



LEUREN MORET

Uncovering the Truth About Depleted Uranium

“Each person has to find their own truth to heal the world.
It is the collective impact that makes the change.”

Leuren was born in Camp LeJeune, North Carolina, on March 3, 1945—months before the atomic bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, bringing an end to World War II and introducing the Nuclear Age. She was one of the first women to graduate in geology from the University of California at Davis in 1968. For the next 10 years, she travelled extensively through Europe, North America and Eurasia, working as a geoscientist.

Leuren worked for Dr. Lewis Leakey on early hominids in Africa; conducted research on expeditions for the British Museum, Kew Gardens and Cambridge University; and periodically lambed 2,000 ewes on a farm in Ireland. After completing her master's degree in Near Eastern studies from the University of California at Berkeley in 1978, she conducted research at the Lawrence Berkeley National Lab on volcanoes, and later worked on the Yucca Mountain project, Waste Isolation Pilot Project in New Mexico and the Superfund project at the Lawrence Livermore National Lab in Livermore, California.

In 1991, Leuren became a whistleblower at Livermore and experienced years of retaliation by the University of California, the Livermore Lab, the Oakland police and local law enforcement. She is working with groups in many countries to establish an international moratorium on the use, manufacture, deployment, storage and sales of depleted uranium (DU) weapons, as well as with communities around the world to inform, educate and empower citizens to protect public health by protecting the health of the environment. Her daughter, Zephyr, is a science major and is as independent as her mother.

I am an independent scientist with a background in the geosciences. My hope and inspiration comes from my work with scientists and radiation specialists worldwide to educate and inform citizens of the world about the health and environmental effects of radiation exposure. In my professional career, I have worked at two nuclear weapons labs: the Lawrence Berkeley National Lab, where the transuranium elements were discovered that built the first atomic weapons; and the Lawrence Livermore National Lab, where nuclear weapons development continues.

After working for two years on the clean-up and disposal of high-level nuclear waste on the Yucca Mountain and Livermore Lab Superfund projects, I realized that something was very wrong. Through my experience, I observed an entrenched pattern of science fraud, theft, graft, corruption, lack of concern for safety and security, blatant discrimination against women and minorities and severe retaliation practices. I drove out of the lab gate one day and never went back. I knew that it would be difficult to survive economically as a single mother of my five-year-old daughter, Zephyr, but also knew that I could not take care of her if I was dead from cancer like so many around me.

I was participating in an industry that I perceived as having an absence of morality and ethics underpinning the misapplication of science and the nuclear weapons project; the apparatus of control and absence of good management; and the sexism and racial discrimination, which had created a completely insane culture dominated by white men. I did not want to remain involved with any aspect of a nuclear weapons lab or the people working there, even if it was to clean up the waste from the project. What species on Earth kills its young, generation after generation? What species on Earth sacrifices its young for the false notion of “security”? What male species kills its young and mates knowingly and repeatedly?

As I approached the gate with my office belongings piled in my car, I felt an incredible lightness of being. I dropped off my badge and beeper and got back in my car, laughing and thinking, “You just got out of jail!” Little did I know what was ahead.

The next 10 years were the darkest of my life and I am lucky to be alive today. My greatest gift was the discovery of my inner strength to be able to survive the retaliation, mobbing and harassment by the Livermore Lab, the University of California and the Oakland police department. Prophetically, an acquaintance coolly said to me a year after I left the lab, “You are in a police net you will never get out of ... for the rest of your life.” She was right, but I no longer care because now I am not afraid. We are controlled by our fears until we have none left, and that happens when there is nothing left to lose.

The journey to that realization took 12 years of pain, a sense of loss and humiliation, a feeling of abandonment and the lifelong emptiness and absence of being loved—not by anyone, not at any time. The experience and purpose of being mobbed, and what I did not know in the isolation of the experience, is that I was not alone.

“Mobbing” is the purposeful and strategic institutional gathering of all information about an individual by using any method—legal or illegal. Contact for this purpose is made with neighbors, classmates, former partners, family members, former employers, teachers, church members, good friends and even your family tree ... everything must be known about the support system around you that makes your life possible.

The assessment of strategic resources and future income (finances, mobility, cars, insurance, credit cards, bank safety deposit boxes, post office boxes, wills, health records, birth

certificates, transcripts and photographs) is made without your knowledge. The purpose of mobbing is to drive the target individual out of the job force for the rest of their life; the bigger goal is to drive them to the ultimate self-destruction: suicide. There are now laws made by European unions to prevent this cancer on society and productivity, but it is practically unknown in the U.S.

The University of California, which had contributed so much to the State of California and to the global community through the benefits of education, had become a pathologically dysfunctional institution through its mobbing practices. I learned that more than 500 women and minorities had filed lawsuits against the University of California and had then experienced retaliation by the University of California apparatus of mobbing by employees, alumni and law enforcement.¹

The lawsuits were for denial of tenure, whistleblower retaliation and theft of intellectual property. These women had similar complaints about the destruction of their own lives and careers. The information gathered by the University of California is used to take your life apart; to destroy all that makes you feel safe; to bankrupt, isolate and alienate you from society and from yourself; and to attempt to make you look crazy. Your children are harassed, they come home with belongings missing and stories of teachers harassing them and a weirdness takes over your lives. Slowly, documents disappeared from my house; porn charges appeared on my credit card; files, my purse and my keys disappeared; mail was lost. I was forced to carry my documents with me at all times. All of my university transcripts and diplomas have been stolen from my house.

Two things kept me going and kept me alive. First, the warrior mother spirit guided me to protect Zephyr. That miracle of life taught me what it means to love unconditionally and completely. I began to learn to love myself. Second, my uncle had told me long ago, “No one can destroy you. Only you can destroy yourself.” That information made me fight back. As I fought back, I got stronger, deeper into myself, and slowly left the external validations, which others control, behind and relied more and more on internal validations, which I controlled.

The process during those dark years was horrifying and terrifying; it took me to the edge of my emotions of fear, abandonment, alienation and isolation. In the end, I made the choice to not abandon myself. I knew that those were only feelings and that I could change them or choose different ones, which made me strong and ultimately free. Zephyr is strong and independent from her experience by my side. Perhaps she learned even more than I did.

*And let it direct your passion with reason,
that your passion may live through its own daily resurrection,
and like the phoenix rise above its own ashes.*

—Khalil Gibran

At the end of the millennium, which gave birth to nuclear weapons, I visited the Peace Museums in Hiroshima and Nagasaki during the 2000 World Conference Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs as the guest of Gensuikin (one of Japan’s largest antinuclear and peace movement organizations). That visit to Japan changed my life: I finally understood the horrific effects of nuclear weapons.

In 1991, in the first Gulf War, the United States broke a 46-year taboo and introduced DU to the battleground—a radiological weapon that is truly a pernicious weapon of indiscriminate killing and mass destruction.² DU is nuclear trash from nuclear weapons and nuclear power projects. I had to ask myself which is worse: the horrific effects of flash annihilation from an atomic bomb or slow, eternal mutilation from DU weapons?

I came back from Japan and wanted to know everything about radiation. A former Manhattan Project scientist, Marion Fulk, who retired from the Livermore nuclear weapons program, had been opposed from the beginning to atmospheric testing. I learned that many scientists in the U.S. and globally, including Andrei Sakharov in Russia, had been united in opposing this insane practice.³

Over the past four years, Fulk has taught me everything I know about fallout and the impact on public health and the health of the environment from atmospheric testing. He gave me scientific self-confidence and a knowledge base that was bulletproof when confronting Department of Energy (DOE) and Department of Defense attack dogs who were carefully trained to silence scientists who speak out and tell the truth about radiation. He validated me as a woman as my father never did. He became my teacher, mentor, father, brother and uncle. He changed my life and he changed me. He showed me where the information is and then he showed me how to use it.

I contacted a group of scientists, the Radiation and Public Health Project, who have been collecting baby teeth from children who live around nuclear power plants and identifying the impact on public health from the emissions. I began collecting baby teeth in California and from other countries I visited for their project. The effects of chronic, low-level radiation exposure to populations living near nuclear power plants and facilities were profoundly disturbing to me.

That information and these experiences led me to begin my research on DU. In 2000, I met Akira Tashiro, a Japanese journalist, in Hiroshima, who asked me to write the foreword for his book about DU entitled *Discounted Casualties: The Human Cost of Depleted Uranium*. I began to give talks in small communities, where soldiers are economically drafted, and then for larger events. Soon, I received invitations to travel to other countries and speak.

It seemed as if I were part of a growing global awareness and consciousness that called for a moratorium on DU weapons use, manufacture, testing and deployment. The people I met had a new power and energy based on their spiritual beliefs. They felt that not only was humanity being destroyed by increasing levels of radiation, but it was also a war against the Earth and all life on this planet. I joined a global spiritual army of women warriors and men fighting together.

My first article on DU came out in a small San Francisco newspaper in a mixed minority community. I wanted to write about DU and tell the world about what the U.S. was doing at home and abroad with this horrific weapon. I wrote many articles and that is how I found a voice, *my* voice ... and I found myself.

I discovered something else that was too horrible to imagine. I found proof of the real and deeper purpose for the U.S. using DU weapons beginning in 1991: to deliberately and strategically contaminate entire regions where the world's oil supplies are located. That contamination of permanent, low-level radiation would guarantee the annihilation of populations in those regions who would be chronically exposed.⁴ I began to cry the day that bombing started in Af-

ghanistan in 2001. I cried for the mothers, the fathers, the children, the babies, the grandparents and the future generations in Afghanistan who will not be born because of this radioactive poisoning of their genetic future.

In 1943, a then-classified memo was sent to General L.R. Groves from Dr. James B. Conant, Dr. A.H. Compton, and Dr. H.C. Urey (a subcommittee of the S-1 Executive Committee on the “Use of Radioactive Materials as a Military Weapon,” working under General Groves on the Manhattan Project).⁵ This memo was written on October 30, 1943—nearly two years before the atomic bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki—and was a recommendation that radiological materials be developed for use as a military weapon on the battlefield. It is a blueprint for DU weaponry—dirty bombs, dirty missiles and dirty bullets, which burn and create submicroscopic particles in huge volumes that behave like a radioactive gas.

This memo, now declassified, was given to me by Major Doug Rokke, a physicist and former head of the U.S. Army Depleted Uranium Weapons Project. He is a Gulf War I veteran and is now suffering from DU exposure with severe health effects referred to as Gulf War Syndrome. My work is inspired by the Hibakusha (from a Japanese term for the survivors of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombs) around the world who, like Doug, have told me their stories.

It is clear from this memo that the U.S. government and military had known before 1943 that radioactive materials, dispersed as very fine particles on the ground or from the air, would be an effective battlefield weapon. This plan was recommended so that the Germans would not develop similar weapons first from radioactive materials created by the waste from their nuclear weapons development.⁶

In the memo, the scientists recommended dispersing the radioactive materials in very fine particles (0.1 microns in diameter and smaller) from the air, land vehicles or the ground. It would disperse like a radioactive gas—invisible and undetectable to the enemy. They described how increasing the amounts of dispersed radiation would accelerate the lethality, decrease the time until death and increase the numbers of dead.⁷

It was known at that time that it would contaminate the air, water, food and soil. Entry into contaminated environments was impossible without certain exposure both to the enemy and to friendly forces. The memo detailed the fact that no protective methods were possible to develop and that very fine particles would pass through all gas masks.⁸

The memo also described that inhaled particles behave like a gas in the lungs, go directly into the blood and are dispersed throughout the tissues of the body. The gut would also be exposed by ingesting contaminated foods and areas of the gut where the food sat for longer periods would have more radiation exposure and increased damage.⁹

It is clear from this 1943 memo that everything was known about the extreme hazards to health and the environment of radiological materials dispersed in fine particles on the battlefield. The fact that DU burns at high temperatures and forms large numbers of extremely fine particles makes it even more deadly and effective than nearly any other material as a radiological weapon. The half-life of DU is so great (4.5 billion years) that environments where it is used as a weapon will remain radioactive forever.

It is no accident that an international taboo prevented further use of nuclear and radioactive weapons on the battlefield after 1945. The use of DU in Gulf War I was a decision made at the top levels of the U.S. government in order to blur the distinction between conventional and nuclear weapons.¹⁰ Because global opposition to nuclear weapons is strong, the use of DU was used as a strategy to reintroduce the use of nuclear weapons.

Under international law, weapons must pass four tests in order to determine their legality:

1. *Temporal test*: Weapons must not continue to act after the battle is over.
2. *Environmental test*: Weapons must not be unduly harmful to the environment.
3. *Territorial test*: Weapons must not act off of the battlefield.
4. *Humaneness test*: Weapons must not kill or wound inhumanely.

DU weaponry fails all four tests. For that reason, it is illegal under all treaties, all agreements, all war conventions and U.S. military law. It is a weapon of mass destruction by definition under U.S. law.¹¹

One military research report summarized the reason why DU was selected by the U.S. Army over other materials, such as tungsten, which are less damaging to the environment: *cost*.¹² Because DU is the trash from nuclear weapons and nuclear power industries, it is a radioactive hazard and a liability to the DOE. The DOE has nearly a million tons of DU to discard. The DOE made the decision to pass the radioactive trash on to the military-industrial complex for the manufacture of weapons. By passing the cost of disposal on to other countries, the U.S. government saves money. In fact, by selling DU weapons to more than 29 other countries, the DOE has made disposal a highly profitable business for the military-industrial complex.¹³

It is impossible for the U.S. government to continue to deny, as they have since Gulf War I, that DU weapons cause no harm or that there are no known health or environmental effects. The 1943 Groves memo and research report summaries of investigations conducted for the military from 1974 to 1999 indicate that the omnicidal (that which affects all life) impact of DU weapons has been known for 60 years.¹⁴

Learning about DU was a horrible reality from which I could not run. The truth is the truth. Finding a way to communicate this truth, however, and the immense impact that its continued use would have on humanity and life on Earth, was much harder. As I began speaking out, traveling to communities for events and writing articles¹⁵ that came closer to revealing the truth—that the real and hidden purpose of using DU was to achieve geopolitical strategic goals—I came under attack.

I was not alone. Major Doug Rokke, Colonel Asaf Durakovich, Dr. Rosalie Bertell, Dr. Ruth McGill, Canadian Gulf War widow Susan Riordan, and many others who have expressed concerns about the use of DU, have experienced attacks and retaliation. Assassination attempts, break-ins and thefts of critical documents, physical violence, sabotage, guns shot into houses, computer and phone technology attacks, verbal attacks, disinformation and character assassinations are common methods that have been used to thwart and silence us.

The worst thing for me was the kidnapping of Zephyr when she was 13 by her father, with the help of the University of California and Livermore Lab network, assisted by the police and sheriff's departments. I did not see her for five years until she had graduated from high school and came home to "mom." This was the ultimate punishment for a nuclear whistleblower. Compared to that, the other forms of harassment seemed annoying and uncomfortable but

bearable—part of the price of opposing government, the nuclear establishment and special interest policies.

My mentor, Marion Fulk, protected me from a credibility attack by showing me where the “official” documents and studies are and how to use them against the very institutions and governmental agencies who had created them. After all, they can’t attack their own documents and studies without losing credibility themselves. Other attacks were more personal, such as on e-mail lists and phone calls during radio interviews. Publicly exposing, naming names and posting attacks have been the best responses, where the attackers get attacked by members of the public who provide information and documentation that publicly expose the real intentions of the attack dogs. I just think of the attacks as negative compliments. We must be making an impact if they are responding so viciously to our information in the “court of public opinion.”

U.S. government funding for nuclear weapons declined after Gulf War I to the lowest level in decades. From the lowest point in 1995, funding has increased to a level even higher than during the Cold War.¹⁶ The United States has no enemies, yet budget increases continue and nuclear weapons will expand into space in the near future.

Stockpile stewardship of the existing nuclear weapons arsenal is part of the cost, but new and evolving policies are emerging. Enhancing nuclear warhead capabilities are also part of the weapons program. Rebuilding nuclear weapons to improve accuracy, assessing storage capability, altering the ability of warheads to withstand changes in the environment and making modifications as to where, when and how they detonate are also part of existing policy.

“Gold plating the nuclear weapons labs” describes the spending sprees that are a result of large amounts of money pouring into lab budgets. When excessive purchases of instruments and “toys for the boys” exceed what is really needed to conduct competent science, the laboratories become “solutions looking for a problem.”

During a meeting in San Francisco where I gave testimony on May 15, 2003, the University of California Board of Regents was informed by National Nuclear Security Administrator Admiral Linton Brooks that the National Labs would be developing nuclear bunker busters. One hour later, he spoke at the Livermore Nuclear Weapons Lab (45 miles away) and informed personnel that they would not only be developing small nuclear bunker busters, but they would be building large nuclear weapons as well!

For 61 years, the University of California has been the manager of the nuclear weapons labs at Los Alamos and Livermore. Dr. Brooks informed the Regents of the University of California at the May 15, 2003 meeting that the management contract will now go up for bid. The University of Texas is perceived to be the favored choice for the new management contract. Is it a coincidence that the Bush family is also from Texas? In November 1991, Richard Berta, the western regional inspector for the DOE at the national nuclear weapons labs, told me, “The nuclear weapons labs exist for the Pentagon and the Pentagon exists for the oil companies.”

DU was used in large amounts for the first time on the battlefield during Gulf War I. The use of over 340 tons of DU weaponry in Iraq in Gulf War I has had devastating results over the past decade. The battlefields were far from the cities of southern Iraq, but soldiers and downwind populations could not escape exposure to the invisible war: DU in the wind.

Cancer, birth defects and radiation-related diseases in both Gulf War veterans and Iraqi civilians have increased to alarming levels.¹⁷

Children born to Gulf War veterans after the war, and children born to civilians living in areas downwind from the battlefields in Iraq, expose the long-term impact of this invisible war. In a Veterans Administration study of 251 Gulf War I veterans, severe birth defects and diseases in 67 percent of the children born after the war were found. They were born without eyes, brains, organs, legs, arms, hands or feet, or they had blood- and other radiation-related diseases.¹⁸ The Iraqi children also have birth defects and a high incidence of leukemia.¹⁹ In the decade after the Gulf War, each month the number of babies born with birth defects and mutations has increased.²⁰

Dr. Hari Sharma, an independent researcher, has measured the DU levels in 71 residents of Basra who died after the war was over. He found levels of 150 micrograms of DU per kilogram of tissue throughout their bodies.²¹ That would amount to a very high exposure rate, roughly estimated at 10 alpha particles per second throughout the body. (Alpha particles are the most biologically damaging form of radiation.) The radioactive decay products of DU are even more deadly many times over; that is why DU is called the “Trojan horse” of nuclear war: it keeps giving and it keeps killing.

Living in a radioactive environment with chronic exposure to low levels of radiation has a cumulative effect and the entire population in contaminated areas will slowly be destroyed. Genetic defects will be passed on to future generations who will also be exposed to new sources of radiation from contaminated air, water and food. The DU dust will cycle through the environment and be carried in the Earth’s atmosphere.²²

Following the Gulf War, Dr. Doug Rokke was in charge of the DU clean-up team for the U.S. Army. He provided me with documents detailing some of the U.S. Army directives and memorandums regarding DU. Referring to a document dated March 1, 1991, entitled “Los Alamos Memorandum,” he said, “I was directed to lie” to cover up the environmental effects of DU weaponry “so that the Army can continue to use it.” He told me, “What right do we have to throw thousands of tons of nuclear waste all over any country? [International humanitarian lawyer] Karen Parker considers this to be indiscriminate killing...”

The October 14, 1993 “Somalia Message” is the U.S. Army Medical Care Directive for unusual DU exposures such as “inhalation or ingestion of DU dust or smoke.” This directive requires a radiobioassay (the determination of kinds, quantities, concentrations and locations of radioactive material in the human body, whether by direct measurement or by analysis and evaluation of materials excreted or removed from the human body) within 24 hours, nasal swipes and analysis of gas mask filters used by exposed personnel. Hundreds of thousands of U.S. soldiers, Iraqi soldiers and citizens were exposed to “unusual uranium exposures.” Dr. Rokke said that nothing was done for anyone.

Under international law of the Hague and Geneva Conventions, after the battle is over, any medical treatment for wounded U.S. soldiers must be provided to wounded enemy soldiers as well. More importantly, any civilians who suffer from war exposures must also receive medical care. If the U.S. provides medical care for its own soldiers and does not treat enemy soldiers and/or civilians equally, it constitutes a war crime.

During the bombings in Kosovo and Bosnia, transboundary contamination by DU was monitored in Hungary and Greece, carried by the winds and eventually incorporated with

atmospheric dusts. It is impossible to escape exposure even for populations hundreds and thousands of miles from battlegrounds.

A new study in Germany of Gulf War and Balkans War veterans found significant amounts of chromosome damage in these veterans, which was characteristic of exposure to ionizing radiation and high linear energy transfer particles (alpha particles).²³

In the 2001 U.S. military invasion of Afghanistan, estimates of more than 1,000 tons of DU weapons were used—nearly three times as much as in Gulf War I.²⁴ The impact on the wildlife in Afghanistan has been devastating. Not only is the environment contaminated with DU, but the Afghans have been forced to hunt rare and endangered species in order to eat the meat and sell the skins for money. The devastating effects of DU will occur in all species in contaminated areas. The impact on the animals in the Iraq region was also devastating, yet there was very little reporting on it.

The bombing of Afghanistan by U.S. military forces demonstrates the deliberate use of illegal weapons such as bunker busters, cluster bombs and other DU weapons systems to precision-target civilian populations, water supplies and infrastructure.²⁵ Afghanistan is a poverty-stricken, underdeveloped country that poses no threat to the United States or to any other country.

In the spring of 2002, an unauthorized, leaked, 7.5-minute video²⁶ permeated the Internet, showing the destruction from an AC-130 Spectre gunship—a C-130 cargo plane that carries a lot of fire power protruding from the left side—on a combat mission in Afghanistan. In the video, the plane circles a ground target counterclockwise and annihilates it. In the radio traffic from the AC-130 plane, the crew is engaged in combat from a safe distance and without any threat or resistance from the human targets on the ground. The video shows people leaving a mosque and running for their lives as they are fired upon. The AC-130 continues circling and firing on individual Afghans below. The crew sounds like rednecks picking off varmints on a Texas ranch: “Yeah, I was trying to lead that guy ... he was hiding behind that bank ... he’s down, he’s still moving ... I saw him fly into pieces ...”

As I watched the video, I was in a state of disbelief followed by extreme sadness for the plight of the Afghans who, until 2001, had never been conquered or defeated in their long history of thousands of years in the Himalayas. The American gunnery crew shooting the weapons were detached from humanity, the meaning of life, their own military law and international war conventions.

How could the “enemy”—the Afghans below—respond to the invisible enemy high above? They had no aircraft or military weapons like the U.S. military and no satellite system to direct this unfair war. I began to realize and understand that this was not a war *in* the Third World ... this was a war *against* the Third World. It was a complete annihilation and destruction of the Afghanistan infrastructure, the Afghans and their genetic future through the use of weapons of mass destruction (WMD)—illegal under the U.S. government’s own definition of WMDs.²⁷ I was completely disgusted and wondered if my father, grandfather, uncles and cousins, who had served in the military, had done the same thing.

DU is a war against the Earth, all life and all living things. DU weapons keep giving and keep killing ... *forever*. There is no way to turn them off or clean them up. DU is the ultimate rejection of life—the gift from the universe for our tiny planet. People do not understand or realize the global impact of DU and other radioactive weapons. The radioactive fallout from

these weapons is pernicious, unpredictable and global. There is nowhere on Earth that will escape some form or level of contamination.²⁸

Dr. Chris Busby's comments in a recent article posted on a Toronto website sums up the global impact that radiation has had from nuclear weapons testing and nuclear power plants. DU weapons use is adding to the radiation burden, which is the cause of the global cancer epidemic now on the increase. Dr. Busby says, "If you think cancer is a problem now, wait until more DU is released into the world."²⁹

The use of DU weapons is a crime against humanity, a crime against all species and a war against the Earth. It is imperative that we demand a permanent international moratorium on the manufacture, storage, deployment, use and sale of DU weaponry. The U.S. has sold it to 29 countries. The message, and maps of contaminated regions from the extensive research I have been doing, are profoundly shocking when they are presented. I think, in the end, people will realize that the truth is being told. As they slowly accept that what I am saying is the truth, they become angry; that anger, once it surfaces, can be used as positive energy to keep us alive. Redirecting the energy from that anger is powerful and liberating. It turns depression, which is anger turned inward, to action. That is what sets us free.

I now have a clear conscience and the satisfaction of acting as a citizen scientist instead of a prostitute for the military or for corporations. I have hope for the future. I know that the people of the world are the only ones who can stop the insanity of nuclear proliferation and radioactive contamination of the environment, which supports all life. With good information, the citizens of the world can make good decisions.

My purpose now, along with other independent radiation specialists who have joined together as the World Committee on Radiation Risk, is to provide good information about the health and environmental effects of radiation to the global community.

Many people have asked me how I could talk about such a difficult and horrifying subject. My answer is that *there is no choice*. For whatever reason, I believe that some power greater than I know has chosen me to be the messenger—one of many messengers—to bring the truth forward into the court of public opinion.

Our planet is being poisoned by the very people and the very entities where I have worked. I have been in their house; I have worked in their dark halls and laboratories. There are more and more of us—insiders who are speaking against ongoing events that will ultimately destroy our environment and ultimately all life.

I am a woman warrior, a warrior mother for all life on Earth. Words are my weapons. I kill with those words and speak the truth for the citizens of the world who have no voice. I am happy now. I feel good and fulfilled—a satisfaction I never had working in mainstream science.

There is a new global spiritual energy, and hope, bringing humanity together and opposing this death knell. In the very darkest hours, when many have thought that all hope is lost, indications are coming forward that there is hope. In April 2004, Spain voted the fascists out because they had sent troops to Iraq when the Spanish electorate had overwhelmingly opposed it.³⁰ A few days later, Malaysia voted out the fascists who had been in power since Malaysia gained its independence from Britain in the early 1990s.³¹ In South Korea, liberals and progressives won overwhelmingly and unexpectedly and are in favor of reunification with North Korea.³² This is the last thing the U.S. government wanted to happen. Now, encouraged by these small voices in the global dialogue, bigger steps are being taken to

remove troops and support for the U.S. policies being carried out in Iraq and other parts of the Islamic world.

I am always inspired by the words of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.: “Our scientific power has outrun our spiritual power. We have guided missiles and misguided men.” I am just one scientist, but I know that if I step forward and tell the truth as courageous people have always stepped forward and told the truth, others will follow. As Gandhi said, “Even a small lamp dispels the darkness.”

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SUGGESTED LINKS

<http://www.mindfully.org> (select “Nuclear”)

<http://www.radiation.org> (Radiation and Public Health Project; Nuclear Power Plants and the Tooth Fairy Project/Child Cancer Tooth Project)

<http://www.traprockpeace.org> (Traprock Peace Center)

<http://www.uraniumweaponsconference.de> (World Uranium Weapons Conference, Depleted Uranium and other Uranium Weapons: Trojan Horse of a Nuclear War—An International Educational/Organizing Conference, October 16–19, 2003)

<http://www.wage.org> (We Advocate Gender Equity, University of California)

FOOTNOTES START ON PAGE 201.

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57. United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, December 10, 1982, entered into force November 16, 1994 (http://www.un.org/depts/los/convention_agreements/texts/unclos/closindx.htm).
58. *Ibid.*

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1. Mittal, Anuradha, codirector of Food First/Institute for Food and Development Policy, Oakland, California (<http://www.foodfirst.org>), "Enough Food for the Whole World," *Washington Post*, September 15, 2000.
2. Vasilikiotis, Christos, Ph.D., "Can Organic Farming 'Feed the World'?", University of California, Berkeley, ESPM—Division of Insect Biology.
3. Barbusiaux, C., J.Y. Le Deaut, D. Sicart and J. Testart, "Ministère Français de l'agriculture et de la pêche," July 15, 2002.
4. "Talks to open on divisive issue of gene-altered foods," *Washington Post*, January 24, 2000. "The questions are so contentious that a gathering on the issue in Cartagena, Colombia, last year ended in disarray, with the United States and its allies arrayed against most of the world."

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