

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER
400 Washington Avenue • Montgomery, AL 36104

Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
Paid at
Southern Poverty
Law Center

SPLC REPORT

VOL. 25
NO. 2



JUNE
1995

A PUBLICATION OF THE SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER
MILITIA TASK FORCE • KLANWATCH • TEACHING TOLERANCE

Center Finds Militias Operating Nationwide

JOE SONGER, BIRMINGHAM NEWS



Alabama militia unit conducting paramilitary training. The Center has uncovered over 200 militias operating in 39 states.

■ The Center's Militia Task Force has uncovered 224 militias and support groups operating in 39 states. Forty-five of these groups have ties to neo-Nazi and other white supremacist organizations. Militias with racist connections are active in 22 states, up from nine states in 1994.

The devastating bombing of the federal building in Oklahoma City on April 19 has links to the militia movement through the government's prime suspects in the case, two of whom attended militia meetings in Michigan as recently as mid-January. One of the suspects also has

links to the nation's top neo-Nazi organization — Aryan Nations, headquartered in Idaho.

"It was our belief from the beginning that the bombing was an act of domestic terrorism connected to the more extreme anti-government (continued on page 5)



James McElroy (l) with Henok Seraw and his mother Aynalem in Ethiopia

White Supremacist's Money Goes to Victim's Son in Africa

■ Henok Seraw, 13, lives in a 12-by-12-foot room in a poor neighborhood in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. He shares the room with his 6-year-old half-sister and his mother, Aynalem, who earns \$21 a month collecting tickets on a bus six days a week. Henok has few material possessions and, like most teenage boys, outgrows his clothes faster than his mother can replace them. Thanks to the Center, Henok's life is about to change.

James McElroy, a San

Diego attorney, traveled to Ethiopia in January to get funds to Henok's family. The funds represent what the Center has been able to collect on the judgment awarded to the family of the boy's father, Mulegeta Seraw, an Ethiopian student who was beaten to death by Skinheads in Portland, Ore., in 1988.

"Everything we've collected so far is going to Henok and his family," McElroy said. "All collection costs and my (continued on page 4)



Center Film Wins Academy Award; *Teaching Tolerance* Earns Top EdPress Honor

■ The *Teaching Tolerance* film *A Time for Justice* won the Academy Award in the short documentary category in March. A history of the Civil Rights Movement, the film is distributed free of charge by the Southern Poverty Law Center and has been seen in over 50,000 schools nationwide.

The Oscar was accepted by Charles Guggenheim, the

film's producer and director. In his acceptance speech, Guggenheim thanked the Law Center, its founder Morris Dees, Legal Director Richard Cohen and Teaching Tolerance Director Sara Bullard, "who take their life in their hands each year to fight bigotry and hatred in this country."

Guggenheim added, "And to those people who

fought the battle for voting in this country, who died and suffered but who we remember by this."

A Time for Justice is the video component of the first Teaching Tolerance curriculum kit, *America's Civil Rights Movement*. The kit has been praised by educators, and the film has won several other prestigious awards, including top prizes from the

Council on International Nontheatrical Events (CINE), the Houston International Film Festival and the Chicago International Film Festival.

To date, Guggenheim has been nominated for an Academy Award 10 times and has won four. *The Klan: A Legacy of Hate in America*, an earlier film he produced for the Law Center, was (continued on page 2)

When I first learned about McVeigh and the Oklahoma City bombing, I looked for my March *Klanwatch Intelligence Report*. Sure enough, there were the articles about the Michigan Militia and Waco and Weaver. Talk about timing!

J.G.
Brandon, Fla.

Please continue your work. We have been brutally reminded once again that hate and hate groups did not go away with the end of World War II or the passage of civil rights legislation.

S.S.
San Diego, Calif.

My 16-year-old daughter was very upset about the Oklahoma City bombing and wanted to make a donation. I suggested either the Red Cross or SPLC. She chose

SPLC because it works to prevent the kind of hatred and violence that caused the tragedy in Oklahoma City. I am matching her donation.

E.A.
Arlington, Mass.

Congratulations on a fine year for the Center. I am proud to associate myself with your work. *A Time for Justice* was very deserving of the Academy Award for documentary!

J.Y.
Waterloo, Iowa

I just received your *Shadow of Hate* video and wanted to thank you for sending it. ... Although I cannot say that the subject matter was uplifting or inspiring, it certainly does help the viewer to dedicate himself or herself to tolerance and to a clear commitment to never allow this to happen again.

D.M.
San Rafael, Calif.

The more information we receive from you and the more we learn, the more heartened we are of our decision to support your program. ... We absolutely believe that the best way to fight hate and prejudice is to teach children early on, before their minds become biased by other influences, that differences among people are OK.

M.H. and R.H.
New York, N.Y.

[*Teaching Tolerance* magazine] is without question the single most important piece of curriculum support on my subscription list ... and I don't even pay for it. How fortunate we all are that your staff engages in this critical work of helping teachers do what must be done in classrooms all over the country. Since discovering *Teaching Tolerance* and becoming a supporter of SPLC, I have referred countless other educators to your organization.

J.L.
State College, Pa.

We welcome letters from all Southern Poverty Law Center supporters. Send your comments and suggestions to:

SPLC Mailbox
400 Washington Ave.
Montgomery, AL 36104

Film Wins Academy Award

(continued from page 1)

nominated for an Oscar in 1983.

Teaching Tolerance is currently distributing a second video curriculum kit, a history of intolerance in America entitled *The Shadow of Hate*. Like the first kit, it is being sent free to schools and colleges nationwide. Initial response from educators has been positive (see story page 6).

In April, *The Shadow of Hate* video, also produced by Charles Guggenheim, won the Silver Award in the Short Subjects/Historical category at the 28th annual Houston International Film Festival. The Houston festival is the largest in the world in terms of the number of entries it receives. There were over 4,100 entries in this year's competition.

Magazine Wins Top EdPress Award

Also in April, *Teaching Tolerance* magazine was honored with the 1995 Golden Lamp Award for Excellence in Educational Journalism from the Education Press Association of America (EdPress). The award is the highest that EdPress bestows in its annual competition.

EdPress Executive Director Donald Stoll said that the judges were "struck by the extreme significance of the work *Teaching Tol-*



Sara Bullard, *Teaching Tolerance* Director, shown with Center co-founder Morris Dees (l) and Legal Director Richard Cohen (r), holds the Academy Award won by *A Time for Justice*. A history of the Civil Rights Movement, the film was produced for *Teaching Tolerance* by Washington, D.C., documentary filmmaker Charles Guggenheim.

erance is doing" and added that the magazine sets the standard for education journals nationwide.

Sara Bullard, Editor of *Teaching Tolerance*, stated, "We are honored that our peers in the field of educational journalism found our publication worthy of such a high honor. This award is an encouraging affirmation

of the importance of our work."

In addition, *Teaching Tolerance* won EdPress awards in two other categories: Creative Director Paul Newman for his design treatment of the Spring '94 issue and Departments Editor Elsie Williams for the Idea Exchange department of the Fall '94 issue.

Remembering the Victims

The following letter by a Center supporter appeared in *The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* on May 12, 1995.

■ During the weeks since April 19, I've read about many people struggling to find an appropriate response to the tragedy in Oklahoma City. Some are seeking vengeance, some advocate legislation, some want to donate blood.

I, too, have been seeking an answer. Something deep inside me tells me that I must respond, that to do nothing would be the same as accepting this unspeakable horror as yet another senseless act of violence.

But what is different about this crime? It is too

often true that innocent people, innocent children, are killed for no reason other than being in the wrong place at the wrong time.

Why is this specific act of violence so repulsive? Does the motive of these killers make the crime more heinous? How can anyone be so blinded by hate that they can justify this kind of action? I can't answer these questions — but I do know that I must respond.

And so I've decided to donate one dollar for each life lost in this bombing to the Southern Poverty Law Center, asking that they use the money in their *Teaching Tolerance* program, which provides materials to schools across the nation to help

teachers show students how to respect others.

I'm also pledging to send this same amount each year on April 19. Perhaps some of your readers want to join me in this pledge. Maybe we can make a difference, by joining this meaningful fight against hatred. Maybe we can prevent a repeat of the awful result of blind hatred.

How will you respond to this tragedy? Please contact the SPLC and ask about the *Teaching Tolerance* program.

J.J.
Wisconsin



SPLC REPORT

Vol. 25 No. 2 JUNE 1995

SPLC Report Editor
Elsie Williams

Southern Poverty
Law Center

Chairman of the Board
Joseph J. Levin, Jr.

Board of Directors
Patricia Clark
Francis M. Green
Judge Rufus Huffman
Howard Mandell
Jack Watson

Chairman, Executive
Committee
Morris Dees

Executive Director
Edward Ashworth

Legal Director
J. Richard Cohen

Militia Task Force &
Klanwatch Director
Danny Welch

Teaching Tolerance
Director
Sara Bullard

Mail Operations Director
Mamie Jackson

Planned Giving Director
Alison Collman

Fundraising Director
David Watson

Creative Director
Paul Forrest Newman

Administrator &
Secretary/Treasurer
JoAnn Chancellor

The SPLC Report is published by the Southern Poverty Law Center 400 Washington Ave. Montgomery, AL 36104

Center Sues State of Alabama to End Use of Chain Gangs

■ The Center recently filed a lawsuit to stop the State of Alabama from forcing prison inmates to labor in "chain gangs" alongside the state's highways. The Center's legal team filed the complaint in federal court after Alabama became the first state in the nation to reinstitute the use of chain gangs.

"We understand the desire of politicians to appear to be doing something about crime," said Richard Cohen, the Center's Legal Director, "but putting people in chains, in our view, is just a political stunt."

The use of chain gangs in Alabama began in the early 20th century to replace the system of leasing convicts to private persons for profit. Widespread public attention to the horrors of chain gangs in the early 1960s led to their demise.

The lawsuit claims that forcing men who are chained together to labor on state highways is cruel and

inhumane treatment and exposes inmates and motorists to a variety of risks. Alabama's current chain gangs consist of 320 inmates who are chained together with leg irons in groups of five and forced to labor for 12 hours a day on the state's roads.

Accidents More Likely

"The mere presence of chain gangs on the roadside increases the likelihood of accidents, because the chain gang system infuses a large new class of pedestrians onto Alabama roads for 12 hours each day," the complaint states.

"In just the first two weeks since the chain gangs were reinstated," the complaint continues, "several near-accidents have already taken place as drivers slowed down to gawk at the prisoners. While one distracted driver slowed down to wave and honk at the chain gangs, she swerved in front of an 18-wheeler and nearly collided with it."



Chain gangs work on Alabama roadsides. The Center has sued the State to end the inhumane practice.

Tools May Be Weapons

Another safety issue arises out of concern that conflicts between chained inmates working in extreme heat could quickly escalate into deadly violence. Chain gang members, most of whom are nonviolent repeat offenders, are equipped with swing blades, axes and bush

hacks to cut grass.

"There have already been several arguments and at least one physical confrontation between inmates who were chained together," the complaint states. "The two inmates involved [in the confrontation] reportedly raised their tools against one another, and a guard threatened to

shoot into the crowd if the prisoners did not immediately 'hit the ground.'"

Center attorneys have called the reinstatement of the chain gangs "repugnant to civilized standards" and stated that prison officials have offered no legitimate penological justification for using chain gangs.

SPLC Assists in Oklahoma Bombing Probe

■ In the wake of the bombing of the federal office building in Oklahoma City on April 19, the Law Center and Klanwatch Militia Task Force played prominent roles in supplying information to law enforcement agencies, the U.S. Senate and news media nationwide. The Law Center responded to thousands of requests for information on the militia movement and its ties to white extremist organizations.

Klanwatch received hundreds of requests for information from law enforcement agencies, including the FBI; the Justice Department; the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms; and the U.S. Marshal Service. In addition, the Task Force sent information to all national media outlets, as well as to hundreds of regional and metropolitan newspapers, radio and television stations. Requests for interviews and updates came from news agencies as far away as Asia, Europe and South America.

Center co-founder and Chief Trial Counsel Morris

Dees was interviewed by every network TV news division, including the *Today* show, *Larry King Live*, *Good Morning America*, and *Nightline*. "The overwhelming demand for information about militia groups after the bombing indicates the importance of the work our Klanwatch project is doing," said Dees. "The Militia Task Force proved to be a vital force in assuring our national security."

Warned Attorney General

Well before the bombing, Klanwatch picked up warning signs that violence directed at the federal government by persons associated with the militia movement might occur. After months of monitoring numerous militia communiqués, various racist publications, law enforcement reports and other sources, Klanwatch detected strategic links between various militia groups and white supremacist organizations and leaders. This investigation and analysis prompted the Cen-

ter to establish the Militia Task Force in October 1994 to track the militia movement and its white supremacist elements.

Based on the results of this investigation, Dees sent letters to Attorney General Janet Reno and the attorneys general of six states on October 26 to alert them to the dangers posed by extremist hate groups within the rapidly growing militia movement. Material that accompanied the letters noted that there was militia activity in Michigan.

In the December 1994 issue of the *Klanwatch Intelligence Report*, the Militia Task Force highlighted the growing number of militia groups with racist ties — including the Michigan Militia, the group linked to the Oklahoma City bombing suspects.

Held Militia Conference

At a Klanwatch-sponsored conference on militias in March 1995, a group of law enforcement domestic terrorism experts from around the country met to

assess the threat posed by the growing militia movement and formulate strategies to address this threat. All conference participants agreed that the potential for violence within the militia movement was increasing.

On April 27, Morris Dees testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee at a hearing on terrorism that was prompted by the Oklahoma bombing. Dees outlined the tremendous growth of private militias across the country and urged Congress to take action to curb their activities.

The "mixture of armed groups and those who hate is a recipe for disaster," Dees testified. "Because paramilitary training both attracts those who would engage in violence and acts as a springboard for their activity, I would recommend that the Committee consider a federal law that would curb paramilitary training that is not authorized by state law."

Urged Use of State Laws

On May 8, Dees sent let-

ters to the attorneys general of all 50 states urging them to take legal action to prevent paramilitary groups from operating in their states.

"Many states already have laws on the books that could be used to shut down the militia groups," Dees stated. "The problem is that these laws have almost never been enforced."

Seven states have both anti-militia and anti-paramilitary training laws, seven have anti-militia laws only, and 17 states have anti-paramilitary training laws only.

"States with laws against militias or paramilitary training should vigorously enforce them," Dees emphasized. "States without such laws should enact them. In light of the Oklahoma City tragedy, we think it is prudent to take steps to prevent future militia attacks."

In Texas in 1982 and in North Carolina in 1987, the SPLC and Klanwatch used existing state laws to stop white supremacist paramilitary groups from training.

Pierce Sued for Profit from COTC Headquarters Sale

■ The Law Center recently filed a lawsuit against William Pierce, the leader of the neo-Nazi hate group National Alliance, claiming he profited from a scheme to hide assets of another hate group.

The suit charges that the violence-prone Church of the Creator (COTC) fraudulently transferred its headquarters property to Pierce in 1992 for \$100,000 to keep the property from the estate of Harold Mansfield, a black sailor killed by a Church member. Pierce then resold the property less than two years later for \$200,000.

"We sued the Church of the Creator last May and won a \$1 million judgment on behalf of the Mansfield estate," Center Legal Director Richard Cohen explained. "Although the COTC never had a million dollars, its national headquarters in North Carolina was worth



William Pierce

well over \$200,000. Shortly before we filed our lawsuit, Klassen sold the property to Pierce to keep it away from our client and to keep the money in the hands of fellow white supremacists.

"We are asking the federal court to find that the \$100,000 Pierce netted when he resold the property rightfully belongs to our client," said Cohen.

Cohen described Pierce as one of the nation's best-known white supremacist

leaders and strategists. The retired physicist is the author of the infamous *The Turner Diaries*, the 'bible' of the white supremacist movement that depicts a race war against minorities, Jews and the federal government.

Alleged Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh has been described by people who knew him as an avid reader of *The Turner Diaries*. The book also inspired a group of young racists in the 1980s to form an underground white supremacist group called The Order. The group went on a 14-month crime spree to finance their participation in an anticipated race war.

Through his publishing enterprise, National Vanguard Books, Pierce publishes other racist propaganda, including the organization's magazine, *National Vanguard*; its newsletter, *National Alliance Bulletin*; and a book catalog.

African Family Gets Money From Metzger

(continued from page 1)

expenses to travel to Henok's home in Ethiopia have been paid by the Center."

McElroy was a volunteer member of the SPLC legal team that successfully sued White Aryan Resistance leader Tom Metzger for inciting the Skinheads to murder Seraw. In 1990, a Portland jury ordered Metzger, his son John, the WAR organization and two of the Skinhead followers to pay \$12.5 million to Henok for causing the death of his father. A total of \$100,000 has been collected so far.

In May 1994, the U.S. Supreme Court refused to review Metzger's case, ending four years of appeals and opening the way for the Center to begin distributing funds collected from the sale of Metzger's assets.

Quality Education Now Possible

"We can never give Henok back his father, but we can do everything in our power to give him a chance in life," said Morris Dees, the Center's co-founder and Chief Trial Counsel. "This young man will now be able to get a quality education and build a future for himself and his family."

During his six-day visit to Ethiopia, McElroy helped to arrange for Henok to attend a private boarding school, the same school his father attended before coming to America.

Henok's grandfather, Seraw Tekuneh, will receive \$20,000. The remaining \$80,000 has been put in a trust fund that will pay for

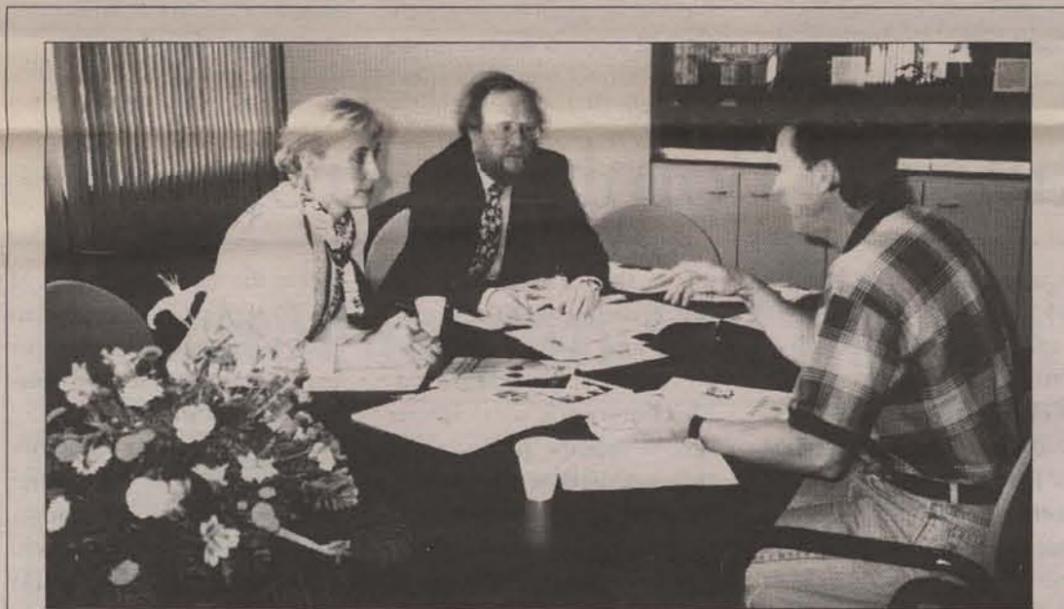
Henok's care and education until he reaches adulthood. At that point, the funds will be transferred to Henok.

McElroy the 'Unsung Hero'

Dees has called McElroy "the unsung hero" of the case against Metzger because of his efforts to liquidate Metzger's assets and to put his hate organization out of business. Although the \$100,000 represents less than one percent of the entire judgment, it represents almost all of Metzger's material wealth. McElroy succeeded in foreclosing on Metzger's house and forcing the sale of his pickup truck, TV repair tools and a trailer where he charged Skinheads \$10 a piece to attend racist meetings.

"I'm Irish and I'm stubborn and I'm extremely persistent," McElroy has said. "I knew that Metzger was going to do everything he possibly could to avoid collection. Whatever move he made, I had three other moves to make. I wanted to make sure that Henok received every dollar that could be squeezed out of Metzger."

McElroy received the Civil Rights Achievement Award from the Anti-Defamation League for his work on the case, including his innovative fashioning of a court order that required Metzger to relinquish the keys to his WAR post office box where supporters continue to send money. The contents of the box are collected by a court-appointed receiver, and a portion of the funds are added to Henok's account.



In April, Mr. Wolfgang Thierse of Berlin, Germany, visited the Center to discuss multiracial and multicultural issues. Mr. Thierse, who is Deputy National Chairman of the Social Democratic Party in Germany, is shown above with interpreter Gunda Nollenberger (l) and Klanwatch Director Danny Welch (r).

Former Law Fellow Now Senior Staff Attorney



Rhonda Brownstein

■ The Legal Department is pleased to announce that **Rhonda Brownstein**, a former Law Center Fellow, has returned as Senior Staff Attorney.

"We are delighted to have Rhonda back," said Richard Cohen, the Center's Legal Director. "She brings with her a rare combination of determination, intelligence and humor that we've missed."

A native of Philadelphia, Rhonda earned her law

degree from Temple University Law School in 1986. As a Law Fellow from 1986 to 1987, she worked with Center attorneys on a civil suit which awarded \$7 million to the mother of Michael Donald, a young black man who was lynched by members of the United Klans of America in Mobile, Ala., in 1981.

After leaving the Center, Rhonda worked for organizations that provide legal ser-

vices to poor people in Mobile and Pittsburgh, Pa. She later joined the Philadelphia labor law firm of Spear Wilderman.

Rhonda has been active in the ACLU, the National Lawyers Guild and other groups that focus on women's issues and civil rights. She was one of the founders of Alabama's Aid to Inmate Mothers, a program that arranges for imprisoned

mothers to spend time with their children.

"This is the most exciting and important place to practice law in the country today," Rhonda said. "The Law Center is on the cutting edge of the critical issues facing our nation — racial and religious intolerance, militia violence, the threat to roll back important civil rights achievements, and the need to protect the rights of poor people."

Klanwatch Investigation Uncovers Militias

(continued from page 1)

militias where white supremacists have made significant inroads," Klanwatch Director Danny Welch said.

Militias Linked to White Supremacists

Since last fall, Klanwatch's Militia Task Force has closely monitored the infiltration of some of the more radical militias by white supremacists who hope to exploit the new movement's recruiting potential and its fierce anti-government sentiment. Links have been discovered between some militia groups and the white supremacist ideology of Identity, the anti-Semitic Posse Comitatus, Aryan Nations and the Ku Klux Klan.

Several major white supremacist leaders are among the militia movement's strongest advocates. They include Aryan Nations founder Richard Butler and



Alabama militia member

the group's ambassador-at-large, Louis Beam; National Alliance leader William Pierce; Identity leaders James Wickstrom and Pete Peters; and Klansman Troy Mercer.

Militias Ripe for Takeover

Although most militias identified by Klanwatch's Militia Task Force do not have racist agendas, many are "ripe for takeovers by

militant white supremacists," Klanwatch's Welch said.

The militia movement is still evolving. New groups form and others disappear on a weekly basis. The character of these groups also may change rapidly as different factions — some extreme with neo-Nazi ties and others moderate with only law-abiding goals — vie for control.

Some of the more radical militias believe an apocalyptic showdown with the federal government is inevitable. In those militias, members stockpile weapons and ammunition, study survivalism, and conduct military-style field maneuvers dressed in camouflage.

Beginning of Militia Movement

Two events mark the beginning of today's militia movement. The first was a 1992 raid by federal agents at white separatist Randy Weaver's Idaho cabin. Weaver's wife and son, along with a U.S. marshal, were killed in the confrontation. Then in 1993, a government siege at the Branch Davidian compound near Waco, Texas, began with the deaths of four

federal agents and ended with an inferno that killed more than 78 Davidians.

The furor over the Weaver and Waco incidents gave rise to the heavily-armed militias that operate across the United States today. Since the first of these private armies appeared over a year ago, a number of their members and associates have been charged with or convicted of serious, militia-related crimes.

- Last September, three militia members in Michigan were arrested after a routine traffic stop. Inside their vehicle, police found loaded military assault rifles and semi-automatic pistols; knives and bayonets; and night vision binoculars. Handwritten notes indicated the trio was conducting surveillance of police departments.

- In March, two militia members in Minnesota were convicted of conspiring to use a biological toxin to kill federal employees and law enforcement agents. Evidence showed the men also planned to blow up a federal building, kill a sheriff's deputy and stockpile assault weapons.

- And in May, four militiamen were charged in Mon-

tana with threatening to kill judges, law enforcement officers and other public officials. A cache of fully automatic weapons was found in the home of one of the men.

Movement Splintered

Since the Oklahoma City bombing, the nationwide militia movement has splintered. The more moderate groups have either modified their rhetoric and aggressive training or disbanded altogether, leaving a hard core of groups made up of the most strident and violence-prone activists. Many of these groups have divided into "cells" and gone underground.

"Militias operating in the U.S. today are breeding grounds for the kind of fanaticism behind the Oklahoma City bombing," Welch said. "The volatile combination of hate-filled rhetoric, paramilitary training and heavy weaponry within the hard-core militia underground makes the likelihood for further violence almost certain."

Klanwatch has established a Militia Hotline that will serve as a central information bank on militia activity.

Medicaid Lawsuit Clears Legal Hurdle

■ Low-income Medicaid recipients are entitled to their day in court to prove that Alabama has failed to abide by the requirement that it provide necessary medical transportation, a federal judge ruled in April.

The Law Center and Alabama's Legal Services Corporation sued the Alabama Medicaid agency last November, claiming it failed to ensure that Medicaid recipients had transportation to and from health care providers. State officials had asked the court to dismiss the civil suit. The judge ruled against the State after the plaintiffs' attorneys established that recipients have enforceable federal rights.

"The lack of transportation to medical care is literally a matter of life or death for many poor people in Alabama," said Richard Cohen, the Center's Legal Director. "Our clients should not be forced to choose between going to the doctor and

buying food, when federal law requires states participating in the Medicaid program to provide transportation when necessary.

"Alabama Medicaid officials have acknowledged that they do not have an adequate plan," Cohen added. "This decision clears the way for the court to reach the substance of the case. Another favorable ruling would allow us to begin finding solutions to the transportation problems of our clients."

The Medicaid agency provides ambulance transportation only in extremely narrow circumstances, he said, and other transportation is provided only when it can be obtained without charge through volunteer or nonprofit groups, public services, relatives or other persons.

In numerous cases, this system of volunteers is inadequate, especially for chronically ill poor people in rural areas.

Levin Appointed Associate Director of Legal Affairs

■ Brian Levin, a nationally recognized expert on hate crime, joined Klanwatch in May as Associate Director of Legal Affairs.

Brian will provide legal and policy analyses, conduct civil rights litigation and supervise the publication of the *Klanwatch Intelligence Report* and other reports for attorneys, law enforcement agencies and civil rights advocates.

A former New York City police officer, Brian is a member of President Clinton's Domestic Policy Interagency Working Group on Intercommunal Violence and a master instructor for the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center's program on hate and bias crimes.

He was a visiting scholar in the area of bias violence policy implementation at Stanford Law School and was Legal Director of the Col-



Brian Levin

orado-based Center for the Study of Ethnic and Racial Violence.

Brian, who has been active in the field of bias violence since 1986, has authored U.S. Supreme Court

briefs and given numerous presentations on hate crime issues to law enforcement and human relations groups. He testified before Congress on bias violence and published articles on hate crime in law reviews, scholarly journals and newspapers. Before moving to Montgomery, Brian was associated with the law firm of Irell & Manella in Newport Beach, Calif.

"The remarkable achievements of the Center and

Klanwatch in the continuing battle against violent haters are the result of a unique mix of exceptional talent, courage and compassion," Brian said. "I am thrilled to join their team."

Shadow of Hate Teaching Kit Well Received



■ Since distribution of *The Shadow of Hate* teaching kit began in late March, the response from educators has been overwhelmingly positive. As of May 1, the Center's Teaching Tolerance project had received 34,000 orders for the kit, the second in a series of six curriculum packages to be released by the Center.

The teaching kit, which examines the history of intolerance in America, contains a 40-minute film by Academy Award-winning producer Charles Guggenheim; a 128-page historical text, *Us and Them*; and a teacher's guide. Also included in the package is an evaluation form for teachers to fill out and return. Over 100 forms have been returned, and, almost unanimously, the teachers indicated they found the video, text and teacher's guide "Very effective."

The survey form also

invites comments, and many educators have shared their opinions about the kit. Most of the comments expressed thanks for the material:

I would like to thank all the people who have made the package possible and available. I feel

you all did a tremendous job, for it was most beneficial to me as a social studies teacher.

Potomac High School
Oxon Hill, Md.

Thank you immensely for this great material on a vitally important topic for young people in America today.

Brother Rice High School
Bloomfield Hills, Mich.

Those of us in public education appreciate the efforts of your organization in financing, developing and sharing salient issues in today's world.

Leicester High School
Leicester, Mass.

Several respondents mentioned the timeliness of the kit and how they used it to help students cope with the bombing of the federal office building in Oklahoma City in April:

I think most students did some re-evaluating of their own stance. Our nearness to Oklahoma City had already caused us to begin examining our feelings about prejudice and hatred. This material arrived just after the bombing. We all know someone who lost somebody.

Tecumseh High School
Tecumseh, Okla.

This is an excellent program, and we are most grateful to have it. The kit was most useful in discussion concerning events in Oklahoma City. It put the tragedy in historical context and was used most effectively by several members of our staff.

Red Hook Central
High School
Red Hook, N.Y.

Perhaps most importantly, teachers report that they feel

the *Shadow of Hate* materials made an impact on their students' attitudes and understanding:

Each student appears to have done considerable soul-searching and questioning of attitudes.

Mt. Vernon School District
Mt. Vernon, Mo.

Students found stories personally inspiring. Thought-provoking. Answers were thoughtful — showed understanding and compassion. Hopefully actions to follow.

St. Mary School
Marathon, Wis.

Students also wrote letters after using the materials in class. From Chambersburg, Pa., a 7th grader wrote:

I think Us and Them is a

good magazine for teaching kids all about how people passed the hate down through the generations. I think the magazine is going to teach kids not to use violence as the solution to their problems. The magazine looks at the victim's point of view more than the villains. It shows how the victims feel.

Another student in the class wrote:

Thank you for helping me to never follow along with anything like that [being intolerant].

Thanks to Center supporters, the Teaching Tolerance project is able to send *The Shadow of Hate* teaching kit free to schools and universities across the nation.

Work Proceeds on Early Childhood Kit

Teaching Tolerance Research Associate Jim Carnes visited the Happy Medium School in Seattle, Wash., in March. Carnes was gathering material for the book he is writing for the project's third video-and-text kit, which will be sent free to early childhood educators. Margie McGovern, who is producing the video for the kit, was also at the school with her film crew. Pictured at right are Carnes (l) and video engineer Steve Allbrecht.



Fundraising and Planned Giving Staff Changes



Alison Collman, new Director of Planned Giving

■ A number of staff changes have occurred in the Center's Fundraising and Planned Giving Departments in the last few months.

Alison Collman joined the Center as Director of Planned Giving in February. The position was previously held by Amelia Montjoy, who moved to Washington, D.C., to head the planned giving program for the World Wildlife Fund.

Alison, who was born in Montgomery, Ala., graduated from the University of Alabama/Tuscaloosa, with a B.S. in Commerce and Business Administration and, later, with an M. A. in Marketing. In the six years before coming to the Center, she worked with a Montgomery bank as Director of Marketing.

Alison's responsibilities include overseeing Planned Giving and Major Gifts projects and staff, writing and editing the *Partners for the Future* newsletter and communicating directly with donors who have made or anticipate making planned gifts.

Alison is excited about joining the Center. "I have long been an admirer of the SPLC's work for justice and tolerance, so I am especially proud to at last be a part of

this important effort. This is a particularly exciting time because of the crucial work being done by the Center's new Militia Task Force."

Another new face in Planned Giving is Gail Wyatt. A native of Rome, Ga., Gail came to the Center in December 1994 with 10 years bookkeeping and tax experience. As Fundraising and Planned Giving Assistant, she handles donor correspondence, maintains a database of supporters and assists the department head with other duties.

"This is my first experience working with an organization like the Center. I not only appreciate the importance of the Center's mission, but I very much enjoy the people I work with."



Gail Wyatt

Several promotions brought further changes in the departments.

Amy (Crenshaw) Middleton, who had served as Secretary to both departments since August 1994, was promoted to Special Gifts Coordinator in the Planned Giving Department. In her new position, Amy administers gifts made through foundations, grants and stocks and also oversees donor acknowledgments.

Jeanine Wilson began full-time employment in the Fundraising and Planned Giving Departments in March 1994. In August of that year, she was promoted to Assistant to the Fundraising Director, and in November she was promoted

again to the position of Fundraising Coordinator. In her new position, Jeanine analyzes the results of the Center's appeals, produces monthly fundraising reports and processes orders for mailings.

Calonda Brown, who came to the Center in February 1994 as Fundraising Assistant, was promoted in November to the position of Secretary to the Fundraising and Planned Giving Departments. Calonda's duties include keeping both departments' records, handling calls from donors and preparing correspondence and reports.

Fundraising Director Dave Watson said, "Alison and I are very fortunate to have such a wonderful staff. Without their dedication and hard work, we wouldn't be able to carry out our fundraising and donor support projects as efficiently as we do."

Memorial and Honorary Gifts Received by the Law Center since February 1995

IN MEMORY OF

Sylvia Abraham	Peter A. Coulthard	Deon Harris	Dorothy Nittolo	Roger Smith
J. Paul Aplington	Diane Dimond	Robert Hopson Jr.	John Olsen	Miriam Sober
Aaron Appleby	Albert H. Dinsmore	Willie Johnson	Chester Oppen	Alice M. Sturges
Malissa B. Ash	George Edson	David Kaye	Margaret Outley	Peter Sussman
Bertha Bayla	Lee Faivus	Martin Luther King Jr.	Regine Payne	Murtis H. Taylor
Martin A. Beatty	Aaron Fischer	Russel & Evelyn Knierim	Bill Pomerance	Charles Unlauf
Henry Berg	Harry Fleischer	Mary F. Krusa	Arthur Preller	Laurence R. Walker
Bernard Bernstein	Francisco	Roger N. Latham	Sammuel Rappoport	Ben Walley
Robert Bracken	Harvey Frank	Diana S. Levy	Elva M. Rath	Richard Ward
Sidney Brauerman	George Frederiksen	David Livingston	Marian Ruth Rice	Bobby Williams
Morris Brauerman	Deborah Friedman	Eleanor S. Lodder	Thelma Richard	George Woodbridge
Margaret Brooks	Alex Gershunoff	Harold J. Mansfield	Mary Rogers	Mel Wyn's Wife
Mildred Brunhouse	Ruth S. Gold	Maxim	Lillian & Milton Romm	Joan Yannarelli
Dr. Harold Burkourf	Jeannette Lewin Gordon	Thomas W. McAliley	Frances Salmon	Janet Zuckerman
Edward H. Calvert	Jewel Gresham	Tim Meehan	Joseph Seldin	
Mr. Donald A. Caro	Kyle Haag	Hellen Meinfiardt	Phillip & Helen Sills	
Mr. Jack Cornell	Richard Hammell	Richard Mitchell	Mel Silverman	

IN HONOR OF

Diane Akula	Trisha Fish	Frank Lonberg	Mr. & Mrs. Keith Ragan	Andrew & Bene Stone
Elaine Allen	Mr. & Mrs. Al Follmar	Susan Lyford	Su Rannels	Meredith Stout
Elizabeth N. Banton	Al Friedman	Stan Lynch II	Harry Reed	Charles F. Stromeyer III & Family
Leon Bass	Sean Gillispie	Linda & Dana Mandel	Bernadette Rienzo	Noel C. Taylor
Judge Delaurece Beard	Tamara Goldey	Margaret Nardone	Robin Rubin	The Thompson Family
Hildegard Berliner	Victor Glassberg	Carolyn Nowlin	Yasemin Schnieder	Lori Vobejda
Evan Berlin	Judge Martin L. Haines	Anna Obermayer	Vicki Schwartz	Dolphin M. Waletzky
Sally Boggeman	Eleanor Hawkins	Margaret Obermayer	Paul Selcov	Cris Wallach
Ethel Boyar	Millie & David Honigberg	Gabriel Obermayer	Joshua J. Shapiro	Susan B. West
Dr. & Mrs. Robert D. Brewer III	Jill & Joe	O'Brien Family	Sarah Shore	Anne Wheeler
William Cohn	Susan Kattove	Mother of Kathleen O'Neil	Jack Stafford	Sol Zarin
Steve Day	Fritz Kimmelman	Janet Paul	Jimmy Stegall	Mrs. Zelikson
Morton Eden	Elaine Kinsler	Chris Phelps	Raff Stern	Devon Zeman
Aviva Starr & Sheryl Erez	Herbert Y. Krechevsky	Raye Ragan	Ramon Joseph Stern	Vicki Zeritis
	Amy Lew	Dr. & Mrs. Roger Ragan	Raji Stern	

■

The Law Center accepts gifts in memory of someone who has died or in honor of someone on a special occasion such as a birthday, anniversary, bar mitzvah or graduation. Or you can give a gift just to say "Thank you." We'll send a card to the person honored or the family of the deceased. Just fill out this form and mail it with your check.

■

SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER
400 WASHINGTON AVENUE • MONTGOMERY, AL 36104 • (205) 264-0286

In Memory of/In Honor of Gift Form

I am enclosing a special gift in the amount of \$ _____
 In Memory of _____
 In Honor of _____
 To Celebrate his/her/their _____

Send acknowledgment of gift to:

Name(s) _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____
 Zip _____

Indicate on acknowledgment that gift is being made by:

Name(s) _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____
 Zip _____ Phone _____

CENTER VISITORS



In March, supporters Dennis and Carol Lannon of Florida visited on their way to a writers' conference in Oxford, Miss. They were welcomed by Center employee Stephanie Matthews (c).



In April, Albert and Jane Sellen of Kansas, Center donors since 1987, visited with their friend Arlene Baldes. Shown (l to r) are Mrs. Sellen; Archia Hall, Assistant in the Center's Administration Department; Mr. Sellen; and Ms. Baldes.

Victim of Bias Crime Pleads Mercy for Attacker

The following article appeared in the Hartford Courant on Nov. 11, 1994. Reprinted with permission.

■ ENFIELD, Conn. — On Memorial Day, three young white men surrounded 62-year-old Percival McNeil in front of a Granby convenience store. They shouted racial slurs and profanities at him. One threw beer in his face.

On Thursday, McNeil, born in Jamaica, stood before a Superior Court judge and pleaded mercy for one of his harassers.

"This is a young man," McNeil said. "He was with the wrong crowd at the wrong time."

As McNeil spoke, his 22-year-old transgressor, Stephen Tkacz, stood within arm's reach. Two days earlier, Tkacz had pleaded guilty to intimidation based on bigotry or bias, a felony that carries a maximum 5-year prison term.

In a soft but firm voice, McNeil told the judge how he

himself is a recovering alcoholic. He said that since he has been given the opportunity to change his life, Tkacz should be, too. "This man, maybe, can turn his life around."

Tkacz's lawyer, T.R. Paulding, said Tkacz "is extremely upset about what he did to Mr. McNeil. He recognizes that both the language used and actions cannot be excused."

By pleading guilty to a felony, Tkacz has forfeited his chosen career, Paulding said. His Federal Aviation Administration license will be revoked, and the years he has devoted to his education are lost, he said.

Tkacz turned to McNeil and his wife, Miriam, and apologized for what he had put them through. All eyes turned to the judge.

"It is somewhat unusual for a victim to come before the court," Judge Terence Sullivan said. "I think it would be an understatement to say Mr. McNeil is an extraordinary person."

"There really isn't any place in our society for this type of behavior. This is still bigotry," he said.

"I'm not going to incarcerate you," Sullivan said, looking at the defendant, "for all the reasons Mr. McNeil articulated. I've always considered that justice without mercy isn't really justice at all."

He sentenced Tkacz to a one-year suspended sentence and 18 months' probation with three conditions. In addition, he ordered Tkacz to donate \$500 to the Southern Poverty Law Center in Montgomery, Ala., an organization dedicated to educating people about bigotry; work 50 hours of community service with people of color; and write a research paper on the meaning of the word "nigger" and the effect the word has on black people.

Outside the courtroom, Stanley Tkacz hugged McNeil tightly. Tears streamed down his face. "Mr. McNeil, thank you. Thank you," he said.

PARTNERS FOR THE FUTURE

A Way To Help More Than You Thought You Could



The Southern Poverty Law Center has established a planned giving program called Partners for the Future. By participating in Partners for the Future through wills and other means of planned giving, Center donors can extend their support for equality and justice beyond their own lifetimes.

Through wills, trusts and other arrangements, Center supporters can help ensure that the Center is there to help the victims of injustice and racial violence well into the next century.

If you plan to or have already remembered the Center in your will or established a trust, please help the Center update its records by sending a letter to the address below.

With the goal of eventually freeing itself from the uncertainties of fundraising, the Center decided to establish a permanent endowment large enough to sustain the Center's operations for many years to come.

The Center's goal for the Endowment is \$100 million by the year 2000, a little over half of which has been attained. This will establish a dependable financial base that will allow the Center to free itself from the uncertainties of direct-mail fundraising. The Endowment Fund is a "pact with future generations" that will help ensure resources for the Center's work well into the 21st century.

Please send information about Partners for the Future to:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wills | <input type="checkbox"/> Retirement Plans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Revocable Trusts | <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance Policies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life Income Trusts | <input type="checkbox"/> Gift Annuities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Securities | <input type="checkbox"/> Charitable Remainder Trusts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate Gifts | |

Mail to: Partners for the Future, The Southern Poverty Law Center
P.O. Box 548 • Montgomery, AL 36101-0548

IN MEMORIAM

Margaret H. Brooks (1900-1995)

■ Human rights advocate and Center supporter Margaret Henshaw Brooks died on February 18, 1995, at her home in Davis, Calif. She was 94. Mrs. Brooks has been remembered by many friends and family members through memorial gifts made to the Center at her family's request.

Born in Milton, Mass., in 1900, Mrs. Brooks graduated from Smith College and taught at Hampton Institute before beginning graduate studies at the London School of Economics. She completed her master's degree at the University of California-Berkeley and earned her Ph.D. in government at Brookings Institute in Washington, D.C. Her husband of 37 years, Frederick A. Brooks, died in 1967.

Mrs. Brooks devoted her life to promoting human rights, peace and education. She was a charter member of the League of Women Voters in Sacramento, and of the Unitarian Fellowship and the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom in Davis.

The first woman ever to serve on the board of trustees for the Davis Joint Union School District, Mrs. Brooks served three terms. She founded Friends (Quaker) Meeting groups in Davis and Sebastopol. In January, 1994, Mrs. Brooks accepted the Peace and



Justice Award on behalf of her local Friends Meeting in Davis. The group helped found and maintain the Davis Peace Center, which works to promote world harmony.

Highly respected and loved by her friends in California, Mrs. Brooks was also a world traveler, visiting London, Vienna, Tokyo, Leningrad and China, among other places. She is survived by four daughters, 13 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

The Center pays tribute to the memory of Margaret Henshaw Brooks, humanitarian and peace advocate.