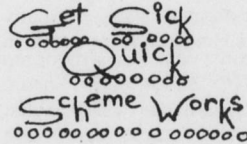
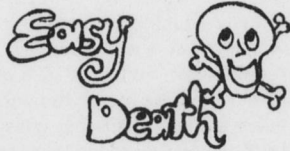


Gopher College News



Zodiac News



Leading opponents of the death penalty say they are fearful that the so-called "civilized methods" of killing prisoners may result in a new era of executions in the United States.

The civilized method of killing involves injecting condemned prisoners with powerful but painless drugs that allegedly put them to sleep — permanently.

Pacific news service reports that the states of Texas and Oklahoma have already acted to replace the electric chair and gallows with injectable drugs, and that a similar needle has been introduced in Florida.

In Oklahoma, under its new law, execution is carried out by dual injections — a first one to render the prisoner unconscious and a second one to kill. The Texas law calls for condemned inmates to be stuck with a lethal dose of what is referred to as "an ultra-short acting" barbiturate while still conscious.

The Texas Director of Corrections, James Estelle, refers to the new killing method as "a more civilized way of carrying out our responsibilities." And Texas prison chaplain, the Rev. Clyde Johnson, describes it this way: "I hesitate to use the word pleasant, but it would be like somebody going in, laying down, and going to sleep."

Lawyers for the American Civil Liberties Union and the NAACP say that the prison authorities make the act of killing sound so pleasant that a massive upsurge in executions is likely to result.

At least one industry is probably happy the swine flu program didn't work out as well as expected.

The General Accounting Office reports that damage claims against the federal government from its short-lived swine flu program could very well top \$1 billion.

The G.A.O. reports, on top of that, private insurance to companies are expected to make \$8.65 in profits because of the way the program was structured.



The relatives of four students who were killed in the 1970 shootings at Kent State University have filed a federal suit, demanding that Ohio officials preserve the area where the shootings occurred.

The suit was filed with the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati in response to plans by the Kent State Administration to build a gymnasium where the slayings occurred seven years ago.

The parents and other relatives of the slain students contend that the suit should be preserved as evidence in possible future legal proceedings. According to that suit "destruction of the site . . . Will totally destroy essential evidence."



Justice - American Style

BY TANE DATTA

A new American right is being formed. The right of repression, racism, and murder. Within a group of people who insulate themselves with superior altitudes and limited viewpoints dehumanization beings. Dehumanization means people don't matter. If society supports these groups a new right will be formed, but not for everyone.

This time the dehumanizers are part of the Houston police force. Another time the Kerr-McGee plutonium plant officials took the role. The result in both cases was the same, murder; Jose Campos Torres in Houston (convictions) and Karen Silkwood in her car (3 yrs., in the courts).

Jose Campos Torres was arrested last May on charges of creating a disturbance in a Houston tavern. According to testimony in the trial, Campos Torres was beaten by five police officers, and then pushed of a 16-foot embankment into a water filled swamp.

One former policeman who testified in the trial told the court that the beating of some prisoners was helpful because it was important for officers to have "A reputation as a tough guy" with certain elements in the community.

On Oct. 5, 1977 two former Houston policemen were convicted on negligent homicide charges in Houston for the beating and death of a 23-year-old Chicano named Jose Campos Torres. According to testimony, the two cops arrested Torres in a bar, severely beat him, and finally threw him into a bayou where Torres drowned. Another officer who was at the scene of the beating testified that Torres had been thrown into the water to find out if — in the words of his attackers — "Wetbacks can swim."

The Chicano community in Houston was outraged when the two former officers, after being convicted were fined \$2000 and then placed on probation for their role in the Torres killing.

Now, there has been a new development in the Torres case: The father and mother of Torres, Margaret and Joe Luna Torres were arrested and allegedly beaten by Houston police over the weekend on charges of resisting arrest.

The incident occurred last Saturday when the two elder Torres' were in a bar and watched as police arrested another young Chicano youth and took him outside the bar

at gunpoint.

According to 47-year-old Joe Torres, he followed the officers outside to witness the arrest, and asked the cops: "Are you going to kill him like you killed our son?"

The older Torres claims that he was then attacked and beaten on the head with a flashlight, receiving serious gashes. Both he and his wife were arrested and jailed on assault and resisting arrest charges, and were released later on \$1900 in bail.

Supporters of Torres point out that the \$1900 bail figure was just \$100 lower than the fine levied for the murder of their son.

Karen Silkwood, a 28-year-old worker at the Kerr-McGee plant died in a mysterious car crash nearly three years ago at a time when she was charging the company with numerous safety and security violations at the plant. Silkwood had suggested just before her death that a plutonium-smuggling ring might have been diverting fuel out of the nuclear facility.

Silkwood's parents have since filed a damage suit on behalf of her estate. They allege her death was a direct result of negligence on the part of Kerr-McGee officials.

At the time of her death, Silkwood was reportedly carrying internal Kerr-McGee documents in her car relating to the lax safety precautions and missing nuclear materials at the Kerr-McGee plant. *Rolling Stone* says that one former worker, Jean Jung, recently submitted a sworn statement alleging that Silkwood was carrying a folder of documents minutes before her fatal car crash. Those documents have never been found.

Rolling Stone magazine also reports that several key witnesses in the case say they have been subjected to strange burglaries and threatening telephone calls in recent months.

Rolling Stone also reports that shortly after Jung's name surfaced as a witness, her house was burglarized and ransacked, she received threatening phone calls, and was chased by a car.

The publication adds that another former Kerr-McGee worker who might also testify against Kerr-McGee claims to have received anonymous phone calls threatening to ruin his business if he continues to cooperate with the Silkwood attorneys.

A former worker at the Kerr-McGee nuclear facility

in Oklahoma claims he was told by another employee that Kerr-McGee officials were attempting to steal weapons - grade uranium from the U.S. government.

Jim Smith, a former supervisor at the Plant says he learned of the alleged plot from a co-worker he identified as Gerald Cooper.

Smith, in a sworn affidavit taken in Oklahoma City last week, said Cooper told him on two different occasions that he (Cooper) was asked by Kerr-McGee executives to help divert high-grade uranium from government stockpiles.

According to Smith's affidavit, Cooper had been asked

to participate in the alleged scheme by a Kerr-McGee management official identified as "Robert Clause" Smith quotes Cooper as saying that he turned down the request both times, and "was never asked again."

Government investigators have determined that 40 pounds of plutonium - enough to produce several atomic weapons - was missing or unaccounted for at the plant about the time of Silkwood's death.

Kerr-McGee has insisted the material was inadvertently poured down the drain pipes. However former supervisor Smith, in an earlier interview with the *Rolling Stone* said he personally checked those pipes and could not find a trace of the missing nuclear materials.

The former supervisor said the company misled the federal government when Kerr-McGee claimed it could account for the plutonium fuel that had turned up missing.

In an interview with *Rolling Stone*, the former supervisor claims that on at least two occasions in 1974 — involving a total of 40 pounds of plutonium — the company falsely told federal investigators that the lost fuel had been found in a clogged drain pipe at the plant.

Smith claims, however that the missing plutonium was never found. He says that, in one case, involving 18 pounds of the lost fuel, the company didn't even flush out the pipes to determine of the missing plutonium was actually there.

Smith says that in a second case involving 22 pounds of plutonium, he personally supervised the flushing out of the pipes with nitric acid. He is quoted by *Rolling Stone* as saying "we could have flushed for another month and

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