



In Defense of Democracy & Civil Rights

COALITION FOR HUMAN DIGNITY

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NORTHWEST UPDATE

October 1, 1998

1. CHD AT WHATCOM COUNTY HUMAN RIGHTS TASK FORCE: CHD Executive Director Terre Rybovich and Research Associate Noah Chandler, along with Northwest Coalition Against Malicious Harassment Regional Organizer Eric Ward, presented at the board meeting of the Whatcom County Human Rights Task Force. Terre introduced CHD and its history of working with rural human rights groups such as theirs. Noah gave a presentation on the importance of maintaining a strong relationship between research and organizing.

2. ALAN SIMPSON JOINS FAIR'S BOARD: Former U.S. Senator (R-WY) and chair of the Senate Subcommittee on Immigration from 1995-96, Alan Simpson, has joined the Advisory Board of the preeminent anti-immigrant think tank, the Federation for American Immigration Reform (FAIR). FAIR reports that their board of directors gave unanimous support for Simpson to help guide the organization on "immigration issues of emerging concern." Simpson assumes the position as FAIR announced the death of another member of its National Board of Advisors, U.S. Ambassador Marshall Green.

FAIR also saluted the success of Australia's One Nation Party. They describe One Nation as a party that "advocates curbs on Asian immigration" and is giving the immigration reform movement "populist support." The One Nation Party is a far-right third party which assails immigrants and Aboriginal land rights in Australia. (*FAIR Immigration Report*, July/August 1998)

3. CALIFORNIA TO CELEBRATE EUROPEAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH: The state of California continues to be home to an increasing white cultural hegemony - Proposition 187 and 209 for example. California has now passed a new resolution to celebrate European-American Heritage month. Claiming to be modeled after celebrations such as Black History month, California appears to be ignoring the fact that those days and/or months, such as Black History month, were created to celebrate contributions by those that have been largely misrepresented or completely ignored by history. The resolution was introduced by Assemblyman Lou Papan (D-Milbrae). However, the inspiration behind it comes from Stan Hess of the European American Issues Forum. Most recently, Hess was arrested with a former Grand Dragon of the Ku Klux Klan at an anti-immigrant rally in Alabama for burning the United Nations flag. The rally attracted approximately 60 people, including Klansmen, neo-Nazis, and Christian Identity followers. (*San Jose Mercury News*, September 19)

4. BO GRITZ SHOOTS HIMSELF: In late September, far-right leader James "Bo" Gritz was found by the side of the road about 30 miles from his Christian Patriot compound, Almost Heaven, with a self-inflicted .45 caliber gunshot wound to the left side of his chest. Gritz's apparent suicide attempt coincided with his return home from his most recent escapade—searching for suspected abortion clinic bomber Eric Rudolph—when his wife of 24 years handed him divorce papers. In public statements days before his suicide attempt Gritz revealed that, "I've thought about looking at the other end of my pistol a few times...because what kind of life do I have without my bride?" According to a close friend, Gritz would be well enough to return to his radio program September 28. It is not known whether he will continue as speaker and presenter at this year's Preparedness Expos. Gritz is scheduled to be at the Dallas Expo on October 16-18 and the Denver Expo December 4-6. (Associated Press, September 21, 1998)

5. AMERICAN NATIONALIST UNION CONFERENCE: The American Nationalist Union, formerly the Populist Party, will hold their 1998 conference November 13-14 at the Radisson Hotel in Cleveland, Ohio. The featured speakers include: Sam Francis, Jared Taylor, Thomas Chittum, Kenneth J. Schmidt, and Don Wassal. American Nationalist Union: 724-443-7300; mail@anu.org. (*The Nationalist Times*, August 1998)

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6. CHICAGO ATTACKER ACQUITTED OF ATTEMPTED MURDER: Frank Caruso, 19, was acquitted of attempted murder for his involvement in the March 1997 beating of a black youth in a Chicago neighborhood. Caruso's victim, Leonard Clark, was so severely beaten that he had to relearn how to take a shower and brush his teeth. Clark continues to suffer from brain damage and as a result of the racist beating attends a special needs school. Caruso faces up to 13 years in prison for aggravated battery and a hate crime. Two accomplices of Caruso each face an attempted murder charge as well as battery and hate crime charges. Their court date is set for October 19. (Associated Press, September 19)

7. BACIR SURVEY: The San Francisco Bay Area anti-immigrant group Bay Area Coalition for Immigration Reform conducted a recent survey of its membership. The survey was taken to judge their members' level of activism and areas of concern. The poll found that 66% of their members belonged to FAIR, 56% belonged to Population-Environment Balance, 44% belonged to Carrying Capacity Network, and 33% belonged to the Sierra Club. Approximately 88% of BACIR's responding members said that they have made calls to their representatives and over half of their membership said they would be able to contribute articles to the newsletter if asked. Respondents also expressed the desire to participate in monthly meetings "to generate enthusiasm and a sense of working with others toward shared goals." (*Immigration News*, July/August/September 1998)

8. RACIST MOB MARCHES IN YORK, NEBRASKA: On September 14, a mob of about 30 young white men marched five blocks with baseball bats and a confederate flag to confront a woman who allegedly spread a rumor that one of their friends stole something from her home. The woman is involved in an interracial relationship and her sister is married to a black man with whom she has seven children. Luckily the woman received a warning call that the mob was coming to her home and left. The men broke the windows of a car, smashed a mailbox and damaged a door. Police state that the mob yelled racial slurs during their attack. Over a dozen police officers responded to the scene and arrested two men and one youth. Because of the incident two groups that conduct Civil War re-enactments cancelled their scheduled dates for the following weekend at York College. (Associated Press, September 18)

9. JUBILEE DOWNPLAYS THE MILLENIUM BUG: Despite the hype surrounding the Year 2000 Millenium computer bug, one influential far-right group takes a more tempered approach. Paul Hall, Senior Advisor and Editor of the Christian Identity newspaper, *The Jubilee*, believes that what is popularly referred to as the Y2K bug is not necessarily a serious problem. While Hall believes that "some people will be scared, injured and even die," and that "globalists" and computer programmers are creating much of the public panic to gain more control and money, the same issue of *The Jubilee* advertises Chris Temple's book and newsletter package titled, "The Millenium Bug—Your Key to Profits: Make Big Money and Prepare for the Worst at the Same Time."

Hall says Y2K is unlikely to bring total catastrophe to the world but it is a time for "Christians (with eyes to see) to move closer to their God." He makes an analogy comparing the world's dependence on silicon (sand) computer chips to the Biblical story found in Matthew 7:24-27, where the wise man builds his house on stone and the fool builds his on sand. Hall sums up by saying that people (Christians) should see this as a good time. A time in which Christians shouldn't be running scared but waiting with anticipation for damage to occur at the "fool's" house. (*The Jubilee*, July/August 1998)

10. ANTI-GAY MARRIAGE AMENDMENT PROPOSED IN ALASKA: An Alaskan state Superior Court judge recently ruled that Alaskan state constitutional amendment Proposition 2, which would ban same sex marriages, may proceed to the November ballot despite protests of its constitutionality. State activists as well as the Alaska Civil Liberties Union challenged the legality of the Proposition based on the bias of the language used by its framer, Lt. Governor Fran Ulmer. (*Anchorage Daily News*, September 1)

11. FROM RACIAL SLURS TO ASSAULT: Everett resident Delores Kellogg was sentenced to jail time earlier this year for misdemeanor harassment of her neighbor, who is black. Kellogg had yelled racial insults but was not found guilty of malicious harassment charges as the judge said the harassment was "out of neighborly hate, not racial hate." Kellogg allegedly called her neighbor a "black bastard" and said to him, "I'll show you some country justice, I'll shoot your... [unreported]." Kellogg was arrested again in September for throwing apples at her neighbor while he worked in his garage. This attack was in obvious violation of her earlier sentencing and therefore the judge gave Kellogg to 90 days in jail. (*The Herald*, September 5)

- 12. RACIST/ANTI-SEMITIC VANDALISM IN SPOKANE:** Swastikas and the words "ein volk" (one people, in German) were painted on the outside of the Argonne Library in Spokane. Also hit was the Valley Library which had similar writings as well as the date April 15 - which may be a reference to both the the bombing of the Oklahoma Federal Building and the day of execution for imprisoned white supremacist Richard Snell which actually happened on April 19. (*Spokesman Review*, September 3)
- 13. ANTI-SEMITISM AT SPOKANE CITY COUNCIL MEETING:** After a presentation to the Spokane city council an unidentified man watching the proceedings flashed Attorney Mark Schwartz a drawing of a Star of David with the letter "J" in the center and swastikas surrounding it. According to Schwartz, who is a Pennsylvania attorney and is Jewish, the meeting proceeded and only eventually was the man escorted from the building by police. The man, not being identified by police, has not been formerly charged but Sgt. Dan Torok says that he will more than likely be charged with disorderly conduct. Even though Spokane Mayor John Talbott has offered his apology in the matter, Schwartz has asked for the resignation of City Attorney James Sloane and Councilman Jeff Colliton for their alleged slowness in dealing with the incident as it happened. Schwartz attended the September city council meeting at the request of Washington Public Trust Advocates and Mayor Talbott. He was being asked to present an argument in a discussion regarding parking garage bonds. (*Spokesman Review*, September 1-2)
- 14. MAINE SYNAGOGUE AND CHURCH VANDALISED:** The Aroostook Hebrew Community Synagogue in Presque Isle, Maine was vandalized with swastikas and anti-Semitic writings shortly before Rosh Hashana. Only a few days later and 100 miles away the Enfield Baptist Church was vandalized with anti-Semitic slogans. An 18-year-old man and two juveniles were caught in connection with the church vandalism. The state attorney general is reviewing possible hate crime charges. However, there are no suspects in the attack on the synagogue. Authorities do not believe that the cases are connected. (Associated Press, September 24, 1998)
- 15. NEW ANTI-IMMIGRANT GROUPS TO JOIN ASAP:** The Alliance for Stabilizing America's Population is being joined by two new signatories, the Sacramento Environmental Education Council, and Georgians for a Responsible Immigration Policy. ASAP is a coalition of population control, anti-immigrant and environmental groups spearheaded by the Washington, D.C.-based Population Environment Balance, one of the leading population control groups dedicated to reducing immigration in the U.S. (*The Balance Activist*, September 1988, No. 87)
- 16. ROAD TO VICTORY CONFERENCE:** Contrary to their puritan sentiments on sex, the Christian Coalition's Road to Victory 1998 conference made President Clinton's sexual practices a centerpiece of discussion on its opening day, September 18. Other political themes brought to the more than 3,500 attendees were the Senate's failure to override the President's veto of the partial-birth abortion bill, the importance of electing conservative Republicans to office in this fall's elections, impeachment of President Clinton, attacks on welfare, defending Henry Hyde's 5 year affair, and the need for "a president who thinks in Biblical terms." Oliver North even made a speech in which he condemned lying and the need for the rule of law. Other featured speakers included Randy Tate, Ralph Reed, Senator Trent Lott, Representative Newt Gingrich, Rabbi Daniel Lapin, Representative J.C. Watts, Dan Quayle, Tom Delay, Representative John Kasich, Phylliss Schlafly, Kay James, Senator Mitch McConnell, and Alan Keyes. For more information and summaries of the Road to Victory conference please visit People for the American Way on the World Wide Web at <http://www.pfaw.org>. (PFAW)
- 17. TENNESSE CHRISTIAN IDENTITY MEETING:** On October 4-11, in Athens, TN, at the Ramada Inn the "Father's Feast of Tabernacles" Christian Identity conference will be held. Dubbed as "Perhaps one of the most important events of the century, if not this millennium," the Tabernacles gathering will be host to several prominent Identity leaders. Listed to speak at this 7-day conference are Posse Comitatus leader James Wickstrom, Aryan Nations heir apparent Neuman Briton, and *Vigilantes of Christendom* author Richard Kelly Hoskins. Contact: Dan Raber (423)458-8855.
- 18. FORMER KLANSMAN DIES BEFORE TRIAL:** Deavours Nix, a former Mississippi Klansman, was awaiting his day in court since authorities reopened a 1966 racist murder case and charged him for his alleged involvement. However, Nix, who was 72, died of lung cancer before he could be sentenced. Nix was arrested with three others earlier this year for their involvement in the 1966 firebombing death of Vernon Dahmer - a black store owner who lived in Hattiesburg, MS. Former Imperial Wizard Samuel H. Bowers was given a life sentence on August 21 for ordering the firebombing. Former Klansman Charles Noble still awaits trial. (Associated Press, September 20)

19. ANTI-ABORTIONISTS TARGET CALIFORNIA SUPREME COURT JUSTICES: The anti-abortion group California ProLife Council is targeting two California Supreme Court Justices for voting to block California parental-consent laws. CPC calls the court decision a violation of parental rights. This is the first attempt to oust a Supreme Court justice in California in 12 years. (Associated Press, September 20)

20. NATIONAL NAAWP NATIONAL CONFERENCE: The Florida based, and rather redundant sounding, National National Association for the Advancement of White People is holding a "National Conference" in Jacksonville, FL on October 3-4. The October 3 date is only open to State Directors and "prominent Chapter Leaders." They add, "What transpires at this conference will shape the future of National NAAWP!" However, general members are expected to be able meet with the various State Directors and "enjoy themselves" the following day. The National NAAWP is a splinter group from another Florida based faction of the NAAWP, which is led by militia and neo-Nazi supporter Dan Daniels. National NAAWP is led by Reno Wolf and Ray Thomas. The group publishes two newsletters, the *National NAAWP News* and *The Y2K Survival Newsletter*. David Duke originally founded the NAAWP. (*National NAAWP News*, July/August 1998)

21. NEW ANTI-IMMIGRANT WEB SITE: The Center for Immigration Studies has put a database online to "facilitate identification of companies that have been fined for knowingly hiring or continuing to employ illegal aliens." The WWW site can be found at <http://www.cis.org/search.html>. (MCRI, September 1998)

22. SOUTH CAROLINA KLAN CONVICTION: Joshua Grant England, 20, a former member of the Christian Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, was sentenced to 26 years in prison for an October 27, 1996 drive-by shooting. England was found guilty of firing 11 rounds into a crowd of black youth who were standing outside of the Club Illusion in South Carolina. Three people were injured in the shooting. (Associated Press, September 28)

••• 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. •••