



In Defense of Democracy & Civil Rights

COALITION FOR HUMAN DIGNITY

P. O. BOX 21266 • SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98111-3266 • (206) 233-9775

PORTLAND (503) 281-5823 • FAX (503) 281-8673 • E-MAIL: chdpdx@aol.com

NORTHWEST UPDATE

September 1, 1997

1. CHD WELCOMES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: The Coalition for Human Dignity is proud to announce exciting changes in the organization. Effective October 1, 1997 CHD Executive Director Jonathan Mozzochi will step down from that post to take over the position of CHD Research Director. After serving as executive director for five years, and helping guide the organization from a tiny grassroots group to a regional center of expertise on the anti-Democratic right, Jonathan will again return to his foremost passion – research and analysis of far right groups, trends and movements.

Replacing Jonathan in the role of Executive Director will be Terre Rybovich. Terre brings to the organization 20 years of experience in the progressive movement and extensive experience in the areas of program development, organizational administration, fundraising and philanthropy. From 1986 to 1990 Terre served as a program officer with the Funding Exchange in New York, working closely with organizations focused on human rights, peace, labor and environmental issues. Prior to that she served four years with the Presbyterian Hunger Fund, advising the board of directors in grantmaking to rural and community development organizations in the United States and internationally. For the past four years Terre has worked in South Florida as a freelance writer and as director of publications and visual arts for the Palm Beach County Cultural Council.

2. CHD AT UNITED AUTO WORKERS TRAINING: CHD Executive Director Jonathan Mozzochi served as discussion leader for six seminars on Domestic Terrorist Groups at the Fourteenth International UAW Civil Rights Seminar August 24-29 at the Walther & May Reuther UAW Family Education Center in Black Lake, Michigan. Also serving as discussion leader for the Domestic Terrorist Groups presentations was UAW Civil Rights Department International Representative Nathan Head. Joe Davis, Director of the UAW Civil Rights Department, emceed the six day event, the theme of which was "Preparing for the New Millenium." Keynote speeches were given by UAW President Stephen P. Yokich, and Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights executive director Eva Jefferson Patterson, who spoke on Affirmative Action and Proposition 209. Other seminar topics included Arbitration of Discrimination Grievances, Political Action and Legislative Agenda, Voter Registration & Education, Diversity in the Workplace and Policy and Procedures for Local Union Civil Rights Committees.

3. SLADE GORTON ATTACKS INDIAN SOVEREIGNTY: U.S. Senator Slade Gorton (R-WA) has stepped up his ongoing attacks on Indian treaty rights with a measure that would force tribes to waive their sovereign immunity from civil lawsuits or lose up to \$767 million, nearly half the budget for the daily operation of tribal governments. Gorton attached his measure as a rider to an appropriations bill for the National Endowment for the Arts. He included with it a proposal to require means testing for Indian tribes that receive federal money. The removal of sovereign immunity would expose tribes to lawsuits by non-Indian property owners on reservations and others and place them on a footing below even city and county governments.

In defense of his bill, Gorton stated, "I find nothing in any Indian treaty that says the (tribes) must be continuously supported by the Federal taxpayers." "Crying racism," he stated, referring to those who oppose his riders, "is the last refuge of a group of individuals who can't argue on the merits." Gorton's effort is one more in a long string of attacks on Indian sovereignty. As a Washington state attorney general Gorton fought a losing battle to overturn the landmark Boldt decision while in 1995 he authored legislation to cut the budget of the Lummi Indian Nation in half.

"This is straight out an attempt to get rid of tribal government," John Dossett, general counsel for the National Congress of American Indians, told the New York Times (Aug. 27). "Before he was just going after one or two tribes, but now he's launched a broad attack on all the tribes."

The Northwest Update is a publication of the Coalition for Human Dignity

© 1997. All Rights Reserved. Material herein may not be reproduced without permission of the Coalition for Human Dignity.

4. AMERICA'S PROMISE CONFERENCE FACES OPPOSITION: America's Promise ministries held a summer Bible camp at the Assembly of God Mountainair Camp near Mountainair, New Mexico Aug. 9-15. Only about 100 attended. As reported by Jubilee (July/August) managing editor Paul Hall, America's Promise was nearly forced to call off the camp. After the Coalition for Human Dignity and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith notified the Assembly of God about the nature of America's Promise, Assembly of God officials reportedly asked Barley to voluntarily cancel plans for his camp. When Barley refused, Hall reports that "Florida attorney, Frazier Marks, intervened on behalf of America's Promise spending some 12 hours in negotiation with the New Mexico District Council Assemblies of God, Inc." Any future America's Promise New Mexico gatherings will likely take place elsewhere, as Hall reports that Assemblies of God lawyer William Lock stated, "Had we known then what we know now, we would not have signed the contract." As a result of public awareness about America's Promise, the group was met with a "proclamation of Un-Welcome" from Albuquerque Mayor Martin J. Chavez.

5. STUDY SHOWS RACE-BASED DISPARITY IN STATE EMPLOYMENT: Amidst growing clamor against affirmative action, a recent study by a Boise State University professor documents the continuing under-representation of people of color in Idaho state government employment. Among the highlights of the study, prepared for the Hispanic Affairs Commission by BSU statistics professor J.E. Gonzalez, are:

- While comprising 5.3% of Idaho's population according to the 1990 U.S. Census, Hispanics make up just 2.2% of state employees.
- Just 0.39% of state employees are African-American; 0.74% are Native American; and 1.0% are Asian/Pacific Islander. 96% are white. This amounts to 22,564 whites, 524 Hispanic-Americans, 235 Asian-Americans, 174 Native Americans and 91 African-Americans.
- 4.0% of the government work force is comprised of people of color, compared to 5.3% of the total work force (public and private).
- 100% of Idaho Governor Phil Batt's office personnel are white.
- Only 11 Hispanics, one Native American, 7 Asian-Americans and two African-Americans are found in management-level salary grades (\$19 per hour and higher). 1,137 whites are found in this grade.
- 27 of 77 state organizations employ no people of color.

6. NICHOLS' DEFENSE TEAM FACES SETBACKS: Defense attorneys for Oklahoma City bombing defendant Terry Nichols lost their bid to block the possibility of a death sentence for their client. Judge Richard P. Matsch turned down a request by Michael E. Tigar, Nichols' lead lawyer, that the death penalty be stricken on the grounds that evidence would show that Nichols was, at worst, a minor participant in the bombing. Tigar's effort to bar what one prosecutor described as "more than 60 percent of the Government's proof" was also thwarted. While Judge Matsch said that he may not allow evidence about Nichols' tax problems to be introduced, he will likely deny Tigar's request to suppress evidence linking Nichols to a 1994 robbery of an Arkansas gun dealer (New York Times, Aug. 29).

7. FBI AGENT, KEVIN HARRIS CHARGED IN RUBY RIDGE STAND-OFF: The Boundary County, Idaho prosecutor has filed first-degree murder charges against Kevin Harris and manslaughter charges against FBI agent Lon Horiuchi in connection to their involvement in the 1992 stand-off between federal agents and white supremacist Randy Weaver in northern Idaho. Citing new evidence unavailable during his 1993 federal trial, Boundary County prosecutor Denise Woodbury claims that Kevin Harris and Samuel Weaver chased U.S. Marshal William Degan 1,000 feet – 600 feet off of Weaver's property – before shooting him. "We have extensively reviewed the evidence and believe we can establish this was a willful murder," she told reporters.

Following the charges, Harris turned himself in at the Ferry County Courthouse in Republic, Washington. Some 200 Harris supporters gathered outside the courthouse, some carrying signs saying "double jeopardy," to protest the charges. The group later marched through the town. Harris could face the death penalty if convicted.

Woodbury's office has also brought involuntary manslaughter charges against Lon Horiuchi, the FBI agent who shot and killed Vicki Weaver during the stand-off. Horiuchi hit Vicki Weaver in an effort to shoot Kevin Harris as he (Harris) ran towards the door of the Weaver cabin. Woodbury charges that Horiuchi recklessly, carelessly and negligently fired his rifle without determining whether anyone was standing behind the door. If convicted, Horiuchi faces up to 10 years in prison (Seattle P-I, Aug 22).

8. JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY SPEAKER MAKES NORTHWEST SWEEP: John Birch Society spokesman Michael Coffman will speak on "Eco-fraud" at the following dates and places: Oct. 6 in Seattle, WA; Oct. 7 in Boise, ID; Oct. 8 in Idaho Falls, ID; Oct. 9 in Portland, OR and Oct. 10 in Spokane, WA (JBS Bulletin, Sept).

9. CHENOWITH ADVERTISES IN MOON PAPER: Helen Chenowith is running ads promoting her 1998 bid for the U.S. Congress in the Washington Times, the newspaper of theocratic leader Rev. Sun Myung Moon. The full page ad appeared in the August 24 edition of the paper and focuses on the far right legislators' stance on education. "Congressman Chenowith," it states, "is battling for the rights of parents to homeschool their children or to send them to private schools."

10. PAT BUCHANAN ON OUR "ETHNIC CORE": In a recent edition of his syndicated column, paleo-conservative Pat Buchanan flouts the racial nationalism that has garnered him support from all forces to the right of the Christian Coalition. "With 30 million immigrants since 1965, almost all now coming from Asia, Africa and Latin America," he writes, "our ethnic core - 90 percent in 1965 - is shrinking fast... We no longer worship the same God, share the same ideas of morality, admire the same heroes or celebrate the same holidays... How much 'diversity' can we tolerate before we cease to be one nation and one people?" (Washington Times, Aug. 24).

11. MORE MOVEMENT STRATEGY FROM WILMOT: Racist Wilmot Robertson offers his thoughts on correct strategy for white supremacists in the second in a series of articles in the August 1997 Instauration:

"Despite the prevailing 'white-out,' it is still possible to advocate and work openly and effectively for policies that advance the Majority cause by opposing unrestricted immigration, affirmative action, 'multiculturalism,' and other such threats to our survival. It is even possible to tackle the Jewish question, although exclusively on the matter of U.S. policy towards Israel..."

Single-issue groups offer outlets for activity ranging from sending clippings and contributing articles to attending conferences and volunteering in a variety of capacities. They afford the chance not merely to accomplish something for our race but also to learn such practicalities as organizing, propaganda, lobbying and fundraising...

It is wiser not to enter a single-issue organization with the idea of 'infiltrating' it or converting its members... Better to work, learn and grow comfortable in voicing your opinions... in reasonable and reasoned terms: 'I support America's traditional immigration policy'; 'I find discrimination against European-Americans intolerable'; 'I'm for an America-first policy in the Middle East'...

Another class of organization, the 'front groups,' rather than focusing on a single issue undertake a general program of educational and non-electoral political activity on behalf of the Majority, while steering clear of specifics on race and avoiding the Jewish question. They are called front groups... because their stand on behalf of 'populism' or 'middle America' or 'Southern heritage' or 'Western culture' usually veils an underlying pro-Majority stance...

...Avoid 'conservative' groups, including 'conservative' single issue groups, like the plague. In general your time, energy and money are too valuable to fritter away on counterproductive, peripheral concerns and groups (such as the Second Amendment lobbies) that are already doing quite well financially...

Don't cherish any hope that a front group will soon drop its facade and champion the Majority racial cause unreservedly. Be careful about being overly indiscreet... in broaching the real issues to its members..."

12. AMERICAN NATIONALIST UNION POLITICAL CONFERENCE: The American Nationalist Union, formerly the Populist Party, will hold a "political conference" Sept. 20 at the Best Western in New Hope, Penn. The keynote speaker will be ultra-conservative syndicated columnist Joseph Sobran. Other scheduled speakers include anti-Semite Eustace Mullins, Stan Rittenhouse, author of the book For Fear of the Jews, American Renaissance contributor Michael Masters, ANU executive director Don Wassall and longtime Populist Party figures John Justice of Illinois and John L. Kucek of New Jersey. ANU: P.O. Box 426; Allison Park, PA 15101; (412) 443-7300.

13. WORLDVIEW ACADEMY IN WASHINGTON: The Colorado-based Christian Right group Summit Ministries is promoting an upcoming Worldview Academy to be held in Olympia, Washington Sept. 7-12. Although not hosted by Summit, the group claims that the week-long event is similar to its own summer seminars. The Academy, however, includes youth age 13-15 whereas the Summit summer seminars target students aged 16 and older. Worldview Academies are being held around the country, including upcoming events in Ohio, Maryland, South Carolina, Florida and Texas. Contact: (409) 822-5045.

••• 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. •••

