

Never on Sun Day

Despite a million dollar promotional budget and the glow of celebrity support, key regional U.S. press saw clouds on the horizon during the "Sun Day" salute to solar power May 3. While much of the national press gave prominent display to the primitive rituals for which a few gullible people turned out in various locations, the overall realization was that Sun Day had flopped.

At the United Nations, a sunrise ceremony featured actor Robert Redford and U.N. Ambassador Andrew

ENERGY

Young presiding over the mock sacrifice of a teddy bear by a costumed zombie. The zombie then treated the audience to "sun chants" in many languages.

Sun Day activities elsewhere also bombed. The demonstration against the Rocky Flats, Colorado nuclear weapons facility, billed as a "national call to action," drew only a few hundred environmentalists from the Mobilization for Survival, a creation of the Rocky Flats Action Group and the Institute for Policy Studies. After a few hours of speeches from such movement personalities as a middle-aged Stokely Carmichael and Henry Kissinger protégé, Daniel Ellsberg, the audience dwindled to 150. Even these numbers were to drop as the 24 hours of rain rinsed away many of the demonstrators.

A forthright characterization of the Sun Day movement by an irate caller to a Philadelphia radio station gave a clue as to why few sane Americans attended the Sun Day rites: "The Sun Day people are the same people who sold me LSD in the 1960s," the caller said.

Below are selections showing how some American newspapers saw Sun Day. It is worth noting that criticisms of the solar energy campaign were printed in both leading papers of St. Louis, the home base of Washington University's Barry Commoner, who is the USA's leading solar power propagandist.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat, (editorial), "Don't Let 'Sun Day' Blind You," May 3:

There is a vocal, activist minority in the country organizing and working overtime to try to stop the development of nuclear power by any means it can find.

During the last week the antinuclear groups, such as the Clamshell Alliance, have been staging demonstrations against nuclear power in Colorado and South Carolina in conjunction with the buildup for national "Sun Day."

The national mobilization of the Sun Day apparatus has two goals, both of which are against the national interest. The first is to discredit nuclear power by trying to convince the public that it cannot be safely produced, and is uneconomic. The second is to make the public believe that solar power is a viable alternative to nuclear power and other forms of energy.

The truth is that for the next two decades at least the

role of solar power in this country will be small...

Under present applications of solar energy, large areas of the country would have to be paved to make way for gigantic solar collectors to gather significant amounts of energy for an urban population. This is due to the very low density of sunlight at the earth's surface.

For example, to supply the 10,000 megawatts of power needed for New York City would require a solar reflector of 200 square miles. The cost of materials for this monstrosity would cause the price of solar energy it produced to be more than 10 times more costly than conventional forms of power.

By contrast, nuclear power is being produced in this country at a cost of only 2 cents for a kilowatt hour, or about half the 3.9 cents it costs to produce a kilowatt hour from coal and oil....

The reason that nuclear power is so much more efficient than solar power and the fossil fuels is its high density. The fast breeder nuclear reactor which President Carter is attempting to stop would provide 60 to 80 times more energy from the same nuclear fuel now being used in current reactors.

And, eventually, nuclear fusion will provide another quantum jump in efficient power production provided that research is continued at the proper rate.

It should be obvious that the best option for the nation is to move full speed ahead in developing nuclear power in all of its aspects while continuing to develop all other forms of power, including solar energy. (emphasis in original — ed.)

The Black American (America's largest circulation black weekly), (editorial), "The Terrorists Are Coming," May 4:

Sun Day is no NEW thing.

Remember the Weathermen?

Remember the SLA? (Symbionese Liberation Army — ed.)

Remember the BLA? (Black Liberation Army — ed.)

Well, they are back.

British intelligence has programmed it for now, as an extension of the activities of The Baader Meinhoff and The Red Brigades. Their Generals here (Kissinger, Mondale, Schlesinger, Brzezinski, Blumenthal and Javits) have received their orders to push the button.

So it's Strike Up The Band.

All out for Sun Day. May 3.

Get the Peanut Man to declare it a National Day.

Get the churches to bless it...

Get the public institutions to celebrate it. (I have before me a News Release from the Brooklyn Public Library "in celebration of national solar energy day.") Get all of our intellectual pimps to endorse it and rally their soft-headed employees to shout for it.

The "grass roots" leaders of this Sun Day thing are the American brand of terrorists. The Weather Men. The FALN (Armed Forces for the National Liberation of Puerto Rico), the SLA and the BLA. The objective is the Same Old, Same Old: cripple the USA in the name of the

dear old Union Jack.

The British Tories got their ass kicked in the 1776 Revolution. They tried to stab us in the back and destroy the Union during the Civil War (1861). They failed because we were backed up by the Czar of Russia, Czar Alexander II...

This is the background to today's strategems and conflicts. It's still Britain. It's still her aim to weaken and destroy the United States...

We have been hurt by unemployment, inflation, and an energy crisis, a cause of open rejoicing in London. When it became obvious, however, that *nuclear*, tomorrow's energy, would bring us full employment, a qualitative leap in industrialization and record-breaking prosperity, her Majesty pushed the button for *sabotage* and *terrorism*... (emphasis in original - ed.)

In Europe they sent in the terrorists against unity-makers and nuclear developers with a program of Nuclearizing Europe and technologizing and industrializing the Third World. The terrorists murdered pro-nuclear, Inter-fractional bankers and industrialists. (To date 27 top politicians and industrialists have been killed, and not one of them are Englishmen). They stoked the fires in Ethiopia, Angola and South Africa, attempting to draw the U.S. into another nightmare of Vietnam.

And now they are ready for us on our home turf. The Weathermen are in charge of the troops below, with the D-Day blessings of Peanut Carter.

Watch as it develops.

Better yet, do something about it. Call your congressman, write to him, or her. Plead with them. Implore them to wake up, to stop being used by British

agents. Write to Carter. Demand the jobs and the higher standard of living that comes from Nuclear Energy. Solar Energy is for the birds. We want to move on, to move ahead. We don't want to go back to pick 'n shovel jobs. We must go ahead.

St. Louis Post-Dispatch, "Here Comes the Sun," by Jon Sawyer, May 1:

...It is unfortunate, the Westinghouse Corp. said in an official response to Sun Day, that "solar is being promoted at the expense of other energy forms." Westinghouse is a major government contractor for solar research and development. It is also the largest U.S. manufacturer of commercial nuclear power plants.

"Alexander Hamilton and Thomas Jefferson are both alive and well," Robert L. Allen, an economist at the University of Missouri at St. Louis, observed at a Sun Day forum last week. He suggested that amid the paraphernalia of solar energy — roof collectors and sun-powered photovoltaic batteries, windmills and fuels derived from agricultural products — there exists the spirit of Jeffersonian self-reliance.

"And Hamilton hovers over the giant nuclear power plant: a nation proud and strong, through the industrial might of its people working collectively."

Although he predicted that solar power would ultimately supply all our energy needs, Allen said he doubted whether it would prove to be the panacea its proponents promise.

"Self-reliance and independence carry a high price tag," he said. "Small may be beautiful, but beautiful can be costly..."