

Feedback

Anti-nuke

The Editor:
The Trojan Decommissioning Alliance announces its plan of violently barricading the entrances to the plant. The Alliance reached a consensus to the civil disobedience on August 6, the anniversary of the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan.

The Alliance feels that the involvement of governmental agencies,

officials and courts in failing to put an end to the danger leaves them no other choice.

So far, over 200 protesters have been arrested for trespassing at Trojan on two separate occasions. In the first mass trial, all 96 defendants were acquitted by a Columbia County jury. During both occasions, the Trojan Decommissioning Alliance maintained a non-violent stand.

Non-violent training workshops will be set up and will be mandatory for all participants in the August 6 protest. The mem-

bers of the Alliance explained their opposition to violence causes concerned Oregonians to occupy the Trojan plant as an all-out effort to shut Trojan down.

The Alliance feels, in view of the fact that the Trojan plant produces 40 tons of nuclear waste a year and that nuclear waste remains highly dangerous for 250,000 years, that Trojan should be shut down.

Jeff Bolarsen
Trojan Decommissioning Alliance



Weather report

Jim McCaffrey
The Print

Well Governor Rhoades you them and buried them why they stay dead?

many people who were so affected by the terrible wounds inflicted by the Vietnam war tragedy, May 4, will be remembered as a particularly painful day in history.

Eight years ago on this date Republican Governor James McGee sent national guards onto the campus of Kent State University to quiet student unrest against the recently re-elected illegal Cambodia bomb. This action of the Governor led to the fatal shooting of four students by the National Guardsmen. The Guardsmen were tried for the killings and cleared of any wrong doing. The governor while admitting the awfulness of the tragedy has consistently defended his actions against intense public criticism. Presently being Governor in Oregon means never having to say sorry.

On May 4, one year ago, a group of 200 students had to make their way into the trust meeting at the conclusion of the years commemoration program. The students arrived in Kent to hear the University's trustees announce their final decision to erect a gym on the site of the student killings. The students protested by setting up a camp on the site. The high-tension atmosphere of the encampment lasted 62 days, the longest occupation in the history of the American student movement. The encampment was able to stay while a long battle was being waged but on July 12 sheriff's deputies made 194 arrests of non-violent protesters on "Blanket Hill".

This May 4 we might do well to contemplate the half-completed shell of a gymnasium and to find an appropriate epitaph to mark this place of the youth while reflecting on the lives taken and cherished symbols of our own lives.

Have You Checked Your Prognosis and Cheese for Radiation Content Lately?

Because a lot of people have heard... here is the strange and unbelievable Karen Silkwood story.

In 1972 Karen Silkwood, a divorced mother of two, went to work for the Kerr-McGee plutonium manufacturing plant in Oklahoma City, Okla. The plant was involved in manufacturing the still experimental fast breeder reactors. These breeder reactors were designed to make

more plutonium than they used up.

Silkwood liked her job but had begun to develop doubts about it because of frequent employee complaints of exposure to airborne plutonium. This is no small matter when you consider that one-millionth of a gram of this highly toxic substance has caused cancer in test animals. Once this plutonium gets into the air it cannot be recovered. By fall of 1974 the Kerr-McGee Company had been forced to tell the Atomic Energy Commission of 73 accidental contaminations at the plant, workers complained of dozens more. Karen Silkwood became a union activist.

One week before her death, Karen was involved in the investigation of the plant for her union, the Oil, Chemical, and Atomic Workers International. She was trying to gather enough internal company memo's to prove that Kerr-McGee was falsifying records and violating AEC safety guidelines. During that week Silkwood discovered that she had eaten three Bologna and cheese sandwiches which had been poisoned with a microscopic amount of plutonium. The AEC later decided that this poisoning was no accident. Scared out of her mind, Silkwood arranged a meeting with a OCAW union health expert and a reporter from the New York

Times. She was supposed to deliver a manila folder of papers from the company. Karen never arrived. On her way to the meeting her light weight car slammed into a concrete culvert and Karen was killed.

No manila folder was found in the car. Disappeared. Law enforcement officials looking into the case ruled Karen's accident routine despite evidence that her car had been forced off the road. The FBI and two congressional subcommittees have dropped investigations into the Silkwood Case because they consider it an unsolvable riddle.

The questions Karen's death raises about the Kerr-McGee Company are also the questions being asked about the nuclear industry. How safe are they? Can the power companies and plutonium manufacturers be trusted to keep high safety standards? How easily available is plutonium? How much is getting into our environment? It is becoming more obvious that the nuclear energy people do not want examined to closely.

Say man you want to buy some paraquat gold?

Paraquat is an exceedingly toxic herbicide used by the Mexican government in cooperation with the United States agencies to eliminate heroine producing poppy fields. The

program has also been extended to cover marijuana fields. Less than a month ago the Environmental Protection Agency restricted the use of paraquat in the United States. Some feel that the chemical will soon be banned for use in this country. Paraquat remains in the body longer than DDT and has no antidote. Presently the EPA allows paraquat levels of .05 parts per million in our food stuffs. Samples of confiscated marijuana samples last November found levels ranging from 177-2200 parts per million. Paraquat is a fail safe suicide system! This poison is a quick way to ensure illness and possible death. Yet it is estimated that about 14 tons of paraquat contaminated marijuana will be eaten in the United States this year.

Although the studies are not conclusive they seem to show that smoking of paraquat will

quickly bring about lung damage. How much paraquat contaminated herb is in the United State is not known, although in Oregon the problem has been extremely low. The scare is not over however. The Mexican government will continue to use U.S. planes and chemicals and technical assistance to contaminate peasant fields. Also marijuana dealers in the United States, since the paraquat scare has made the bottom fall out of the Mexican pot market, are said to be hoarding large quantities of Mexican pot for distribution in the late summer when the scare has died down. In the meantime one should be very cautious of any weed they buy.

Even the White House office of drug-abuse policy has admitted that paraquat-treated marijuana, once manicured is very difficult to recognize.

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