being a 'reactionary movement yearning to return Iran to the Middle Ages, the Shi'ite Islam is a revolutionary social movement of unforetold ferocity.

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(continued from page 1)

Karen

Late in 1975, the U.S. Congress became directly involved when the Government Operations Committee agreed to initiate an investigation at the urgings of union, feminist, and environmental leaders. But the investigation and associated public hearings were suddenly cancelled several months later - the day after a visit to Senator Lee Metcalf, the subcommittee chairman, by Dear McGee, the chairman of the board of the Kerr-McGee Corporation. Revived by Congressman John Dingell of the House Small Business Subcommittee on Energy and the Environment in early 1976, the hearings soon showcased apparent attempts by FBI and Justice Department officials to withhold information, to discredit witnesses through rumour and innuendo, and otherwise hinder the investigations. In fact, the FBI was at the very least circumstantially involved in a sex scandal charge by a Mafia call girl in June - with Congressman Dingell as the target. Then in December of 1976, the hearings were cut off when the congressperson lost his subcommittee chairmanship.

With the demise of Congressional inquiry, the remaining investigative channel is a civil suit filed by Karen's family against Kerr-McGee and the FBI, charging violations of Karen's health, safety, and civil rights. Since the plutonium found in Karen's was chemically traced to the Kerr-McGee plant, responsibility for the contamination may lie with the company. The Silkwood's lawyers also have evidence of illegal wiretapping and surveillance of Karen by Oklahoma City police with the knowledge of Kerr-McGee security personnel and possibly with the aid of the FBI, Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, and the Central Intelligence Agency as part of a general nationwide network (see the *Real Paper* article by Rory O'Connor, May 27, 1978).

Thus, at stake in this court case is a tremendous span of issues, including not only the health and safety of both workers and the general public, but also significant questions about civil liberties and governmental abuse of power. The particular concerns are detailed in the following sections.

ISSUES:

ENVIRONMENTAL

'I consider Silkwood's contamination to be one of the worst cases with which I am familiar, of body contamination to plutonium with respect to the consistency, repetition (of exposure), and contamination of the home... I have never known of an operation in this industry so poorly operated from the standpoint of radiation protection. It is difficult for me to

comprehend why the AEC and, more recently, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission permitted this facility... a discredit to the industry... to continue in operation for such a long time'

- Dr. Karl Z. Morgan
April 26, 1976

The specific environmental complaints about the Kerr-McGee plant are:

- * The existence of large amounts of unaccounted-for plutonium in the Kerr-McGee facility, enough to produce several substantial nuclear weapons.
- * The production of faulty plutonium fuel rods, passed off through falsification of quality control records, which could result in a nuclear accident.
- * Dumping of radioactive waste by management in the local river which is used for swimming and fishing.
- * Insecure and improper storage of plutonium, resulting in leakage and the consequent contamination of workers and the local population.
- * Unsafe transport of an inferior quality mixture of plutonium waste and acid, increasing risks of leakage, in unprotected trucks.
- * Inadequate education of workers to the dangers of plutonium, resulting in a lack of proper appreciation for the need for careful handling.
- * Hiring of unskilled and untrained non-nuclear workers for the plant, resulting in increased accidents and contaminations.
- * Receipt of advance warning by Kerr-McGee officials of 'surprise' inspections by the AEC.

UNION

'Karen Silkwood is a union martyr... Her efforts and activities have been poorly understood simply because the events surrounding her death have never been told from the proper perspective. Karen Silkwood, collectively with others, was engaged in a struggle to correct horrendous safety conditions in her plant, and to strengthen and save her union.

'Her experience was not that unusual in the trade union movement, the exception being that death - not under usual circumstances - overtook her. The struggle that Karen was involved in, for the health and safety of her fellow workers and the very life of her local union,

is now being engaged in by millions of trade unionists. The labor movement is under attack continually by foes. Worker health and safety is an issue that has surfaced, and is being recognized as one of the most significant life and death issues for not only workers but entire communities.'

Tony Mazzochi, OCAW
September 1978

Some of the workers' grievances are:

- * Attempts by Kerr-McGee and the FBI to discredit the personal reputation of Karen Silkwood and other union members.
- * Ordering employees not to speak to the media, under threat of being fired.
- * Transfer or firing of persons as a punishment for pro-union activity.
- * Assignment of workers to areas where radiation levels exceeded legal limits.
- * Inadequate training and educating of workers to the dangers of plutonium, resulting in a lack of proper appreciation of the hazards and the need for careful handling.
- * Leaking pipes and defective equipment remaining unrepaired for days, while workers are contaminated.'

The Silkwood case may also establish several significant legal precedents:

- Count 1* - This is the first time that anyone has filed for redress for an off-site contamination. If won, this case will set the precedent for other victims to file similar suits against corporations responsible for toxic materials and maintaining a safe workplace.
- Count 2* - This is the first time a lawsuit charging severe harassment of workers has been filed under the Civil Rights Act rather than the National Labor Relations Act. A pattern of electronic surveillance and wiretapping by members of the nuclear industry is emerging throughout the country. If won, this case will establish the union as a 'protected group' under the Civil Rights Act in corporation attempts to violate rights covered by the act.'

FEMINIST

Ms. magazine first brought the feminist aspects of the case to widespread public

(continued on page 4)

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PROFICIENCY TEST

Oh sure, injured indignation. "A quiz?" you protest, feigning ignorance. Well sir, what do you think these mountaineering¹ lessons have been all about? That's right - knowledge, and the accumulation thereof. So put your gray matter on red alert and start cracking. Here's where you move to the top of the mountain. Or get left at base camp. And, by the way, remember that the difference between the two is all in your head.

Multiple Choice

Drinking Busch beer is known as:

- (A) Sucking 'em up
- (B) Downing the mountains
- (C) Quaffing
- (D) Peaking

Answer: True

A mountaineer's best friend is his:

- (A) Dog
- (B) Bailbondsman
- (C) Main squeeze
- (D) Free and flexible arm

Answer: (D) Without it, a Busch in the hand is worth nothing.

Bennington Baxter-Bennington, the noted financier of mountaineering expeditions, was fond of saying:

- (A) "The price is right."
- (B) "Your check is in the mail."
- (C) "Keep all your assets liquid."
- (D) "Put this on my tab, fella."

Answer: (B,C,D) Bennington thought anything priced above \$100 was not right.

The best place for a mountaineer to take a romantic R&R is:

- (A) Somewhere over the rainbow
- (B) 24 hours from Tulsa
- (C) In the craggy peaks
- (D) Deep in the heart of Texas

Answer: (C) Or anywhere that Busch comes to love.

You can recognize a mountaineer by his:

- (A) Crampons
- (B) Sherpa guides
- (C) Pickaxe
- (D) Foamy moustache

Answer: Yes

The most common reason for mountaineering is:

- (A) Because it's there
- (B) Because it's better than nothing
- (C) Because nothing is better
- (D) All of the above

Answer: None of the above. There is no common motive that moves every mountaineer. Each marches to his own off-key tune, but keep in mind that on the peak they all come to the same point.

Oral Exam

Here's where you put your tongue to the test. Arrange three glasses, two ordinary beers and one Busch in front of yourself. Ask a friend to blindfold you and pour each into a glass. Sip all three, taking pains to clear your palate between beers - either by eating a plain soda cracker or lightly dusting your tongue with a belt sander. After sampling each, identify the mountains. Unless you've just returned from the dentist with a mouthful of novocaine, this should be easy. Cold refreshment and natural smoothness are your two big clues to the peak.



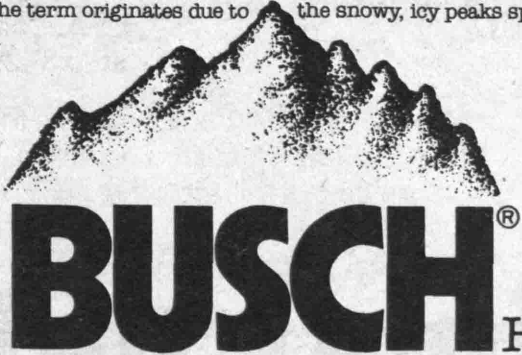
Eye Test

This is the visual perception portion. Simply read the pertinent subject phrase and determine which picture most closely symbolizes it. Then, check the appropriate box.

(A) <input type="checkbox"/> Mountaineering	(B) <input type="checkbox"/>	(A) <input type="checkbox"/> Mountain Peak	(B) <input type="checkbox"/>
(A) <input type="checkbox"/> Mountain Lion	(B) <input type="checkbox"/>	(A) <input type="checkbox"/> Mountain Pine	(B) <input type="checkbox"/>
(A) <input type="checkbox"/> Mountain Music	(B) <input type="checkbox"/>	(A) <input type="checkbox"/> Mountain Cat	(B) <input type="checkbox"/>

Scoring 10-13 correct: congratulations, bucky, your flag waves at the summit. 7-10 correct: not bad but there's room for improvement; run to the package store and keep mountaineering. 4-7 correct: don't mountaineer without an adult guardian. Less than 4: who read this test to you?

¹Mountaineering is the science and art of drinking Busch. The term originates due to the snowy, icy peaks sported by the label outside and perpetuates due to the cold, naturally refreshing taste inside.



Don't just reach for a beer. **BUSCH** Head for the mountains.

Eyes of the World

by Morris Zimmerberg

The Malden District courthouse was the site of a demonstration by police officers last Friday morning. The 250 or so officers were protesting in support of two Malden patrolmen under suspension for arresting the Malden police commissioner for alleged drunken driving. The protesters were advised before the march that they might be cited for attempting to influence a judge, which carries penalties of up to a year in jail.

The reign of Meldrin Thomson as governor of New Hampshire ended last Tuesday when he lost to Democrat Hugh Gallen. Thomson is known for his ultraconservatism, his staunch support of the Seabrook Nuclear Power Plant, and his statement after visiting South Africa that the United States could learn a lesson from the "better" living conditions of the Blacks there. A major issue of the campaign is the Construction Work In Progress (CWIP) that the Public Service Company of N.H. started charging for when they realized that they didn't have enough money to pay for the escalating cost of the Seabrook plant. The state congress of N.H. passed a bill declaring CWIP illegal which Gov. Thomson vetoed. Governor elect Hugh Gallen said that although he was in favor of Seabrook, he was against CWIP. Without this extra capital the construction of the nuclear plant is low on funds.

Oxfam - America is sponsoring a "Fast for a World Harvest" today. The concept is that you should spend one day sharing the feeling of hunger with those who have no choice; then send the money that you would have spent on food to Oxfam. Oxfam - America is a small nonprofit agency in cooperation with groups in Canada, Quebec, Great Britain, Belgium, and Australia concerned with helping people to help themselves in such areas as Bangladesh, Peru, Sri Lanka, and Upper Volta. This nation-wide fast is part of a week long educational program entitled "Seven Days for World Development." For more information write to 302 Columbus Ave. P.O. Box #288, Back Bay Station, Boston, MA 02116.

Karen

attention in the spring of 1975. The National Organization of Women, the Coalition of Labor Union Women, and the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom have since passed support resolutions, pressed for open hearings, and helped organize demonstrations. As expressed by the Supporters of Silkwood,

'... The women's movement has focused public attention on the heroic quality of Karen's life and death. In so doing, we have promoted the right of all women to assume non-traditional roles, to become leaders and risk-takers, to occupy jobs in a safe workplace and to lead whatever lives we choose to fashion for ourselves.'

CIVIL LIBERTIES

Serious threats to the freedom of speech, the right to personal privacy, the freedom of the press, and the right to be politically active are embodied in the Silkwood case. Some acts committed against Karen and other union members upon which the plaintiffs hope to establish safeguards are:

* Unlawful wiretapping of Karen Silkwood by Kerr-McGee security personnel in cooperation with the Oklahoma City Police Department's intelligence unit.

* Examination of personal files and documents during inspection of Silkwood's apartment (while Kerr-McGee's alleged efforts were to determine the source of her plutonium contamination).

* Electronic bugging of Silkwood's apartment by Kerr-McGee and other covert political surveillance against activists by OCPD.

* Covert investigation of Silkwood and her associates at least one month prior to her death; surreptitious meetings among Kerr-McGee and police intelligence unit officials to exchange information.

* FBI support of these unlawful activities, through association of its own agents and undercover operatives with OCPD and Kerr-McGee security personnel.

* Administration of polygraph tests to plant workers by Kerr-McGee to examine their involvement in union activities and their association with Silkwood.

* Development by design of a relationship by an OCPD 'associate' with Silkwood and her boyfriend to gain access to 'intelligence data' and confidential diaries. Information was later shared in clandestine meetings with OCPD intelligence unit officers and Kerr-McGee security officers.

* Specific agreement between officials of Kerr-McGee and the Oklahoma State Highway Patrol to remove incriminating documents from her car after the crash.'

Moreover, the source of various veiled warnings, including the apparent harassments of Karen herself, her family, and even a film-maker documenting the case, is as yet unclear.

THE PRESENT:

The case continues to work slowly through the courts. Recently the Oklahoma District Court dismissed all civil rights counts in the case, ruling that labor union members are not protected against wiretapping and electronic surveillance under the Civil Rights Act. The family's lawyers have appealed this decision to the Tenth Circuit Court.

Four years after her death, Karen Silkwood continues to lead in the fight for a better, safer life for all. In time, perhaps the mysteries surrounding her death will be resolved; yet even if they are not, a lesson remains:

'... As our society grows larger and more impersonal, we must depend on courageous individuals ... to expose and challenge unsafe conditions... (Karen Silkwood) has illustrated that this is a matter of life or death. We must respond by working together for a new kind of society that is organized to take care of the basic needs of all people... and to offer to everyone an opportunity for a decent life...'

- Bella Abzug
February 24, 1976

the ua news

There will be a General Assembly Meeting tonight in Room 400 of the Student Center at 7:00 pm

Anyone who is interested in helping draft a proposal for a new U. A. Constitution should call Barry Newman at x3-2696

There will be a General Assembly Meeting tonight in Room 400 of the Student Center at 7:00 pm. Topics for tonight's meeting include the following

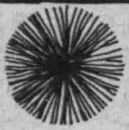
Stanley Allen Sherman is returning to MIT on December 1. Tickets to watch this talented mime go on sale Monday in the U. A. Office.

- 1) Discussion of MIT's delegation to the "Little II" Conference and an updated report of the status of the Conference.
- 2) Use of U. A. Social Budget in coming months
- 3) The U. A. structure - How can it be improved?

The Pre-Spring Fling is coming Saturday February 24- KEEP THE DATE OPEN !

If you've got any ideas or suggestions for the U. A., call Barry Newman or Tim Morgenthaler at x3-2969.

take the time! get involved!



THE SEAWALL



John and Ivy sat on the seawall watching the sunset. Brilliant purples and magenta filled the sky and reflected off the large puffy clouds. They had some Coke and a few chicken sandwiches. Ivy sipped her drink and turned to John.

"Do you want to get high for the eclipse tonight?" she asked him.

"Sure. What have you got?"

"Some downers. A friend of mine got them for me."

"How are they?"

"They're pretty good. I took some a few days ago and they just made everything so soft. I really like them." She reached into her handbag and pulled out a small bottle.

"Here try some. Take five."

John shook out five white tablets into his hand.

"Are you sure this will be enough?" he asked Ivy.

"I think so," she said. "I took four, but you're a lot bigger than I am."

The tablets were tasteless and John swallowed them slowly with his Coke.

"What time is the eclipse?"

"I think it starts at nine-fifteen. You should be feeling pretty good by then. Let's go to Louis' house to watch it."

"Yeh, that sounds good. What time is it now?"

Ivy looked at her watch. "About seven."

"Well, why don't we catch a bus and start over to his place?"

"All right."

Ivy leaned over and kissed John. The sun had disappeared over the horizon and it was quickly becoming dark.

* * *

"John, Ivy, I'm glad you came over." Louis poured some vodka for himself. "Would you like a drink?" he asked.

"No thanks," said John and Ivy, almost at the same time.

"John, that doesn't sound like you. What's the matter?"

"Nothing. I've just taken some tabs so I'm not drinking."

"Oh yeh! What have you got?" Ivy took out the pills and showed them to Louis. "Hey, those are pretty good. You should enjoy the eclipse."

"How's your mother?" John asked Louis.

"Oh, she's getting better, but she's still in the hospital."

Ivy looked at the Penthouse poster on the wall.

"How do your parents like this?"

"They never come down here. The maids don't even clean down here anymore. You should see Carloy's room. He even leaves his grass out in plain sight."

John began to feel a little woosy, and he set down the Playboy he'd been looking at.

"Do you feel it?" asked Ivy.

He listened to her question and searched for some words, but just nodded yes and smiled.

"You look pretty happy John. Let's go outside," suggested Louis.

The three of them went outside and Louis told a maid to bring out some Coke and sandwiches. A concrete wall, about three feet high, separated the grassy backyard from the beach. Louis and Ivy sat on the wall and John lay beside them, his feet dangling over the edge.

"It's cloudy. I hope we can see the eclipse," said Ivy.

"I think we'll be able to. It's a lunar eclipse and there's supposed to be a full moon. Besides, the paper said it would clear up."

They could hear the cars passing in front of the house and in the quiet, between the cars, they heard the ocean moving along the beach. The air stank with the smell of drying fish and a cool breeze blew in from the ocean.

A maid came and set a tray of ham sandwiches and Cokes on the wall next to Louis. Ivy rolled a joint and the three of them passed it around before eating. John sipped on a Coke, but didn't eat anything.

"Look, it's starting!" said Louis and they all looked up at the sky.

One edge of the moon had turned a bright red and like two intersecting circles, the color moved imperceptibly across the face of the moon. John looked around him and saw a swingset anchored in concrete near the house.

"I wish I had a tripod for my camera. This would make a great picture," said Louis.

"How do you like it John?" asked Ivy.

"It's nice. I think I'm going to swing for awhile." John got up and walked over to the swing. It had two seats held up by chain that had been bolted into the wood. John got on and began swinging. Ivy and Louis were still sitting on the wall.

"I thought you weren't going to see him anymore?" said Louis.

"I'm not. He met me at the plaza."

Louis took Ivy's hand and moved closer to her.

"No. Not now." Ivy stood up. "Let's go see John."

The swing rose higher and higher. John couldn't judge how high he went and he pumped harder, his mind flowing with the rhythm of the swing. He leaned back until his hair brushed the ground and he could see the moon which had become half redish-orange and half milky white.

"Hey, John, be careful," said Ivy as she and Louis walked over to the swing.

"I feel fii--iii--ine." The chain went slack at the top of his swing and it appeared that he couldn't go much higher.

"Let's go inside John. We have to leave pretty soon."

John left the swing just before the chain went slack and flew silently through the air before crumpling onto the ground. Hysterical laughter shattered the silence and John rolled on the grass shaking.

Ivy and Louis ran to him.

"Are you all right?" asked Ivy and she bent over to look at John.

"I'm fine," he managed to say after he quit laughing. "I may try that again."

"It's late John. I think you better take Ivy home." Louis held out his hand and helped John to his feet.

"Why not?" said John. "I feel so fine. Why don't you come with us and we can catch a few beers at Roli's after we take Ivy home?"

"I can't. My father may come back from the hospital this evening."

"Well, if your sure. I guess we'll be leavin' then."

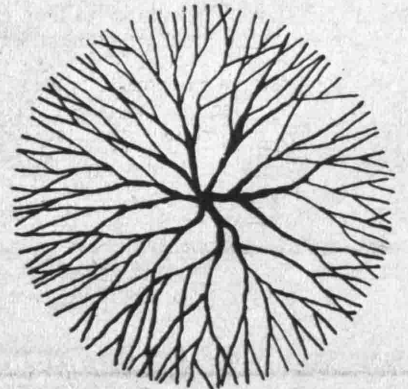
"Goodnight Louis," said Ivy and she and John walked around the house to the front gate.

"After you," said John as he opened the gate.

"Are you all right John?" she asked him again.

"Just fine," said John. "Everything is just fine. Now let me escort you home."

THE END



CIRCUIT HACKERS

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girl friends
PG

A Wedding
PG

(continued from page 1)

Iran

"Islam has a strong strain of social egalitarianism. By ruling through a small, rich and largely corrupt elite, the Shah has offended the belief in fundamental human equality that many Moslems share.

"Far from wanting to return Iran to the Middle ages, many of the Shah's religious opponents want to use the tools of modernity to realize their philosophic ideals, which include distributing Iran's oil wealth more equitably, eliminating mass poverty and taking action against corruption among the ruling elite."

Ervand Ebrahimian
Professor, City Univ. N. Y.

Shariati and the new wave of theology students in Iran's clergy have gone to great lengths to portray Islam as a religion of action as opposed to contemplation. "The Koran is a book to enlighten and activate the masses, not to divert their attention to fate and death. . . Islam is a revolutionary movement free of 'west-toxication' . . . it is a means of translating the fervour and faith of the masses into concrete action against evil, exploitation and poverty," Shariati says in this regard. He quotes the infamous French colonial General Soustel as having said of Islam in the North African colonies, "Islam is an anti-religion, which instead of teaching people obedience, honesty, peace and forgiveness, rather provokes the Arabs to war, victory, revenge and disobedience. . . No book is as provocative among the common people as is the Koran."

Although he tried, the Shah never succeeded in crushing Islam. It survived as Iran's only viable institution and has now succeeded to rock the throne of one of the world's most powerful men without use of arms. The overwhelming ferocity of the Islamic Movement in Iran cast grave doubts about the Shah's continued rule in Iran.

Progressive Islam is the basis of a mass non-elite, and non-Marxist social movement in Iran, the likes of which have not been observed in most Third World countries and their elite-dominated politics. By drastically altering people's attitudes towards life and knowledge, Islam rather than opposing progress is laying the foundations for solid economic growth in the future. This time the growth will be spontaneous and not imposed from above.

The Islamic Revival is Iran's Reformation, Renaissance and French Revolution in one. This huge social upheaval cannot be stopped and is a prerequisite to real economic growth being achieved in Iran. Thus supporting the Shah is a lost cause. It is about time that President Carter and his aides came to their senses and accepted Iran as an independent country unaligned with any world power, and free to spend its money as it sees fit.

Thursday VooDoo

3 Ames Street, Box D
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November 2, 1978
Volume LVII, Number 8

Editor-- Keith Deterling
Business Manager-- Jack Shoemaker

Meeting: Thurs. afternoon, 50-201

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CORRUPTION AND THE SHAH

UNION DE BANQUES SUISSES		Pahlavi Foundation		GENEVE		214895, 20 H Cpte §		US		Pahlavi Foundation of Iran	
		Compte courant n°		30 JUIN 1962						The Sadabad Palace	
										TEHERAN, IRAN	
Vous trouverez ci-dessous le relevé de votre compte courant. Nous vous prions de bien vouloir le vérifier et de nous aviser dans un délai maximum de 4 semaines à compter de la date ci-dessus si vous n'êtes pas d'accord avec les écritures qui nous y sont faites.											
Date	Tenue	N	Montant	DEBIT	CREDIT	Saldo au début	Saldo au 30.06.62	Jeux	Commissions	Colonnes	
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5 FEV 62	O/SHAHNAZ PAHLAVI	32	24	14.2	2,000,000.00						
5 FEV 62	O/WILLIAM E. BURK	33	24	20.2	200,000.00						
5 FEV 62	O/RANDOLPH DICKINS	34	24	20.2	200,000.00						
5 FEV 62	O/HAHLS REZA PAHLAVI	35	24	20.2	500,000.00						
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5 FEV 62	O/SELDEN CHAPIN	1037	24	26.2	1,000,000.00						
5 FEV 62	O/AMIR-KHATEMI	38	24	1.3	1,000,000.00						
5 FEV 62	O/R.A. PIGOT	39	24	1.3	1,000,000.00						
5 FEV 62	O/T.W. PIPER	1042	24	1.3	1,000,000.00						
5 FEV 62	O/PARAH PAHLAVI	43	24	6.3	15,000,000.00						
5 FEV 62	O/FATEMEH PAHLAVI	44	24	6.3	2,000,000.00						
5 FEV 62	O/ABDOL REZA PAHLAVI	45	24	6.3	2,000,000.00						
5 FEV 62	O/GHOLAM REZA PAHLAVI	46	24	6.3	2,000,000.00						
5 FEV 62	O/WILLIAM WARR	47	24	7.3	1,000,000.00						
5 FEV 62	O/ALI AMINI	48	24	7.3	2,000,000.00						
5 FEV 62	O/DAVID ROCKEFELLER	49	24	8.3	2,000,000.00						
5 FEV 62	O/AHMAD REZA PAHLAVI	1050	24	8.3	500,000.00						
5 FEV 62	O/AHMAD REZA PAHLAVI	51	24	8.3	1,000,000.00						
5 FEV 62	O/JAMSHID KHABIR	52	24	8.3	500,000.00						
5 FEV 62	O/A.W. WEBSTER	53	24	8.3	1,000,000.00						
5 FEV 62	O/ARDESHIR ZAHEDI	54	24	12.3	3,000,000.00						
5 FEV 62	O/ROLAND LEES	55	24	12.3	1,000,000.00						
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This is a Page from the Bank Statement of the Pahlavi Foundation. It is Reproduced from a Photostat Made by the Khaibar Khan's Agents in Teheran.

"I commit myself to make up for past mistakes, to fight corruption and injustices and to carry out free elections. . . . Your revolutionary message has been heard. I am aware of everything you have given your lives for."

SHAH of Iran, Nov. 5
Following imposition of military Government two Sundays ago

By arresting 133 former officials and Cabinet Ministers on charges of corruption last week, the Shah is trying to divert attention from the fact that he and his family have been at the heart of the intricate spiderweb of corruption that permeates Iran's westernized elite.

A bank statement for the 'Pahlavi Foundation,' an organization fronting for the activities of the royal family, appeared in 'The Nation' of April 12, 1965. A cursory look at the payments and deposits made to the account in a one-month period in 1962 reveals a lot about the real intentions of Iran's 'modernising and progressive leader' (President Carter's words).

Deposits to the account included \$12 million of oil revenues from the N.I.O.C. (National Iranian Oil Company) as well as \$6 million of Congressionally-approved US aid money allocated to Iran's 'Plan Organization,' money supposedly spent for development. The author of the article estimated nearly \$2 billion of US aid money as having been squandered by the Shah's regime in this manner since its reinstatement by a CIA-directed coup in 1953. But the American investment paid off handsomely in the end: the Shah has since the 1974 oil boom bought more than \$18 billion of U.S. armaments, among other things.

Checks drawn from the 1962 account are even more interesting though. The recipients include: —seven members of the royal family, who received a total of \$23 million —Allen Dulles, head of the CIA in 1953 —George V. Allen, Assistant Secretary of State and veteran Mid-East diplomat —Loy Henderson, Ambassador to Iran in 1953 —William Warne, Point Four aid program administrator in Iran —Selden Chapin, US ambassador to Iran, 1962 —T.W. Piper, British Air Vice Marshal and Mid-East commandant of the R. A. F. in 1962 —and most important of all, Henry R. Luce, publisher of TIME, LIFE and FORTUNE magazines

That American media have been somewhat less than objective in dealing with news from Iran is a fact long noticed by Iranian students in the U.S. For twelve months there have been riots and killings all over Iran, but American media have done their best to give the disturbances the least possible coverage lest the Shah's well-groomed image in the U.S. be tarnished. Until last month when things really got out of hand in Iran, the American people have been treated only to an occasional AP news dispatch blaming damages on a small group of Islamic-Marxists and terrorists. Now that million-plus crowds have disproved that contention a different line has been adopted:

"Iran's troubles began earlier this year when conservative Moslems started demonstrations against the Shah's reforms that gave greater freedom to women and redistributed church lands to peasants. They contend the reforms go against the teachings of Islam."
Associated Press, Nov. 2

It is interesting to note that AP's stringer in Iran Parviz Raein, works also for Time magazine.

A lot of these questions will be cleared up soon: the Shah's press spokesman Siavosh Zand has asked for political asylum in the U.S. and is reported to have a list available of all U.S. news publications and agencies that have been receiving money from the Shah. His disclosures will be most interesting.

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Something Less

Now over 20 Billion

UPI (Hanoi)—Ray Kroc, millionaire president, and founder, of the Macdonalds Corporate empire, today formally announced the purchase of the entire South East Asian fast food franchise from the governments of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. In secret negotiations that were reportedly begun during the 1968 tet offensive, Kroc and a hand-picked team of top management and economic analysts have finalized plans for what ultimately will be a fifteen billion-dollar-a-year operation. In addition to solving the lingering problem of twenty-two million starving people throughout the three nation area, the governments of each country plan to make over five billions dollars per year in profit sharing revenues.

After the initial shock of the largest single food contract ever negotiated wore off on Wall Street and the Zurich gold market, details of the plan were made public.

Phase I of the franchise contract will consist of a pilot plant Macdonalds Restaurant to be built in Hanoi, over what was formerly an economically depressed area. The 6700 acre paved complex will center around a 2 million dollar pagoda-shaped structure capable of feeding 30,000 people per hour. Construction will begin next week, as soon as the site is cleared of rubble, and should be fully operational in three months.

Phase II will be a ten-fold enlargement of the original structure and will ultimately be capable of feeding the entire population of Hanoi three times a day. Concurrent with this enlargement of the pilot plant will be the construction of similar pilots in all the major cities of South East Asia with priority being given to those areas hit hardest by famine.

Phase III will involve the changeover of American leadership to natives trained in various restaurants throughout the U.S. as well as the development of food products grown in Asia for export. (Already market studies are beginning in the mid-west on a rice-composite-burger called "Big Cong".)

Reactions throughout the world have been mixed, though many expressed guarded optimism. President Carter refused comment today on the deal, but is expected to wholeheartedly support the project in light of the tremendous boost the dollar is already experiencing on world money markets. Carter's only concern at the present seems to be an internal squabble in the National Security Agency involving the threat of a shortage on the U.S. tomato supply should the Asians develop an affinity for American catsup.

Former Secretary of Defense Robert MacNamara today praised the insightful leadership of hamburger king Ray Kroc in a public statement issued from MacNamara's office as President of the World Bank. The former secretary, considered by many to be the architect of the Indochina War during the 60's expressed hope that the new concept of feeding the world's poor could soon be spread to the rest of the third world, behind the Iron Curtain, and to Lubbock, Texas.

Sources close to the secretary also said privately that MacNamara actually wished we had let Kroc determine our policy towards those countries twenty years ago, and avoided the whole messy problem altogether.

The president of the world's most powerful lending institution also related that the World Bank stood to profit by over 300 million dollars by financing the initial construction of the Hanoi Macdonald's complex.

Southern Catholics

Brown's Ferry, Alabama—Former Governor George C. Wallace was anointed yesterday as the new cardinal of the Archdiocese of Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, and Western Texas in a pompous ceremony held 5 miles outside Biloxi, Mississippi. The emotionally charged meeting, held by candlelight, was attended by more than two thousand robed admirers of the former presidential candidate.

The announcement of Wallace's appointment came as a shock to many, in light of his vow to run over any civil rights protestor who should happen to lay under his car back in 1968. The governor's former marriage to Cornelia Wallace was also thought to be somewhat at odds with official church doctrine



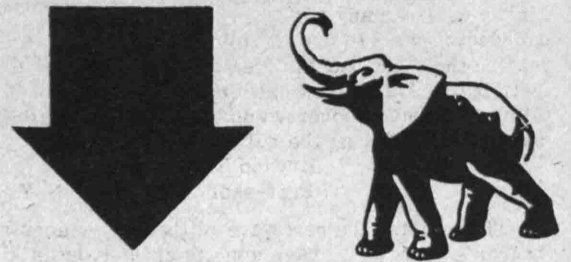
Pictures: Above —after the installation of former Gov. Wallace as Cardinal a spectator shows her sentiments toward operation Hamburger.

Below—Vietnamese peasants prepare for the fall Big Cong attacks.



Vatican spokesmen were quick to point out that the new cardinal is paralyzed from the waist down, and that he never actually ran over anybody in the presidential campaign.

Pope John Paul II's decision to go with Wallace is thought to be an extension of the Vatican's steadfast opposition to the stronger economic ties many communist countries have developed with U.S. multinational food corporations recently.



Dear Dick

Dear Dick:

What do you think about all this Macdonalds shit in the papers? I mean to think that we are actually allowing that damn communist Ray Kroc and his dirty, liberal democrat co-horts to feed those filthy atheistic, pencil-necked geeks that us red-blooded Americans fought for so long! Those rotten Rockefellers are behind it, I'll bet! C'mon Mr. President, you and Henry tell us the real story!

Rob. N. Holdem
Commander VFW Post #265
Midland, Texas

P. S. God bless you and Pat and the kids.

Dear Rob;

Your thoughtful message strengthens my conviction that America will seize with courage and success the challenges that lie ahead.

While the volume of mail received in my office makes it impossible for me to send a personal reply, I wanted you to know how much I appreciate the confidence and understanding you have shown.

—Richard M. Nixon

HEY ASSHOLE!

What's up you butter assed lamebrain? It seems the shit has finally hit the fan in IRAN. It's about time they ousted that puppet from power and ended an era of American Imperialism. Why can't Washington keep their noses out of other peoples business. Seems they want to have control of everything going on the globe, well I've got news for you: DC is dead... the era of American oppression all over the globe is about to come to an end. We are sick of America and americanism and it's about time something got done about it. Fuck instant food, apple pie, department stores, corporate conglomerates... we don't need that sort of self-destructive bullshit all over the world... FUCKAMERICA: the world has existed for years without American Technologies and idiotic Americanisms, and there is no reason it should be infected by it now. What good can petrochemical and industrial processing centers do in an undeveloped country? NONE! It destroys environment and the minds of the people... America sucks... It should keep its grubby paws off the rest of the world... We don't want it as a matter of fact we hate it!! BOMB D.C. —KILL THE BIMBO!!!!!! It makes me sick to see vast countrysides ravaged by technology.. America you will pay.. the poison you have planted on our planet will lead to its death..... 1983..... HLOCAUST.....

Mosheff al Kheyriouyk
Iranian Student's Union
Columbia University

Dear Mosheff:

While the lack of space prohibits me from giving you a personal reply, I want you to know how much I appreciate hearing from foreign students who have previously lived in the United States.

—Richard M. Nixon

Former President Richard Nixon candidly discusses issues of world importance with our readers. Letters should be addressed:

Dear Dick
c%Thursday-Voodoo
Box C East Campus
3 Ames St.
Cambridge, Mass. 02139

Si no tiene schlitz, no tiene gusto.
—Ancient Aztec proverb

The Aztecs invented the vacation.
—Firesign Theater

I've come to look upon death as I look upon root canal work. Everyone seems to get through it alright, so it couldn't be so difficult for me.
—Joseph Heller

When the body dies, the soul stays on and tries again.
—Hindu proverb

Change--the eternal principle.
—Heraclitus

Driver carries no cash.
—MBTA

Death is the greatest kick of all; that's why we're saving it for last.
—anonymous

The wisdom of life is to observe brami-chari, follow the eight-fold path and take ten percent off the top.
—13 year old perfect master

Turn in, tune out, drop off.
—Bustopher Jones

I think getting old is a cheap way to achieve maturity.
—Bus Jones

He's an important clog in our machinery.
—Yogi Berra

COMEDY

GRAVITY

the last word
by Blain Brown

The girl is a true princess, she always knows when somebody peas in her bed.
—Bus Jones

If you need eggs, don't just sit around and brood.
—the Cadillac cowboys

If you don't want to get left in the lurch, don't get into the lurch in the first place.
—Bus Jones

If you can't sell it, sit on it.
—Bessie Smith

Sufi Master Nasrudin was searching for a fallen object far from where it had fallen. Someone asked him, "Nasrudin, why do you seek this object far from where it has fallen?" Nasrudin replied, "Because the light is better over here."
—Sufi story

A day without sunshine is like night.
—Bus Jones

Women should be obscene and not heard.
—John Lennon

Blame it on the Bossa Nova.
—anonymous

*The wheel is turning and you can't slow down
You can't let go and you can't hold on
You can't go back and you can't stand still
If the thunder don't get you the lightning will*
.....
*Round round robin run around
Gotta get back to where you belong
Little bit harder just a little bit more
Little bit further than you gone before*
.....
*Small wheel turn by the fire and rod
Big wheel turn by the grace of God
Every time that wheel turn 'round
Bound to cover just a little more ground*
—Garcia & Hunter, "The Wheel"

The whole country is my nut and I'm going to crack it.
—Mel Thompson, in a parting shot after losing the election in New Hampshire