

Greenpeace should stick to saving whales by Joseph J. Wheeler

Four activists representing Greenpeace, the neo-terrorists of professional getting-in-the-way, made it to ground-zero during the countdown of a nuclear test at the Nevada Test Site on Nov. 15. Their presence, detected by television cameras monitoring the site, alerted technicians that there were people dangerously close to being turned into Jello.

The four protestors, three English women led by a Colorado man, were arrested and the test went off an hour and a half later than scheduled.

Chalk up another "victory" for freedom of expression. According to news reports, the incident cost taxpayers \$50,000.

Until now, protests have been confined to the highway and the entrance to the facility. The presence of protestors on ground-zero marks a new threshold in the lively art of getting-in-the-way.

Greenpeace started this manner of protest to oppose whale hunting in the Pacific ocean. The sight of Greenpeace rafts, bravely jousting with massive Russian whaling vessels, which are actually whale processing plants that float, was inspirational to an entire generation seeking to have a voice in the future of our world. Greenpeace has since found fertile soil in England, where the group claims more than 300,000 members.

Three such members of Greenpeace, Juley Howard, Jane Gregory, and Lorna Richardson, travelled from their home country specifically to protest the

scheduled test at the Nevada Test Site. Their reason? Great Britain was cooperating with the United States in a joint nuclear test.

The three women, unused to the rigors of hiking in the Nevada desert, were physically exhausted by the time they were arraigned in Las Vegas. Their guide, Michael Terry of Colorado, had led them on a 27-hour trek across rough terrain to reach ground-zero in time to hold off the detonation. The group came dangerously close to going unnoticed.

Terry said afterwards, "They started the countdown as we were running towards the site. We ... got there six minutes before the detonation."

His companions were spotted by Test Site technicians watching the monitoring cameras. The group had made it to within 50 feet of where the device, 1,950 feet below the surface, was waiting to make glass out of sand.

Why the mad dash toward ground-zero as the countdown progressed? Simple. Without the intrepid protestors getting before

the monitoring cameras, there would have been no delay in the test due to protestors being on the site. No one would

women didn't plan on dying for their cause. They knew that the Test Site personnel, once alerted to their presence, would halt the detonation and hustle them to safety and television cameras and cheering fans of supporters. They counted on it, literally bet their lives on it. They knew that the Department of Energy wouldn't blast them. They bet their lives on the humanity of Test Site personnel.

How odd that nuclear activists should risk their lives on the humanity and compassion of the very people they claim as enemies. Although nuclear protestors are as passionate, as devoted, as dogmatic as the old Greenpeace people

in the brave little rafts, the moral base of their actions is shaky. Protesting nuclear tests sounds like a good idea, but no one has ever shown one bit

of evidence that the Test Site has harmed anyone in anyway.

The old argument that nuclear weapons are a terrible tool and, therefore, shouldn't be used at all is invalid. Nukes exist. They will continue to be tested, whether by us or some other nation. Greenpeace is all wet in its battle against nuclear energy and nuclear testing. In seeking a new fight that will generate as much fervor and excitement as their old causes, Greenpeace has wandered into unfamiliar terrain.

Greenpeace should stick to saving whales. Whale hunting is a bloody business, and modern synthetics make whale products obsolete. Greenpeace has used the life and death nature of whaling to great advantage. But the only good that will come of protesting the Test Site is the eventuality that someone will have to die in order to give the nuclear cause the same life and death priority.

Greenpeace should know that, unlike with whales, the only life and death in this episode is in the future, and will be a strictly human endeavor.

Wheeler is a Yellin' Rebel assistant editor



THOSE RADICALS SHOULD LEAVE THE TEST SITE ALONE! WE'VE LIVED DOWNWIND 40 YEARS AND IT NEVER BOTHERED US, RIGHT?!

Jul 90

have known they were there. It is a chilling thought. Imagine a human body suddenly exposed to the awful power of a nuclear shock wave; every bone pulverized, all muscles pounded into instant pudding. But Terry and the English

Red lights and cafes in Amsterdam

by Brian Hurlburt

Amsterdam: To me, Las Vegas and Amsterdam are very similar. When someone from outside of Las Vegas thinks of our town, all that comes to mind is the Strip and the Casinos. I think the same can be said for Amsterdam. We in Las Vegas know there is a different side to our city. Amsterdam also has a different side. To the world, Amsterdam is the home of the Red Light District and where smoking marijuana is permitted.

Amazing. Unbelievable. Crazy. That still doesn't explain the Red Light District. This part of the city is about one square mile, and in this area is everything that ever had anything to do with sex, drugs, and rock-n-roll.

There are erotic museums, adult bookstores, and prostitutes selling their "wares" in windows along the street.

The area itself is very nice. Canals separate the different strands of roads, and the build-

ings are old and very quaint. What is inside the buildings is what makes the Red Light District what it is. As you walk down the street, people offer to sell any drug you can imagine. This is illegal, but when I was there, a cop was never to be seen. Drug deals went down like



Leslie de Beauchamp '90

people exchanging phone numbers.

Apart from that scene were the buildings along the street. Women in lingerie sat in windows, all of them more than happy to offer themselves. Again, the deals were made like people exchanging

ing phone numbers.

Another part of the scene is the cafes. This is where you can get an ice cold beer and marijuana of your choice. It's listed on a menu, and you just place an order for your particular preference.

Now, let's talk of what the people are most proud. Amsterdam is a very pretty city. Canals run through the entire city, and the buildings are old Holland models overlooking the canals. The whole city is like what I expected Europe to be.

Amsterdam is also known for its art. The Van Gogh Museum is very nice. Many of his paintings, along with his good friend, Emile Bernhard, are on display. Along with this museum are others that

deal with European and Holland art. This is what the people are proud to call their own.

See, just like Las Vegas, with a lot of talk about the bad, there's a little of the good.

Letters to the Editor



Tark should go for '91

To the editor,

When most people think of Las Vegas, they first think about gambling. Secondly, of course, would be Runnin' Rebel basketball. Ironically, the two are more similar than people think. I'm talking about greed.

Sitting in a casino playing blackjack, your main objective is to get 21. Once you reach that goal, you can either walk away (like so few ever do), or you can be greedy and try to get another 21.

Being a student, I'm a major fan of the basketball team. However, I wonder if people outside of Las Vegas just think

UNLV has become greedy in their effort to try to repeat as National Champions.

After the NCAA Tournament, the microscope that was placed over UNLV found many cases of greed. From ticket comps to free food, many people were greedy.

There are high expectations that the team will be allowed in this year's tournament. I believe that the only way that will happen is if Coach Tarkanian sets aside his personal greed and steps down for the entire 1991 season.

David Grisar, Communications

We're all outlaws

To the editor,

I noted, with some interest, that Kara Kelley (in a letter to the editor), stated that "those who consider themselves to be Pro-Life need to be reminded that outlawing abortions won't stop them." I find her concept fascinating!

If a law is not going to prevent an act, then we could be in for some good times. Why have drug laws? They haven't prevented the use of drugs. Why have DUI laws? They certainly don't prevent driving under the influence. In fact, why have any laws at all?

If we are going to do what we damn well please (within the concept of a law-abiding society, of course), then we should just vote out any laws that inconvenience us. Tired of going to jail for every time you've had a few too many? Get rid of the DUI law!

I like Kara's rationale. There is a bit of outlaw in all of us, I think, and a bit of hypocrisy. I'm against abortion, unless my girlfriend needs one. I'm also against drunk driving, unless I'm drunk and need to drive home.

Richard K. Pobst, Communications