

January 1, 1971

ARMAGEDDON PRECIPITATED

"See now what the bold man did
and dared in the wooden horse,
where we all were hidden, the
best men of the army to bring
death and ruin upon Troy."

—Homer, The Odyssey

Last March 6th, 1970 was a clear, sunny Friday which promised the advent of an early Spring to New York City.

At noon that day, the neighborhood immediately surrounding a 125 year old Greenwich Village town house, located at number 18 West 11th Street, was shaken from its normal lethargy, by a series of violent explosions.

The first blast rocked buildings which were in the vicinity of the town house from where the explosion emanated. Splintered boards, bricks and shattered glass rained through the air leaving what had just seconds before been an expensive brownstone structure, a collapsing inferno.

Moments after the initial explosion, two young women were seen fleeing from the scene of the carnage.

A second and third explosion sounded deep guttural detonations in quick succession as the gas main went up, causing the remaining floors and walls to cave-in with an audible rumble as though a symbolic anti climax to the explosions which preceded.

There was little that police or firemen, who had arrived at the scene could do except to keep wide eyed spectators at a safe distance. When at last firemen thought it safe, they gingerly

began the grisly chore of picking through the wreckage. They found the charred body, later identified as Theodore Gold, 23, and the decapitated torso of a young woman, missing her hands a foot, and heavily riddled with large roofing nails. From a little finger found amidst a clutter of bricks and charred timbers, they identified the body as that of Diana Oughton, 28 years old, a student radical. Three days after finding the first torso, another was exhumed, that of a young male, who has since been tentatively identified as Terry Robinson, a radical leader at Kent State University in 1968.

Found along with the corpses were reams of pamphlets of the Students For A Democratic Society (SDS) and of a splinter group, The Weathermen. The ruins of what had apparently been a makeshift workshop contained 57 sticks of 60% dynamite, 30 blasting caps, lengths of doorbell wire, several clock work time mechanisms and four crude but deadly fragmentation grenades, lengths of plumbing pipe stuffed with dynamite and roofing nails and sheathed with friction tape.

The town house was the property of James P. Wilkerson wealthy owner of a chain of Midwest radio stations, who was conveniently absent on a pleasure cruise aboard his private yacht at the time of the explosion. His daughter Cathlyn Platt Wilkerson, 26, a member of the Weathermen, was using the town house while he was away. She

had graduated from exclusive Swarthmore College. She reportedly did well academically, but like so many young people sent off to attend colleges and universities in America, she too was radicalized by left leaning Professors and fellow students, and eventually brought along by stages of radicalization to a psychological state of what could only be described as nihilism. Her story in the "movement" is a stereotyped one as most are. She began helping in so-called civil rights actions in the streets of Chester, Pennsylvania. She ultimately joined SDS and worked for eight months as editor of New Left Notes, an SDS organizational publication. She was one of three SDS leaders who made an abortive trip to Hanoi in 1967 but were turned back in Cambodia.

In the Fall of 1969 along with Kathy Boudin (believed to have been the other young woman to have escaped the explosion) led a womens contingent of the Weathermen during their so-called "Days of Rage" demonstration in Chicago. During the demonstrations which ensued she managed to get herself arrested for assaulting a city policeman who was attempting to help control the situation.

Kathy Boudin, unlike Miss Wilkerson, is from a family long involved in radical left-wing causes, her uncle is leftist journalist I. F. Stone, an aged Demi-God of the new left; her father Attorney Leonard Boudin has made a career out of defending anti-American characters such as Communist Party member Paul Robeson, accused espionage agent Judith Copland, and Marxist legislator Julian Bond, in legal cases. Leonard Boudin is presently a sponsor

since the bomb making episode in his building of a Communist Party-Trotskyite united front group called, ironic as it may seem, The Committee For Defense Against Terrorist Attacks, (right-Wing terrorists of course).

In 1961, Miss Boudin went to the University of California at Davis for a summer to study microbiology. She went on to graduate in 1965 from Bryn Mawr, majoring in Russian Literature and spending her senior year in the Soviet Union.

She has been described as having been brought up in the communist movement in the U. S. She worked in Cabridge Maryland in 1963 to desegregate a skating rink and several restraunts; in Cleveland as a community organizer, and during the summer of 1969 traveled along with Cathlyn Wilkerson and Ted Gold, who became an SDS leader during the 1968 Columbia University riots, to communist Cuba for a meeting with officials of the Communist regime of North Viet Nam.

THE WEATHERMEN

The Weathermen were formed after an alleged organization split occured between their group and a large number of Progressive Labor Party members who were attempting to capture control of the national leadership of SDS. This split took place during the SDS convention held in Chicago during the summer of 1969. That this alleged split was more fictional than factional becomes obvious when one considers the fact that as far back as 1968, individuals who were yet to become members of the Weathermen faction of SDS,

conducted a workshop in Boulder, Colorado for the purpose of instructing inner core members and leaders in the use of explosives and guerrilla warfare.

Following this Grandstand public display of a falling out with the Progressive Labor Party "faction", members of the newly formed Weathermen held a "War Council" in Flint Michigan. In attendance at the "War Council" were approximately 400 leaders and members of the group; also in attendance were several members of the Minutemen organization. Leaders of the group set down a new strategy for what they called a "well calculated guerrilla warfare", which was first begun in Chicago in October of 1969. The new strategy called for bombings, terrorism, and other acts of destruction. During the Flint Michigan get together additional instructions were given in pyrotechnics to those not present at the Boulder Colorado workshop.

During the "Days Of Rage" demonstrations conducted by the Weathermen in Chicago, several other Minutemen were able to successfully procure through the art of surreptitious entry the notebooks of Cathlyn Wilkerson who was staying at one of the Weathermens' safe houses in Chicago.

At the Flint Michigan meeting and shortly afterwards, more than 500 of the Weathermens' 600 members were purged. In the process they were successful in weeding out police and federal infiltrators and informants in their ranks. Fortunately, a number of Minutemen infiltrators were not discovered, since their

identity was not even known to those in high government positions who would know the identity of government infiltrators. Thus these Minutemen could not be linked to any government agency. It would be safe to assume that it was from sources in the federal government that the Weathermen were able to get accurate information on the spies within their ranks.

One Minuteman, who worked independently as an infiltrator among New Left groups in the New York area for almost six years was invited to participate in the bomb making activities of the group who had set up shop at the Wilkerson residence. Possessing technical skill and knowledge which the academically inclined leftists lacked, he offered to provide them with the practical mechanics involved in using mercury switches for setting off high explosive charges.

Shortly after the would-be terrorists accepted his generous offer, several of them received detailed instruction in the use of such mechanisms. Apparently preoccupied with romantic images of themselves, the students obviously failed to be attentive. The results of which are chronicled at the beginning of this article.

Many reading this might at first be inclined to feel the actions of this Minuteman to have been callous or reprehensible. Others might consider them to be an extension of the "practical joke" carried to an extreme, however the motivations underlying his actions are to be found in the situation which he faced. Here was an individual confronted with making one of three difficult and

..... moves to resolve the situation. (1.) he could go along with the groups plans and face both the moral and legal responsibilities of being a party to their illegal and deathly activities, (2.) inform authorities of what he knew, or (3.) misinform members of the group in the use of the mercury switches and hope that they would trigger their own demise, rather than detonate such devices in public were innocent men, women and children might by some quirk of fate, happen to be when one of their bombs went off.

It did not seem a wise move to this man to report what he knew to federal authorities, for he was aware that whenever something of this nature was done, such information was not acted upon, since those in charge were much more interested in Minutemen activities than anything illegal that leftists might be planning or had committed.

He also realized that had he given information to local law enforcement agencies, that even though they usually would take some action, that their work was compromised when the courts to which the arrested were brought before would pass the accused through the judicial filter which allows these chosen types to somehow never end up behind bars for their illegal acts.

Since the town house blast our Minuteman infiltrator has re-located himself, despite financial difficulties, to another part of the country fearing the chance that he might be recognized by leftists in New York who were formerly acquainted with him, or the even

greater possibility that he might fall victim to government intelligence agencies if they learned of his identity and location.

We of the National Minuteman organization wish to take this opportunity to pass on our heart felt thanks to one more unknown individual, who without constant direction, or continuous inspiration had the initiative, intelligence, and courage to cut through the Gorian Knot which confronted him with a single swift blow!

THE CATHLYN WILKERSON NOTEBOOKS

The following list of names are reproduced without addition or deletion from the Cathlyn Platt Wilkerson notebooks. We regret that we are no longer able to reproduce this information by photo-offset process; it would certainly lend verocity to the material. Our offset printing equipment is now in the possession of the federal parasites, and we are forced by this unfortunate fact to do the best we can with our mimeograph machine. The exhorbitant and ever increasing cost of commercial printing makes it prohibitively expensive for us to do. It seems that the real meaning of the First Amendment is "Freedom of the press is guaranteed only to those who own one", and the parasites have made sure that we don't.

The notebooks were handwritten, for the greater extent, in many instances they are nearly éligible, we have done our best to decipher what appears to be quickly scrawled notes, and hope that we have achieved some degree of accuracy in such cases. The following appears much as it does in the original, the names, addresses and phone numbers do not appear in alphabetical order.