

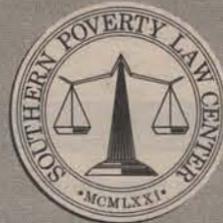
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SPLC REPORT



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MILITIA TASK FORCE · KLANWATCH · TEACHING TOLERANCE

JUNE 1996
VOLUME 26, NUMBER 2

Center Wins Judgment Against Neo-Nazi Leader

BRYSON CITY, N.C. — In May, Center attorneys won an \$85,000 judgment against William Pierce, the leader of one of the country's most notorious neo-Nazi organizations, the National Alliance.

A North Carolina jury found that Pierce had been involved in a scheme to hide the assets of another hate group, the Church of the Creator (COTC). Prior to the lawsuit against Pierce, a COTC member had killed a black Gulf War veteran, Harold Mansfield, in Jacksonville, Fla. Fearing legal action by the Center over the killing, the COTC sold its North Carolina headquarters to Pierce for a price far below its actual value. Pierce



William Pierce

then resold the property, reaping an \$85,000 profit.

After Center attorneys secured a judgment against the COTC for Mansfield's death, they sued Pierce, claiming that he had engaged in a fraudulent trans-

action to shield the COTC assets from a lawsuit by the Mansfield family. In returning a verdict in favor of the Mansfield family, the federal court jury agreed.

"The verdict sends the message that the law will not allow hate groups to evade responsibility for the violent actions of their members," said Center Legal Director Richard Cohen. "Although Pierce was not involved in the Mansfield murder, he participated in the scheme to keep the COTC assets from the Mansfield family. The jurors told Pierce that he could not profit from the death of Harold Mansfield."

Please turn to pg. 2, "Center Wins Judgment"



Cecilia Lampley, front; Ray Willie Lampley, center; John Dare Baird, right, were found guilty of making a bomb to use against the Law Center.

Trio Convicted in SPLC Bomb Plot

MUSKOGEE, OKLA. — Three members of a Patriot terrorist group were convicted April 24 of plotting to bomb the offices of the Southern Poverty Law Center in Montgomery, Ala.

After a two-week trial, a Muskogee federal jury convicted antigovernment extremists Ray Lampley, 65, leader of the Oklahoma Constitutional Militia; his wife Cecilia, 50; and John Dare Baird, 53, of conspiracy. Lampley and Baird were each convicted of an additional count of carrying a firearm during a crime of violence. The trio could receive up to 20, 10 and five years, respectively.

Making The Bomb

The Lampleys and Baird, with an accomplice, Identity "prophet" Larry Wayne Crow of New Mexico, were charged Nov. 11, 1995, with conspiracy to manufacture and possess a bomb and of plotting to bomb the Law Center. At the time of the arrests, the Lampleys were preparing a fertilizer bomb from ammonium nitrate fertilizer that Ray Lampley had purchased only days before, the FBI complaint stated.

The trio had also targeted the Houston office of the Anti-Defamation League, federal buildings, abortion clinics and sites in the gay community. Crow pleaded guilty and testified for the government at the trial.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Douglas A. Horn deflected the defense's attempts to portray the case as an infringement of the defendants' First Amendment rights.

"Where in the Constitution is Ray Lampley given the right to build a bomb and blow up buildings with people who are exercising their rights to freedom of religion and free speech? Freedom of religion and speech were not on trial here," Horn said.

Ministry Of Hate

The evidence in the case clearly proved the defendants' guilt, Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael Littleton said in closing. "The evidence established that Ray Lampley's ministry is that of hate, violence, evil and killing — not of love and charity."

In a letter written on behalf of SPLC employees and supporters, Center Director of Operations Edward Ashworth thanked federal prosecutors and law enforcement officials in Oklahoma for their good work.

"At a time when federal law enforcement agencies are being vilified by militia and other so-called 'Patriot' groups, radio talk show hosts and others, we wanted to take this opportunity to express our gratitude. ... We all sleep better knowing that there are dedicated people like you on the job," Ashworth wrote.

Identity Rallies Draw Antigovernment Extremists

In early April, only days before the anniversary of the tragic bombing in Oklahoma City, hundreds of antigovernment extremists gathered at two Identity rallies.

On April 5, more than 500 white supremacists and other activists convened at Lake Tahoe, Nev., for Jubilation '96. The event, sponsored by the leading Identity publication *The Jubilee*, drew militia members, racist Skinheads, Klansmen, tax resisters, Common Law activists and young Identity couples with their children.

Identity is a Christian sect that believes white Anglo-Saxon and Celtic people are the "true Chosen People" and Jews are the literal "children of Satan." There are an estimated 35,000 Identity adherents in the U.S.

One week later, over 300 Identity and other extremists met in Branson, Mo., for the 1996 Super Conference, an annual gathering sponsored by



Pete Peters (l) joins Louis Beam at Lake Tahoe Identity gathering.

the Identity-dominated International Coalition of Unregistered Churches.

"The events in Lake Tahoe and Branson reveal the scope and intensity of the hardcore Patriot movement," said Mike Reynolds, Senior Intelligence Analyst for the Klanwatch Militia Task Force. "These activists made it clear that they are not weekend warriors. They are pre-

pared and willing to wage a long-term war against the government and our democratic institutions."

Jubilation '96

At Tahoe, Jubilation attendees gathered at a plush hotel beneath a banner declaring "We Want This Country Back." From the hotel's ballroom, vendors sold a

Please turn to pg. 3, "Rallies Draw ..."

MAILBOX

I am a former contributor to the SPLC who let my membership lapse a few years ago. After watching the interview ["60 Minutes," May 19] with the author of *The Turner Diaries* and Morris Dees, I know it's time I came back into the fold. What I saw and heard on that program coming from [William Pierce's] mouth scared the hell out of me, enraged me and made me do a lot of thinking. ...

I want to rejoin your organization ... to make my voice heard and to remind America that there are thousands, if not millions, of us who oppose racist, violent extremism.

L.A.
Las Vegas, Nev.

I have just received the 25th Anniversary issue of the *SPLC Report* and am deeply moved by it. ... I have been searching for a way to bring my college English classes up to date on the continuing civil rights work in the U.S., and this issue seems the perfect way to do it. Many thanks for helping me in my teaching.

G.C.
Virginia

Thank you for sending me the video [*Seeking Justice*]. I had the pleasure of visiting the Law Center. The fountains [of the Civil Rights Memorial] brought tears to my eyes. They are the most beautiful and touching memorials I have seen.

M.L.A.
Warner Robins, Ga.

I am 14 years old. I recently did my National History Day report about your Center and am making a donation. Please go on with what you are doing. It saddens me to hear about racial, religious and gender prejudices and hate crimes. Two of my siblings are biracial, and I don't want anything to happen to them. Keep up the great work.

L.W.
Blue Bell, Pa.

Thank you for keeping me informed about the dangers of the hate groups and about the way the SPLC is responding. It takes great courage and determination to do what you have done, and are still doing, for this country.

I wish there was more I could do to help educate the U.S. population about the dangers we all face from the militias and their leaders and all the other hate groups that preach, and live, the message of hate.

My husband and I have unofficially adopted a son who is African. ... It worries me that he and his wife or children might be targets of a hate-inspired individual or group. This takes our thinking about the Skinheads, etc., out of the realm of theory ... and gives us additional incentive to fight along with you to dig the dangerous "weeds" out of the human garden.

B.M.C.
Big Piney, Wyo.

Our school has been using *The Shadow of Hate* [video-and-text kit] for staff development related to our multicultural goals. As school principal and also as a member of the SPLC, which provides us with such wonderful teaching tools, I can't say enough about how helpful your materials have been to our staff's professional growth and development.

T.C.S.
Hackensack, N.J.

Teaching Tolerance Wins EdPress Awards

GLASSBORO, N.J. — Teaching Tolerance, the education division of the Southern Poverty Law Center, has won three Distinguished Achievement Awards for Excellence in Educational Publishing from the Educational Press Association of America (EdPress).

Senior Writer Jim Carnes won in the Special Publications category for the book *Us and Them: A History of Intolerance in America*. This 128-page Center publication is the text component of *The Shadow of Hate* video-and-text kit, which is being used in over 50,000 U.S. schools and universities. *Us and Them* was recently released in hardcover by Oxford University Press and is now available at libraries and bookstores.

Design Director Paul F. Newman won for his overall design of the Spring 1995 issue of *Teaching Tolerance*, and Graphic Designer Rodney Diaz garnered an award for his design of the

article "Teaching Is an Act of Hope," which appeared in the Fall 1995 issue.

Established in 1895, EdPress is an independent association whose purpose is to improve the quality of educational communications and advance the aims of education.

"Our awards program has a long and distinguished history and shares in a proud tradition

of recognizing excellence in education-oriented publishing," said Dr. Donald R. Stoll, Executive Director of EdPress. "You and your staff have a great deal to be proud of."

Teaching Tolerance has won a total of 11 Educational Press Association awards, including the Golden Lamp — the highest honor the organization bestows — in 1995.



Teaching Tolerance Senior Writer Jim Carnes (l) and Design Director Paul F. Newman display one of their recently-won EdPress Awards. Graphic Designer Rodney Diaz (not pictured) was also honored.

Center Wins Judgment

Continued from page 1

The verdict comes at a time when Pierce's group, the National Alliance, has emerged as one of the largest and most influential neo-Nazi organizations in the country. In 1992, the organization had chapters in only three states. Today, it operates in more than a dozen. By Pierce's own count, the group's membership has increased 30-fold since 1990.

Pierce's long-range goal is to ignite a worldwide race war and establish an Aryan utopia in North America — a fascist society free of Jews, blacks and other

racial minorities. According to Pierce, Aryans "are in a war for the survival of our race ... that ultimately we cannot win ... except by killing our enemies." Pierce set out his vision of a race war in *The Turner Diaries*, the book that may have inspired the Oklahoma City bombing. (See "Turner Diaries," p. 3)

"In the aftermath of the Oklahoma City attack," Cohen said, "Pierce has tried to distance himself from *The Turner Diaries* by describing it as just a piece of fiction. At the North

Carolina trial, we made him admit that he had called the book the 'Handbook for White Victory.'"

Connie Mansfield, Harold Mansfield's mother and the representative of his estate, was gratified by the jury's verdict.

"It's been five years since Harold was killed," Ms. Mansfield said. "My hope is that the verdict will help spare other families from the pain that we have endured by sending the message that hate crimes must end."

Couple Donates Wedding Gifts to SPLC

When Stephen Powell and Shelly Webb began dating, they discovered they shared "strong feelings about racism and a desire to do something about it." Stephen, a glass artist and Associate Professor of Art at a Kentucky university, was already a long-time Center supporter. Shelly soon joined him when she learned about the Center's history of fighting for victims of injustice.

After Stephen proposed marriage, Shelly left her career as an account executive and became Stephen's business



Shelly and Stephen Powell

manager. As the couple planned their June 1995 wedding, they decided to ask that wedding gifts be sent as contributions to the Center.

Stephen and Shelly are elated that the SPLC has received over 60 gifts in honor of their marriage. Shelly said, "We could not think of a better memory to have of our wedding [than to have contributed to the Center's work]."

The Center congratulates the Powells on their marriage and thanks them for their loyal support.

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Center Defends Victory In Medicaid Case

ATLANTA, GA. — Center attorneys have filed a brief in the U.S. Court of Appeals defending the ruling that required Alabama to develop a transportation program for Medicaid recipients who are unable to get to medical care.

The transportation program began in January 1996 and has helped more than 10,000 Medicaid patients locate volunteer transportation services or pay for transportation when volunteers were not available. Despite the importance of the program in ensuring access to medical care, the State of Alabama has challenged the validity of the federal regulation that requires the program.

"Our position is that the transportation rule is a valid exercise of the authority of the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services," said Staff Attorney Ellen Bowden. "Congress authorized the Secretary to make rules governing the administration of the Medicaid program. The Secretary used that authority to issue the transportation rule. Without it, many poor

people simply would not be able to get to a doctor."

The Law Center and Alabama Legal Services Corporation sued the Alabama Medicaid Agency in 1994 to force it to comply with the federal regulation after learning that poor dialysis patients regularly missed medical treatments because they could not locate or pay for transportation to medical facilities. In 1995, a federal district court ruled that Alabama had to develop a new transportation program.

Alabama has more than 600,000 Medicaid recipients. Many of them live in rural areas away from urban medical centers.

"Our Medicaid clients, some of whom require lifesaving dialysis and chemotherapy treatments, need this transportation assistance program," Bowden said. "For many, it is a matter of life and death."

The Medicaid agency claims the transportation rule is invalid because Congress did not specifically mandate transportation assistance when it created the Medicaid program.

Dees Asks Booksellers To Consider Impact of Selling *The Turner Diaries*

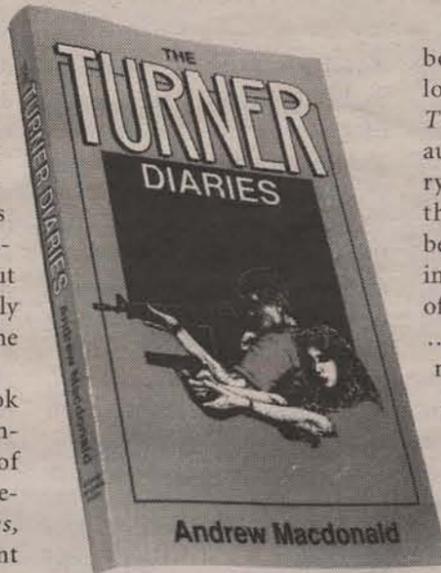
In a move to discourage booksellers from putting money into the hands of neo-Nazi leader William Pierce, Center Co-founder Morris Dees asked the country's major book distributors to consider "not only the message of *The Turner Diaries* but also where the profits are likely to go" before agreeing to sell the book in their stores.

Dees wrote to several book distributors in April after learning that Lyle Stuart, owner of Barricade Books, planned to republish *The Turner Diaries*, Pierce's 1978 fictional account of a race war won by whites. About 200,000 copies of the book are already in circulation, sold mostly at gun shows and from Pierce's National Alliance headquarters in West Virginia.

The major portion of Dees' letter follows.

Dear Bookseller:

... *The Turner Diaries* was written by Dr. William Pierce under the pseudonym "Andrew MacDonald." Dr. Pierce is the leader of the National Alliance, one of the country's largest neo-Nazi organizations. The organization is committed to doing "whatever is necessary to achieve [a] white living space and to keep it white." Dr. Pierce believes that he and his followers "are in a war for the survival of [their] race ... [that] ultimately [they] cannot win ...



except by killing [their] enemies." ...

The Turner Diaries describes an antigovernment race war waged by a group of white supremacists. The opening shot in the war is eerily reminiscent of the Oklahoma City tragedy: the destruction of a federal office building by a truck carrying a fuel oil and ammonium nitrate fertilizer bomb.

It has been widely reported that Timothy McVeigh, the prime suspect in the Oklahoma City bombing, sold *The Turner Diaries* at gun shows and encouraged his acquaintances to read it. McVeigh also reportedly called Pierce's unlisted number shortly before the bombing. (Pierce denies speaking to McVeigh.) ...

Since the Oklahoma City bombing, Dr. Pierce has been looking for a way to promote *The Turner Diaries* to a mass audience — "promoting victory," he calls it. He has boasted that *The Turner Diaries* has been "effective in educating and inspiring a substantial portion of the people who have read it." ... Of course, the First Amendment protects Dr. Pierce's and Mr. Stuart's right to publish whatever they please. But it also protects the right *not* to publish. ... When you decide how to exercise your First Amendment right to sell whatever books you please, we hope you consider not only the message of *The Turner Diaries* but also where the profits are likely to go.

In a recent review that appeared in the *Village Voice*, Michael Tolkin wrote that "*The Turner Diaries* is a more horrifying book than *Mein Kampf*, and might come true in the same way." I would add that at least the proceeds from the sale of *Mein Kampf* do not go to Adolf Hitler. Unfortunately, proceeds from the sale of *The Turner Diaries* presumably will go to Dr. Pierce, a man who is promoting "a long-term eugenics program" [and who has called Hitler "the greatest man of our era"].

Sincerely,
Morris Dees

Center Given Award From Kidney Foundation



In March, the Alabama Kidney Foundation presented the Center with an Outstanding Public Service Award for its successful litigation of the Alabama Medicaid transportation class action suit. Shown with the award, which is given "for exceptional service to persons with kidney disease in Alabama," are Center Legal Director Richard Cohen and Staff Attorney Ellen Bowden, who brought the case.

In presenting the award, Jan Bell, executive director of the foundation, stated, "As a direct result of the SPLC's suit, over six million dollars has been allotted for the non-emergency transportation program by the State of Alabama for 1996. This victory will improve access to health care not only for indigent kidney dialysis patients, but for all Medicaid-eligible persons in our state. You have our deepest respect and gratitude."

Rallies Draw Antigovernment Extremists

Continued from page 1

variety of materials including manuals on machine-gun conversions, explosives and chemical warfare agents.

Speakers included Pastor Pete Peters, head of the leading Identity ministry Scriptures For America, and longtime racist militant Louis Beam. Beam delivered a scathing attack on the federal government. The former Texas Grand Dragon of the Ku Klux Klan demanded that "the federal tyrants ... either get off the land or go under it."

In a thinly veiled threat, Beam warned, "We can take them out by practicing what we know must be done. No death is too cruel for them."

The highlight of the gathering was a banquet honoring white separatist Randy Weaver. Approximately 450 people each paid \$29, in addition to their \$32

registration fee, for the opportunity to ask Weaver questions about the August 1992 standoff at Ruby Ridge in Idaho that galvanized the Patriot movement.

Super Conference

One week after the Jubilation gathering, between 350 and 400 hardcore Patriot/militia followers met at the 1996 Super Conference in Branson, Mo.

During the three-day meeting, speakers urged their audience to study and implement "Common Law courts," such as the one established by the "freemen" in the Montana "Justus township."

These courts are part of a renegade Patriot "legal system" based on selected Biblical passages, the Magna Carta, the Articles of Confederation, the Bill of Rights and obscure legal citations. Klanwatch has identified nearly 200 common law courts in 40 states.

Adherents of this "Common Law" live outside the law, often refusing to pay income taxes, buy license plates for their vehicles or obtain drivers' licenses. Calling themselves "sovereigns" or "freemen," common law followers use bogus lawsuits, liens and arrest warrants to target government officials and others perceived as "enemies."

Pete Peters, who also attended Jubilation, began his speech by declaring, "This is not a game. This is WAR."

Peters climaxed his sermon by pulling out a white yarmulke, placing it on his head and performing a grotesque impression. He then yanked off the yarmulke, spit on it, wiped it across the seat of his pants and threw it to the floor. The audience roared with delight and gave him a standing ovation.

Klanwatch Special Report Distributed Nationally

In a new 72-page special report on the growing antigovernment Patriot/militia movement, *False Patriots: The Threat of Antigovernment Extremists*, the Center's Militia Task Force identifies more than 800 antigovernment Patriot organizations, including 441 unauthorized militia groups.

This report, which spotlights the growing threat of domestic terrorism in the U.S., has been sent to Attorney General Janet Reno, FBI Director Louis Freeh, and the state attorneys general in all 50 states. In addition, over 6,000 law enforcement and human relations organizations throughout the country received a copy.

Terrorism Increasing

In an April 9, 1996, letter to Attorney General Reno accompanying the *False Patriots* report, Center Co-founder Morris Dees warned that "the threat of domestic terrorism has increased sharply in the past year, [and] unless we take

decisive steps now to respond to this threat, it is only a matter of time before the country endures another nightmare like the Oklahoma City tragedy."

Since April, Klanwatch has filled numerous requests for multiple copies of the report from public officials, human rights groups and law enforcement agencies such as the FBI, state bureaus of investigation and local police departments.

Klanwatch's Militia Task Force fielded over 1,000 calls from the media and the public during the month following the report's release. Interviews with Task Force members have appeared in virtually every major media outlet in the U.S.

Dees Book Exposes Threat

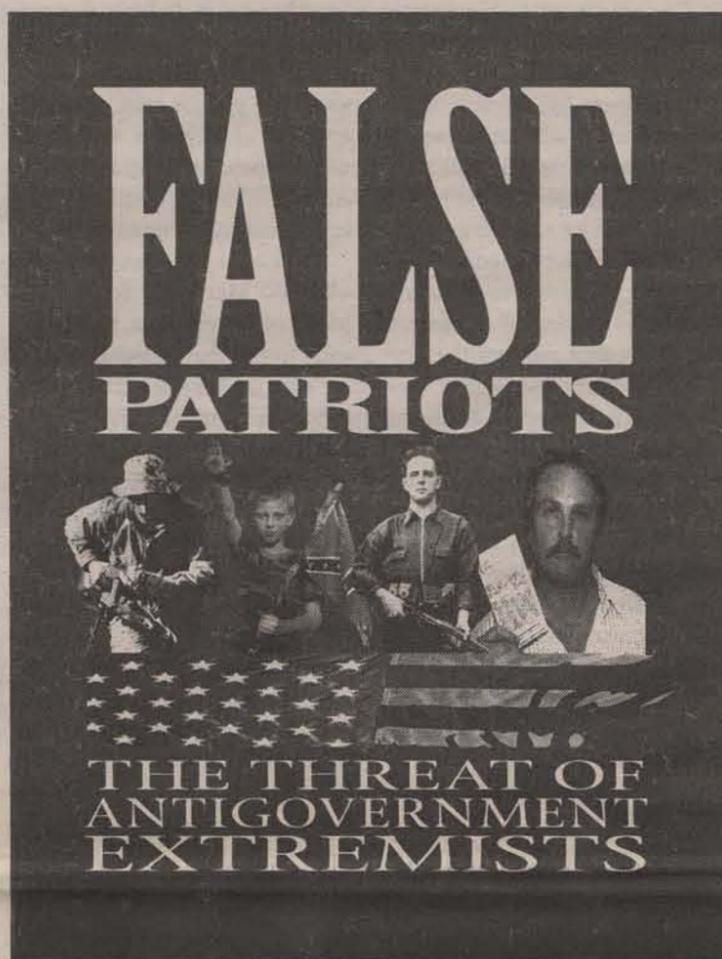
Gathering Storm, Center Co-founder Morris Dees' book about the threat of the growing Patriot movement, was also released in April to a chorus of positive reviews. In dozens of television and radio and numerous print interviews, Dees warned the

country about the threat of domestic terrorism posed by antigovernment extremists.

Dees and Task Force members urged law enforcement officials, the media, community leaders and educators to help prevent future antigovernment violence by implementing the 14 recommendations contained in *False Patriots*. In conjunction with the report's release, Dees also urged U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno to "establish a joint federal and state Attorneys General task force on domestic terrorism" (see "Attorney General," below).

Joe Roy, Klanwatch and Militia Task Force Director, said the widespread attention received by *False Patriots* "is gratifying because it helps further our main goal — preventing another nightmare like the Oklahoma City bombing."

False Patriots is available to law enforcement agencies, civic organizations and community leaders upon written request to the Southern Poverty Law Center's Klanwatch department.



Chain Gang Case Set for July Trial

On July 8, the Law Center's suit challenging Alabama's notorious prisoner chain gangs will go to trial in federal court in Montgomery.

Last year, Alabama became the first state in decades to use chain gangs. Shackled inmates now labor 10 hours a day busting rocks and cutting weeds on Alabama highways. The inmates are allowed no visitation with their families during their entire six-month chain gang sentence. If prison officials believe an inmate has refused to work or has disrupted the other inmate workers, he is handcuffed to a "hitching post" in the grueling Alabama heat and often denied food and water.

The Law Center's class action lawsuit challenges the chain gangs and "hitching post" as cruel and unusual punishment under the Eighth Amendment to the Constitution. During the past year that the chain gangs have operated, many prisoners have been injured, and one inmate was shot and killed by a corrections officer. The Law Center has also uncovered numerous instances of abuse and retaliation against chain gang inmates by prison officials and guards.

Recent studies suggest that longer and harsher prison sentences do nothing to curb crime. On the other hand, studies suggest that education and jobs do have some positive influence on both prison behavior and recidivism. A study by the Federal Bureau of Prisons found that inmates enrolled in industrial work programs were less likely to commit disciplinary violations while in prison and were substantially less likely to be rearrested than other inmates.

"Chain gangs make great photo opportunities for vote-conscious politicians," said Rhonda Brownstein, the Center's Senior Staff Attorney. "But intentionally degrading and humiliating prisoners not only makes for bad corrections policy, it violates the Eighth Amendment. After all, as the Supreme Court has recognized: 'The basic concept underlying the Eighth Amendment is nothing less than the dignity of man.'"

Center Co-founder Urges Attorney General to Create Joint Federal-State Task Force



Morris Dees

In a letter to Attorney General Janet Reno, Center Co-founder and Chief Trial Counsel Morris Dees urged the Justice Department to "take decisive steps" to reduce the growing threat of antigovernment terrorism.

Based on evidence presented in an investigative report released by the Center's Militia Task Force in March, Dees warned that "the threat of domestic terrorism has increased sharply in the past year. Unless we take decisive steps now to respond to this threat, it is only a matter of time before the country endures another nightmare like the Oklahoma City tragedy."

The investigative report, *False Patriots: The Threat of Antigovernment Extremists*, identifies more than 800 antigovernment Patriot organizations and describes how some paramilitary units are preparing for war with the federal government.

"Although most members of 'Patriot' groups may have no intention of breaking the law, their organizations attract those who would engage in terrorism," Dees said. "'Patriot' followers have access to explosives, biochemical agents and military-style assault rifles. They are well financed. The most dedicated among them are following the strategy of 'leaderless resistance' by forming underground cells — small, secret, independent units training for terrorism."

Task Force Requested

Dees asked the Attorney General to establish a joint federal and state Attorneys General task force on domestic terrorism to develop a plan for gathering and sharing intelligence about domestic terrorism and to educate law enforcement and the public about the reality of the terrorist threat.

"Only a coordinated governmental response will protect the public," Dees explained.

In addition, Dees asked Attorney General Reno to endorse 14

recommendations developed by the Militia Task Force that he says are critical to combating antigovernment terrorism. The first calls on states to enforce the anti-militia and anti-paramilitary training laws already on the books. The second calls for a federal statute that would prohibit private militias not specifically authorized by state law.

Prior Warning Issued

Dees' April letter was not the Center's first attempt to sound an alarm about racist, neo-Nazi groups joining forces with antigovernment Patriot groups. Six months before the Oklahoma City bombing, Dees warned the Justice Department that the involvement of white supremacists in the militia movement was "a recipe for disaster."

After the Oklahoma City bombing, investigators uncovered evidence that the prime suspects in the attack, Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols, had connections to both militia and white supremacist groups.

Klanwatch Tracks Arsons At Black Churches in South



Little Zion Baptist Church in Boligee, Ala., is one of 33 Southern black churches that have burned since 1989.

The Law Center's Klanwatch Project is closely monitoring the recent sharp rise in arsons at black churches throughout the South.

Earlier this year, a Klanwatch analysis revealed a string of 33 incidents of arson or suspected arson at black churches since 1989. Over half of the incidents have occurred since December 1995, including the burning of a black church in Alabama on June 3. Other church burnings

have occurred in North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi and Louisiana.

Overall, Tennessee has been heaviest hit, with a total of eight black churches in that state having burned since January 1995. Kentucky and Alabama have experienced six each.

The Klanwatch study has received wide media coverage, bringing national and international attention to this alarming

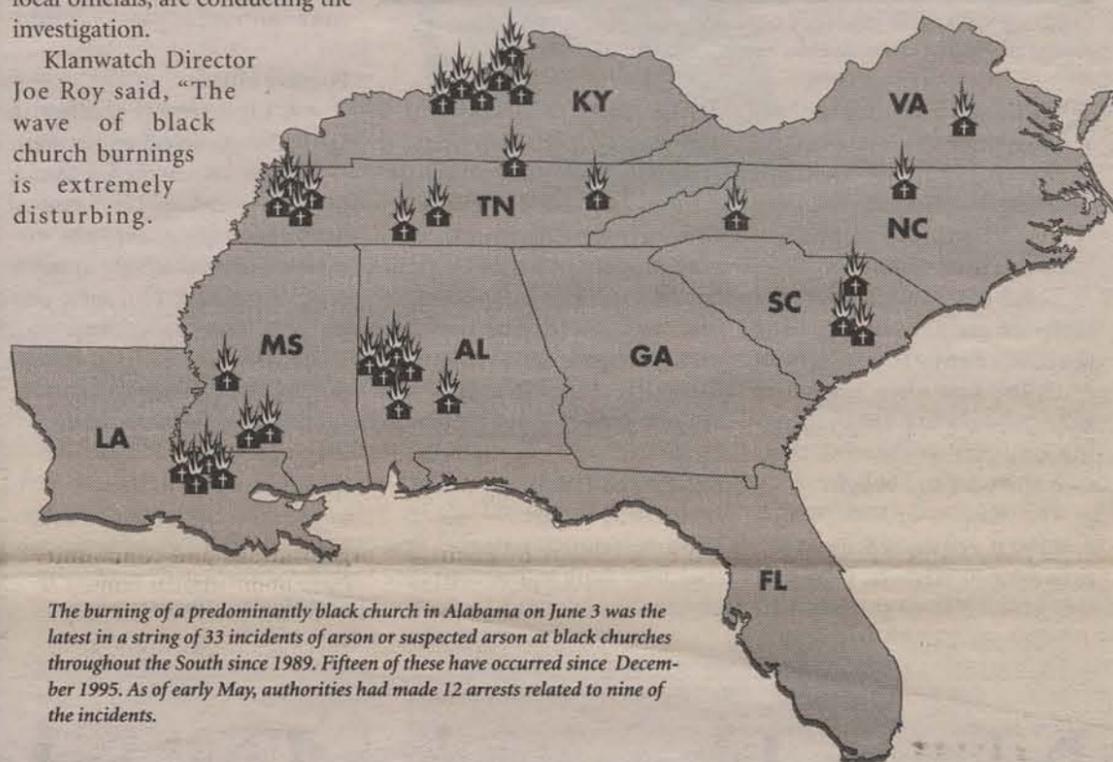
trend. Citing the extensive news coverage as a motivating factor, the Justice Department in February launched a civil rights investigation into the fires. Agents from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, as well as state and local officials, are conducting the investigation.

Klanwatch Director Joe Roy said, "The wave of black church burnings is extremely disturbing."

We're particularly concerned about this tremendous increase since December of 1995. The possibility is high that many of these crimes represent an organized, racially-motivated effort to intimidate blacks."

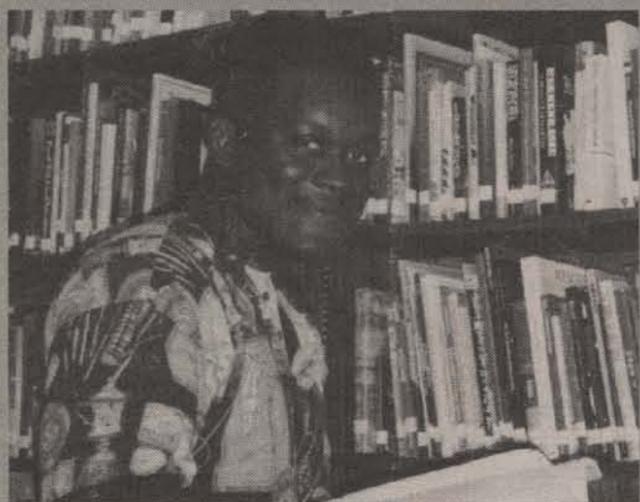
As of early June, authorities had made 12 arrests related to

nine of the incidents. All of those charged were white men, one of whom allegedly has ties to a South Carolina chapter of the Christian Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, headquartered in North Carolina.



The burning of a predominantly black church in Alabama on June 3 was the latest in a string of 33 incidents of arson or suspected arson at black churches throughout the South since 1989. Fifteen of these have occurred since December 1995. As of early May, authorities had made 12 arrests related to nine of the incidents.

Kincey Joins Teaching Tolerance



Charlie Kincey is helping organize and computerize the Teaching Tolerance library. The Abbeville, Ala., native will be completing his Bachelor of Science degree in Special Education at Alabama State University in Montgomery in June and is hoping to teach in central Alabama.

Kincey developed an interest in multicultural education while substitute teaching in Montgomery County schools. "Working in the Teaching Tolerance library is giving me a chance to expand my ideas about education, and I'm learning things that are going to be of great value in the classroom," Kincey said.

Center Expands Design Department

The Center's award-winning Design Department, housed in the Teaching Tolerance division, recently made some staff changes. Russell Estes joined the design team in April and will assist Design Director Paul F. Newman and Graphic Designer Rodney Diaz in producing Center publications.

An Alabama native, Estes earned his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Auburn University, where he majored in Graphic Design. He brings to the Center several years' experience in print design and four-color production.

Estes will be responsible for designing several Center publications previously prepared by Diaz, including the *SPLC Report*, *Klanwatch Intelligence Report*, *Partners for the Future* and other Fundraising publications. Diaz will devote more of his time to helping Newman design *Teach-*

ing Tolerance magazine and other Center education materials.

Teaching Tolerance has won several design awards since its

inception in 1992. Newman and Diaz were recently recognized for their work on the magazine (see "EdPress," p. 2).



Russell Estes

Student Perspectives Broadened by Teaching Tolerance Materials



Teachers at Nellie Parker Elementary School in Hackensack, N.J., plan a tolerance unit around *The Shadow of Hate* teaching kit.

Since the release of *The Shadow of Hate* video-and-text kit in April 1995, the Center's Teaching Tolerance division has received hundreds of positive responses from educators.

Teachers report that the materials are not only exposing their students to aspects of America's past often left out of history books but are challenging students to examine their own attitudes and beliefs.

The Shadow of Hate, which has been requested by more than 50,000 schools, universities and civic organizations

across the nation, contains a 128-page text; *Us and Them: A History of Intolerance in America*; a 40-minute documentary film by Academy Award-winning producer Charles Guggenheim; and a comprehensive teacher's guide. The package also includes an evaluation form. Teaching Tolerance has received over 600 returned forms, as well as hundreds of unsolicited letters from teachers praising the kit.

Some schools reported that they have built entire tolerance units around the *Shadow* kit.

• From a middle school teacher in Summerville, S.C.:

I used your Shadow of Hate curriculum in my 8th grade Social Studies classes and we all loved it! Bravo! The children learned something about America, Americans and, most importantly, themselves. Many questioned their own personal beliefs for the first time in their lives and had to wonder 'Why do I believe this? Can I continue to believe this if I can't justify it?'

Positive Effects

• A high school teacher in South Dakota described her unit:

This packet was the foundation for my American Lit classes. I wove these stories into the curriculum, and amazingly dynamic things happened! First some passiveness, then polarizing, then anger, then learning to resolve conflict, then finding commonality and levels of acceptance — making room for differences — that did not previously exist within the classes. Students became kinder to each other, more conscious, more aware, more honest, more communicative.

• A middle school teacher in Hickory, N.C., wrote:

The Shadow of Hate was a key component in our interdisciplinary unit on prejudice and racism. We encouraged our students to examine social issues and take a stand for what they believe in. Us and Them provided a concrete framework which helped students explore their personal thoughts, feelings and preconceptions.

Students Comment

Students, too, have shared their thoughts on how the materials affected them. Tenth graders at a high school in Weston, W.V., wrote:

• *The stories in Us and Them touched me and opened my eyes to a harsh reality.*

• *The material that we have recently watched and read has opened my eyes to how horrible racism is.*

And from a 5th grade class in Great Neck, N.Y., students wrote:

• *The video ... led me to think how we can improve and not repeat what America has done. It is good that we are taught at a*

young age about prejudice. If we all learn to cope with each other, the world would be a better place.

• *This is a very educational video. It is making me think before I do. For example, I know someone who has a learning problem. I saw some kids teasing him, and I stopped them, when normally I would have kept on playing. This is making a big effect on me.*

Free Kits Appreciated

Many teachers expressed appreciation that the materials were free, as did one in San Ramon, Calif.:

• *I think this is the best material I've ever seen for teaching tolerance to high school students. I'm loaning the kit to every teacher who can use it in my 1,600-student school. Thanks for the "no cost." We'd never have been able to buy it!*

Production continues on the third Teaching Tolerance video package, *Starting Small: Teaching Tolerance in Preschool and the Early Grades*, scheduled for release in the fall of 1997.

New Faces in Fundraising

Sheila Rhodes, who worked with the Center's Klanwatch project from 1986 to 1993, has returned as a Development Coordinator in the Fundraising department. In her new role, Rhodes communicates daily with donors about the Center's current work and future goals.

In addition, she assists with the planned giving program.

Rhodes earned her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Alabama State University. In 1992, she performed as a vocalist at the Pentagon at the request of the U.S. Secretary of Defense in recognition of Black History Month.

"I am thrilled to be back with the Center in Fundraising. Because of the generosity of our supporters, the Center is able to make a significant difference in combating racial injustice in America," Rhodes said.

Jennifer Holladay is also joining the Center as a Development Coordinator. A graduate of Davidson College, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and Anthropology, Holladay has had an interest in the Center's work for sev-

eral years. She used Klanwatch materials to research white supremacy and hate crimes, and wrote a paper that won the Kania Prize from the North Carolina Criminal Justice Association in 1993.

In her Fundraising role, Holladay will work closely with donors and oversee grant proposals and award nominations. "I'm really glad to be working with donors who show such extraordinary dedication to the Center's efforts for justice, human rights and tolerance," Holladay said.

Lisa Pickett joined the Center's Fundraising department as Donor Relations Coordinator in February. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Government from McNeese State University and is working on a Master of Science Degree in Human Resource Management.

Pickett enjoys working with donors every day — fielding calls, answering correspondence and fulfilling requests for information and materials. "I am proud to be a part of an organization that has a positive impact on so many diverse groups of people. From representing vic-

tims of hate violence to producing materials that teach children tolerance, the Center is first-class," Pickett said.

The Center's new Fundraising Assistant is Gwen Barber. A native of Newton, Miss., Barber handles all gifts made in honor or memory of loved ones and assists with donor mailings, company matched-giving campaigns and United Way contributions.

Barber recalls her first experience with racism. "When I was a child, my cousin and I were walking into a laundromat. On the front window, it read 'Whites Only. No Coloreds.' Barber looked at her cousin and said, 'I guess we can only wash the white clothes today.'" Ever since she realized the true meaning of those words, she has dreamed of working with a human rights organization like the Center.

Also in Fundraising, Gail Wyatt, who joined the Center in November 1995, has been appointed Special Gifts Coordinator. Wyatt handles all stock, foundation and grant gifts and works closely with the Center's planned giving program, Partners for the Future.

Brasher Joins Mail Operations



Mary Brasher joined the Mail Operations staff last September. After graduating from high school in Troy, Ala., Brasher studied computer science at Troy State University. She had previously worked at the Center, resigning in 1987 to care for her newborn twins.

In her role as Cashier, Brasher processes donations from supporters and performs a variety of clerical duties. "I'm very happy to be back because I really enjoy my work in Mail Operations and believe in the work the Center is doing," Brasher said.



Clockwise from top left: Sheila Rhodes, Gwen Barber, Lisa Pickett, Jennifer Holladay

Memorial and Honorary Gifts Received by the Law Center since February 1996

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Aronoff-Hirschman Family's
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Arthur Ashe
Frances Ashley
H. Vance Austin
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Bertha Debra Bayla
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Dr. R. Blaine
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Ira Cotins
Martha Young Dana

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Eddie Dixon
Ed Drolet
Robert Dutky
Dr. Samson Dutky
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Oklahoma City Bombing Victims
Antonio Oliviere
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Margaret L. White
Maxien A. White
Theodora "Auntie" Williams
Walter & Jeannette Wittman
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Shirley A. Kostin
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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/bat 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.

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Teacher Institute To Be Held in Seattle

In January, Teaching Tolerance Training Coordinator Glenda Valentine met with Dr. James Banks, Director of the Center for Multicultural Education at the University of Washington in

Seattle, to discuss plans for the first Teaching Tolerance Institute.

The Center for Multicultural Education has been chosen to co-host the three-week gathering

in the summer of 1997. The Institute will bring together 30 educators from across the country to study the history and psychology of intolerance; to share resources, insights and strategies for implementing tolerance education; and to engage in open dialogue about racism and discrimination.

The Center for Multicultural Education engages in research projects and activities related to race, ethnicity and education and offers graduate degree programs in multiethnic education. Dr. Banks, a recognized expert in multicultural and social studies education, has written numerous books, including *An Introduction to Multicultural Education*, *Teaching Strategies for Ethnic Studies*, and *Multicultural Education, Transformative Knowledge and Action*.



Training Coordinator Glenda Valentine and Dr. James Banks plan first Teaching Tolerance Institute, to be held at the University of Washington in 1997.

DONORS VISIT SPLC



Stephen Hammond, Center supporter since 1976, visited from California with his family in March. Shown with Center Administrator JoAnn Chancellor (l) and Mail Operations Director Mamie Jackson (r) are Stephen; his wife, Cathy; son, Bob; and daughter, Megan.



In March, a group of 50 students, parents and teachers from Southside Family School in Minneapolis visited the Center as part of a civil rights tour of the South. The young people are studying the role of children and women in history, with a special emphasis on the Civil Rights Movement.

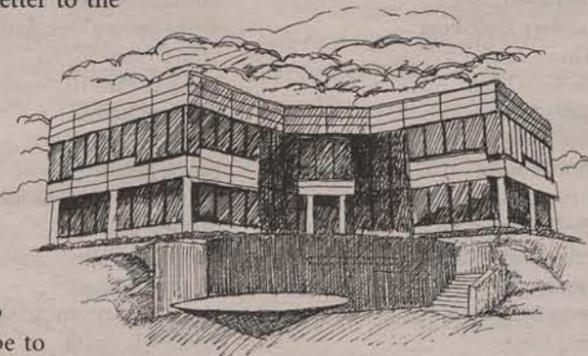
Partners for the Future A Way to Help More Than You Thought You Could

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 special gifts, Center donors can extend their support for equality and justice beyond their own lifetimes.

If you plan to or have already remembered the Center in your will or estate plans, 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, two-thirds of which has been attained. With your help through Partners for the Future, we hope to reach our goal in the next decade. Approximately 10 percent of Center support is applied annually to the endowment. The Endowment Fund is a "pact with future generations" that will help ensure resources for the Center's work well into the 21st century.



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

IN MEMORIAM

Sidney Ratner (1908-1996)

Dr. Sidney Ratner, a professor emeritus at Rutgers University, died recently at the age of 87. A Center supporter since 1982, Ratner devoted his life to promoting social, intellectual and religious freedom.



"Sidney was always tremendously interested in what was going on in the society around him, as both his personal and profes-

unity." With multiculturalism, Ratner believed, "each group tends to focus on its own identity, without enough emphasis on the importance of supporting and contributing to the democratic institutions that make possible reciprocal tolerance among diverse groups.

Society should be a symphony orchestrated by its diverse groups."

"Society should be a symphony orchestrated by its diverse groups."

sional activities evidence[d]," said Louise, Ratner's wife of 63 years.

Ratner, who earned his doctorate in history from Columbia University, supported the idea of cultural pluralism because it "stresse[s] the need to recognize the value and contributions of all ethnic groups ... [and] the need for all groups to understand the importance of

In addition to being a teacher and human rights activist, Ratner wrote several books, including *Taxation and Democracy in America*. He also published a series of essays about American philosopher and educator

John Dewey and wrote about the history of the U.S. Supreme Court. During World War II, Ratner was an economist for the federal government's Board of Economic Warfare and later worked with the State Department as an economist.

It is with honor that the Center remembers Dr. Sidney Ratner, a loyal supporter and human rights activist.