You all will die soon enough.

Iran
Karen Silkwood's Nuclear Death

by Bob Chen and Al Campbell

Four years ago a young union activist named Karen Silkwood died in an accident that led to a meeting with a union representative and a New York Times reporter. In her will, which included the names of two U.S. nuclear sites where she worked were never found: a private investigation by her husband, the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers (OCAW), who showed that the car appeared to have been run off the road. Thus started a battle which is still raging.

Karen began work at the Kerr-McGee plutonium plant in Richland, Washington, in January 1974. In the month after her initial exposure in July, 1974, Karen became active in the OCAW local and began the documentation of grievances. In December of 1974, reports appeared in the press 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 5, 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 up and took back in the wreck of the Honda. 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 $50,000 salaries. Something was wrong with American development instead of serving 40,000,000 Iranians. It began to serve Gruenman, 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 $2 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 perceived development imposed from above, Iran's middle and working classes increasingly turned to a newly成型的 Muslim political movement, the Shi'ite Islam for guidance and self-expression. The latter had a key role in redefining certain aspects of Islam in such a way that 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, contained such personal effects laid by the medical examiner. The place Karen's teeth, bits and pieces of information have emerged which not only support Karen's original contents, but also extend the 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 developments from elsewhere, Shariati's movements have had enough. While agriculture is non-invasive, 11 nuclear reactors are not. 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 $50,000 salaries. Something was wrong with American development instead of serving 40,000,000 Iranians. It began to serve Gruenman, 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 $2 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 perceived development imposed from above, Iran's middle and working classes increasingly turned to a newly成型的 Muslim political movement, the Shi'ite Islam for guidance and self-expression. The latter had a key role in redefining certain aspects of Islam in such a way that 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, contained such personal effects laid by the medical examiner. The place Karen's teeth, bits and pieces of information have emerged which not only support Karen's original contents, but also extend the 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.

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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 of Montana by Karen Silkwood, collectively with Congressman Dingell as the target.

Some of the workers' grievances are:

- Attempts by Kerr-McGee and the FBI to discredit the personal reputation of Karen Silkwood and other unionists.
- 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 exceed legal limits.
- Inadequate training and educating of workers to the dangers of plutonium.
- Poor quality mixture of plutonium waste with acid, increasing risks of leaking and fishing.
- Inadequate companies to the dangers of plutonium, resulting in a lack of proper appreciation for the need for careful handling.
- Accurate reports of advance warning by Kerr-McGee officials of "surprise" inspections by the AEC.
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**Mountaineering Proficiency Test**

Oh sure, injured indignation. "A quiz?" you protest, feigning ignorance. Well sir, what do you think these mountaineering 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.

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**Multiple Choice**

**Drinking Busch beer is known as:**
- (A) Suckin' 'em up
- (B) Downing the mountain
- (C) Quaffing
- (D) Peaking

A mountaineer's best friend is his:
- (A) Dog
- (B) Balloondoynsman
- (C) Main squeeze
- (D) Free and flexible arm

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 yourassen, liquid."
- (D) "Put this on my tab, fella."

The best place for a mountaineer to take a romantic RSVP is:
- (A) Somewhere over the rainbow
- (B) 24 hours from Tulsa
- (C) In the craggy peaks
- (D) Deep in the heart of Texas

You can recognize a mountaineer by his:
- (A) Crampons
- (B) Sherpa guides
- (C) Pickaxes
- (D) Foamy moustaches

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**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) Mountaineering (B) Mountain Peak
- (A) Mountain Lion (B) Mountain Pine
- (A) Mountain Music (B) Mountain Cat

**Scoring**

10-15 correct: congratulations, lucky, 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?

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

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

© Anheuser-Busch, Inc. St. Louis, Mo.
(continued from page 2)

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 pushed 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 activity by OCPD.
* Covert investigation of Silkwood's apartment by Kerr-McGee and other covert political surveillance activity by OCPD.
* Covert investigation of Silkwood and her associates at least one month prior to her death; surveillance meetings among Kerr-McGee and police intelligence unit officials to exchange information.
* Full 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 extend 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 data. 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 remember this lesson when watching the emergence of 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
John and Irv 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. Irv slipped her drink and turned to John. "Do you want to go 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 you are. Take five."

John shook out five white tablets into his hand. "Are you sure this will be enough?" he asked Ivy.

"I'm sure, " said John and Ivy. almost at the same time.

"Oh, she's getting better, " said Louis.

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

"Nothing. I've just taken some tabs so I'm not even clean down here anymore. You should see Carley's room. He even leaves his grass out in plain sight."

John began to feel a little woozy, 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. It's not too dark and I could go higher. I'm not, " said John, me at the plaza. "Are you all right John?" she asked him again.

"I'm fine, " he laughed. "Just feel fine. Now let me escort you home,"

"Are you all right?" asked Ivy and she went to John. "Let's go inside John. We have to leave pretty soon."

John left the swing just before the chains went slack and flew silently through the air before crumbling 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 as she bent over to look at John.

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

"I'll be fine," said John. I'm sure 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.

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"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 chains that had been bolted into the wood. John got on and began swinging. Ivy and Louis were still sitting on the wall. "I think you better take Ivy and Louis around the house to the front gate," said John as he opened the gate. "Are you all right John?" she asked him again.

"I'm fine, " said John. "Everything is just fine. Now let me escort you home."

THE END

THE SEAWALL

November 16, 1978

Why? Well, at IBM you are going to become a circuit designer or a software engineer or a quality control engineer or... At Thornton Associates you will fill all of these positions and more.

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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 to 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 eliminating Iran's oil wealth in a equitable, eliminating mass poverty and taking action against corruption among the ruling clique." Ervand Abrahamian, Professor, City Univ. N.Y.

Shariati and the new wave of theologians 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-orientation'. 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 Soustelle 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 as the Koran."

Although he tried, the Shah never succeeded in crushing Islam. It survived as Iran's only stable institution and has now succeeded to rock the throne of one of the world's most powerful men without use of arms. The overwhelming fervour of Iranian Movements in Iran rest 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 Union which has not been observed in most Third World countries and their elites which have been 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 in a prearranged, 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
Cambridge, 2139

(617) 253-7977

November 2, 1978
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Editor—Keith Detering
Business Manager—Jack Shoemaker

Meeting: Thurs. afternoon, 50-201

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VISIBLE LANGUAGE WORKSHOP
LECTURE SERIES FALL 1978

DIETMAR WINKLER -- Dean of the college of Visual and Performing Arts, Southeastern Mass. Univ. 5-7pm Tuesday Nov. 21, 1978 Emerson Room 7-403 MIT


Thursday VooDoo
SOUTHERN CATHOLICS

Brown's Ferry, Alabama—Former Governor George C. Wallace was appointed yesterday as the new cardinal of the Archdiocese of Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, and Western Texas in a pompous ceremony held 5 miles outside Blountsville. Massaichi, 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 protesters 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.

Former Secretary of Defense Robert MacNamara, who was responsible for the construction of the Hanoi MacDonald's, the national food products grown in Asia for export. Already experiencing en world markets.

VATICAN SPEAKERS 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 indication of the Vatican's fast opposition to the stronger economic ties many communist countries have developed with U.S. multinational food corporations recently.

Dear Dick:

What do you think about all this MacDonald's shit in the news? I mean to think that we're already 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 Rockefeller's are behind it, I bet!

'On Mr. President, you and busy 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 Rolf;

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

Dear Mosheff:

I'm sure you're happy about this news. But you won't like my reaction to it. The American people have been hoodwinked by the press and the politicians. They think that this is a victory for the people. It is not. This is a victory for the rich and the powerful. The people have been deceived. They have been used.

Mosheff al Kheyrtouyk
Irish Student's Union
Columbia University

Dear Mosheff:

While the lack of space prohibits me from giving you a personal reply, I want to 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;

65 Third Street
Box C East Campus
Ames St.
Cambridge, Ma, 02139

November 9, 1978
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.