



In Defense of Democracy & Civil Rights

COALITION FOR HUMAN DIGNITY

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NORTHWEST UPDATE

November 1, 1997

1. CHD AT OREGON CRIMINAL JUSTICE ASSOCIATION TRAINING: CHD Research Director Jonathan Mozzochi and Senior Research Analyst Robert Crawford presented a workshop titled "Guns & Gavels: Militias & Common Law Courts in the Pacific Northwest" at a conference sponsored by the Oregon Criminal Justice Association Oct. 28 in Portland. The workshop introduced the 50 plus attendees to the white supremacist ideas behind common law courts and militias and presented an overview of militia and common law court strategies and history. The workshop also included a discussion of neo-Nazi skinhead organizing in response to attendees reporting an increasing skinhead presence in prisons.

2. CHD AT JUDICIAL EDUCATION MEETING: CHD Research Director Jonathan Mozzochi was a featured presenter for the annual conference of the Oregon Municipal Judges Association (OMJA) and the Oregon Justices of the Peace Association (OJPA) convened Sept. 13-16 in Pendleton, Oregon. Mozzochi conducted a workshop on common law courts attended by more than 75 justices of the peace and municipal court judges.

3. SOUTH SALEM RESIDENTS RALLY AGAINST VOLKSFRONT: Seventy South Salem residents and teachers from South Salem High School held a rally Oct. 19th to protest the distribution of racist fliers by the Portland-based neo-Nazi group Volksfront. The fliers were distributed near the home of a Jewish South Salem High teacher. Speaking the day before the rally, South Salem teacher Malvina Holloway told reporters that Volksfront crossed the line between recruitment and threatening behavior when they appeared to single out one person. Holloway told reporters that the leafletting "makes me more resolute" to oppose bigotry. The day of the rally, South Salem High teacher Andy Goldsin told reporters that "It's frightening that something like this could happen, but the people who came out today show[ed] that the community won't accept this" (*Salem Statesman Journal*, Oct. 19; Oct. 20).

The literature distribution signaled the stepped-up efforts of Volksfront to build its Salem chapter. The leaflets distributed by Volksfront included a swastika-like symbol, contained headlines such as "Race Over All," and read in part:

"The Volksfront is striving to restore self-determination to our Folk in North America. We wish to end alien influences in our nation and preserve our nation's (race's) wealth for its own children. The care of a culture should be entrusted to members of the race that produced it."

Volksfront National Office: P.O. Box 33574; Portland, OR 97292. Volksfront/Salem Chapter: P.O. Box 2681; Salem, OR 97308.

4. HARTFORD VAN DYKE IN EVERETT: Longtime Posse Comitatus figure Hartford Van Dyke will give a 3-day workshop on "Commercial Liens" Nov. 14-16 in Everett, Washington. The host of the meeting is Terressa Sundstrom, a Lynnwood-based activist known for her lead role in the 1995 far right mobilization on behalf of Bellingham, WA veterinarian Donald Ellwanger. The workshop will be held at the Travelodge at 9602 19th Ave. SE. Terressa Sundstrom: c/o NACA; 4320 196th SW #B-110; Lynnwood, WA 98036.

5. JOHN TROCHMANN IN SALT LAKE CITY: Militia of Montana leader John Trochmann is slated to present the video *America's Judgments: What Lies Ahead?* in Salt Lake City, Utah on November 18. The event will take place at 7:00 PM at the Salt Lake County Fairgrounds (Fine Arts Building) at 5177 S. State St. According to promotional material, "This four part presentation will bring you through coming famines, pestilence and disease, invasions and what you can do to prepare yourself to survive." Contact: 801-974-9655 or 406-847-2734.

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6. ICA AND BACIR FIGHT IMMIGRANT SHELTER: The Immigration Control Advocates of Northern California and the Bay Area Coalition for Immigration Reform are organizing to stop a proposed shelter for undocumented immigrants in Healdsburg, California. The shelters, contracted through the Southwest Key Program, reportedly would include bilingual education, health and counseling care, and access to legal services. (*American Voice*, Oct.).

7. MICHAEL HOFFMAN GOES TO BRITAIN: Idaho-based Holocaust denier Michael Hoffman traveled to Great Britain in September, conducting research on the “enslavement of whites in ... industrial Britain” and meeting with far right leader Nick Griffin. Hoffman, who claims to have been given a plane ticket by a British admirer, states that he proceeded immediately from the airport “to Oxford University... to track down an obscure tract by the Puritan activist William Prynne, a 17th century writer who had argued eloquently against Oliver Cromwell’s admission of the ‘Jews’ to England.”

After further travels, Hoffman writes, “I headed for Wales and a meeting with Nick Griffin of the British National Party. Mr. Griffin is facing trial in London’s Old Bailey court for referring in print to Jewish claims of homicidal gas chambers as ‘the holohoax.’” Hoffman writes that he and Griffin discussed the strategy to use during the U.K. neo-Nazi’s trial: “His (Griffin’s) idea is to make his prosecution the first ‘virtual trial’ – with a website based in America (and thus immune to direct British censorship) to which daily reports of the show trial proceedings would be transmitted around the world.” For his part, Hoffman will “be posting the complete legal complaint against Griffin... as well as excerpts from Nick’s writings and other information about his campaign.” Likely referring to Griffin’s recent plan, exposed by the anti-fascist magazine *Searchlight*, to elbow out BNP leader John Tyndall and make himself the U.K.’s top Nazi dog, Hoffman writes that “I was delighted to extend my white slaves research dramatically and to begin to lay the groundwork for a Great Holocaust Trial in London at the side of a young man who may one day emerge as the Le Pen of Britain” (Campaign for Radical Truth in History webpage: <http://www.hoffman-info.com>).

8. CABLE ACCESS IDENTITY: Christian Identity videos can be seen on T.C.I. Channel 29 in the Seattle area every Wednesday from 5:30 to 6:30. The shows are being advertised by the Northwest Knights of the Ku Klux Klan.

9. NAAWP ON SLAVERY AND REPARATIONS: National Association for the Advancement of White People president Paul Allen penned his ideas on slavery in the Sept. *NAAWP News*: “The question is not what do Americans today owe blacks because of slavery. It is the other way around. What do blacks owe Whites for giving them civilization. It makes no sense to say that Whites should pay \$\$ reparations to place blacks in the economic position they would occupy ‘but for’ slavery – since but for slavery they would have probably wound up in a cooking pot in Africa... Whites owe blacks nothing for slavery. It is the other way around.”

10. SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION AND DONALD WILDMON: A Sept. 4 letter to American Family Association (AFA) head Donald Wildmon from Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) President Thomas D. Elliff gives a glimpse into the developing relationship between the two groups in the wake of the SBC endorsement of AFA’s Disney Boycott: “On behalf of the 15.5 million members of the Southern Baptist Convention let me thank you for your incredible expression of support for our resolution urging Southern Baptists to exercise moral stewardship by refraining to patronize the Walt Disney Corporation and it’s affiliates. In the last few weeks I have received almost 6,000 letters from your members alone!...”

Every God-fearing citizen of our nation must remember our Lord’s command to be ‘salt and light’ in the midst of a wicked and perverse generation... The AFA, as perhaps no other organization, so embodies his [John the Baptist’s] same fearless exposure and denunciation of those things which would destroy our nation’s integrity and debase our morality...

Thank you, Dr. Wildmon and AFA members, for standing where others have fallen and fighting when others have fled... May God bless you and strengthen you for the battle.”

An Oct. mailing from the AFA also reports that plans are in the making with SBC officials to send the AFA video *The Disney Boycott: A Just Cause* to some 30,000 local Southern Baptist Churches.

11. RICK COOPER FINDS HUMOR IN AMERICA’S PROMISE: National Socialist Vanguard leader Rick E. Cooper found humor in recent efforts by Dave Barley to distance his America’s Promise Ministries from the Phineas Priest bomber/bank robbers recently convicted in Spokane: “On a final somewhat humorous note, the three men above [Spokane bombers] were associated with and/or attended church services of America’s Promise in

Sandpoint (ID). The leader of America's Promise is Pastor David Barley who is another one of those many ministers who tries to distance himself from Klansmen, National Socialist and other radical White racial types for the usual reasons – economic, social, etc... We find it amusing that the actions of the Phineas Priests above have put America's Promise in a light similar to that of the Church of Jesus Christ Christian and have, to use the expression, placed the shoe on the other foot" (*NSV Report*, July/Sept. 1996).

12. RESCUE ACTIVISTS RUN FOR CONGRESS: Operation Rescue founder Randall Terry heads a list of anti-choice activists running for U.S. Congress. Terry is challenging Democrat Maurice Hinchey for his seat in upstate New York and is joined by the following candidates: Jim Pierce and Jerry Crawford in New York; Rev. Ronnie Wallace in North Carolina; Joe Slovenec in Ohio; Michael McMonagle in Pennsylvania; and Rev. Michael McHugh in Virginia. According to the anti-choice publication *Pearls* (Oct.), "All of these candidates have been active in the rescue movement and all have been incarcerated for their beliefs." *Pearls* also reports that the seven, calling themselves "Patrick Henry Men," are planning a "Liberty Tour" through the 48 contiguous states.

13. CHRISTIAN RIGHT STEPS UP ATTACKS ON JUDICIARY: In the wake of Supreme Court rulings such as *Romer v. Evans* (overturning Colorado's anti-gay Amendment 2) and the recent decision to overturn the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA), Christian Right leaders are increasingly calling for restrictions on the power of the federal judiciary. Citing these and other decisions – such as *Roe v. Wade* and rulings barring official prayer in schools – Focus on the Family head James Dobson writes,

"What is at stake in these judicial usurpations is the very right to self-government by the people of this great land. Increasingly, a small group of elitist, black-robed activists in the federal courts, who are appointed for life and therefore unaccountable to anyone, have imposed their will on the electorate. Their grab for power has become known as the 'the Imperial court,' and it threatens not only religious liberties, but the very democratic system of government itself." Dobson calls on Congress to "limit the authority of the entire court system, and even to ignore the Supreme Court's outrageous RFRA decision."

The Christian Coalition cites the Supreme Court's RFRA decision as evidence of the need for a "Religious Freedom Amendment" to the Constitution. Christian Coalition Executive Director Donald Hodel stated that "When power over freedom of religious expression passes from the people to a majority of unelected Supreme Court justices, then it is time to change the Constitution so that the voice of the people can be heard" (*Christian American*, Sept./Oct.).

Declaring that "the federal courts pose the number one threat to our democratic process," Eagle Forum head Phyllis Schlafly added to this to the list of grievances: "Personal opinions are what the Supreme Court has imposed in the areas of racial preferences and quotas, criminal procedures, pornography, forced busing, prayer and the Ten Commandments in public schools, internal security, and term limits." (*AFA Journal*, Sept.).

The D.C.-based Free Congress Foundation continues to play a lead role in anti-judiciary efforts. On Nov. 15 the group will conduct an "interactive conference" focusing on "judicial activism" titled "Taking Back Our Constitution." The conference builds on the group's early 1997 attempt to build a broad right-wing coalition to press for limits to judicial power through its Judicial Selection Monitoring Project. In Jan. 1997 some 260 organizations signed a letter to Congress and President Clinton pledging to "promote judicial restraint and fight judicial activism." Among the signers were Focus on the Family, the Christian Coalition, the California Coalition for Immigration Reform, Gun Owners of America, the Fully Informed Jury Association, English First, U.S. English, Eagle Forum and the Council of Conservative Citizens. Northwest groups signing the letter included Toward Tradition, the Evergreen Freedom Foundation, the Idaho Family Forum, the Washington Family Council, the Northwest Legal Foundation, the Oregon Lands Coalition, and Oregon Taxpayers United (Free Congress Foundation web page).

14. CHARGES AGAINST HARRIS DISMISSED: Murder and assault charges filed against Kevin Harris by the Boundary County Prosecutor's office were dropped in early Oct. when Judge Quentin Harden ruled that the charges violated an Idaho double jeopardy law. Harris, 29, of Republic, Washington, had been charged with first degree murder and aggravated assault in the 1992 death of U.S. Marshal William Degan and the shooting of another agent during the infamous stand-off between racist Randy Weaver and federal agents (AP, Oct. 3).

15. FBI AGENT GETS PRISON FOR DESTROYING WEAVER REPORT: E. Michael Kahoe, the former chief of the FBI's violent crimes section, was sentenced to 18 months in prison for destroying a report criticizing the agency's handling of the 1992 shootout with Idaho racist Randy Weaver. Kahoe was also fined \$4,000 and placed on a two-year probation following his release from prison (AP).

16. CONFERENCE UNITES PALEOS AND POPULATION CONTROL: Echoing an ongoing trend in anti-immigrant organizing, the paleo-conservative American Immigration Control Foundation and the population control group Carrying Capacity Network hosted a joint conference in Washington D.C. Oct. 31-Nov. 1. Scheduled speakers included Thomas Fleming, Samuel Francis, Virginia Abernethy, Lawrence Auster, Albert Bartlett, Roy Beck, John Coulter, Donald Huddle, David Pimentel, John Vinson and Jerry Woodruff. The event reflects the efforts of anti-immigrant activists to recruit environmentalists with the argument that immigration is increasing population and causing environmental degradation. It parallels the creation of the Alliance to Stabilize America's Population by Population-Environment Balance and the current effort to push the Sierra Club into endorsing an anti-immigrant plank.

17. GERMAN SOLDIERS INVOLVED IN HATE ACTIVITY: According to *Germany Alert* (Oct. 29), the German Defense ministry has reported that German soldiers have been involved in some 120 pro-Nazi, anti-Semitic and anti-foreigner incidents in the past year. In one case, Bundeswehr soldiers were videotaped giving "siege heil" salutes, threatening to kill Jews, and verbally attacking foreigners. The video included footage of eight soldiers from the 571st Mountain Infantry battalion and included background music by several German neo-Nazi bands.

18. NORWEGIAN RACISTS CLAIM VICTORY IN ELECTIONS: Norway's racist Progress Party took 15.3% of the vote in the country's Sept. 15 general election. The vote was an increase from the party's 6.3% in the last general election and gives the party 25 members in the new parliament, two-and-one half times its present number. The party hid its racist views for most of the campaign, focusing instead on disparaging single mothers, the unemployed, people on welfare and trade unions. In the final stages of the campaign, it shifted to an attack on ethnic minorities – who comprise just 1% of Norway's population – and claimed that the country was facing an invasion of Muslim fundamentalists. Progress Party MP F.F. Gunderson also took up an attack on the Laplanders of Norway's Arctic region, commenting that a trip to Finnmark (Norway's northernmost county) "was like a trip to hell."

Among the new MPs are Vidar Kleppe and Oystein Hedstrom, both of whom are reported by *Searchlight* (Oct.) to have close contacts with the extreme right. The night before the poll, French National Front leader Jean-Marie Le Pen praised the Progress Party and wished them a good election in favour of "Norway for Norwegians." *Searchlight*: 37B New Cavendish St.; London, England W1M 8JR.

••• The CHD Research Department prefers incident reports, newspaper clippings, event write-ups, questions and comments to be e-mailed to chdpdx@aol.com. Alternatively you can mail such items to the address below or call us either in Portland or Seattle at the numbers listed below. CHD Research staff rely upon such information to fill out much of the Northwest Update and we appreciate your contributions. •••