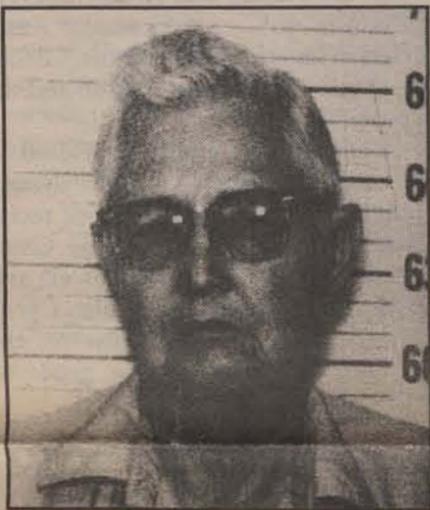


Law Report

A publication of the Southern Poverty Law Center and its Klanwatch Project

September 1987

Two More Top Klan Leaders Indicted for Donald Lynching



Klansmen Bennie Jack Hays (left) and Benjamin Franklin Cox [right] have been indicted for the 1981 lynching of Michael Donald. Two other Klansmen, including Hays' own son, have already been sent to prison for this crime.

MOBILE, Ala. — As a direct result of evidence uncovered by the Center's Klanwatch Project, Bennie Jack Hays and Benjamin Franklin Cox were indicted by an Alabama grand jury on August 12 for the 1981 murder-lynching of Michael Donald.

At the time of the murder, the 70-year-old Bennie Jack Hays was the highest official of the United Klans of America in South Alabama. His son, Henry Francis Hays, was sentenced to die for the Donald murder in 1983.

Benjamin Franklin Cox, who is Bennie Jack Hays' son-in-law, was the Exalted Cyclops, or leader, of the

Mobile unit of the United Klans when Donald was lynched.

Civil Trial Brought by Center Led to Criminal Indictments

According to Mobile County District Attorney Chris Galanos, the Mobile County grand jury brought the indictments because of evidence uncovered by the Klanwatch Project and presented during the February trial of a civil lawsuit which the Center brought against the United Klans of America and 6 of its members on behalf of Mrs. Beulah Mae Donald, mother of the young lynching victim.

Former Klansman James "Tiger" Knowles testified against his former Klan associates during the trial. Knowles told the jury Klan officials had persuaded him to participate in the murder and that Bennie Jack Hays had first suggested the idea of killing a black person. Knowles is currently serving a life sentence because of his confessed role in participating in the murder of Michael Donald. His earlier testimony at the 1983 trial of Henry Hays was a key element that led to Hays' murder conviction.

William O'Connor, one of the Klan defendants in the civil trial, testified that after Michael Donald's body was found hanging in a tree across the street from Bennie Jack Hays' house, Bennie Jack Hays told him it was "a pretty sight or a pretty picture, something like that." Bennie Jack Hays denied making any such statement and he continues to deny he had any involvement in the Donald killing.

An all-white Alabama jury ruled in Mrs. Donald favor, finding the 6 Klansmen guilty of conspiring to lynch her son and holding the United Klans of America liable for the crime committed by its members. This is the first time in history that a jury has held a Klan organization legally responsible for the racist violence of its followers. The jury's verdict forced the United Klans to surrender its national headquarters in Tuscaloosa, Ala-

bama, to Mrs. Donald.

United Klans' Long History Of Violence May at Last Be Over

Although morally bankrupt since the day it was founded by Robert Shelton in the 1960s, the United Klans of America is now virtually financially bankrupt as well because of the federal jury's verdict against it last February. The murder indictments of Bennie Jack Hays and Benjamin Franklin Cox, two of its top leaders, may be the final straw that breaks the back of this infamous organization and at last puts an end to its long and bloody history of violence.

Members of the United Klans burned a Greyhound bus carrying Freedom Riders in 1961. They bombed the Birmingham Sixteenth Street Baptist Church in 1963 and killed four innocent black children in the process. Civil rights worker Viola Liuzzo was murdered by members of the United Klans of America in 1965 as she shuttled voting rights marchers from Selma to Montgomery. In 1979, United Klans members shot into the home of Alabama's NAACP President. In 1981, they lynched Michael Donald.

Hopefully, after the string of legal setbacks which began with the Center's investigation of the Donald murder, the United Klans has claimed its last victim.

Center's Most Dangerous Enemy Placed on FBI's "Ten Most Wanted" List

Louis Beam, one-time leader of the Texas Klan and current Aryan Nations Ambassador-at-Large, has become the object of a nationwide manhunt by the FBI. Last April, Beam and thirteen other top racist leaders were indicted for plotting to overthrow the U.S. government. Beam dropped out of sight shortly before the indictments came down.

Beam has now been placed on the

FBI's "Ten Most Wanted" list. Many Federal law enforcement officials consider him to be the most dangerous Klan leader in the country.

Beam Has Vowed To Destroy Center

Beam's hatred of the Center began in 1981.

In that year, when Beam was leader of the Texas Klan, the Center success-

fully sued to stop the Texas Klan's harassment of immigrant Vietnamese fishermen and we brought about an end to the paramilitary activity of Beam's Klan group.

During the Texas trial, Beam was overheard making death threats against Morris Dees, the Center's Chief Trial Counsel.

In 1983, the year Klan arsonists set fire to the Center's old Hull Street offices, Beam is known to have come to Montgomery, according to a confidential Klanwatch source. Two years later, Klan leader Joe Garner, a close Montgomery associate of Beam's in the Knights of the KKK, pleaded guilty to the arson attack.

In 1984, after the Center had rebuilt its old offices, Beam entered the build-

ing under false pretenses along with two other top white supremacist leaders. They were ejected from the building, but not before Beam announced that he was declaring war on the Center.

A witness later reported to the police that there were firearms in the car Beam was driving.

Also in 1984, Beam, who had earlier joined the virulently anti-Semitic Aryan Nations, set up a racist computer bulletin board on which he announced that Morris Dees had "earned two death sentences."

Among his other "achievements," Beam is credited with establishing an assassination point scale for Klansmen who murder blacks, Jews and

(Continued on Page 2)

Students Bring Help, New Ideas To Center's Work During Summer

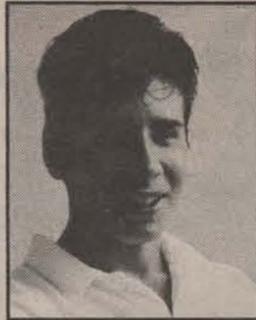
Summer in Alabama, despite the muggy mornings and late afternoon downpours, brings an atmosphere of excitement to the Law Center. With five summer staff members working in the legal and Klanwatch departments, the Center is able to tackle new projects and develop fresh approaches to old problems. This summer, in addition to the extraordinarily difficult task of saying good-bye to Klanwatch Director Bill Stanton, we sent five interns back to school with our thanks and friendship.



Priya Bajaj

Priya Bajaj, a 17-year-old high school senior from Montgomery, was our youngest intern, but the only SPLC veteran. Priya was 14 when she worked her first summer here, cutting and pasting newspaper clippings for the Klanwatch department. This summer she processed information for computer files, and helped to whittle down a roomful of paperwork to manageable size. Priya goes back to a tough schedule of science and math classes at a local high school, and plans to enter Northwestern University next year as a pre-med student.

David Taffet, a 19-year-old Duke University senior, spent the summer with the Center's legal department researching Alabama's child health programs for low-income families.



David Taffet

Taffet, who plans to enter law school and specialize in trial advocacy, gained experience in legal research, interviewed numerous public officials, and developed and packaged a final report on the health needs of low-income children in Alabama. "The project was exciting," said David. "Richard (Cohen, Center Legal Director) was a fantastic boss. He lets you prove yourself and gives you freedom to go ahead with your work."



Donald Jackson

Donald Jackson, who will be a first-year law student at the University of Virginia this year, helped process information for the Klanwatch computer files. Jackson, 21, graduated from Alabama State University with a major in English and Political Science, and an impressive collegiate baseball career. In addition to his work at the Southern Poverty Law Center, Donald spent much of this summer with his longtime "little brother", a Montgomery youth, who will undoubtedly be sorry to see Donald move to Virginia.

Dees Named Top Trial Lawyer

MONTGOMERY, Al. — Morris Dees, Executive Director and Chief Trial Counsel of the Southern Poverty Law Center, recently received two awards from his fellow lawyers in recognition of his outstanding work in the Michael Donald case [*Law Report*, Summer 1987].



Morris Dees

On July 15, the Trial Lawyers for Public Justice, an association of 500 attorneys, named Dees the Public Justice Trial Lawyer of the Year. The group selected Dees after a nationwide study of significant social-legal

litigation in 1986-87. They determined that Dees, the Southern Poverty Law Center, and Alabama State Senator Michael Figures — co-counsel in the Donald case — had handled the case with the most "impact" by filing and winning a suit against the Ku Klux Klan.

The Trial Lawyers praised Dees for his willingness to use "novel" legal theories to bring the Klan to justice. In the Donald case, Dees had attacked the Klan as a corporation that could be held liable for the actions of its individual members — the theory of agency.

In their convention in San Francisco this past August, the Fellows of the Young Lawyers and Young Lawyers Division of the American Bar Association honored Dees for his "distinguished service to profession and the public."

Dees was the tenth individual to receive the Young Lawyers' award, joining a distinguished list of recipients that included Supreme Court Associate Justice Lewis Powell and former Secretary of State Cyrus Vance. As part of the award, the Young Lawyers made a generous donation to SPLC.

Law Report

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Klanwatch Director

JoAnn Chancellor
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The Law Report is published by the Southern Poverty Law Center, 400 Washington Ave., Montgomery, AL 36195

Four New Klan Defendants Added to Forsyth County Lawsuit

CUMMING, Ga. — Four longtime Klansmen were added as defendants in a lawsuit filed by the Southern Poverty Law Center on behalf of civil rights marchers who were attacked while protesting housing discrimination in Forsyth County, Ga.

Law Center investigators recently uncovered evidence which links Marion Franklin Shirley, Ed Stephens, Earl Watts and Gregory Allen Boyd to a Klan-led conspiracy to disrupt the January 17 march. The Rev. Hosea Williams, who guided the marchers through a barrage of bottles and rocks thrown by Klan members and sympathizers, is among the plaintiffs in the lawsuit.

Watts, Boyd and Stephens are members of the Invisible Empire, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, one of the two Klan organizations being sued. Shirley is associated with the other organization, The Southern White Knights, as well as the Invisible Empire.

Several rounds of depositions have been taken in the case, and the investigation is continuing.

FBI Hunts Fugitive Louis Beam

(Continued from Page 1)

others who oppose them, such as attorney Dees.

Beam Considered "Armed and Dangerous"

The FBI Wanted Poster on Beam says, he "has access to large supplies of ammunition and weapons" and is "considered armed and extremely dangerous."

Beam is described as 125 to 150 pounds, 5 foot 7 inches tall, with black hair and a "Born to Lose" tattoo on his upper left forearm. He may have been in the Santa Fe area when the sedition indictments were handed down, according to police information, but attempts to apprehend him have been unsuccessful.

SEDITIONOUS CONSPIRACY

WANTED BY FBI

LOUIS RAY BEAM, JR.

FBI No. 598 741 H
5 5 1 T 3 Ref A
S I A

ALIASES: Turner Ashby, Louis R. Beam, Nathan Bedford Forrest, Nathan Bedford Forrest, Nathan Bratford Forrest, Ken Harrison, Robert Johnson, Travis Wilkerson, Cavalry General, Forester
NOC: 05TTTT020307AAG40402



(Photograph taken 1985) (Date photograph never unknown)




DESCRIPTION
DATES OF BIRTH USED: August 20, 1948 (true date of birth), March 6, 1942, August 20, 1945
PLACE OF BIRTH: Lufkin, Texas
HEIGHT: 5'7"
WEIGHT: 125 to 150 pounds
BUILD: small
HAIR: black
SCARS AND MARKS: Tattoos: "DC" on left shoulder; "Born to Lose" on upper left forearm
OCCUPATIONS: computer repair and salesman, safety engineer
REMARKS: Beam may be accompanied by his wife Sheila Marie Beam, also known as Sheila Marie Toohay, a white female, born January 13, 1967, and his seven year old daughter Sarah Hadassah Beam. SHEILA BEAM IS NOT WANTED BY LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES.
SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER USED: 466-82-8830

CAUTION
BEAM IS BEING SOUGHT IN CONNECTION WITH CONSPIRING TO OVERTHROW THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT BY FORCE. HE IS KNOWN TO ASSOCIATE WITH MEMBERS OF THE ARYAN NATIONS MOVEMENT (A WHITE SUPREMACIST GROUP). HE HAS ACCESS TO LARGE SUPPLIES OF AMMUNITION AND WEAPONS. CONSIDERED ARMED AND EXTREMELY DANGEROUS.

John E. Otto
Acting Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C. 20535

A Federal grand jury returned an indictment July 21, 1987, at Ft. Smith, Arkansas, charging Beam with Seditious Conspiracy (Title 18, U.S.C., Code Section 2384).
IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION CONCERNING THIS PERSON, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR LOCAL FBI OFFICE. TELEPHONE NUMBERS AND ADDRESSES OF ALL FBI OFFICES LISTED ON BACK.
Identification Order 5040
June 17, 1987

The FBI has distributed copies of this wanted poster nationwide as part of its efforts to track down fugitive Klan and Aryan Nations leader Louis Beam.

New Klanwatch Director Chosen



Pat Clark — new director of the Center's Klanwatch Project

MONTGOMERY, AL. — Bill Stanton sat on the floor of his office, sorting through stacks of documents. A vase of fresh flowers decorated his otherwise chaotic desk. Pat Clark, looking for a place to sit, scanned the room for a chair that wasn't filled with papers, and found none. It was Friday, September 11, 1987, and Bill was spending his last day trying to get things in order before leaving the Law Center

to pursue a writing career.

For Bill, the last few weeks had been a time of nostalgia, as he sifted through nine years' worth of materials. For Pat, who came to Klanwatch in 1985, it was more like an archaeological dig — every day meant a new discovery. Monday, she would be in that office, and Klanwatch would be in her hands.

Bill paused to reflect on the transition. "I think that our staff and our supporters can be extremely proud of the record Klanwatch has made in the area of combatting KKK violence in the South, and I think that there's a need for Klanwatch today because the Klan is still an outlaw organization. It's still a problem."

Bill Stanton

In 1978, before Klanwatch existed, Bill was a paralegal for the Law Center. In 1979, when a lawsuit was filed against Klan members who attacked marchers in Decatur, Alabama, Bill began working fulltime investigating Klan activity. Eventually, he gathered enough evidence about Klan involvement in the Decatur incidents to

convince the U.S. Justice Department to re-open its federal civil rights prosecution of the Klan. Bill remembers the Decatur case as one of the most rewarding, he says, "because we got evidence the FBI couldn't get."

Since he became Klanwatch Director in 1985, Bill worked closely with Morris Dees to help oversee the investigations which led to convictions of White Patriot Party members in Raleigh, North Carolina, and United Klans of America members in Mobile, Alabama.

"My years at the Law Center were extremely fulfilling," Bill said. He is looking forward to concentrating on his writing, which has been limited professionally in recent years to the Klanwatch Intelligence Report.

Attorney Dees said, "Bill's presence here will be missed, both as a colleague and as a friend. We are very fortunate to have someone of Pat Clark's abilities to take his place as Klanwatch Director."

Pat Clark

Pat Clark describes the job of Klanwatch Director as "a major chal-

lenge," but she is no stranger to challenges. At 21, just graduated from Smith College, Pat left the United States to spend almost three years building houses in Zaire, Africa, for Habitat for Humanity. When she returned to the U.S., Pat worked with United Campus Ministries in Amarillo, Texas, and helped build houses with a local Habitat group. By 1984, she was on the international board of directors of Habitat, and when a Habitat group started in Montgomery recently, she became vice president of the local organization.

Pat also maintains a strong interest in adult education. She came to the Center after working as adult education coordinator for Cecil County, Maryland, and here she is a volunteer for an adult literacy program. In addition, Pat volunteers for the Alabama Prison Project and serves on the local board of Church Women United.

She approaches her new responsibilities as Klanwatch Director "recognizing the incredible job Bill Stanton has done as director, and hoping to continue in the caliber of work that has been Bill's legacy."

Legal Interns Discuss Their Summer at the Center

Mary Erickson was between her first and second years at Stanford Law School during her summer at the Center. At Stanford, she is on the Student Steering Committee of the East Palo Alto Community Law Project, a law-student-founded and -run immigration and poverty law clinic. She received three grants from Stanford Law School and Stanford University to cover living expenses for her volunteer work at SPLC.

Before making a career switch to law, she was a newspaper reporter and public radio producer for twelve years in Minnesota, Washington, D.C., Kansas, and Missouri. She describes herself as "a stubborn holdover from the 60s" and says she is "unswervingly committed to practicing public interest law" when she graduates in 1989. "As a journalist, I got tired of merely describing social problems. Now I'm going to do something to change the world."



Mary Erickson

"SPLC" was a tab on one of the many file folders I kept as a journalist, storing up newspaper clips for background and future reference for the endless stream of mournful stories I

wrote and radio documentaries I produced around the lack of social justice in this country. Last fall when I realized I'd be wanting to land a law-related job this summer, the first place that popped into my mind was the Law Center. For all sorts of reasons, I'm more given to cynicism than sentimentality, but I could not have been more thrilled than when SPLC's Legal Director Richard Cohen called me early last December to tell me to come on down. My high expectations were not even faintly dashed during my nine weeks here.

"Much of my summer's work — weaving relevant cases into memos — centered on SPLC's litigation around the attempted January 17, 1987, civil rights march in all-white Forsyth County, Georgia. I even got to accompany Morris Dees, two investigators, another summer intern, and guards to Forsyth County for two days to watch Morris take depositions from a dozen Klansmen (and one Klanswoman). My other assignments focused on employment discrimination against a handicapped woman; racial segregation at the Montgomery Country Club; and the civil contempt in which the federal district court held Montgomery's mayor, Emory Folmar, and its police chief, John Wilson, in a gender discrimination case against the police department. These on-the-job training experiences have been enormously valuable and fascinating for me.

"The South got a hold on me this summer, to the point that I can imagine trying to live down here with the heat in order to be able to take on the

Meet Jo Brazell

Jo Brazell has been the Center's Administrative Secretary since January 1986, but she first came to the Center in May of 1973, when she signed on as the Center's bookkeeper. This was not the first time she had worked with Morris Dees, the Center's Chief Trial Counsel. Before Attorneys Dees and Joseph J. Levin, Jr., founded the Center, Mrs. Brazell was employed by Fuller & Dees, a publishing company that Morris Dees had started with Millard Fuller. Like Mr. Dees, Mrs. Brazell is white and was born in Alabama. Also like him, she does not have the stereotypical attitude toward race relations that some people in other parts of the country associate with white Alabamians.

"When I worked with Morris at Fuller & Dees," says Mrs. Brazell, "I saw in him beliefs that I had had all my life — that all people should be treated fairly, no matter what the circumstances."

That's why, after Morris left Fuller & Dees and founded the Center, Mrs. Brazell says "I was delighted when I was invited to join the Center in its pursuit of justice."

Mrs. Brazell remained at the Center until January 1976, when she left to go into business with her husband, Jim. Ten years later, Jo came back to the Center looking for part-time work.

Her four children had grown up and she missed being involved in the Center's activities. Her "part-time" job soon became full-time.



Jo Brazell

Today, she not only handles the Center's bookkeeping, but she has several other important responsibilities as well, including acting as the co-systems administrator for the Center's computer system. She has proven to be an invaluable part of the Center's operations, not only in the efficient way in which she carries out her duties, but also because of her unfailingly cheerful, optimistic attitude and the positive effect this has on employee morale.

The Law Center Fund

Bequests in wills help assure the Center's long-term financial stability. That is a key to success in our legal efforts, which often last for years and can cost thousands of dollars.

If you would like to know more about

helping the Center in your will, please write:

The Law Center Fund
Attn: Cathie Wright
Southern Poverty Law Center
400 Washington Avenue
Montgomery, AL 36195

(Continued on Page 4)

Docket Update

New Trial for Roy Patterson

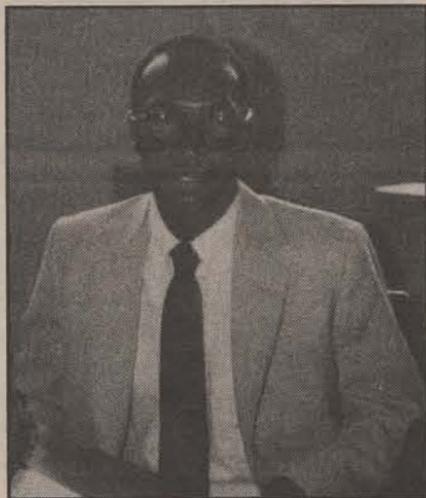
CORDELE, Ga. — In November, Roy Patterson will have another chance to win his freedom. He has spent 12 years in a Georgia Prison for a crime he did not commit. An earlier attempt to win his acquittal in May 1986 led to a mistrial.

Patterson's story is a painful relic from the extreme racist past of the cotton-belt South. A black Marine sergeant who had won a medal for valor in Vietnam, Patterson stands accused of murdering two white Georgia law enforcement officers in 1975. Patterson never denied that he shot the two men, but maintains — and evidence supports him — that he fired initially by accident and always in self-defense.

Tragedy Begins with Minor Traffic Violation

The shooting followed a white trooper's arrest of Patterson's brother for a minor traffic violation, a broken taillight. The trooper, who had a history of drunkenness and a tendency to harass blacks, became enraged when Roy Patterson followed them to the police station and then said he would get a lawyer for his brother. The

trooper tried to handcuff Patterson and then drew his revolver. Patterson had gone to the police station with his



Roy Patterson

wife and infant son and, believing the lives of his family and himself were in jeopardy, he grabbed the trooper's weapon. In the struggle, the gun discharged five times, killing the state trooper and a Cordele police officer.

Received Two Life Terms

Patterson received two life prison

terms in a 1975 trial that was full of procedural error. In his 1986 retrial, obtained by Center attorney John Carroll, nine jurors voted to acquit him — but three whites still insisted that he was guilty. Following the mistrial, the presiding judge tried to move the case to a county where he was sure the jury would be all white. SPLC lawyers were able to quash his effort. After a 15-month delay, Patterson is ready for another hearing.

Patterson's case illustrates that justice is often denied to those who are indigent. Because of his arrest, he stopped receiving his military pay. The court declared him indigent, yet denied his requests to hire criminologists to help his defense. The prosecution's case is built on disputable, but highly technical, forensic testimony.

SPLC has supported Patterson's defense since 1975. With an unbiased jury at his second retrial, Patterson should go free for the crime he never committed. Sadly, freedom will not restore Patterson's youth. Charged with the crime at age twenty-five, he has watched his wife and child grow older through the bars of a prison cell in muggy South Georgia.

Federal Court To Rule on Kentucky Coal Case

CINCINNATI, Oh. — On August 24, Richard Cohen, Legal Director of the Southern Poverty Law Center, argued before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 6th judicial circuit that the federal court has jurisdiction in an SPLC suit styled *Nowak v. Foster*. The suit alleges that tax assessors in Kentucky systematically undervalue unmined coal, oil, and natural gas. Indeed, unmined coal is taxed at one ten-thousandth percent of unit value, making it unprofitable for the state even to collect the tax. Because of the tax inequity and resulting loss of tax revenues, schools, roads, and other public services are grossly underfunded in the rural counties of eastern Kentucky, the poorest section of the state.

Says Cohen, "Should the court rule that the *Nowak* case cannot be maintained in federal court, the plaintiffs will by no means abandon their efforts. Instead, they will simply refile the case with the state courts."

SPLC Case Means More Black Troopers in Alabama

MONTGOMERY, AL. — After 15 years of litigation, the Alabama Department of Public Safety has agreed to a consent decree that will increase the number of blacks who serve as state troopers and will insure fairness in promotion procedures. The decree arises from a suit filed by SPLC Executive Director Morris Dees in 1972. In that year, blacks made up 30% of Alabama's population, yet the state's trooper force had never had a black trooper, and only 7 blacks held jobs with the Department of Public Safety

— mostly as janitors.

Those familiar with Alabama history recall that the trooper force served white-supremacist governors as a quasi-militia to combat the civil rights movement. State troopers blocked the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma to halt the original voting rights march in 1965. Troopers harassed and intimidated blacks who traveled the state's highways. Blacks who applied for jobs as state troopers were systematically denied admission to its training programs.

The suit has brightened that dismal picture. Blacks currently serve as state troopers. Reports of white troopers' harassing minorities have ceased, in part because an integrated trooper force sensitizes white troopers to treat blacks as people.

Under the terms of the settlement, the state must create a permanent hiring and promotional plan equitable to all citizens. In the interim, blacks and whites will be admitted to trooper training programs in approximate proportion to their representa-

tion among applicants for the jobs. Twenty-five whites and fifteen blacks will immediately receive promotions to corporal. Within one to three years, blacks will fill, at a minimum, designated percentages of higher-ranking positions.

On September 3, Dees and SPLC Legal Director Richard Cohen defended the settlement before Federal Judge Myron Thompson in Montgomery. Thompson has not yet ratified the decree.

Legal Interns

(Continued from Page 3)

racism, a project that SPLC and the uniformly wonderful people here are doing so well. I'm very proud to have been a small part of this work."

Dinah Pokempner attends Columbia University School of Law, where she is also between her first and second years. A cum laude 1981 graduate of Yale University, her work experience before entering

Dinah Pokempner

law school includes creating and teaching the first university course in American Studies at the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

"It was a wonderful summer and a first-rate legal experience for a student. I worked on in-depth research on new ways to bring education discrimination suits, examined how to compel Alabama to provide basic

Medicaid services to rural residents, flew around Alabama with Center lawyers explaining the settlement in *U.S. v. Paradise* to black and white state troopers, and attended Klan depositions in Forsyth County. It was a privilege to work with lawyers like Morris Dees, Richard Cohen, Rhonda Brownstein, and all my colleagues at the Center, dedicated professionals and warm persons, every one.

"The substantial headquarters of the Southern Poverty Law Center are as much a landmark in downtown Montgomery as Martin Luther King's church, Jefferson Davis' White House, and the state capitol with the Confederate flag flying on top.

"When I think of the Center, I think of people with a profound understanding of place, of the particular relation between racial justice and social welfare in Alabama and the South. The Center pursues both vigorously in its litigation. To recognize and confront the peculiar problems of one's time and place is an effort that gives meaning to the practice of law."

NBC-TV Movie of the Week To Tell Story of Center's Klanwatch Activities

BEVERLY HILLS, Ca. — A two-hour NBC-TV Movie of the Week is scheduled to be completed and broadcast sometime in early 1988.

The film will focus on several major Center achievements. These include the Vietnamese fishermen case brought against the Klan by the Center in Texas; the Center's lawsuits to stop the North Carolina Klan's paramilitary army, the Michael Donald lynching case and several other important cases handled by Center staffers.

A major Hollywood motion picture star, whose name cannot be released at this time, is being sought to play the lead role of Center co-founder Morris Dees. Although this Academy-Award winner normally does not do television, he agreed to read the script

because the subject matter was so strong. Coincidentally, this renowned actor has been a financial supporter of the Center.

The film is being produced by Michael Shapiro and Jim Hirsch of the Hirsch Company. Mr. Hirsch was the producer and writer of the Emmy Award-winning TV movie *The Rape of Richard Beck*, starring Richard Crenna, whose performance won him the Emmy for best actor. Mr. Hirsch was nominated for an Emmy for best writer.

The screenplay is being written by Mr. Charles Rosin, who, as a young journalist covered the Center's 1974 defense of Joann Little in North Carolina. As a TV writer, his credits include *This Child Is Mine*, starring Lindsay Wagner, and episodes of *St. Elsewhere* and *Breaking Away*.