



soul nate
@MNateShyamalan

...

in the 90's, computers would scream
every time you went online. that was
foreshadowing

Resistance

The Legend of Ned Ludd - 4



Worcester Institute for Senior Education

About this course

Date	Topic
10/26	The Tale of General Ludd
11/2	Romantics and Marxists
11/9	The word for today is <i>techno-determinism</i> .
11/16	The Neo-Luddites
11/30	Rebels Against the Digital Age

Karl Hakkarainen

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Slides, videos, and reference materials available on

<https://queenlake.com/wise/wise-fall-2023/the-legend-of-ned-ludd/>



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The Legend of Ned Ludd - 1

2



Questions?

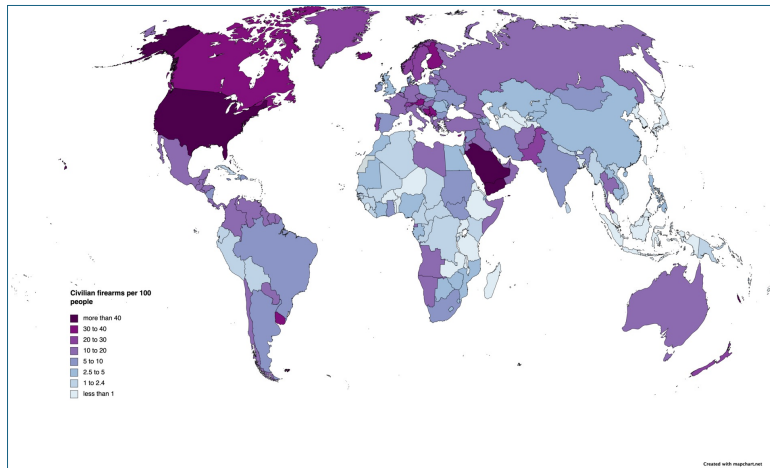


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Notes from last week



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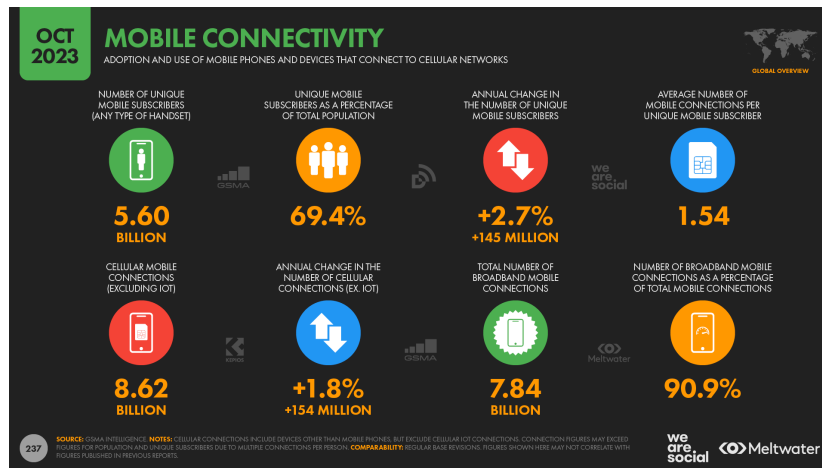


Gun ownership and control



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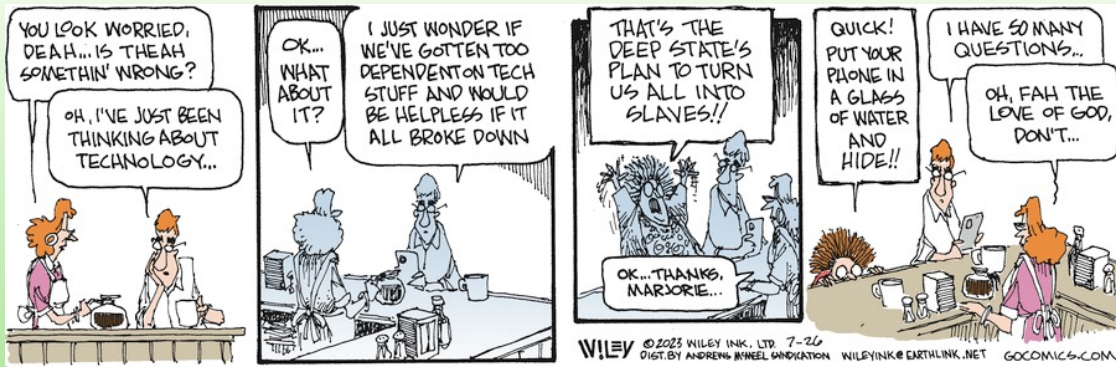
Japan rejected guns after using them in the late 16th century and the first half of the 17th century and returned to the use of swords and armor. The episode is recounted in Giving Up the Gun: Japan's Reversion to the Sword, 1543-1879 by Noel Perrin (Boulder, 1980). – John Chinian



Worldwide cellphone ownership and usage



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Resistance



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St. Johns, P.Q., Thursday, July 30, 1964

Not To Be Feared

It is hard to avoid the conclusion that much of the current hullabaloo concerning the supposed terrors of advancing automation serves no useful purpose whatever. What it does do in many cases is arouse needless fears.

No one in his right mind supposes that the accelerating pace of technological change is not a force to be reckoned with, posing as it does major social problems. But there is every reason to believe that we will meet the challenge intelligently and with resource, and indeed evidence is not lacking that we are already doing so.

Three things are often forgotten, the first being that technological progress is no new phenomenon of our time. Although it may gallop today where formerly it crawled, it is still essentially a continuation of the same process known

The News and Eastern Townships Advocate (St. Johns, Quebec, July 1964)



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Weather Underground



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The incipient worldwide movement for control of technology, however, must not be permitted to fall into the hands of irresponsible technophobes, nihilists and Rousseauian romantics. For the power of the technological drive is too great to be stopped by Luddite paroxysms. Worse yet, reckless attempts to halt technology will produce results quite as destructive as reckless attempts to advance it.

Future Shock, Alvin Toffler (1970)



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Is It O.K. to Be a Luddite?

By Thomas Pynchon



As if being 1984 weren't enough, it's also the 25th anniversary this year of C. P. Snow's famous Rede Lecture, "The Two Cultures and the Scientific Revolution," notable for its warning that intellectual life in the West was becoming increasingly polarized into "literary" and "scientific" factions, each doomed not to understand or appreciate the other. The lecture was originally meant to address such matters as curriculum reform in the age

Thomas Pynchon's most recent book is "Slow Learner."

of Sputnik and the role of technology in the development of what would soon be known as the third world. But it was the two-culture formulation that got people's attention. In fact it kicked up an amazing row in its day. To some already simplified points, further reductions were made, provoking certain remarks, name-calling, even intemperate rejoinders, giving the whole affair, though attenuated by the mists of time, a distinctly cranky look.

Today nobody could get away with making such a distinction. Since 1959, we have come to live among flows of data more vast than anything the world has seen. Demystification is the order of our day, all the cats are jumping out of all the bags and even beginning to mingle. We immediately suspect ego insecurity in people who may still try to hide behind the

jargon of a specialty or pretend to some data base forever "beyond" the reach of a layman. Anybody with the time, literacy and access fee these days can get together with just about any piece of specialized knowledge s/he may need. So, to that extent, the two-cultures quarrel can no longer be sustained. As a visit to any local library or magazine rack will easily confirm, there are now so many more than two cultures that the problem has really become how to find the time to read anything outside one's own specialty.

What has persisted, after a long quarter century, is the element of human character. C. P. Snow, with the reflexes of a novelist after all, sought to identify not only two kinds of education but also two kinds of

Continued on page 40

Is It O.K. To Be A Luddite? – Thomas Pynchon, NYT, October 1984



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Notes toward a Neo-Luddite Manifesto, Chellis Glendenning



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“Notes toward a Neo-Luddite Manifesto” by Chellis Glendinning

Principles of Neo-Luddism

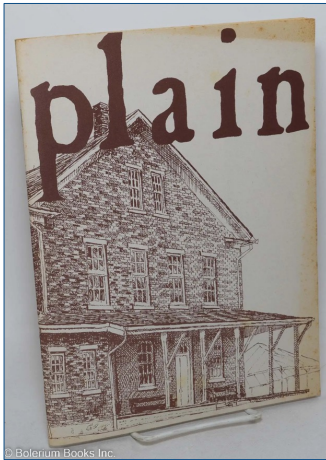
- Neo-Luddites are not anti-technology.
- All technologies are political.
- The personal view of technology is dangerously limited.



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Program for the Future

- As a move toward dealing with the consequences of modern technologies and preventing further destruction of life, we favor the dismantling of the following destructive technologies
- We favor a search for new technological forms.
- We favor the creation of technologies in which politics, morality, ecology, and technics are merged for the benefit of life on Earth.
- We favor the development of a life-enhancing worldview in Western technological societies.

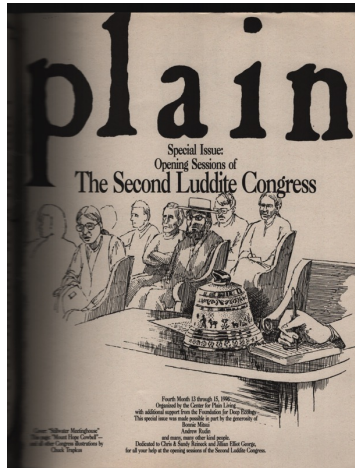


America's New Luddites: Pulling The Plug on Progress

“One member smashes computers with a sledgehammer.
Another swapped his car for a horse.”



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[Plain Magazine of Life Land and Spirit #12 Second Luddite Congress 063021ame \(eBay\)](#)



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The Great Unplugged Masses Confront the Future



By STEVE LOHR

A new technology is opening up new vistas for democracy, education and personal enrichment, a magazine predicts. "The Government," it says, "will be a living thing to its citizens instead of an abstract and unseen force. . . . Elected representatives will not be able to evade their responsibility to those who put them in office."

The new medium will be like a gigantic school, the magazine declares, and "have a greater student body than all our universities put together."

The year was 1922, radio was the new technology, and the magazine was Radio Broadcast.

But it might just as well have been 1996, the technology of the Internet, and the magazine Wired.

These days, Wired chronicles the rise of the digital communications and entertainment on the Internet. And best sellers by champions of technology like Nicholas Negroponte of the M.I.T. Media Lab ("Being Digital") and Bill Gates of Microsoft ("The Road Ahead") portray the wired future as a second renaissance that will bring about a new life for everyone.

Veterans of previous outbreaks of technological euphoria are skeptical. "Each time a new medium comes along, great hopes are raised," said Erik Barnouw, a professor emeritus at Columbia University and a media historian. "But the lesson of history is that every new medium provides new opportunities for selling as well as for education, for monopolists as well as for democracy, and for abuse as well as for benefit."

There is some recent evidence that the rush to the information age is skewing, at least temporarily. Eco-

nomics, social attitudes and sheer exhaustion with torrid pace of technological change are all cited reasons. Still, in a nation that is second to none embracing what is new, the notion of an all-encompassing technological renaissance is being reconsidered rather than rejected wholesale. It's possible that a people are tossing out their personal computers, there are not many.

Yet, a small but vocal community of anti-techs would like to stir up a backlash. And they have demonstrated that people are paying attention. With the cottage industry of naysayers, led by authors Clifford Stoll ("Silicon Snake Oil") and Kirkpatrick Sale ("Rebels Against the Future"). Indeed, the Luddites (the followers of the 19th-century English machine-smashers who resorted to sabotage and assassination) are suddenly gaining respect. Last week 350 people gathered in Barnesville, Ohio, for the Second Luddite Congress. Even the Unbomber, today's famous Luddite, has struck a chord, though his met are deplored.

Virtual Disneyland

Scott Savage, who was one of the organizers of Barnesville congress and is the publisher of Magazine, a journal of the simple life, said, message to people is that they don't have to live in virtual Disneyland, which is where so much of us seems to be headed. People can make choices, technology and reject it."

Mr. Sale, who is trying to rehabilitate his

Continued on p.

The Second Luddite Conference – 1996



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Second Luddite Congress – 1996

A CALL FOR CITIZEN-DELEGATES TO The Second Luddite Congress

A "First Congress" was held 184 years ago in the place where the Machine Age was just beginning... The folk of central England had risen to fight against the Industrial Revolution. The newly invented factory system took their dignity. The simpler, pastoral way of life they loved was swept away by government and business bent for global markets. Those who resisted the destruction of their communities were dubbed "Luddites" after the mythical leader of their headstrong movement, General Nod Ludd. They broke the famed machines and burned the factories to the ground. For a brief moment, it seemed they might stop the Machine Age in its tracks. On April 15, 1812, as British troops descended on the Heartland of their own country, the Luddites met to discuss tactics and organize a "Second Congress." They chose violent resistance -- and in six months' time the soldiers and factory owners had wiped the Luddite movement from the face of the earth. The Second Congress was never held.

184 years later, we are entering the computerized, genetically altered world of the global economy... Many of us are awakening to the ecological, cultural, and spiritual destruction the continuing Industrial Revolution has brought to the world.

We reject its promise of unlimited consumption. We know its exploitation of people, places and things is leading to worldwide ecological and societal collapse. But, unlike those early Luddites, we survivors of this, the bloodiest century in human history, also know violence is not the solution.

There was, instead, for a worldwide change of heart, a headstrong movement of passive resistance to consumerism and the technologies of the "new" Industrial Revolution of the Computer Age.

A revolution of hearts, in which the means justify the ends, instead of the other way around.

What a tall order!

We couldn't pretend to be able to accomplish it alone. Please come and help us find the answers to the question of what is to be done.

The Second Luddite Congress

A REVOLUTION OF HEARTS

APRIL 13, 14 & 15, 1996

AT FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE, 1000 N. HIGHWAY 100
BARNESVILLE, OHIO

Participants include:

Historian Kirkpatrick Sale (*Human Scale: Rediscovering the Past*)
U.S. Senator John Chafee (*Unsettling the Past*)

Technology critic Jerry Mander (*Four Arguments for the Elimination of Television*)
Christian environmentalist Arthur Gallo (*Heavenly Bodies*)

Farmer and writer Gene Logsdon (*The Country Farmer: A Season's Work*)
Not many others!

For registration and other information, please call
the Friends Meeting (Ohio) at 1-800-893-3702

Extinction 5823

Sponsored by the Center for Plain Living and Plain Magazine, a forum of Anas, Quaker, Mennonite, Brethren and other peace-loving peoples. With support from the Foundation for Deep Ecology.



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- The first, probably 1811, but maybe not
- Stillwater (Friends) Meeting House in Barnesville, Ohio, April 1996
- 350 attendees
- Kirkpatrick Sale said that violence was dangerous and counter-productive. He said that he tried to warn the Unabomber of this.
- "The technology in service to false gods that has made all the rest of it possible, that is in fact behind all those other ills and evils." – Nicole Fox



“Army of redressers” or “deluded technophobe”



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The Legend of Ned Ludd - 1

18

Against Technology: Steven Jones

He insists he is a Luddite. When he gave an address at Smith in October, Vonnegut inveighed against the Internet and society's increasing reliance on computer interaction.

"I won't use the Internet," he said, "which is a particularly habit-forming, hallucinatory, pernicious form of LSD."

Yet he admits to owning and using an Apple Powerbook and admires its word-processing capability.

Vonnegut struggles with writing today. Sitting on the plain, wooden end table that he has placed in front of himself as he sits on the couch is a tattered blue paper folder. Written in dark blue ink on the cover is one word: Novel.

Next to the folder are a larger ceramic ashtray and a cherry red Zippo lighter. The Pall Malls are in his right pocket.

"Everybody should write to find out who they are and where they are," he said.

"Right now, though, I'm thinking I want to turn the typewriter into a musical instrument because I can really play it."

Kurt Vonnegut at Smith College, *Eugene Register-Guard*, December 2000



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Neo-luddite unease

I'm about consumed out of my mind. I've been searching the internet for at least three hours, looking for cell phone accessories instead of interacting with people. What a time, when gadgets are more interesting than people.

Yet we crave more technology! We yearn for the day when all of our devices will come together, when our cell phone will be our PDA, will be our MP3-player, picture-taking, etcetera. Why hasn't this happened?

Why hasn't the next (probably) big wireless standard, Bluetooth, been installed in my Palm so I don't have to use the hot sync cradle? I want my refrigerator to tell me when I need groceries and deliver them to me. I'm a busy American who was fed five about how that the world of the Arizona would reach us. I want my virtual money!

Why is technology such a big disappointment? Is it too much to ask to have a self-heating toaster? Can my coffee maker not be started from the alarm clock in my bedroom? Can't the shower start when I get out of bed and be warm and ready for me? Is it too much to ask to get something better than a flow-lap to cut my hair? Where are the modern conveniences we've been dreaming about?

Where is the all-in-one product *Wired* magazine has been promising me for the last five years? Did not the PC have died three years ago. SUN Microsystems has always said the network is the computer. Yet where is that ubiquitous connection not bound by space or time?

Sure, I've got a high-speed DSL connection (and I'm in the minority), but why can't my cell phone talk to a land-line when I'm in the room with an

asking phone and receive the cell phone network for when I'm in my car? Why can't my laptop talk to my PC or my cell phone download someone's phone number into its memory just by pointing my antenna at them?

All of this will happen about the time I get a talking, semi-sentient refrigerator, which I assume will want to be called "Big White." Based, I'll ask it delicious questions. "Tell me, Big White, how much ice does it take to please an army with parched mouths?"

Will the refrigerator be able to tell me that my question doesn't make sense or will it automatically start making ice for an invisible army?

"Do you recognize me as human, Big White?" I'll ask.

"Yes, John," it will answer. "I recognize you as master. Please hold out your ice bucket."

I'll look to my right and my robotic dog, Albo XL, will have said bracket in its metal jaws. It's television screen eye will look into mine and reflect my digital spirit. I'll tell the dog to take care of the ice for me while I lie down. But my automatically-messaging couch won't turn off.

I'll push a little button with the words "Kill switch" written on it. It will cut communications on every device I own for five or ten seconds. Not long, but long enough for a moment of peace without me thinking out by being "disconnected." When the fun of communications turns back on, the couch will be cooperating, and the dog too.

"Bring me that ice, Albo XL. I need to cool off."

John Hildebrand
Daily Editorial Writer

Neo-Luddite Unease, *The Michigan Daily*, June 2001



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Neo-Luddism facts for kids

“Kid-oriented results” about the Unabomber



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Theodore John Kaczynski



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Born in Chicago on May 22, 1942. Entered Harvard at 16. M.S and Ph.D. from Michigan. Teaching at U.C., Berkeley 1968-69. Moved to Montana in 1971.

What he did

- In nearly 20 years, he sent or placed 16 bombs that killed three and injured 20.
- First bomb, injuring a professor at Northwestern University in 1978, last, a fatality, in 1995.
- His *nom de guerre* was based on the FBI acronym for the case: UNA for United Airlines, where a bomb exploded on Flight 444, and BOM, for bomber. There were no fatalities, but passengers were treated for smoke inhalation. (A separate definition of the acronym came from **U**niversity and **A**irline **B**ombing.)
- His manifesto, *Industrial Society and Its Future*, was published in 1995.



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The bleeding hearts and the ignorant old geezers who are still living in the past think the advance of technology could take away some of our freedom. But this is superstitious nonsense. Exactly the opposite is true. The science of tomorrow will make it possible to have far more freedom than we have today. In fact, by the year 3000, we will be able to eliminate all laws, because people will be fixed so they will never even want to do anything that isn't for the good of society. Each baby when it is born will have its mind adjusted by scientists so that it will grow up to be a healthy, happy, public-spirited citizen, anxious to be useful to the community. And if anybody doesn't like all this, the psychologists of the future will be able to fix him so he does like it.

The Wave of the Future (The Saturday Review, June 13, 1970)



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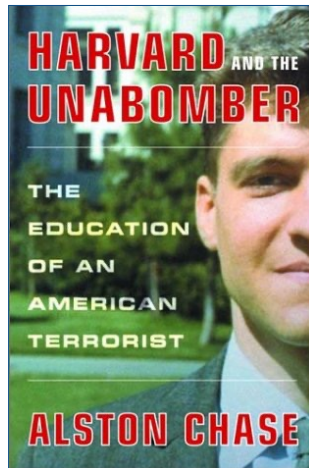


“UNABOM” case, code-named for the UNiversity and Airline BOMbing targets – [FBI report](#)



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Luddites-4



Ted Kaczynski's Connection to MK-Ultra Explained

Harvard and the Unabomber : the education of an American terrorist



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CIA's MK-Ultra program: 993 World Trade Center terrorist Ramzi Yousef



First Bomb

Injured a security guard at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, in May 1978.



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Metropolitan

Bomb explodes in NU; researcher is burned

By Patricia Leeds

A NORTHWESTERN University graduate researcher suffered shock and burns Wednesday when a bomb in a cigar box exploded as he opened it in a study room of the school's Technological Institute.

John G. Harris, 35, a native of Toronto, was treated at Evanston Hospital for cuts on his arms and burns around his eyes. Police said the force of the blast blew his eyeglasses off his face and singed his eyebrows and lashes.

A fellow student, Bushan Karihaloo of Newcastle, Australia, said he was in a study cubicle a few feet away when "I heard a very loud bang, and then

screams."

He said he saw "what looked like pellets left over from an explosive material similar to that in firecrackers" in the bottom of the cigar box.

A UNIVERSITY spokesman said the bomb had been rigged with batteries and wires. It apparently had sat for several hours before Harris opened it. Police were at a loss to explain what material was used to set off the blast or what the motive for building the device was.

Karihaloo said he, Harris, and several other graduate students had been conducting research related to metal fatigue in the study room, on the second floor of the institute building at 2145 N. Sheridan Rd.

Second bombing – May 9, 1978



Worcester Institute for Senior Education

The suspect's past as a mathematician may even inspire new interest in the boundary properties of continuous functions (a Kaczynski bibliography has been posted in the news group sci.math).

And in forums on Compuserve and America Online, debates energetically respond to an editorial in *The Weekly Standard* about his Luddite celebration of nature: "If it were fair to blame Rush Limbaugh for Timothy McVeigh," the right-wing magazine argues, "surely the media could find room to blame the Unabomber on Al Gore."

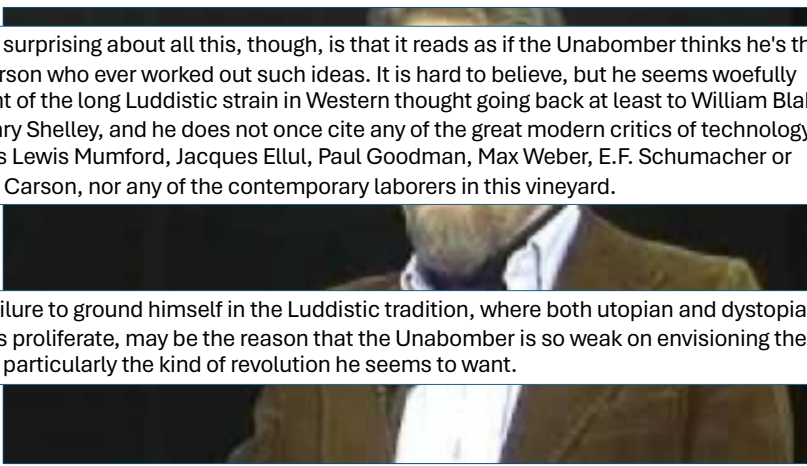
A copy of Al Gore's *Earth in the Balance* found at Kaczynski's cabin



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The leftist is oriented toward large-scale collectivism. He emphasizes the duty of the individual to serve society and the duty of society to take care of the individual. He has a negative attitude toward individualism. He often takes a moralistic tone. He tends to be for gun control, for sex education and other psychologically “enlightened” educational methods, for social planning, for affirmative action, for multiculturalism. He tends to identify with victims. He tends to be against competition and against violence, but he often finds excuses for those leftists who do commit violence. He is fond of using the common catch- phrases of the left, like “racism,” “sexism,” “homophobia,” “capitalism,” “imperialism,” “neocolonialism,” “genocide,” “social change,” “social justice,” “social responsibility.” Maybe the best diagnostic trait of the leftist is his tendency to sympathize with the following movements: feminism, gay rights, ethnic rights, disability rights, animal rights, political correctness. Anyone who strongly sympathizes with ALL of these movements is almost certainly a leftist.





What's surprising about all this, though, is that it reads as if the Unabomber thinks he's the first person who ever worked out such ideas. It is hard to believe, but he seems woefully ignorant of the long Luddistic strain in Western thought going back at least to William Blake and Mary Shelley, and he does not once cite any of the great modern critics of technology such as Lewis Mumford, Jacques Ellul, Paul Goodman, Max Weber, E.F. Schumacher or Rachel Carson, nor any of the contemporary laborers in this vineyard.

That failure to ground himself in the Luddistic tradition, where both utopian and dystopian models proliferate, may be the reason that the Unabomber is so weak on envisioning the future, particularly the kind of revolution he seems to want.

Is There Method In His Madness? – Kirkpatrick Sale

Kirkpatrick Sale 01-19-96 Air date



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Finding Ted



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ABC News Report – April 3, 1996



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Meanwhile, just down the road...

Montana Freeman standoff



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Montana Freeman were an anti-government militant Christian Patriot group based outside the town of Jordan, Montana, "Justus Township" and had declared their leaders and followers "sovereign citizens" Standoff with FBI agents, there to arrest the members on charges related to bank fraud and threatening Federal officials, started on March 25, 1996, and lasted 81 days. They surrendered on June 14, 1996.

A Low-Tech Suspect

Modern technology has created a brave new criminal world in which drug deals are conducted with stolen cellular phone numbers, would-be terrorists learn bomb-making over the Internet and anti-government renegades keep body and soul together through credit card fraud. But recent developments in the Unabom case suggest that one determined individual might still be able to spread terror across the country for nearly two decades without even the benefit of electricity and indoor plumbing.

Theodore Kaczynski, a recluse with a doctorate in mathematics, was arrested last week on a charge of possessing bomb components, and taken into custody as a suspect in the Unabom case. He had lived for 25 years in a one-room cabin in the Montana wilderness, living on vegetables from his own garden, fish and game. He reportedly once told a neighbor that his annual budget was about \$300.

The Unabomber has killed 3 people and injured 23 others over 18 years of mail-bombing. The victims were apparently all connected, in the Unabomber's own mind, with the proliferation of destructive technology. Ironically, officials say, Mr. Kaczynski turned his own corner of the unspoiled

wilderness into a little factory of destruction, filled with raw materials for bomb-making, books on bomb manufacturing and notes of diagrams of explosive devices.

The F.B.I., in its search for the Unabomber, devoted endless time and resources to compiling a massive list of possible suspects. But Mr. Kaczynski's arrest suggests how little effect computerized background searches may have when the target has virtually no background — no friends, no associates, no neighbors, no relatives except a tiny nuclear family on the other side of the continent. Indeed, sources say the case was finally broken when Mr. Kaczynski's brother, David, made a connection between an anti-technology diatribe written by the Unabomber and his brother's writings, and reluctantly contacted the authorities.

The world grows increasingly complex for both lawbreakers and law enforcers. But the developments in the Unabomber case suggest a humbling lesson. The most sophisticated computer searches seemed incapable of unearthing a bomb-making hermit in the wilds of Montana. That task was left to one individual, who decided that he was, indeed, his brother's keeper.

NYT, April 7, 1996



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Why did Ted Kaczynski call *The Technological Society* as his Bible?

Jacques Ellul's technological nightmare



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The Legend of Ned Ludd - 3

Ted's brother David made this statement in a deposition to the FBI, quoted in Harvard and the Unabomber : the education of an American terrorist, by Alston Chase, p.332



And then it gets weird

The Unabomber's not-so-lonely prison life



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Kaczynski
1993 World Trade Center terrorist Ramzi Yousef
Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh



1958



1958



1959



1962



1994



1996

DAVID P. BROWN

Died by suicide in a North Carolina federal prison on June 10, 2023.



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Unabomber Aftermath



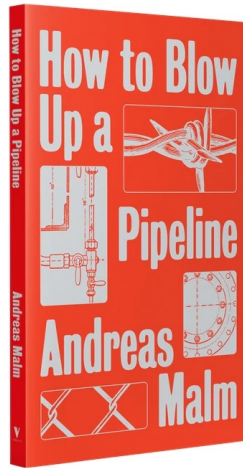
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'His ideas resonate': how the Unabomber's dangerous anti-tech manifesto lives on



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The Luddites Were Onto Something



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Unabom Manifesto Echoes 60's Tumult

A look at the campus turmoil in the late 1960's offers intriguing clues to why Theodore J. Kaczynski rejected society and reveals themes later elaborated in the Unabom manifesto.

Ultimately, experts say, it seems unlikely that Mr. Kaczynski, once a promising graduate student at the University of Michigan and now suspected of being the Unabomber, weathered campus disputes over the Vietnam War and nuclear arms without some inner repercussions.

[NYT, June 1, 1996](#)



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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

THIS IS TRUE: A FRIEND OF OURS RECENTLY HAD A DREAM IN WHICH THE **UNABOMBER** HAD HIS OWN **CHILDREN'S TV SHOW**, COMPLETE WITH A LINE OF **SPINOFF MERCHANDISE**--

HELLO, KIDS! CAN YOU SAY "INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY AND ITS FUTURE"? HEH, HEH-- I **KNEW** YOU COULD!



--ALL WITH THE BLESSING OF THE **FBI**, WHICH CONTINUED TO HOPE THAT INCREASED EXPOSURE MIGHT LEAD TO HIS **CAPTURE**...

IT ALMOST SEEMS PLAUSIBLE...AFTER ALL, HE **BLACKMAILED** HIS WAY INTO THE **WASHINGTON POST**-- AND WAS OFFERED A REGULAR COLUMN IN **PENTHOUSE** BY **BOB GUCCIONE**...

Dear Penthouse--I never believed your letters were real until yesterday... I was spending a quiet evening at home preparing a new batch of nitro-glycerin when, to my surprise, my gorgeous neighbor came in, wearing nothing but a flimsy nylon negligee! Darling, I said, "that's an impure synthetic by-product of the industrial technical system! We must take it off you immediately!"



FAME IN AMERICA IS A STRANGE THING, AS THE O.J. TRIAL HAS ALSO PROVEN... IT SEEMS THE ONLY PARTICIPANT IN **THAT** CIRCUS WHO DOESN'T HAVE A MOVIE, TALK SHOW, OR BOOK DEAL PENDING IS **KATO THE BARKING DOG**-- AND FRANKLY, WE'RE NOT COUNTING **HIM** OUT YET...

ARF ARF ARF
ARF ARF!

MAN--THAT DOG TELLS IT LIKE IT IS!



JUROR **BRENDA MORAN** PLANS TO HAVE A BOOK OUT WITHIN A MONTH--AND AFTER THAT WHO KNOWS? HOPEFULLY **SOMEONE** WILL COME UP WITH AN APPROPRIATE VEHICLE FOR THE WOMAN WHO SAW NO CONNECTION BETWEEN **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE** AND **MURDER**...

IT'S TIME FOR ANOTHER EPISODE OF **CAUSE AND EFFECT**-- WITH YOUR HOST **BRENDA MORAN**!

OOPS--I JUST KNOCKED OVER A GLASS OF WATER-- BUT, HEY! HOW DID THIS TABLE GET SO WET?



Worcester Institute for Forensic Science

TOM TOMORROW © 1995. SPECIAL THANKS TO JONATHAN LEBNEM, DEANMY MAN...



Unabomber Action Figure - \$55



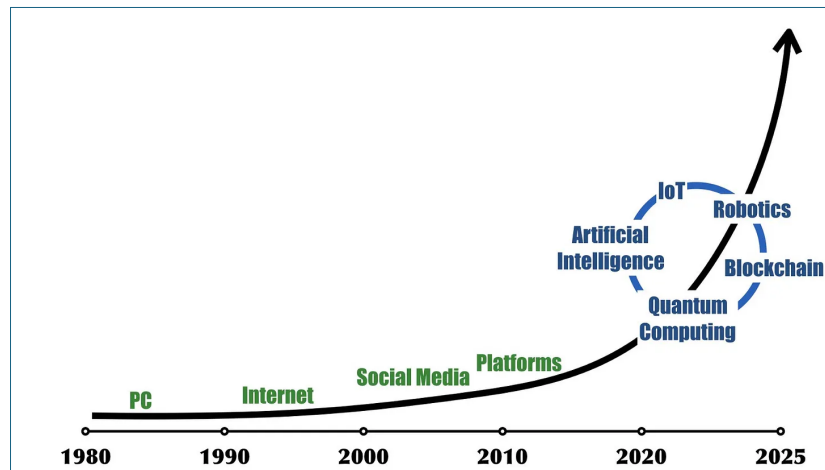
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Ted Kaczynski Sticker Pack



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Eulogy for the Unabomber



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Ted Kaczynski, Anti-Left Leftist



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TOTAL SURVEILLANCE IS NOT YET POSSIBLE
 WRITE-IN PRES UNABOMBER 96

OBSESSIONS

They Call It
 Luddite Love

Laura Woodswalker — a pseudonym for a 45-year-old Pennsylvania woman who would only “speak” to us via the Internet — admits to feeling a strong “emotional identification” with Theodore Kaczynski, the Unabom suspect, but denies she’s in love. “My interest is purely platonic,” she writes. O.K., but it sounds fairly torrid. Woodswalker, who agrees with many of the Unabomber’s anti-industrial-society views (even though, like many Unabuffs, she’s a computer user), has written short stories about Kaczynski and has sent him several letters with self-addressed stamped envelopes. (No reply.) Her husband isn’t pleased. “[He] resents me spending my time writing Internet

postings,” she admits, “that glorify a serial killer.” But then, why shouldn’t she? In our notoriety-addled times, it seems that every major criminal defendant attracts groupies — most recently Yigal Amir, Yitzhak Rabin’s assassin, who inspired puppy-love outbursts from teen-age Israeli girls. With Kaczynski, though, the appeal usually seems to begin and end with his Luddite mind. Another typical example of infatuation is the Unabomber Political Action Committee, a Boston-based

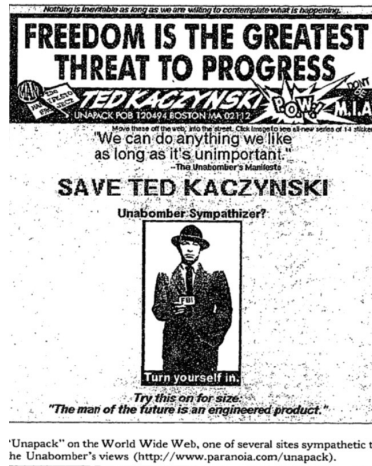
group that is pushing the Unabomber for President. Chris Korda, a campaign worker and member of a related group called the Church of Euthanasia, is completely serious. For him, the Unabomber’s appeal comes from his theoretically strict rumblings about mankind-as-pox. (The church’s slogan is “Save the Planet — Kill Yourself.”) As for Woodswalker, she says she’ll stand by her guarded feelings, even though she’s taking heat at home and on the Net. “People say nasty things about me,” she complains. Such persecution only puts her more in touch. “This must have been how Ted felt,” she says. “What drove him to be like he was.”

RAY MAN In a late-August drama in Billings, Mont., Robert Durston, a one-armed Marine vet, resisted arrest for 32 hours inside a cheap hotel — firing at police with an assault rifle — in a standoff that began when he refused to hand over 16 jet rats to animal-control officials. Durston finally gave up and now faces felony charges. Montana, which gave us the Unabom suspect and the Freemen, faces a larger question: Should it be dubbed the Koch State? Cheap shot, says Jim Hale, a local TV news director. “There are probably 10 standoffs taking place in the country right now,” he points out. “This one was newsworthy because it happened to involve a man who refused to give up his rats.”

NYT, September 15, 1996



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A Star on Your Computer Screen (NYT December 27, 1997)



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Personal thoughts on Ted Kaczynski's death



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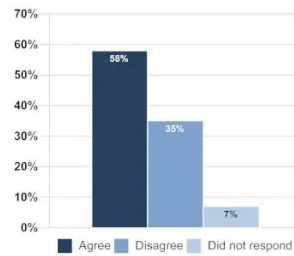
Looking Ahead



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Scenario 7: Some Luddites/refuseniks will commit terror acts...

Respondents' reactions to this scenario



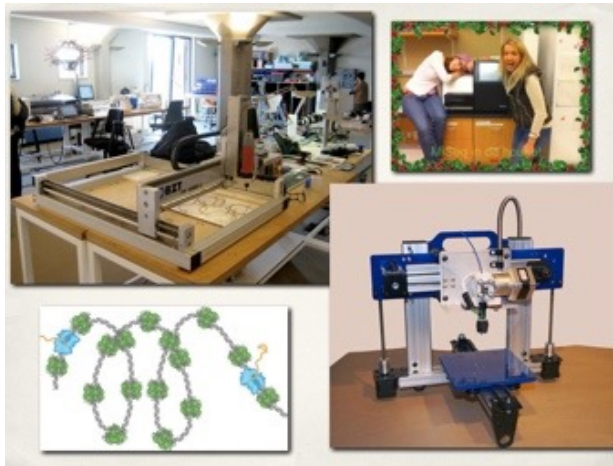
Because results are based on a non-random sample, a margin of error cannot be computed.



Pew Research survey (2006)



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The Unabomber an an Age of Limited Options



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Luddites-4

Today's Luddites (or, as they often self-identify, "neo-Luddites") pose no threat at all. Their public salvos against technology embrace knotty nuances and eschew the bare knuckles. There's a touch of Bartleby the Scrivener to them: if this be the future, they'd definitely prefer not to.

A Nod to Ned Ludd



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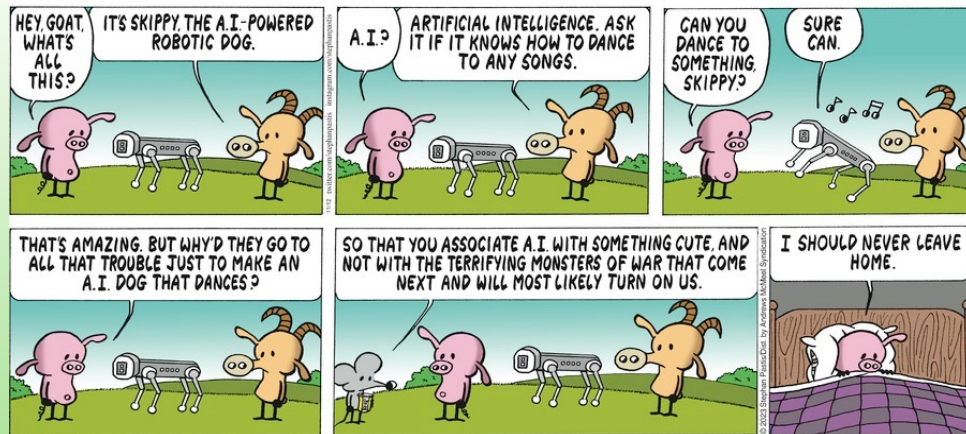
Revenge of the Finns (held in August in Savonlinna since 2000)



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PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

BY STEPHAN PASTIS



Next week



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