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SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER
400 Washington Avenue
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LAW REPORT

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

March 1991

Center Moves To Seize Metzger's Assets

■ All proceeds collected from the Metzgers will go to the nine-year-old son of Mulugeta Seraw, the black man murdered by racist Skinheads in Portland, Oregon.

SAN DIEGO, CALIF. — Center lawyers have moved quickly to seize all known property of Tom Metzger, his son John, and their organization, White Aryan Resistance. Proceeds will go toward satisfying their portion of the \$12.5 million award by a Portland, Oregon, jury last October to the son of Mulugeta Seraw.

In addition to the Metzgers, the verdict was also returned against Portland Skinheads Ken Mieske and Kyle Brewster. Center lawyers, with



San Diego Evening Tribune photo by Thomas P. Szalay

Judge orders Metzger house sold

White supremacist Tom Metzger reads a notice posted on his Fallbrook, Calif., home after a San Diego judge ordered his home sold.

the help of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, convinced

the jury that the Metzgers, through an agent, encouraged these Skin-

heads to commit violence against minorities. Ethiopian student Mulugeta Seraw was killed in Portland in November 1988 by Mieske and Brewster.

Tom Metzger's bank accounts seized

San Diego attorney James McElroy seized Metzger's known bank accounts. Financial records and trial testimony indicated that the Metzgers had collected over \$100,000 in the past two years. Only a few hundred remained in the accounts at the time of the seizure. One Metzger aide, Wyatt Kaldenburg, was sentenced to ten days for criminal contempt of court for removing \$1,200 from an account related to Metzger's activities. Efforts are continuing to locate other funds.

The largest asset owned by Tom
(continued on page 6)

Klan Stages Massive Protest March In Front Of Law Center

MONTGOMERY, ALA. — Angered by SPLC victories against violent racists, nearly 200 Klan members marched on the Center and the Civil Rights Memorial

March 9. Police SWAT teams and riot squads kept the peace while Klansmen in robes and black paramilitary uniforms marched in front of the Center screaming:

"What do we want — White Power! When do we want it — right now!"

Although there was no violence, Center Director Morris Dees came under bitter verbal attacks by the Klansmen. They chanted "Morris Dees is a traitor" and carried a large banner reading: "Morris Dees — Enemy of the People."

The angriest words came from march sponsor David Holland, currently under indictment for lying in a deposition during the Center's Forsyth County case. In a speech to the assembled racists, Holland screamed: "You can go to hell, Morris Dees!... You sold me in Forsyth."

(continued on page 6)

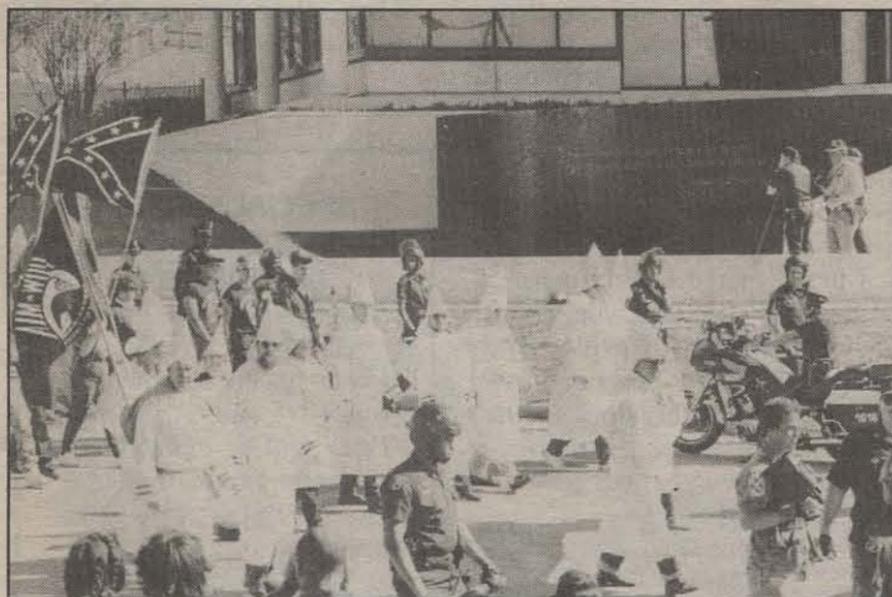


Photo by Jay Sailors

Klan marches by Civil Rights Memorial and Law Center
Approximately 200 members of the Ku Klux Klan, protested the existence of the Civil Rights Memorial and the Southern Poverty Law Center.

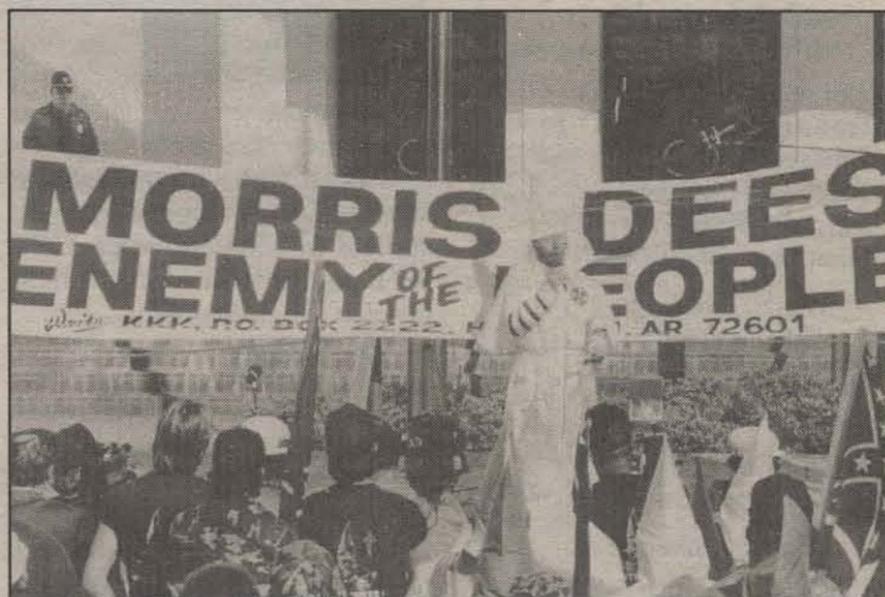


Photo by Jay Sailors

Klan banner names Dees "Enemy of the People"
Standing before a banner defaming Center Executive Director Morris Dees, a Klansman from Waco, Texas, addresses the white supremacist crowd.



SPLC Mailbox

We were so proud and happy at the outcome of your Portland case. We work with Asian refugees but also many Ethiopians. They certainly don't need any more pain and sorrow after what they went through to escape their homeland.

— A. Heger
Washington

I just read about your tremendous victory against Tom Metzger's organization of hate.

On behalf of all people who condemn hatred and bigotry of any kind, we thank you for your gallant effort. You give us hope.

— A. Kaminsky
New Jersey

Congratulations on your verdict in Portland, Oregon! I also noted that Morris Dees was made person of the week by ABC News. I am reminded of why I became a lawyer — to have choices, to make a difference. You are an inspiration.

— J. McClenning
Pennsylvania

Thank you for sharing that beautiful letter from Cygnette Cherry. How sad it is that such a fine young man as Mulugeta Seraw was killed. It was truly a great service to mankind that you won the case against the Skinheads who murdered him.

— C. Ellis
Connecticut

LAW REPORT

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Southern Poverty Law
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Welch Named New Klanwatch Chief

MONTGOMERY, ALA. — Danny Welch, formerly chief investigator for Klanwatch, was named Klanwatch Director



Danny Welch
New Director of the Klanwatch Project.

last October. A 10-year veteran of the Montgomery police force, Welch came to the Law Center in 1985 as head of security operations. He supervised the installa-

Many Center supporters watched the NBC-TV movie, "Line of Fire: The Morris Dees Story." Following are some of the comments we have received.

We truly enjoyed the program, "Line of Fire: The Morris Dees Story." We have sent a monthly pledge to the Center since June 1986, and will continue our support as long as possible. Thank you for presenting such a background about the work of the Center. Having previous knowledge of the Michael Donald case, and the ongoing efforts and work of the Center, we were brought again to tears with empathy for the victims and families of those whose lives have been, and continue to be violated. Thank you again for all your efforts to make life and living better for all of us.

— M. Mintz
Texas

I saw "Line of Fire" and it was a great presentation. As a supporter, I lived with you through the Michael Donald tragedy and your success in winning the case. To see it portrayed was very startling but also very meaningful.

— F. Willis
New York

I watched the movie about Mr. Dees and the work of the Center. Keep up the good work. The Center, its staff, and its accomplishments are an inspiration to freedom loving people everywhere.

— H. Martin
Florida

tion of sophisticated security devices to protect the Center and its staff after its first building was burned. As chief investigator, Welch managed Klanwatch's intelligence-gathering operation and was responsible for building a nationwide network of law enforcement contacts.

Welch brings to the director's job a broad knowledge of the white supremacist movement and hate crime investigation. "With the recent passage of the national hate crimes reporting law, police around the country will be relying on Klanwatch for education and assistance," Welch said. "We will be redoubling our efforts to provide them with accurate and reliable information, while we continue to monitor the illegal acts of white supremacists."

Welch replaces former Klanwatch Director Patricia Clark, who left to pursue a longtime interest in battling the death penalty. Ms. Clark is now head of

We very much enjoyed watching the movie last week. It was good to learn more about the Center and get a glimpse of what Mr. Dees' life must really be like. I am sure you are all well aware of the vast importance of the work you all do. Enclosed is our 1991 renewal contribution. The movie must certainly have increased public awareness regarding the very real yet somehow unbelievable presence of racist groups in our society today.

— M. Kadar-Kallen
New Jersey

I watched "Line of Fire" with awe and admiration. I was also proud that I had been, in a very small way, among those who helped finance your work. I am now a retired nun, not earning a salary. But I cannot refuse once again to do my small part in helping you. The film was excellent. It convincingly exposed the rising tide of racism in this country. God bless the Center's staff and the work they do.

— M. Dennis
Illinois

I heard of the Oregon verdict on the day when you won, and it gave me a thrill of pride. And then on a local TV program I saw "Line of Fire," the story of the victory in Alabama. I am very pleased to know that our joint efforts have paid off.

— H. McClintock
Florida

It is with great pride that I renew my support of the Southern Poverty Law Center. I



Pat Clark
The former Klanwatch Director is now the newest member of the Center's Board of Directors.

Death Penalty Focus of California. She maintains a keen interest in the work of Klanwatch, and is the newest member of the Southern Poverty Law Center Board of Directors.

watched "Line of Fire." Hopefully, as a result of this movie, many more people around the country will become aware of the important work you are doing.

— Y. Detweiler
New York

I saw the TV movie about the Center's fight for justice for Mrs. Donald, whose son was lynched by the Klan. It seems the most unjust crime of all is the crime of racism. I pray that someday Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "Dream" will become a reality. I appreciate all the hard work you do.

— J. Meyer
Minnesota

I am writing to let you know how much I enjoyed watching "Line of Fire." I believe education and individuals like yourself will eventually destroy these groups and bring the nation together.

— A. Palugay
Michigan

SPECIAL NOTE TO CENTER SUPPORTERS:

As of this writing, the Center has not been notified by NBC when "Line of Fire" will be rebroadcast. As soon as a date is set, Center supporters will be informed.

The Center regrets that it is unable to supply video-cassettes of "Line of Fire" to those who have requested it.

Ten Years Of Landmark Victories

Klanwatch Establishes An Unprecedented Record Of Achievement Against Racial Violence

■ The Law Center and its Klanwatch Project have become the Klan's number one enemy because of hard-hitting, successful lawsuits against violent white supremacists.

MONTGOMERY, ALA. — In the ten years of its existence, the Klanwatch Project of the Southern Poverty Law Center has become the country's most effective weapon against white supremacist terrorism. In a series of landmark cases, 37 individuals and seven major white supremacist organizations were found civilly liable for offenses against minorities. In several cases, criminal charges were brought because of the Klanwatch investigations. Its record of courtroom victories against white supremacists has made Klanwatch itself a target of threats and violence. The Klan arson of Klanwatch offices in 1983, the White Patriot Party plot to bomb the Center in 1987, numerous death threats against Center Director Morris Dees, and two recent bomb threats are among the hazards of the work.

The Vietnamese Fishermen Case

Texas Klansmen in 1981 tried to destroy the fishing business of Vietnamese immigrants by burning their boats and threatening their lives. Armed Klansmen cruised Galveston Bay, and practiced guerrilla tactics at a paramilitary camp. A Klanwatch lawsuit brought on behalf of the Vietnamese fishermen resulted in a court order preventing the Klan and its leader Louis Beam from harassing or harming the fisher-

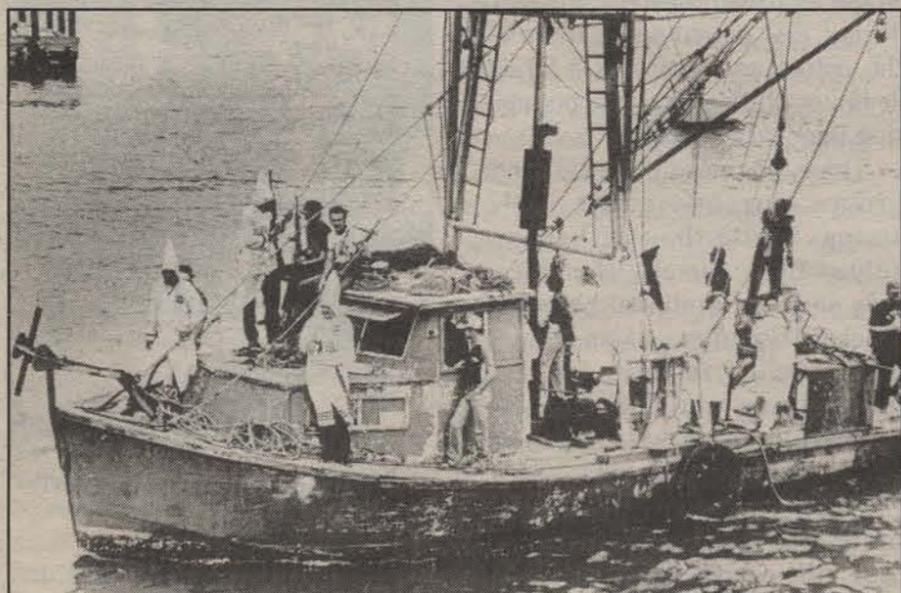


Photo by John Van Beekum

Texas Klan terrorizes immigrant Vietnamese fishermen
In 1981, a Center lawsuit stopped the Texas Klan from harassing immigrant Vietnamese fishermen who fished in Galveston Bay.

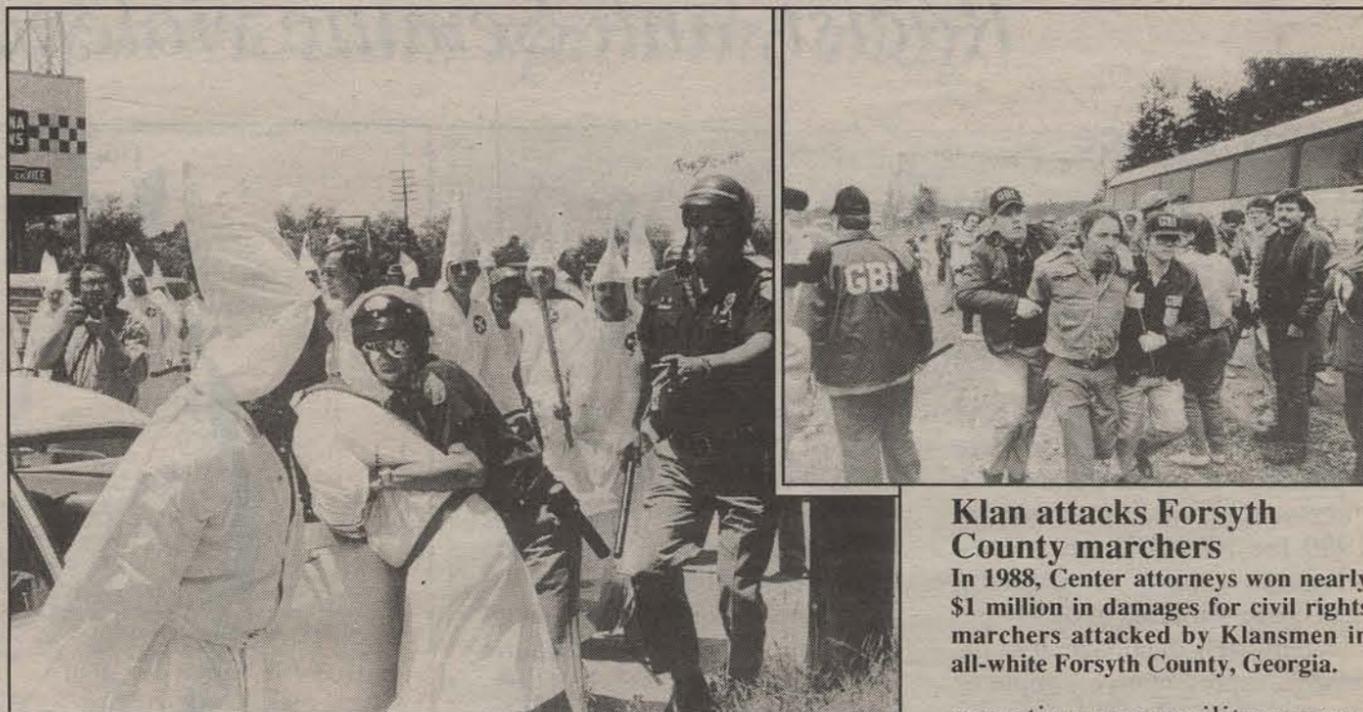


Photo by Chris Bell

Klan attacks black marchers in Decatur, Ala.

Center investigators found evidence that led to federal indictments against ten top Klansmen involved in the 1979 attack of peaceful civil rights marchers in Decatur, Ala.

men, and led to a ban on paramilitary training.

Decatur

In 1984, evidence uncovered by Klanwatch investigators led to federal indictments against 10 Klansmen who attacked peaceful civil rights marchers in Decatur, Alabama, in 1979.

The federal case ended in prison terms for the Klansmen.

A civil suit brought by Klanwatch against the Decatur attackers was finally settled in 1989, when the Klansmen agreed to take a course in race relations, taught by leaders of the civil rights group victimized in the 1979 attack.

Klan Paramilitary Training

Klanwatch lawsuits in 1982 and 1984 brought about the end of Klan paramilitary activity in

Texas and Alabama.

Klan groups in these states were training paramilitary forces in the use of grenades, explosives, weapons, techniques of ambush and hand-to-hand combat, all in preparation for what they believed was an impending "race war."



Photo by Vince Wheeler/Smithfield Herald

Glenn Miller

North Carolina's once powerful White Patriot Party, led by Glenn Miller, was disbanded because of a series of Center lawsuits.

The White Patriot Party

Glenn Miller led the South's most militant Klan group when Klanwatch sued to disband his paramilitary army. A Klanwatch investigation revealed Miller and his North Carolina-based White Patriot Party were acquiring stolen U.S. military weapons and using active duty military personnel to train Klan recruits. A federal jury in 1986 found Miller and the White Patriot Party guilty of

Klan attacks Forsyth County marchers

In 1988, Center attorneys won nearly \$1 million in damages for civil rights marchers attacked by Klansmen in all-white Forsyth County, Georgia.

operating a paramilitary army, and forced the Klan group to disband.

Forsyth County

After Klan-led mobs attacked civil rights marchers in Forsyth County, Georgia in 1987, Klanwatch filed suit against the Klan groups and individuals behind the violence.

The case ended in October 1988, when an Atlanta jury found the Southern White Knights, the Invisible Empire, and 11 individuals liable for the attack, and ordered them to pay a total of nearly \$1 million in damages.

The Michael Donald Lynching Case

Nineteen-year-old Michael Donald was on his way to the store when Klansmen abducted him, beat him, cut his throat and hung his body from a tree on a residential street in Mobile, Alabama. Klanwatch investigators gathered the evidence that led to murder indictments against two United Klans of America officials. A Klanwatch civil suit ended in 1987 when a jury awarded \$7 million to Donald's mother. The UKA was forced to give up its headquarters, and fell into disarray.

The Portland Case

In November 1988, an Ethiopian man was beaten to death in Portland, Oregon. The suspects, teenage neo-Nazi Skinheads, pleaded guilty and were sentenced to prison.

Klanwatch filed a civil suit on behalf of the man's relatives, claiming that the Skinhead attack was the result of training and indoctrination of White Aryan Resistance leader Tom Metzger and his son John. In October 1990, a Portland jury found the Metzgers liable for the murder and awarded nearly \$12.5 million in damages to the victim's relatives.

Hate in th

Racist, anti-Semitic violence reaches record

Hate Violence

First Year of Decade Was The Deadliest on Record

DESPITE legal victories and legislative warnings, hate violence in America continued a three-year upward trend, making 1990 the bloodiest year since Klanwatch began monitoring hate crime ten years ago.

Klanwatch data, which comprises a representative sample of the incidents, showed a nearly 50 percent increase in cross burnings, a 33 percent increase in religious vandalism, and a 22 percent increase in violent assaults.



Photo by Robyn Craig/Morristown Daily Record

Crimes of ethnic intimidate command stiffer penalties under new laws in several states.

Killing Hate

Most horrifying of all was the number of murders linked to white supremacists or motivated by bias. By the end of the year, 20 people had lost their lives — nearly three times the number in 1989, and the most ever recorded in one year.

Authorities are at a loss to explain the increase in hate violence. It comes at a time when Congress and state legislatures are increasingly recognizing the need to address bias crime with stringent anti-crime measures. Last year, the passage of the national hate crimes statistics act paved the way for better police documentation of hate crime. As data collection efforts improve, authorities hope to better understand the rise in hate violence.

Violent Trends

A few disturbing facts are evident:

- The perpetrators of the most

violent hate crimes are youth. Half of this year's murder suspects were under age 21 when they were arrested. Nearly half of the assaults were committed by young Skinheads.

- Hate violence is committed by people in all regions of the country, from all walks of life. Most are not card-carrying white supremacists.

- While blacks and Jews are the most frequent victims of hate violence, targeted groups also include Asians, Hispanics, Na-

tive American, and white people who try to defend minority victims. Youths who reject membership in Skinhead groups have been beaten and killed.

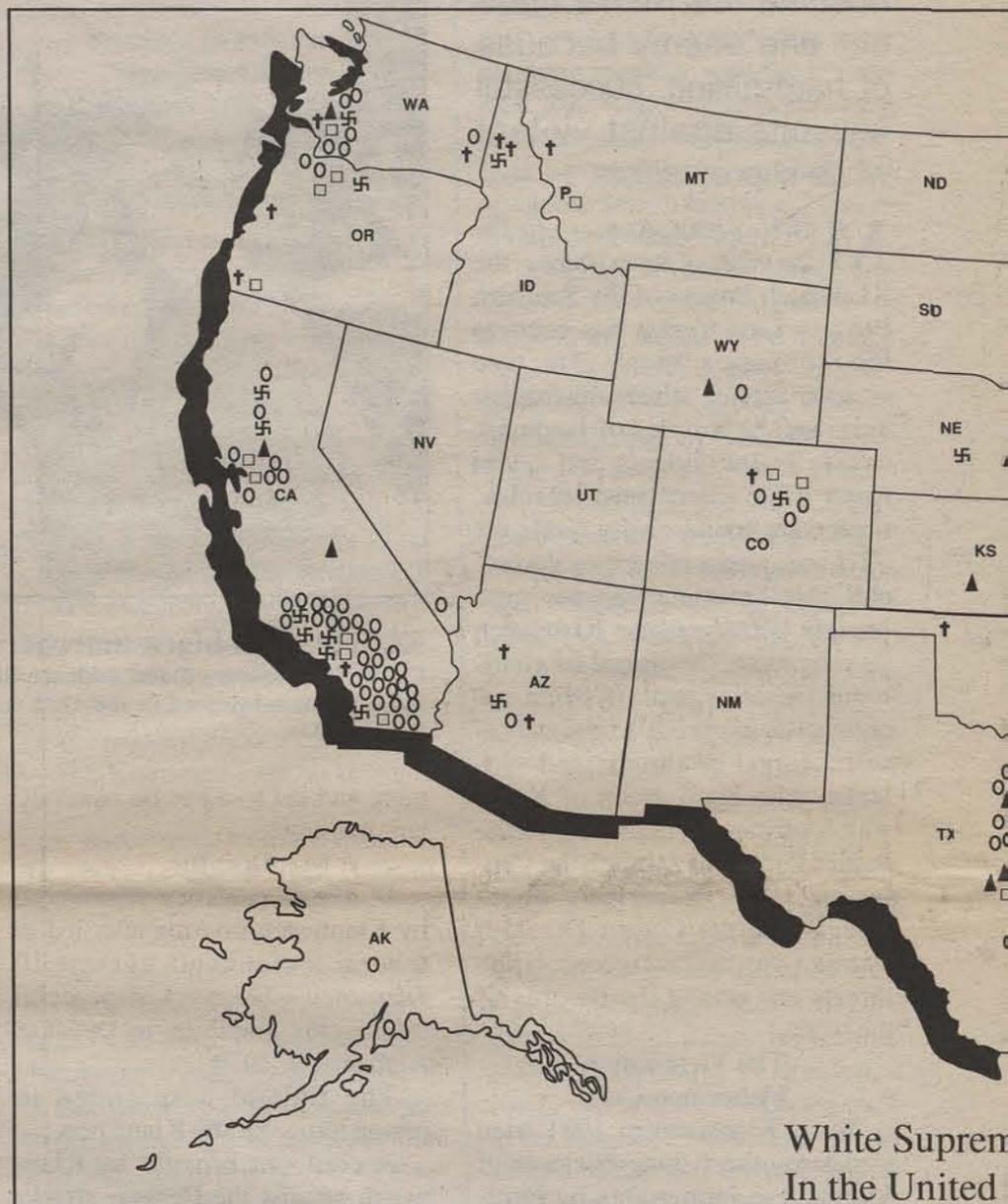
- High school and college campuses across the country are experiencing a surge in bias incidents, from threats and harassment to

cross burnings, arsons and assaults.

Monitoring Continues

Klanwatch has been working closely with police nationwide and the U.S. Justice Department to improve law enforcement response to hate crimes. The *Klanwatch Intelligence Report* reaches more than 5,000 police on a bi-monthly basis; and Klanwatch reports of bias incidents have sparked numerous federal investigations. In addition, courtroom victories against white supremacists have undermined their ability to unite and organize for massive violence. (see page 3)

But more efforts are needed if America is to stem the tide of racial violence. As a new element of its ongoing hate crime prevention campaign, the Southern Poverty Law Center will be addressing the roots of racism among youth. (see article next page.)



White Supremacy In the United States

The Expanding Ranks of Bigotry Klans, Nazis and Skins Ac

The United States map has been marred by organized hatred since the Ku Klux Klan was born in the aftermath of the Civil War. Today, that hatred spans more of the nation and threatens a larger segment of the American population than ever before.

There are more than 250 hate groups currently active in 43 states. While they call themselves by a variety of names, they share an irrational hatred of blacks, Hispanics, Asians, gays, and Jews — in fact, for any human being who does not conform to the narrow confines of their own race and beliefs.

While Klansmen today are more radical and widespread, they still represent the smallest and least effective arm of the white supremacist movement.



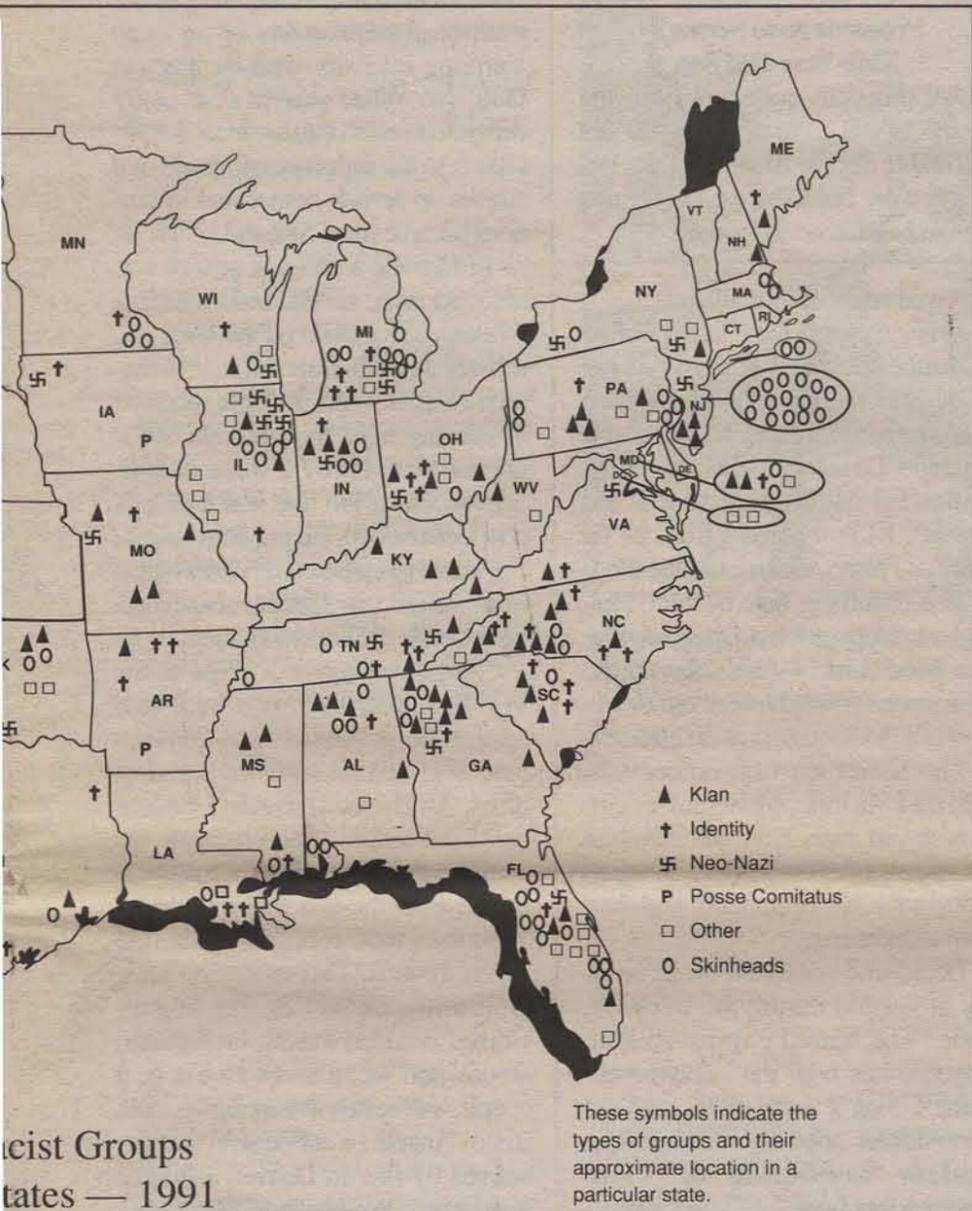
Florida Times-Union

Weapons seized from white supremacist cache in Florida

An estimated 5,000 Americans (men, women and youth) belong to the hooded order. In 1990,

...e U.S.A.

...d highs; White supremacists span the map



Racist Groups in 43 States — 1991

Teaching Tolerance

Law Center education efforts aim To turn the next generation away From hate and prejudice

For a decade, the Southern Poverty Law Center has been fighting hate crime through the courts and through law enforcement training. It has become apparent that those efforts, while they are still vital, are not enough to reverse the trend of hate violence in America. The fact that the majority of bias crimes are committed by youth indicates that hate violence will not end with this generation, or the next, unless we strike at its roots.

The Center is launching a new education project that will bring racism and prejudice to the top of the national educational agenda. Through videos, publications, and teachers' aids, the Center aims to provoke an intense examination of prejudice and hate among young people throughout the country.

Our research has revealed a disturbing lack of coordinated, quality tools for teachers to use in addressing the national disease of racism. To meet that need, the Center's educational materials will be developed in conjunction with an advisory board of nationally-recognized educators. They will be designed for use in a broad range of curriculum areas and will be distributed free to all secondary schools in the country. Most importantly, they will be thought-provoking instruments for change in the lives of young people.

...ive in 43 States

Klansmen ran for elected office (and lost), challenged a Georgia state anti-mask law (and lost), and staged rallies from New Jersey to Wyoming. They gained more in publicity than they did in members.

Neo-Nazis

Neo-Nazis, including Identity followers, make up a larger portion of the white supremacist movement, and a more dangerous one. Aryan Nations members last year were convicted of plotting to bomb a gay nightclub in Seattle. Early this year, a secret neo-Nazi group was discovered to be stockpiling weapons for use against Jewish-owned businesses. The group, based in Jacksonville, Florida, was headed by active-duty Green Beret soldiers.

Skinheads

Skinheads, the new generation of racists, are also the most violent. Last year, Skinheads were responsible for nearly half of the racist assaults documented by Klanwatch. They were convicted of stabbings, beating deaths, firebombings, and countless instances of threats and harassment. In Houston last summer, Skinheads were charged with murdering a Vietnamese youth who as he died apologizing to his attackers for ever having come to America.

The ten-year experience of Klanwatch indicates that organized hate is not limited to a certain era, or region, or class of people. It is a national problem that requires a national response.

Ku Klux Klans

75 factions, active in 29 states.

Going by a variety of names, the Klan represents the oldest style of white supremacy in the United States. While their most virulent bias is reserved for blacks, Klansmen are also anti-Semitic. Their membership ranks have declined in recent years, as the membership in more radical hate groups has increased.

Neo-Nazis

109 groups, active in 31 states.

The generic term "Nazi" covers a broad range of groups that share a hatred of Jews. Some idolize Adolf Hitler and deny the Holocaust ever happened. Others follow the Identity religion, which preaches that Jews are the children of Satan. Many refer to the U.S. government as the Zionist Occupational Government (ZOG), and consider themselves revolutionaries. They are among the most violent of all white supremacists.

Skinheads

137 groups, active in 29 states.

Skinheads include the youngest and most violent group of racists this country has seen since the 1950s and '60s. They function as street gangs, with indoctrination and encouragement from older white supremacists. Easily identified by their boots, shaved heads and swastika tattoos, many Skinheads are now abandoning the look and opting for more covert strategies.

Metzger's Assets

(continued from page 1)

Metzger is his Fallbrook, California, home valued at between \$100,000 and \$150,000. There are no mortgages on the property. Center attorneys secured an injunction prohibiting Metzger from transferring this property. All that remains is to have the property sold and the proceeds applied to the judgment.

Judge orders

Metzger home sold

On February 22nd a San Diego judge ordered Metzger's home sold. "We expect Metzger to attempt delaying tactics to stall the sale," said Attorney McElroy, who is volunteer-

ing his services for the Seraw estate. McElroy said that under California law, Metzger will receive the first \$45,000 from the sale with the remaining proceeds going to the victim's estate. He expects the sale to be final by June 1st.

Tom Metzger operates the White Aryan Resistance from his Fallbrook property. The facility contains sophisticated computer equipment for W.A.R.'s mailing operation and newspaper production, as well as video units that reproduce hate tapes shipped throughout America. Efforts are also being made to seize these assets.

The Portland Skinhead defendants, Mieske and Brewster, are

serving long prison sentences for Seraw's death and have no assets. "The \$12.5 million award was what the jury felt the death of Seraw was worth," said Center Legal Director Richard Cohen. "This does not mean that any sum close to this amount will be collected. The suit will be successful if all the known assets of the Metzgers are seized and all future assets tracked and collected," Cohen said.

Proceeds go to Seraw's Nine-Year-Old Son

All proceeds collected from the Metzgers will go to the nine-year-old son of Mr. Seraw. All costs of the litigation were borne by the Center and the Anti-Defamation League.

Klan Protest March

(continued from page 1)

You had me indicted for perjury.... You'll never stop me. I

Dees, we are going to be here long after you are burning in hell."

The Civil Rights Memorial came under attack by Ed Fields, editor of a well-known white supremacist pub-

removed once and for all!"

Other national Klan leaders in attendance included Knights of the KKK National Director Thom Robb of Arkansas; Texas Klan leader Michael Lowe; and Illinois Klan leader Ed Melkonian (a.k.a. Ed Novak). Klan members from as far away as Fresno, California, attended.

In a disturbing note of truth, Holland admitted: "Morris Dees has done one good thing — he's driven the weak-kneed cowards out of our movement. I'm looking now at the elite..."

The Klansmen won no converts with their rhetoric. Montgomery citizens stayed away from the march at the urging of civic leaders. A small group of Klan opponents watched from a distance.

Dees, who remained under security protection during the weekend, said: "The hatred expressed here demonstrates both the effectiveness of the Center's work so far, and the tremendous need to continue our vigilant monitoring of white supremacist crime."

(The march came on the heels of two bomb threats made against the Center following the Metzger verdict. The threats, reported to Klan-watch by the FBI, are currently under investigation.)



Photo by Jay Sailors

Montgomery riot police accompany Klan marchers

Nearly 150 members of the Montgomery riot police surrounded the Klan marchers as they walked past the Southern Poverty Law Center and through the downtown section of the city.

guarantee you I'll be Ku Klucking when that building is a rubble of dust!"

Holland's fellow Forsyth defendant Frank Shirley said: "Morris

lication in Georgia: "Morris Dees has the audacity to build that sacrilegious monument to the enemies of the South.... We won't be satisfied until that disgraceful monument is

Annual Law Center Endowment Report

by Morris Dees,
Executive Director

THE Center's Endowment Trust was started in 1971 to ensure that expensive and complicated cases could be funded to completion regardless of the ability to raise funds in any given year. History has proven this a wise decision. Many Center cases have cost more than \$500,000 and remained in the courts for periods up to 17 years.

It has been the Board's policy to operate the Center on current fundraising and not use either principal or earnings from the Endowment Trust. Only with this policy can the Endowment Trust grow. Bequests left to the Center from estates of deceased Center supporters have enabled a major growth in the Endow-

ment Trust. Bequests totaled \$280,555 in 1990. The Board of Directors is proud to announce that the Center's Endowment Trust now stands at thirty-five million dollars, the result of wise investment management.

The Center's work now includes major national education programs aimed at reducing racism and racial violence. This effort includes the construction of the Civil Rights Memorial and publication of *Free At Last*, which tells about the civil rights movement and the forty people killed in the struggle for freedom. The Memorial was designed by Maya Lin, architect of the Vietnam Memorial. *Free At Last* won the American Bar Association's Silver Gavel Award in recognition of

its contribution to the understanding of American law. It has been distributed to every junior and senior high school in America.

Occasionally, we are asked why we continue to raise funds for current operations when we have an endowment. The reasons are many and compelling. We have seen too many organizations with excellent programs cease to exist because they lacked long-term reliable support. Colleges build sizable endowments as a cushion against inflation and to ensure high standards. Harvard and Yale have endowments in the billions, and smaller less well-known schools' endowments are in the hundreds of millions, yet all continue to raise funds for current operations.

The Center has made a substantial

Anti-Semitism Reaches Record High

Arab Americans Also Suffer An Unprecedented Level Of Violence

SYNAGOGUES were bombed, homes vandalized, and schools arsoned in the worst year of anti-Semitic violence on record. The assault on American Jews rose to an alarming intensity with the Persian Gulf war. White supremacists angry denunciations of the war as a capitulation to the influence of Israel, and attacks on Jewish homes and institutions became more frequent.

In Denver, a Hebrew school was arsoned three times. In Boulder, a swastika was burned on the lawn of a mostly Jewish fraternity. In Massachusetts, Jewish students received threatening mail. In California, synagogues were hit by a wave of anti-Semitic vandalism that was a 72 percent increase over the previous year.

Arabs have also come under attack from Americans seeking scapegoats for the evils of Saddam Hussein.

"Anytime there is a crisis in the Middle East, there is a backlash against the Arab-American community," said Albert Mokhiber, President of the American-Arab Anti-Defamation Committee. The committee reported eight times as many anti-Arab incidents in the last five months of 1990 than were reported in the first seven months. This increased after Operation Desert Storm began. Crimes included threats, harassment, arsons and assaults. In Houston, a couple was beaten at a shopping mall. In Los Angeles, a coffee store was destroyed by fire. In Denver, a student was beaten. In Sherman Oaks, Calif., a Lebanese cafe was burned. Arab targets have included Kuwaitis, Palestinians and Lebanese as well as Iraqis.

The scapegoating accompanying the Persian Gulf has victimized Jews as well as Arabs.

contribution in gaining legal rights for the poor and in curbing racial violence. But history has taught us that violence spawned by racial intolerance is a recurring and dangerous event requiring our eternal vigilance. Our goal for the Endowment Trust is \$100 million by the year 2000. This will allow the Center to cease the costly, often unreliable task of fundraising and will ensure a dependable financial base well into the next century. It is our hope that our legacy will be a permanent organization poised to move quickly against racial violence and prejudice.

I urge Center supporters making estate plans to consider leaving a bequest to help ensure that our fight continues. And, I urge each supporter to maintain their current donations both to help meet daily operating costs and to allow us to build the Center's Endowment Trust.

Experiences At Center Inspire Two Books

MONTGOMERY, ALA. — Morris Dees, co-founder and Executive Director of the Southern Poverty Law Center, and Bill Stanton, former director of the Center's Klanwatch Project, have each written books that will soon be published.

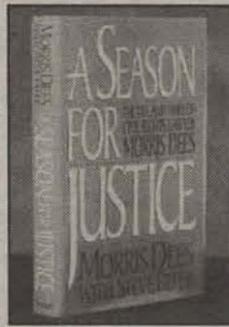


Bill Stanton and Morris Dees

A Season for Justice: The Life and Times of Civil Rights Lawyer Morris Dees
by Morris Dees
with Steve Fiffer

Morris Dees' *A Season for Justice* gives the inside story of the Vietnamese Fishermen case, the Michael Donald lynching case, and the Center's lawsuits against the North Carolina Klan. It also contains extensive autobiographical material that shows how the son of tenant farmers came to challenge the segregated society in which he was raised. For the first time, Mr. Dees tells the story of how, from a boy picking cotton in rural Alabama, he grew into the man Coretta

Scott King calls "by any measure one of the most dedicated and effective civil rights lawyers in U.S. history."



In 1971, Mr. Dees co-founded the Southern Poverty Law Center and embarked upon the career that has made him a hero to many, and the number-one enemy of the Klan, Skinheads and other hate groups.

The book has already received praise from readers of advance copies.

Dr. David Garrow, author of *Bearing the Cross*, called it "A chilling and inspiring story of someone who has used the law to make extraordinary contributions to the pursuit of racial justice in America."

Author Kurt Vonnegut wrote, "Morris Dees has put his life on the line again and again to win for strangers in courts of law constitutional rights....No soldier has ever been braver, more honorable and more patriotic than Morris Dees."

Rosa Parks, whose refusal to sit at the back of a bus sparked the Montgomery bus boycott, wrote, "*A Season for Justice* is a gripping study of man's inhumanity to man and the struggle against such injustice by Morris Dees and the Southern Poverty Law Center."

Death threats from the Klan, the torching of the Law Center's offices by Klansmen, gun-toting racists stalking him in the night — these and other harrowing experiences are vividly documented by Mr. Dees in this compelling book.

"This book could never have

been written without the support of the Center's donors," Mr. Dees said recently. "The Vietnamese Fisherman case, the Michael Donald lynching case, and our recent victory against Tom Metzger in Portland, Oregon, — everything the Center has done was made possible by their donations."

A Season for Justice is 342 pages long and contains many photographs from Mr. Dees' life and from the cases he has handled for the Law Center. It will be published in May by Charles Scribner's Sons and will list for \$24.95.

Klanwatch: Bringing the Ku Klux Klan to Justice
by Bill Stanton

The book by former Klanwatch Director Bill Stanton, who worked as an investigator at the Center from 1978 to 1987, tells about the Center's decade-long legal battle against the Klan. *Klanwatch: Bringing the Ku Klux Klan to Justice* will be in bookstores by June.

The book, a first-person account by the longtime SPLC staffer, is a behind-the-scenes look at how Klanwatch attorneys and investigators used civil lawsuits to thwart KKK activity across the South during the 1980s, and how, in more than one instance, the evidence they uncovered eventually led to criminal convictions of Klan members.

Told from the first-hand view of an investigator, *Klanwatch* focuses on two prominent SPLC cases: the Michael Donald murder and the Decatur, Alabama suit. In the Michael Donald case, the Center sued the United Klans of America over the 19-year-old youth's murder by two members of the organization. The suit, brought by Beulah Mae Donald,

the slain youngster's mother, climaxed in the seizure of the UKA's national headquarters building and the dissolution of the group.

In the Decatur case, Klanwatch investigators, led by Stanton, uncovered a criminal conspiracy by northern Alabama KKK leaders to deprive a group of black marchers of their civil rights in connection with an attack on the marchers by a Klan mob in 1979. The case lasted more than a decade, ending only last year.



Because of relentless digging by the Klanwatch team, ten Klansmen were convicted on Federal charges.

The 275-page book, illustrated with sixteen pages of photographs and Klan documents, carries Klanwatch supporters from the Project's origins on up to the recent Center trial against California white supremacist Tom Metzger. It explains how the Klanwatch staff investigates and sues the KKK — work that has paid off in the last ten years in numerous courtroom victories for the victims of Klan violence. (See story on page 3)

Also told are the stories behind the Klan arson of the old Center headquarters on Hull Street and the threats directed at Center Executive Director Morris Dees — including a previously unpublished story about the role of a longtime Center source inside the Klan that may have saved Dees' life.

Mr. Stanton headed up the Klanwatch Project for three years. "Bill Stanton is one of the finest people I have ever worked with," said Morris Dees. "His book is a compelling, masterful narrative of a crucial period in the history of Klanwatch."

According to officials at Grove Weidenfeld, the New York-based publisher of the Book, *Klanwatch* will be published in a hardcover edition and will list for \$19.95.

One Woman's Lasting Tribute To The Center

AFTER a long and full life, Hilda S. Whitman died May 5, 1990, in South Dartmouth, Massachusetts, surrounded by a wide circle of friends and near to her daughter in Boston and her son in Portland, Maine.

Mrs. Whitman had been a loyal supporter of the Southern Poverty Law Center for many years. Her final tribute to the Center came in January with a generous check from her estate. She included the Center as a beneficiary in her will.

For 20 years, Hilda Whitman

pursued her career as a retailer at Sloan's and Lord and Taylor in Manhattan. She also worked for Estee Lauder and was a staff writer for *Town and Country* magazine.

In 1953, Hilda and her husband, Eben, moved to Sharon, Connecticut, a small village in the foothills of the Berkshire Mountains.

In Sharon, the Whitmans established a country store known as The Connecticut Yankee, selling clothing and gifts. Hilda ran the store for more than 25 years be-

fore selling the business and retiring in 1978 to South Dartmouth, a small town near Cape Cod where she had spent many summers throughout her life.

Hilda's son, John Whitman, an attorney, stated that Mrs. Whitman had first become aware of the Law Center through himself and her aunt, Anne Stedman of Martha's Vineyard.

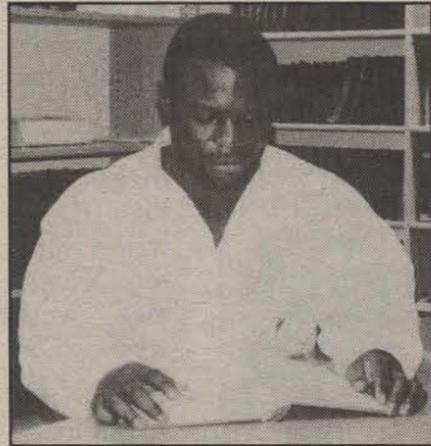
In her retirement years, Mrs. Whitman became increasingly concerned with issues of social justice and regretted that her busy career had prevented her from

being more active in this cause. Her daughter, Heidi Whitman, remarked, "My mother cared a great deal about the legal rights of all people, particularly of those who couldn't afford lawyers."

Mrs. Whitman's eight decades were full of creative work, rewarding family life, and continued concern for the world around her. With her final gift to the Law Center, Hilda Whitman's loyal commitment will be remembered, and her name will live on in the continued fight against racial violence and injustice.

Center Legal Intern Wanted “To Make A Difference”

MONTGOMERY, ALA. — Djwane Miller came to us from Winston-Salem, N.C. His was one of the first African-American families to integrate a small white communi-



Djwane Miller

ty called Ogburn Station. Mr. Miller and his family were the victims of such hate crimes as a burning cross in their front yard, racially obscene phone calls, and bricks covered with racial epithets thrown through their front window. He developed a desire to combat racism and improve the social conditions of African-Americans.

He earned his bachelors degree in Political Science from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. While there, Mr. Miller held several leadership positions and

worked on projects to improve race relations. He was introduced to the Center when he received information from Klanwatch to help him with his thesis on “The Rise in Racial Violence in America.”

Mr. Miller was a third year law student at the University of Iowa College of Law. At Iowa, he served as Chairperson of the Black Law Students Association and won the Midwest Regionals of the Frederick Douglas Moot Court Competition in 1990. He would have graduated in May.

After coming to the Center in January, he worked primarily on a case involving prison conditions. (See story below) He said he enjoyed his work and was grateful for the chance to work for and learn from people who are making a difference in the world. “I only hope life affords me the opportunity to make a difference in people’s lives like the Center has,” said Mr. Miller.

On March 7, Djwane “DJ” Miller died of a heart attack while jogging. He was 24 years old and newly married. He will be sorely missed by his family, his friends, and the many new friends he had made at the Law Center. He was a truly outstanding young man.

Black Robes... White Judges

ALABAMA — For many years, the State of Alabama has used voting schemes to inhibit the full political participation of its black citizens. One federal judge recently said the state has an “unrelenting historical agenda” to keep “black citizens economically, socially, and politically downtrodden, from the cradle to the grave.” One of the last nearly all-white elected bodies in the Alabama government — the state judiciary — is currently being challenged in a case filed by Center attorneys on behalf of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and 16 individual black plaintiffs.

The State of Alabama uses an election system that requires candidates to choose a numbered place and run at-large instead of by districts. Many commentators have described this system — employed mainly by Deep South states — as one of the most racially discriminatory systems available. Its effects in Alabama are apparent. Of the 236 Alabama state judges currently sitting,

only 11, or less than five percent, are black. Blacks as a whole make up 25 percent of Alabama’s population. And of these 11 black judges, only two initially took office by election. The other nine first gained their office by gubernatorial appointment.

Center attorneys will offer evidence that shows the current judicial election system has been maintained for the purpose of discriminating against black voters. At a 1962 meeting of Democratic Party officials — whose motto was “White Supremacy For The Right” — one official explained the need for the Alabama system. “[W]e have got a situation in Alabama that we are becoming painfully aware of every passing day, that we have a concerted desire and a campaign to register Negroes en masse, regardless of the fact that many of them ordinarily cannot qualify because of their criminal records, or criminal attitudes, because of the fact that they are illiterate and cannot understand or pass literacy tests. . . . [I]t has occurred to a great many

College Intern Assists Attorneys

MONTGOMERY, ALA. — Ms. Kelly Dallmeyer, a native of York, Pennsylvania interned at the Center in January, earning course



Kelly Dallmeyer

credit at Hollins College in Roanoke, Virginia, where she is a senior.

Ms. Dallmeyer, a political science major, saw the internship as a chance to explore career opportunities and benefit from the unique work at the Center.

While at the Center, Ms. Dallmeyer assisted attorneys on several projects including researching the ratios of black students and faculty in the Montgomery area school system. She also worked on the Center’s case challenging the judicial election system in Alabama. (See story on this page)

Communications And Public Relations Major Interns At Center

MONTGOMERY, ALA. — Brian Floyd, a California native and a senior at Alabama State University, joins the Legal Department for a semester as part of the Center’s college internship program. Mr. Floyd, a communications and public relations major, has extensive experience, including an internship with Black Entertainment Television in Washington, D.C.

While at the Center, he has worked on a variety of projects including a prison conditions case and the Center’s case challenging the Alabama judicial election system. (See story on this page)



Brian Floyd

Although Mr. Floyd has immensely enjoyed his work in the Legal Department, he hopes to pursue a career in radio or television upon graduation.

people, including the legislature of Alabama, that to protect the white people of Alabama, that there should be numbered place laws.”

Recent judicial elections demonstrate that the system is still achieving its intended effect. Two black candidates, Emory Anthony Jr. and Raymond P. Chambliss, ran for district court judge in Jefferson County, Alabama (home of Birmingham and the state’s largest judicial district) in the fall of 1988. The candidates opposing them were white. After all the votes were tallied, Anthony and Chambliss had lost. An analysis of the election showed that although 100% of the black voters voted for Anthony and Chambliss, only 25% of the

white voters did. In Jefferson County, where blacks constitute only 33% of the population, this is simply not enough. Under a district system, Anthony and Chambliss would probably have won election.

There are a number of reasons why it is important for minority voters to have a fair chance to elect judges of their choice. Minority judges can serve as role models, give minority citizens a sense that they are part of the justice system, and ensure minority citizens a voice in the judicial process.

Through its suit, the Center hopes to replace the current system with one that will give all voters — white and black — an equal and fair opportunity to elect judicial candidates of choice.