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2409 - 4/20/95

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Myrna Shinbaum (212) 490-2525, ext. 7747

**ADL: OKLAHOMA CITY TRAGEDY SHOWS URGENT NEED
FOR STRONG COUNTERTERRORISM MEASURES**

New York, NY, April 20...The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) today expressed shock and outrage at the heinous car-bomb attack in Oklahoma City and called it a "rude wake-up call" to the need to strengthen our counterterrorism efforts.

David H. Strassler, ADL National Chairman, and Abraham H. Foxman, ADL National Director issued the following statement:

We are outraged at the heinous attack in Oklahoma City which indiscriminately killed and injured innocent Americans. This tragedy must serve as a rude wake-up call to the need to strengthen our counterterrorism efforts.

Reminiscent of the World Trade Center bombing, this brutal act against a US Federal building brings home yet again the reality that Americans are not immune from terrorist attacks on our shores. Terrorists have the will and capability to strike anywhere at any time.

In the wake of this latest incident, we call on the U.S. Congress to swiftly pass the Omnibus Counterterrorism Act of 1995 currently pending. A tragedy such as this reinforces the need for expanded legislation to combat the growing terrorist threat on American soil.

We support the President in his firm stand against terrorism. The United States must not be intimidated and must use all available means to hunt down and bring those responsible to justice.

The Anti-Defamation League, founded in 1913, is the world's leading organization fighting anti-Semitism through programs and services that counteract hatred, prejudice and bigotry.

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NEWS

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**ADL COMMENDS PRESIDENT FOR DOMESTIC ANTI-TERRORISM INITIATIVE
CALLS ON 26 STATES TO ENACT ANTI-PARAMILITARY TRAINING STATUTES**

New York, NY, April 24...The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) today commended President Clinton for his initiative on domestic terrorism and joined with him in urging Congress to act swiftly on the matter. The League also called on the governors of the 26 states that do not have anti-paramilitary training statutes to enact such laws, joining the 24 states that do.

"We commend President Clinton for his initiative on domestic anti-terrorism that would enable law enforcement to track groups posing a threat to America, while not impinging on basic civil liberties," said David H. Strassler, ADL National Chairman, and Abraham H. Foxman, ADL National Director. "We hope all necessary steps will be taken in the shortest possible time and that Congress will deal with appropriate legislation in a supportive and timely manner."

Noting that 24 states have enacted anti-paramilitary training statutes based on or similar to an Anti-Defamation League model statute drafted more than a decade ago, ADL today called upon state law enforcement officials to use these laws vigorously against militias such as those now under investigation in connection with last week's tragic bombing in Oklahoma City.

"These statutes typically provide criminal sanctions for individuals who teach, demonstrate, or assemble with others to engage in paramilitary training activities with the intent to cause or further a civil disorder," said Strassler and Foxman. "They provide a potent tool for law enforcement at the state level to use against such militias if evidence indicates that they have engaged in weapons training."

ADL sent a letter to the governors of the 26 states which do not have such statutes enclosing the ADL model language and urging them to seek its prompt enactment.

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Editors Note: The ADL publication *Armed & Dangerous: Militias Take Aim At The Federal Government* (Oct. 1994) is available from the Public Relations Department and on Nexus/USNWR.

ADL experts are available for interviews.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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McVEIGH OFFERED WEAPONS FOR SALE ADL REVEALS

New York, NY, April 27...The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) today revealed that Oklahoma City bombing suspect Timothy McVeigh, using the alias "T. Tuttle," advertised for sale a military style launcher in *The Spotlight*, the publication of the extremist and anti-Semitic Liberty Lobby. The ad, which appeared in the August 16, 1993 issue and two subsequent issues, offered for sale a "LAW launcher replica" which "fires 37 mm flares," as well as the flares themselves which can be modified for explosive use. (LAW stands for "light anti-tank weapon.")

According to *The Wall Street Journal*, an FBI affidavit on McVeigh indicates that he has used the names "Terry Tuttle" and "Tim Tuttle" as aliases. The ad listed an address in Kingman, Arizona, where responses could be sent. This is the same address used by McVeigh as a mail drop when he resided in Kingman.

ADL also revealed that McVeigh operated a booth offering weapons for sale at a September 1993 gun show in Phoenix, Arizona. The sponsor of the show was Crossroads of the West, headquartered in Kaysville, Utah.

The Spotlight regularly features articles sympathetic to the militia movement and its claims of a plot by the Federal Government to take away the rights of Americans. The paper promotes right-wing extremist conspiracy theories, including the alleged use of "black helicopters," Russian tanks and UN troops to take over the United States and create a "New World Order." A lurid September 1994 *Spotlight* supplement on these themes has been widely distributed among militias. *The Spotlight* also features Holocaust denial propaganda, as well as meeting notices for groups such as the Aryan Nations and self-styled "patriot" organizations.

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Editors Note: Attached is a copy of the ad and information on "The Spotlight". ADL material on the Liberty Lobby and other extremist groups is available from the Public Relations Department.

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SELECTIVE SINGLES—Ad must be deemed tasteful. Ads accepted and edited at the discretion of the publisher. All information kept in confidence. Must be at least 18 years old. Fill out classified coupon in paper.

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LAW LAUNCHER REPLICA fires 37mm Flares, 2 Flares incl. \$125. ea. Add flares \$12. ea. Pepper Spray keychain \$10. ea. Money Orders only. T. Tuttle 1711 Stockton Hill, #206, Kingman, Az 86401.

LAW LAUNCHER REPLICA fires 37mm Flares, 2 Flares incl. \$125. ea. Add flares \$12. ea. Pepper Spray keychain \$10. ea. Money Orders only. T. Tuttle 1711 Stockton Hill, #206, Kingman, Az 86401.

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NEED EXCUSE to go to sunny Florida Keys? Ideally located professional office for sale in Homestead. Two lots (13,500 sq. ft.) with building (approx. 1,500 sq. ft.), one block from hospital. Presently leased through February 1993. \$11,800 yearly net rent. Forced sale. \$115,000. (305) 596-9223.

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VIDEOS

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WANTED

WANTED! Servants of Christ to serve Orthodox faithful throughout the United States. Mercian Orthodox Catholic Church, POB 460418, Aurora, Colo. 80046.

The Weekly Propaganda Voice

Liberty Lobby's weekly tabloid, *The Spotlight*, also yields a heavy quotient of anti-Jewish propaganda. Its editorial slant is predicated on Carto's conspiracy theory of history, a nightmare in which hidden forces—often including the Trilateral Commission and Jews—dictate policies of governments throughout the world. Jews constantly turn up under *The Spotlight's* glare in familiar code words such as “political Zionists,” “Israel's American supporters,” “dual loyalists,” and “international bankers.”

Willis Carto unveiled *The Spotlight* with its inaugural issue dated September 17, 1975, when it appeared as *The National Spotlight*—a 16-page weekly tabloid, written and edited by Liberty Lobby staff. With the April 19, 1976 issue, the paper was increased to 20 pages and renamed *The Spotlight*, the result of a legal challenge by a Canadian publisher who had a “prior usage” claim to the name, *The National Spotlight*. Today it retains a similar format, except for an expanded length of 28 to 32 pages per issue.

The Spotlight has been Liberty Lobby's primary vehicle for disseminating its propaganda. From its debut in 1975, *The Spotlight's* circulation increased annually until 1981 when it peaked at an average paid circulation of over 300,000 per weekly issue. Since then, however, the tabloid's readership has undergone a steady decline. For example, the 1985 circulation statement came to 124,531, down 60.5% from 1981. In 1989, the figure dwindled to 88,973, down 28.5% from 1985. Still, it probably reaches the largest audience of any anti-Semitic publication in the United States.

In a 1990 letter to subscribers, Vincent J. Ryan, editor of *The Spotlight*, claimed to cover those stories “that the controlled press has been doing its conspiratorial best to keep hidden from you.” He delivered an advertising pitch lauding the paper as:

“a source that takes you *behind the scenes*, and gives you the real story hidden deep within the headlines, so you can make more informed decisions in your personal and business life.”

Much of *The Spotlight's* success, at least when compared to other anti-Semitic periodicals, stems from its ability to project an image of populism and patriotism. In 1990, for example, it launched mini-crusades against proposed tax increases, trade agreements with the Soviet Union, gun control, gay rights, pornography, and the welfare system. Unlike traditional conservative publications, *The Spotlight* is continually tainted by an anti-Jewish and anti-Israel bias, a general conspiracy-oriented tone, and a penchant for providing a platform for those seeking to deny the reality of the Holocaust.

The December 24, 1979 issue of *The Spotlight* brought readers a 15-page “Holocaust Supplement” with headlines which somehow seemed to epitomize Willis Carto's unique rendition of the holiday spirit:

“Were Six Million Jews Exterminated?”
“Famous ‘Gas Chamber Victims’ Living Well.”
“Need \$50,000? Find a Holocaust Victim.”
“Torture Used to Make Germans ‘Confess.’”
“Chasing ‘War Criminals’ for Profit.”

Other headlines over the years have included: “The Diary of Anne Frank is a Fraud,” “Holocaust Viewed as Deception,” “White Race Becoming an Endangered Species,” and “Israel Murders Americans.”

Willis Carto himself writes for *The Spotlight*, both under his own name and using several pseudonyms including “Frank Tompkins” and “E.L. Anderson, Ph.D.” In his articles, Liberty Lobby's founder frequently assails the “international bankers”—long an anti-Semitic code word for Jews.

The Spotlight often claims that it is against Zionism—but is not anti-Jewish. Not only does the content of the tabloid belie such a disclaimer, but many of the advertisements it carries parallel

the interests of its founder. Examples have included advertisements for virulently anti-Semitic organizations such as the National States Rights Party of Georgia and James K. Warner's Louisiana-based Christian Defense League. Also featured at one time were advertisements headlined "Is America Zion?" expressing the views of the late Pastor Sheldon Emry, the anti-Jewish founder of "America's Promise," a national radio broadcast which emanated from the Lord's Covenant Church in Scottsdale, Arizona. *The Spotlight* regularly carries a "classified" section in which advertisements for extremist group publications and membership solicitations appear. It also runs a weekly "Datebook" feature listing upcoming extremist group events among other things.

Another extremist phenomenon that has received favorable treatment in *The Spotlight* is the neo-Nazi Skinhead movement. Skinheads—a serious concern to many U.S. communities and law enforcement agencies in recent years—have been the subject of admiring stories in the Liberty Lobby tabloid.* For example, a 1986 article and photo spread entitled "Skinheads: They're Young, They're Wild and Standing Up for America," took note of "their often violent displays of patriotism," and hailed their "macho creed with two-fisted values such as personal courage and fighting skills." Asserting that the "struggle for today's youth is one for the ultimate values of national and racial survival," *The Spotlight* concluded that Skinheads "are certainly prepared to bring their new social order to America."

Beneath its guise of patriotism and populism, *The Spotlight's* journalistic credibility can be judged by some of its own recent reporting:

"Proof has now been developed that the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) was primarily responsible for the slavish subservience of the American media to the bloodthirsty tyrant Nicolae Ceausescu of Romania." (April 6, 1990)

. . .

"The White House has been 'particularly shaken' by evidence linking the WZO [World Zionist Organization], a wealthy and well-connected worldwide lobby, to a narcotics ring that is threatening the life of President George Bush." (May 21, 1990)

. . .

"The detailed account of how Israel became the world's leading exporter of terrorism, repression, killer munitions and outlaw covert tactics may be the U.S. government's most deeply hidden and anxiously guarded secret." (June 18, 1990)

. . .

"What has surprised most investigators—and startled the White House—is the discovery that many key [financial] figures in this web of waste and plunder were linked, not by similar professional or economic backgrounds, but by a shared loyalty to Israel." (July 9, 1990)

*See also ADL *Special Report*, "Neo-Nazi Skinheads: A 1990 Status Report" and previous ADL reports on this subject

Excerpted from
"Liberty Lobby: Network of Hate" an ADL Research Report, 1990.



Founded in 1913 "to stop the defamation of the Jewish people to secure justice and fair treatment to all citizens alike."

Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, 823 United Nations Plaza, New York, NY 10017 (212) 490-2525 FAX: (212) 867-0779

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by
Thomas Halpern

In the wake of the Oklahoma City bombing and the tragedy and devastation it produced, we are all asking what can be done to help prevent such an atrocity from happening again. How can Americans feel safe from terrorism? What tools do law enforcement agencies need to properly monitor and counter extremist groups while ensuring that our civil liberties be protected? The Anti-Defamation League's 81 years of experience in monitoring and counteracting extremist and hate movements convinces us that there are useful and effective measures to be taken.

Today's so-called militias, which many believe to have spawned the Oklahoma City bombers, are a case in point. Tracking the militia movement since its emergence last spring, through published material, speeches, videotapes, radio programs and computer bulletin boards, the ADL determined by last fall that the militias' growth, activities and bellicose message needed to be exposed to the American people.

Armed and Dangerous: Militias Take Aim at the Federal Government, released in October 1994, detailed the paramilitary activities of these groups, their stockpiling of weapons and their fanatical hatred of the Federal government. We posed the problem of "what exactly, the militias intend to do with their guns."

Surely, our law enforcement agencies ought to have the legal authority and the necessary resources to answer such questions. Furthermore, there should be improved coordination among the various agencies involved. In this regard, President Clinton's call for the creation of an interagency domestic counterterrorism center headed by the FBI is welcome.

Another step can be taken. Our research on extremist groups over the years has convinced us that paramilitary training by organizations intent on fostering civil disorder should be outlawed altogether. We see no reason why a society such as ours, which affords every opportunity for freedom of expression and peaceful change, should permit any group to acquire

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and train its members to use lethal weapons for the purpose of getting its way by shooting or bombing.

When the last wave of paramilitary activity occurred, in the late seventies, ADL produced a report that documented the proliferation of training centers operated by the Ku Klux Klan and other racist groups in Alabama, California, Connecticut, Illinois, North Carolina and Texas. Using such names as The White Patriot Party and the Christian Patriots Defense League, these organizations were found to be seedbeds of violence and lawlessness.

As a response, we drafted model state legislation that would make it illegal to conduct such training activities. The bill, carefully drafted to withstand constitutional challenge, imposed criminal penalties for weapons instructors and participants in paramilitary training camps. Its subsequent adoption by 24 states contributed to the decline over the next several years of such paramilitary activity. The law was successfully applied, for example, in Florida, where it resulted in the conviction in 1985 of members of the United Klans of America, who were training for terrorist actions against minorities.

We believe that today's discussion of how to reduce the possibility of more Oklahoma City-type atrocities is healthy and necessary and ought to include measures at both the federal and state levels. We urge the 26 states that have not already enacted laws patterned on ADL's model bill to do so with all deliberate speed.

This country had a tragic wake-up call in February 1993 when the World Trade Center was bombed. Many Americans, for the first time, realized our vulnerability to international terrorism. Two years later we see that home-grown terrorists can be even more deadly. While there are no guarantees that it won't happen again, Americans must be reassured that their law enforcement agencies, functioning within constitutional limits, are working to deter such events from happening again.

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Thomas Halpern is Associate Director of Fact Finding for the Anti-Defamation League.



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NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ADL REPORT RECOMMENDS ANTI-PARAMILITARY TRAINING LAWS
AS A RESPONSE TO DOMESTIC TERRORISM**

New York, NY, May 2...Anti-paramilitary training statutes can play a significant role in deterring future acts of domestic terrorism, according to a report released today by the Anti-Defamation League (ADL). In seeking ways to counteract the activities of paramilitary and hate groups, one ADL strategy has been to encourage states to enact such statutes. These laws would prohibit systematic instruction in exercises comparable to military training, including the use of advanced weaponry, for the purpose of fostering civil disorder. Since the ADL Legal Affairs Department drafted a model law more than a decade ago, 24 states have adopted similar statutes.

The ADL Anti-Paramilitary Training Statute: A Response to Domestic Terrorism provides a legal analysis of the ADL model statute and the full text of the state laws already enacted.

"With the memory of the devastation in Oklahoma City still fresh in our mind, we encourage the legislatures in states without such laws to enact them quickly," said Abraham H. Foxman, ADL National Director. "These statutes provide law enforcement with an effective tool to use against potentially dangerous groups, including some of the militias which have recently come to public attention." Since October 1994 when ADL issued a special report on the militia movement in America, the number of such groups has more than doubled -- from 13 to 27 -- and continues to grow.

Foxman noted that such laws have worked well in the past, citing the example of Florida where five members of the United Klans of America were arrested and charged with planning terrorist acts against minorities. The group planned to incite blacks to riot so that whites would turn to the KKK for leadership. Two members were convicted by a jury for violating Florida's anti-paramilitary training statute.

"Having and enforcing the law most assuredly prevented a dangerous situation from escalating into civil disorder and the loss of innocent lives," Foxman observed. "In the light of recent events involving the 'militia movement,' the usefulness of anti-paramilitary training statutes for law enforcement agencies could not be more apparent today."

Another case cited in the report involved the Christian Patriots Defense League (CPDL), an extremist survivalist group, that held "freedom festivals" in Illinois starting in 1979. More than 1,000 persons engaged in military-style field maneuvers, received instruction in firearm use and reloading, demolition and camouflage, anti-aircraft and anti-tank drills and knife fighting. The passage of Illinois's anti-paramilitary training statute prompted CPDL Leadership to move the festival to Missouri. When Missouri passed similar legislation, making it illegal for the attendees to bring their firearms to the event, many extremists did not attend.

(more)

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In creating the model, ADL was guided by three primary objectives:

- First, the statute must not violate constitutional guarantees, particularly First Amendment freedoms of speech and association.
- Second, it must deal directly with the problem of paramilitary training camps.
- Third, the bill must be drafted narrowly so that it clearly does not prohibit legitimate lawful activities such as rifle ranges and karate clubs.

In order to obtain convictions under this statute, law enforcement officials must prove that the goal of individuals participating in these paramilitary programs is to create or foster illegal civil disorder.

States that do **not** have anti-paramilitary training statutes similar to the ADL model include: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Delaware, Hawaii, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Ohio, south Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

Prepared by the Legal Affairs Department of the ADL Civil Rights Division, the report was made possible by a grant from the William and Naomi Gorowitz Institute on Terrorism and Extremism.

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Editors Note: Copies of the report are available from the ADL Public Relations Department. As of May 3, the report will be available on NEXIS/LEXIS.

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ADL CITES EXTREMIST LITERATURE AS A "PAPER TRAIL OF VIOLENCE"

New York, NY, May 15...The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) today revealed that two major extremist publications, which include a bomb-making manual and a guide to assassination techniques, represent part of the extreme right's "paper trail" of violence. The materials provide a behind-the-scenes look at the planning and ideology of far-right, violence-prone groups, including various state "militias," operating across the United States.

The materials, among many collected as part of ongoing ADL monitoring of extremist movements, provide evidence of "a troubling literature of violence," according to Abraham H. Foxman, ADL, National Director. "These materials amount to a recipe for murder and terrorism, representing a legitimate subject of interest and scrutiny for law enforcement."

The most notorious of these materials, promoted in the 1994 catalog of the Militia of Montana, is a book titled, *The Road Back*, written in 1973 by the pseudonymous "Macaba," which contains a listing of explosive materials and compounds that "may be obtained from military storages[sic] by means of 'midnight requisitions' and guerilla raids." The book offers a detailed explanation of how to make a bomb using ammonium nitrate, the common chemical fertilizer suspected as the main ingredient in the terrorist bombing of the Oklahoma City Federal Building on April 19. It also contains diagrams on assembling Molotov cocktails and detonating devices, as well as instructions in the use of "incendiaries," and percussion devices for mines. The Militia of Montana lists the book for sale at \$20 and describes it as "a plan for the restoration of freedom when our country has been taken over by its enemies."

The Road Back -- which echoes in its form and content a similar bomb-making manual of the far-left of the 1960s called *The Anarchist's Cookbook* -- was originally published by Noontide Press, a publishing entity linked to Liberty Lobby, the most significant anti-Semitic propaganda organization in the U.S. Liberty Lobby's weekly publication, *The Spotlight*, is a central organ of communication for right wing extremists; ADL recently revealed that Timothy McVeigh, the Oklahoma City bombing suspect, had advertised military-style anti-tank launchers for sale through classified ads in *The Spotlight* in 1993, using the alias "T. Tuttle" and an address in Kingman, Arizona.

Another publication directed at militias is the *U.S. Militiaman's Handbook*, by Dan Shoemaker, which contains a chapter on assassination techniques. Chapter headings in the handbook include: "Who Is the Enemy," "Punitive Actions," "Vigilante Actions," "U.S. Militia Code of Conduct," "Government Secrets," "Ballistic and Marksmanship Information," "Battle Scenarios," and "Assassination."

Chapter 3, "Who Is The Enemy," states unequivocally that "the greatest threat to the U.S. Constitution and the U.S. Militia comes from domestic government. Federal, state, and local governments are now attempting to circumvent or abrogate the U.S. Constitution and to eliminate the existence of the U.S. Militia."

Chapter 9 features "the assassination of proven enemies of the Constitution of the United States." Readers are informed that:

"Assassination by the U.S. Militia should be, but is not required to be, a military operation....

"There are a lot of ways to kill someone who is targeted for assassination....

"If members of the U.S. Militia find themselves standing over the subject's body or somehow initially capture the subject the situation should be handled like a battlefield execution. Read the execution order before or after the target subject is terminated....

"If the target subject looks like a hard case, perhaps he has bodyguards, for example, then a different plan would be called for....When the target subject appears the entire rifle team fires at him on signal. Don't forget to kill his little Nazi bodyguards too. The second and third volleys should be aimed at the bodyguards. Kill them all....

"Successful assassination requires some kind of plan. But, then too, there is always the random hunting method. What about solitary assassins? Well brother, if you are the last free man left alive in your area, **hunt the enemy. Make it count.** "

"These militia materials are no joke," said Foxman. "They are recipes for murder. When their authors discuss 'enemies' and 'targets,' they mean real and living human beings. One important way to deal with this kind of incitement to murderous activity is for Congress to support the anti-terrorist legislation now under consideration." Another important step, Foxman said, "is that elected officials should be urged to support anti-paramilitary training laws in the 26 states without such legislation and to firmly enforce those laws in the states that already have enacted them." Most of these laws are based on ADL model legislation formulated a decade ago.

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NEWS

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**NEW ADL REPORT 'PARANOIA AS PATRIOTISM'
SHOWS INFLUENCES OF FAR-RIGHT EXTREMISTS ON
THE MILITIA MOVEMENT**

New York, NY, May 23 ... The anti-government, right-wing paramilitary militia movement, which came to public attention in the wake of the Oklahoma City bombing, has been influenced by far-right extremists on the American scene, according to a new report released today by the Anti-Defamation League (ADL). *Paranoia as Patriotism: Far-Right Influences on the Militia Movement*, provides a context for a greater understanding of the militias' ideology. The report presents information on 18 right-wing extremist groups and leaders, many with histories of violence, who had an impact on or were the forerunners of today's militias.

"Today's anti-government, paramilitary extremist militias have taken a chapter from the book of well-known right-wing extremists," said Abraham H. Foxman, ADL National Director. "One need only listen to the rhetoric of the militia leaders and read their material to know they have studied the propaganda and adopted the conspiracy theories of earlier far-right radicals," Foxman added. "Americans should not be fooled by their perverted 'patriotism.'"

The ADL report includes fact sheets on the following:

- **The Arizona Patriots** - was an anti-Semitic group whose leaders were imprisoned for plotting to bomb government offices and Jewish organizations.
- **Aryan Nations** - a paramilitary Nazi-like hate group affiliated with "Identity," a racist and anti-Jewish pseudo-theology.
- **Committee of the States** - was an extremist tax protest group that believed the Federal government and bankers were conspiring to enslave Americans.
- **The Covenant, the Sword and the Arm of the Lord (CAS)** - was a violence-prone purveyor of anti-Semitism, hate and illegal weapons.
- **Robert DePugh and The Minuteman** - DePugh founded The Minutemen, a secretive

(more)

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extremist group that organized violent "counteraction" to a perceived Communist takeover of the U.S.

- **Elohim City** - an "Identity" encampment on the Oklahoma-Arkansas border that is the burial site of the executed racist killer Richard Wayne Snell.
- **Colonel James "Bo" Gritz** - a highly influential anti-government, anti-gun control, paramilitary figure.
- **Gordon Wendell Kahl** - hailed as a hero and martyr among the far-right, he was killed while resisting arrest for the murder of two U.S. marshals.
- **Mark Koernke** - "Mark from Michigan" calls for armed defiance of the government.
- **Liberty Lobby** and *The Spotlight* - the best financed and most influential anti-Semitic organization in the U.S. and its newspaper, *The Spotlight*, a significant source of propaganda for the militia movement; Oklahoma City bombing suspect Timothy McVeigh advertised weapons for sale in three issues of *The Spotlight* in 1993.
- **Colonel Gordon "Jack" Mohr** and the **Christian Patriots Defense League** - Mohr heads the Citizens Emergency Defense System, a militant civilian "defense" groups restricted to white Christians, linked to the anti-Semitic survivalist group Christian Patriots Defense League.
- **The Order** - was the most violent and notorious domestic terrorist group in the 1980s, drawing members from the neo-Nazi National Alliance, Aryan Nations, and Klan splinter groups.
- **William L. Pierce** - leader of the neo-Nazi National Alliance and author of *The Turner Diaries* under the pseudonym "Andrew Macdonald."
- **The Posse Comitatus** - an intermittently active, loosely organized group of "Identity" followers dedicated to survivalism, vigilantism and anti-government agitation.
- **Linda Thompson** - the self-proclaimed "Acting Adjunct General" of the "Unorganized Militia of the United States."

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EDITORS NOTE: *Paranoia as Patriotism: Far Right Influences on the Militia Movement* is available on-line on Nexis - search code USNWR - and from the ADL Public Relations Department. To schedule an interview with an ADL expert on the subject contact the ADL PR Department.

2462

NEWS



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ADL TRACKS GROWTH OF MILITIA MOVEMENT NATIONWIDE
NEW SURVEY CITES GROUPS IN 40 STATES

New York, NY, June 19...The militia movement continues to grow, even in the aftermath of the Oklahoma City bombing, a new national survey by the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) reported today. ADL, first to document the dangerous threat of the militias in its October 1994 report, *Armed and Dangerous: Militias Take Aim at the Federal Government*, cites 40 states with current militia activity in its new report, *Beyond the Bombing: The Militia Menace Grows*.

"While we tracked a disturbing growth of militia groups between October and April, we were especially distressed to discover the movement continued to grow even after the devastation in Oklahoma City," said Abraham H. Foxman, ADL National Director. "As long as there are people willing to actively buy into the incendiary, paranoid propaganda of extremist militia leaders, we must take them seriously and remain alert to the threats they pose."

According to *Beyond the Bombing*, militia membership has climbed to about 15,000, partly due to an effective communication system. "The tools of today's technology -- fax networks, computer bulletin boards and the Internet -- are being utilized to promote their conspiratorial, anti-government, anti-gun control, and sometimes anti-Semitic message," said Foxman. In addition, many of the movement's themes have been given wide play in *The Spotlight*, the anti-Semitic Liberty Lobby's weekly organ, which has a circulation of approximately 100,000. Militia groups also rely on traditional means for recruitment such as mailings and the dissemination of materials at rallies and gun shows.

California now has approximately 35 militia groups operating throughout the state, "apparently having benefitted from a large amount of publicity the movement has received in recent weeks," the report states. Other states where militia activity has increased are Michigan, Georgia, Alabama, Arizona, New Hampshire, and Missouri. ADL reports a decline in activity since the Oklahoma City bombing in Ohio, Indiana and Colorado. For some groups around the country, a factor in their decline has been the belief that the federal government engineered the bombing, and is now poised to take extreme measures to destroy the militia movement, as was the rationale for disbanding the Northwest Oregon Regional Militia.

The state-by-state summary of militia activity in *Beyond the Bombing* is a supplement to information contained in *Armed and Dangerous*. Since the bombing and the national attention paid to the militia movements, ADL has also issued *The ADL Anti-Paramilitary Training Statute: A Response to Domestic Terrorism; Paranoia and Patriotism: Far Right Influences on the Militia Movement*, and *William L. Pierce: Novelist of Hate*.

The Anti-Defamation League, founded in 1913, is the world's leading organization fighting anti-Semitism through programs and services that counteract hatred, prejudice and bigotry.

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EDITORS NOTE; All ADL reports are available on-line on NEXIS, search code USNWR and on request from the ADL. For interviews with ADL experts contact the ADL Public Relations Department.
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NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TREASURY SECRETARY'S STATEMENTS ON MILITIAS DRAW ADL PRAISE

New York, NY, July 10...The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) commended Treasury Secretary Robert E. Rubin for his recent statements about investigating extremist militia activities in addition to the 1993 events at the Branch Davidian compound near Waco, Texas.

In a letter to Secretary Rubin, Abraham H. Foxman, ADL National Director, wrote, "As you know, militias and other extremists across America have seized upon the Waco tragedy, claiming it as 'evidence' for their conspiracy view that the federal government is intent on disarming, and imposing tyranny upon, the citizenry. Many militias believe that paramilitary resistance against this 'enemy' federal government will ultimately be necessary, and they are training for such an eventuality."

Calling the militia movement a genuine threat because its adherents promote "manuals on bomb-making, guerilla warfare and assassination," Foxman told Secretary Rubin the League shares "your concerns about those who aim to convince their fellow Americans that our lives and nation are in peril from law enforcement agencies. We reiterate our belief that the extremist threat must be kept in the spotlight as Congress proceeds with its hearings on Waco."

ADL has issued several reports on domestic extremist groups, and in one of its publications, *Armed & Dangerous: Militias Take Aim at the Federal Government*, signaled the threat of the militia movement several months before the Oklahoma City bombing.

The House Judiciary and House Government Reform and Oversight committee hearings are scheduled to begin July 19.

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USNFAX:YO-95



2491



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ADL EXPERT TESTIFIES ON DANGERS OF MILITIA MOVEMENT IN U.S.

Washington, DC, July 11...The threat of the fanatical anti-Federal Government militias was the focus of Anti-Defamation League (ADL) expert testimony today at a public hearing on the connection between the militia movement and racist hate groups. Thomas Halpern, Acting Director of the ADL Fact Finding Department, told the hearing, "America Under the Gun: The Militia Movement and Hate Groups in America," that since the Oklahoma City bombing, membership in the anti-democratic, paranoid militias has grown nationwide.

Today's hearing was convened by U.S. Rep. Charles E. Schumer (D-NY) after he, Secretary of the Treasury Robert E. Rubin and others -- including ADL -- met with resistance to their requests for Congressional hearings on the militia movement, in view of the already scheduled extensive House investigation on supposed Government abuses during the 1993 events at the Branch Davidian compound near Waco, Texas. Concerned about the increasing harassment and violence by the militias, Schumer, the Ranking Democrat on the House Crime Subcommittee, provided a forum for specialists, victims of militia intimidation and others to testify unofficially.

Halpern testified how some militia strategists have advised groups "to organize into small units designed to be less susceptible to detection, monitoring and infiltration by law enforcement." Known as "leaderless resistance," this approach is a concept promoted by the former leader of the Texas Ku Klux Klan and other far right figures.

ADL has issued two reports on the militias: *Armed and Dangerous: Militias Take Aim at the Federal Government*, published in October 1994 -- months before the Oklahoma City bombing -- and *Beyond the Bombing: The Militia Menace Grows*, released last month. Halpern said the "first report on militias noted that a number of militia figures have histories of bigotry. The current survey confirms that some militia propaganda continues to exhibit an anti-Semitic strain that could well become more pervasive among militia groups as a result of the movement's obsessive conspiracy-mongering."

Stating the chief responsibility for keeping on top of the militia threat plainly rests with the law enforcement arm of the government, Halpern said. ADL urges states that do not have anti-paramilitary training statutes to seriously consider implementing them. In the 1980's, ADL drafted a model anti-paramilitary training statute in response to a proliferation of paramilitary training camps then being operated by the KKK and other racist groups in clandestine training centers in several states. The ADL model statute provides for criminal penalties.

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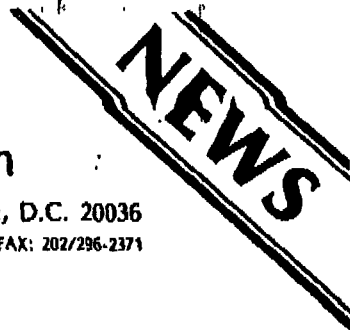
Editor's Note: Copies of the reports are available on-line on Nexis, code search USNWR, and from the ADL Public Relations Department.

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ADL CALLS FOR INVESTIGATIONS. NEW LAWS TO MEET MILITIA THREAT

Washington, D.C. November 2... The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) today called for enactment of new federal legislation to criminalize paramilitary training by fiercely anti-government militia groups and give law enforcement authorities additional investigative tools to confront domestic terrorism.

In testimony before the House Judiciary Crime Subcommittee ADL Washington Counsel Michael Lieberman identified "early signs" that heightened press attention following the Oklahoma City bombing had split the militia movement between violent extremists "who believe the answer is ultimately, necessarily paramilitary resistance" and others who have promoted "at least tactically," more traditional political action.

ADL called for enactment of legislation sponsored by Rep. Jerrold Nadler (D-NY) which would expand existing federal law to cover participants in illegal paramilitary training centers. Current law covers only those that conduct the training at these sites. This measure is based on an model legislation, developed by ADL in the early 1980's and now law in 24 states.

The League's statement cautioned that law enforcement's responsibility for tracking and gauging the militia threat "must be implemented with all due respect for the legal rights to privacy and association to which everyone is entitled."

The League's first report on the militia movement, "Armed and Dangerous: Militias Take Aim at the Federal Government," was published in October, 1994 -- eight months before the tragic bombing in Oklahoma City that claimed 168 lives.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ADL REPORT FINDS RIGHT-WING EXTREMISTS USE SHORTWAVE RADIO TO TARGET U.S. AUDIENCES; ASKS FCC TO INVESTIGATE POSSIBLE VIOLATION OF REGULATIONS

New York, NY, January 31...The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) today presented information to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) which documents how extremists use international shortwave radio frequencies to target U.S. audiences, possibly in violation of an FCC regulation. *Poisoning the Airwaves: The Extremist Message of Hate on Shortwave Radio*, details how militia leaders and right-wing extremists exploit the shortwave airways to promote their anti-government, conspiracy-driven, racist and anti-Semitic agenda.

“Purveyors of anti-Semitism and racism have appropriated shortwave radio as a major communications tool to disseminate their messages of hate,” said Abraham H. Foxman, ADL National Director. “The potential reach and danger of extremists clogging the airways should not be minimized. The tragedy in Oklahoma City showed us that there are violent elements who act out their enmity in an atmosphere created by the hate rhetoric of some radio hosts,” Mr. Foxman added. “The American people need to be able to distinguish between legitimate commentary and hateful hot air.”

In his letter to FCC Chairman Reed E. Hunt, Mr. Foxman said, “some of the shortwave radio stations over which you have regulatory jurisdiction may be broadcasting to domestic listening audiences in apparent violation of section 47CFR section 73.701(a)...Even though these stations would likely assert that their broadcasts have an international audience, the content of these radio shows makes this a transparent argument.” Mr. Foxman asked Chairman Hunt to conduct an investigation into ADL’s findings.

Poisoning the Airwaves, identifies who uses shortwave radio to promote hate and the stations that air them. Among those cited are:

William Pierce, leader of the neo-Nazi National Alliance and author of the infamous racist novel *The Turner Diaries*, featured on **WRNO Worldwide**, based in New Orleans.

Ernst Zundel, Holocaust denier and anti-Semitic propagandist who broadcasts “Voice of Freedom” in English on **WRNO** and in German on **WWCR** (World Wide Christian Radio).

Pastor Pete Peters, a leading figure in the bigoted pseudo-religious “Christian Identity” movement, preaches anti-Semitism on his show, “Truth for the Times,” on **WRNO** and **WWCR**.

Col. Bo Gritz, a prominent figure in the anti-government “Patriot” movement, whose program “Freedom Calls” airs on **WWCR** (World Wide Christian Radio) based in Nashville.

Mark Koernke, a prominent figure in the anti-government militia movement, whose program, “Intelligence Report,” airs on **WWCR**, based in Nashville.

The 23 page report is a “who’s who” of right-wing extremists on shortwave radio and provides quotes from their broadcasts, as well as information on their ideologies and activities.

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Editors Note: The report is available online on NEXIS, search code USNWR, and from the ADL Media Relations Department.

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ADL CITES EXTREMIST LITERATURE AS A RECIPE FOR MURDER

New York, NY, February 29...**Bomb-making, military and weapons training, vigilante attacks and assassinations aimed at “enemies” such as local and federal law enforcement officials, civil rights groups, journalists and minorities are the subjects of the publications written and read by extreme right-wing militias and other violence prone extremists, according to a new report released by the Anti-Defamation League (ADL).**

The Literature of Apocalypse: Far-Right Voices of Violence provides examples of books and manuals featuring paranoid, anti-government as well as anti-Semitic conspiracy theories. Included in the publications are detailed instructions for violent resistance against the “criminal organization” of the Federal Government, which is portrayed as depriving American citizens of their Constitutional rights.

“These publications amount to a recipe for murder, terrorism and mayhem,” said Abraham H. Foxman, ADL National Director. “The ideologies of hate and violence expressed here are not fictional. When the authors discuss ‘enemies’ and ‘targets,’ they mean actual human beings.” Mr. Foxman added, “as we have witnessed from the tragedy of Oklahoma City, these publications present a serious cause for concern and investigation by law enforcement officials.”

Among the publications cited in the report are:

The Road Back, published by Noontide Press -- a publishing entity linked to the largest anti-Semitic organization in the country, the Liberty Lobby -- is comprised of step-by-step recipes for building, setting, and detonating bombs and land mines.

The Florida State Militia: State Security Handbook recommends, along with several anti-Semitic periodicals, weapons for newly formed militias such as pistols, rifles, shotguns, primers, powder and bullets. “BUY AMMO NOW!” the anonymous writer urges. “YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO BUY IT LATER!”

Seed of the Woman details the violent exploits of several young neo-Nazis in contemporary America, promoting Nazi doctrine and favorably depicting Nazi-inspired slaughter. Like the novel *The Turner Diaries*, found to be popular among militia members and widely reported to have been an inspiration for indicted Oklahoma City bombing suspect Timothy McVeigh, *Seed of the Woman* encourages violence against Jews, Blacks, homosexuals and other minorities.

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ADL: "HOUSE GUTS TERRORISM LEGISLATION"

New York, NY, March 13...The ADL today called the House passage of an amendment offered by Representative Bob Barr (R-GA) which drastically restricted the coverage of pending anti-terrorism legislation on the House floor today, "shocking and mind-boggling... an abdication of responsibility and an affront to the memory of the victims of the World Trade Center and Oklahoma City bombings, and terrorism in Israel and elsewhere."

ADL National Chairman, David H. Strassler and ADL National Director, Abraham H. Foxman, issued the following statement:

At a time when President Clinton and representatives of more than two dozen nations have just met in the Middle East to discuss coordinated efforts against terrorism, the action by a majority in the House of Representatives to cut the heart out of the pending anti-terrorism legislation is shocking and mind-boggling. What remains does nothing to prevent terrorism. It eviscerates key provisions to restrict fundraising for foreign terrorist organizations and does nothing to deny terrorists' access to the U.S.

Especially now when we should be taking steps to improve our readiness to face the growing danger and sophistication posed by terrorist groups worldwide, the United States House of Representatives should not delude itself that terrorism is someone else's problem. Their actions today are nothing short of an abdication of responsibility and an affront to the memory of the victims of the World Trade Center and Oklahoma City bombings, and terrorism in Israel and elsewhere.

We remain committed to work for Congressional enactment of comprehensive, constitutionally-sound legislation.

The ADL Leon and Marilyn Klinghoffer Memorial Foundation combats terrorism through educational, political and legal means.

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2696

3/19/96

NEWS

ATTN: ASSIGNMENT EDITORS
PRESS AND PHOTO ADVISORY
COVERAGE INVITED

PRESS CREDENTIALS REQUIRED

Through Tuesday, March 26

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Wednesday, March 27 - Sunday, March 31

Contact: Myrna Shinbaum (405) 842-6633

**TEENAGE SURVIVORS OF TERRORIST ATTACKS IN ISRAEL
TO VISIT OKLAHOMA CITY**

WHO: *Anti-Defamation League (ADL)*

WHAT: *Israeli Terrorist Bombing Survivors to Meet with Oklahoma Community*

WHERE: *Various Locations in the Oklahoma City Area, including Schools and the Site of the Murrah Federal Office Building*

WHEN: *March 27 - March 29, 1996*

As the first anniversary of the deadly Oklahoma City bombing nears, the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) is bringing together Israeli teenagers who survived terrorism with the Oklahoma community coping with the trauma of the attack there. Five of the visiting Israelis were injured when the Islamic militant group Hamas blew up a bus in Afula, the sixth was on a Tel Aviv bus when it exploded. Together, they will help each other deal with the devastating and painful aftermath of terrorism.

The Israelis will light memorial candles in a ceremony at the site of the Murrah Federal Office Building, share their experiences with their peers in schools, and visit with the Mayor, Governor and other community leaders.

This *Peers in Healing* program was arranged by the Anti-Defamation League Israel Office with assistance from the Israeli Foreign Ministry, and made possible in part by a grant from the Streisand Foundation.

Note: Selected meetings are open to the media. Special advance arrangements must be made as soon as possible with the ADL Media Relations Department.

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2711 - 4/15/96



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FROM ISRAEL TO OKLAHOMA CITY: "WE KNOW HOW IT FEELS"

by Susan Heller

The bombing of the Federal Building in Oklahoma City one year ago left 169 adults and children dead, and an entire city in shock.

Almost exactly one year earlier, an Israeli town was dealing with the same turmoil and the same trauma. On April 6, 1994, an Islamic militant drove his explosives-laden car into a bus in the northern Israeli town of Afula. This first ever Hamas suicide bombing left eight dead and scores wounded, many of them teens on their way home from school.

This March, a group of Israeli fourteen and fifteen year-old who survived terrorist attacks traveled to Oklahoma City to talk to high school students about their experiences. The six -- five who survived the bombing in Afula and one the October 1994 suicide attack on a Tel Aviv city bus -- were part of the Anti-Defamation League program, "Peers in Healing." During their week in the American heartland these Israelis affirmed the universal human face and human cost of terrorism.

Most of the Israelis had suffered critical burns and endured painful surgery, rehabilitative therapy, and had still-visible scars on their hands and necks. All continue to experience periodic nightmares and trauma. Their counterparts in Oklahoma City were more fortunate. They themselves were not physically wounded by the blast. Nevertheless, almost everyone the Israelis encountered had felt the explosion that April morning, and many knew people who were killed or injured.

While the Israeli teens were very familiar with the American high school scene from their daily dose of MTV and Beverly Hills 90210, the Oklahoma City teens had little knowledge of Israel. As they attempted to find Israel on a world map the questions began: "Do you ride a camel to get around?" "Does your school look like our school?" Soon, the Israelis and Americans discovered that they listened to the same music, knew the same dance steps, studied the same Shakespeare plays and shared the same passion for basketball and pizza.

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But inevitably, the talk turned to their other shared experiences. For all of these young adults, life has been divided into two: before the bombing and after.

Many Oklahoma City students confessed to suffering nightmares or sleeplessness following the attack. “How long did it take you to sleep through the night?” one asked a new Israeli friend. Others expressed amazement at the ability of the Israelis to go on, particularly in the face of the continued threat of terrorism. “After what happened to you, how can you get on a bus again. Aren’t you afraid of other terrorist attacks?”

The Israelis recounted how seeing the television pictures from Oklahoma City brought on flashbacks. “I felt like the bombing happened in Afula. It was the same day all over again,” one Israeli said. The Oklahoma City students admitted to feeling the same when they saw footage from recent suicide attacks in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv.

“How long until things got back to normal in your town,” an Oklahoma student asked, “and how long do you think that it will take in Oklahoma City?” “I don’t know,” answered a usually jubilant Israeli teen. “It may take a very long time here, because things still aren’t back to normal in Afula.”

After sharing confidences, dance techniques and a game of pick-up soccer, the Israeli teens left their new Oklahoma City friends to pay their respects to the victims of the bombing. Despite the television pictures and the conversations with the Oklahoma City students, the Israelis were stunned by the devastation at the site of the Federal Building. The surrounding area still resembles a ghost town, with boarded-up shells of office buildings, churches and community centers. All along a fence encircling the spot where the Federal Building once stood people have left notes and gifts. And everywhere people have carefully placed crosses. For the Israeli teens, the site represented both the universality of terrorism as well as the personal tragedy. Two members of the group insisted on writing notes in Hebrew to the victims. They folded their notes in two, drew large Stars of Davids on the outside and stuck the notes into the fence. “We are here to say no to terrorism and hatred,” they wrote, “and yes to hope and peace.” “We have come from Israel to tell you that we know how it feels.”

Susan Heller, Director of Middle Eastern Affairs for the Anti-Defamation League, accompanied the Israeli teenagers to Oklahoma City.



2713

NEWS

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ADL HAILS FINAL PASSAGE OF OMNIBUS ANTITERRORISM BILL

New York, NY, April 18...The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) today applauded the bipartisan approval of the omnibus antiterrorism bill in the House by a vote of 293-133.

Last month, the House had acted to strip this antiterrorism bill of key provisions that would have given law enforcement authorities additional tools to deter and prevent terrorist crimes. Subsequently, after a strong call from supporters of the legislation, House and Senate conferees restored many of the vital provisions such as a ban on fundraising for terrorist organizations and access to the U.S. for their representatives. The Senate adopted the measure by a vote of 91-8 yesterday.

David H. Strassler, ADL National Chairman and Abraham H. Foxman, ADL National Director, issued the following statement:

This legislation is an important complement to existing law. When the President signs this bill, the United States will have, for the first time, a law that provides clear federal jurisdiction to prosecute international acts of terrorism. It closes gaps in existing law that have enabled terrorists to use the U.S. as a base from which to organize, finance and direct terrorist activities both here and abroad. It also prohibits the transfer of nuclear, biological and chemical weapons by terrorist groups and their representatives.

As we commemorate the one-year anniversary of the Oklahoma City tragedy, we applaud the leadership of Reps. Hyde (R-IL), McCollum (R-FL), and Schumer (D-NY), as well as Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-UT), in asserting America's defiance of attempts to terrorize its people through violence and intimidation. This legislation helps provide the protection that all Americans deserve.

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STAND OFF AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT --
NEW BOOK EXAMINES THE DEFIANCE OF ARMED CITIZENS

New York, NY, June 10...Months before the bombing in Oklahoma City, the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) revealed the danger of the militia movement to the American public in a 1994 report co-authored by Thomas Halpern, who monitors far left and far right groups for ADL. Mr. Halpern, one of the country's leading experts on extremism, has now collaborated with the Southern Poverty Law Center's Brian Levin on a new book which examines violent defiance in a democratic society. Citing groups that have sprung up in response to the sieges at Ruby Ridge and Waco, *The Limits of Dissent: The Constitutional Status of Armed Civilian Militias* analyzes the complex issues raised by private armies that resist law enforcement officials and the federal government.

"From the beginning," says Mr. Halpern, who heads the ADL Fact Finding Department, "the militias pointed to gun-control measures as precursors to overarching federal tyranny." Noting how they view the government as steamrolling over individual rights, Mr. Halpern points out, "From the militias' standpoint, the necessary response to federal tyranny is to stockpile weapons and engage in paramilitary training for what they regard as an impending showdown."

The Limits of Dissent evaluates and disproves the Constitutional claims of anti-government extremists. Since nearly all such groups, including the Freemen in Montana, cite defense of their Constitutional rights as the basis for their rebellion, it is important that ordinary citizens and government officials understand the distortions and misconceptions of such arguments.

In addition to his work involving armed militias, Mr. Halpern coordinates the League's efforts to monitor and counteract the activities of the Ku Klux Klan, neo-Nazi skinheads and Louis Farrakhan's Nation of Islam.

Mr. Levin is Associate Director for Legal Affairs at the Southern Poverty Law Center's Klanwatch Project in Montgomery, Alabama. A lawyer, Mr. Levin was a New York City police officer and Master Instructor at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center.

Both Mr. Halpern and Mr. Levin have been widely published, have testified as experts before Congress and have frequently appeared in the national media, including on network and cable television.

With a foreword by Rep. Charles E. Schumer (D-NY), *The Limits of Dissent* is published by Aletheia Press, Publisher of Books on Law and Policy. It is available through the ADL MRC Department, (212) 490-2525, ext. 7951, at a cost of \$14.00, plus \$3.90 shipping and handling. Checks should be made payable to the Anti-Defamation League.

The Anti-Defamation League, founded in 1913, is the world's leading organization fighting anti-Semitism through programs and services that counteract hatred, prejudice and bigotry.

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VN;WB;WE;WA;WJ;YN;YG;YH;YO-96

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NEWS

FOR RELEASE
THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 1997

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NEW ADL REPORT REVEALS ARMED MILITIAS AND OTHER ANTI-GOVERNMENT EXTREMISTS HAVE BECOME MORE VIOLENT AND CONTINUE TO POSE A THREAT TO AMERICA'S INSTITUTIONS AND CITIZENS

New York, NY, April 17...Two years after the bombing of the Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, militias and other right wing anti-government extremists spotlighted by the blast have become more violent and continue to pose a threat to the lives of Americans, according to a new report released by the Anti-Defamation League (ADL). *Vigilante Justice: Militias and "Common Law Courts" Wage War Against the Government* describes how these groups, in the name of "patriotism," have moved from rhetoric to action in their drive to defy and dismantle America's democratic institutions and replace them with their own skewed vision of the American ideal.

"Armed militias continue to pose a significant threat of violence and disorder," said Abraham H. Foxman, ADL National Director. "Many have adopted new tactics. They no longer publicly promote themselves; they dodge the watchful eyes of law enforcement and shun the media. They have joined the 'common law court' movement, the 'legal' arm of the anti-government netherworld. These 'paper terrorists' generate reams of bogus documents to intimidate and threaten their perceived enemies in government, law enforcement and the community at large"

"Common law court" adherents "live in an *Alice in Wonderland* world," said Mr. Foxman, "seeing the American legal system through the looking glass of anti-government hostility. They and their militia counterparts are united in their obsession with bizarre conspiracy theories, which are often racist and anti-Semitic."

Mr. Foxman noted that "the Internet has become a vital communications link" for anti-government extremists." Not only can they easily and instantaneously communicate among themselves, "they use the Internet as a recruitment tool, attempting to pass themselves off as patriots when in reality they reject democracy and would replace it with mob rule."

According to the ADL survey, militias currently operate in 30 states, down from a reported 40 following the Oklahoma City bombing. However, ADL cautions that this decline in states with militia activity should not leave the impression that the militia menace has receded. The report details a dramatic increase in militia-related crime: how in the last 18 months dozens of militiamen were arrested and convicted for acting upon their conspiratorial beliefs

Vigilante Justice describes a host of right-wing anti-government extremist groups and reports an ever-increasing cross fertilization between the groups that has begun to blur their tactical difference and emphasize their common ideology--opposition to the rule of law.

"Common Law Courts" and Oklahoma City Bombing Defendant Terry Nichols

The "common law court" movement, which is especially appealing to militia members, has grown considerably, with activities in 35 states.

One prime example of this "crossover" trend is Oklahoma City bombing defendant, Terry Nichols. Nicholas is known to have attended several militia meetings and also adheres to "common law court" teachings and has used their tactic of passing bogus checks. In 1993, Nichols was sued by Chase Manhattan

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Bank for attempting to pay credit cards bills with phony "fractional reserve checks" issued by the Wisconsin-based Posse Comitatus spin-off, Family Farm Preservation.

In court, Nichols refused to recognize the judge's jurisdiction over him, and offered pseudo-legal arguments and descriptions regularly used by "common law court" activists. "I'd like to say I'm here in proper person, specially appearing *sui juris*, not *pro se*. I'm a layman, natural person. I'm a common law citizen under threat, duress and challenge the jurisdiction of this court [sic]," Nicholas said.

The Violent Fringe

On the outermost fringe of the anti-government extremist movement are independents who operate beyond the purview of organized militia groups. These extremists operate covertly in tiny, loosely-organized cells to achieve their ultimate goal -- the overthrow of the United States Government. Accused of committing scores of violent crimes, including bombings and robberies, most are fervent believers in the tenets of the anti-Semitic, racist pseudo-religion, "Christian Identity" and carry the calling card of the Phineas Priesthood.

The Phineas Priesthood is a violent credo of vengeance advocated by "Identity" leaders Richard Kelly Hoskins in his book, *Vigilantes of Christendom: The Story of the Phineas Priesthood*. Hoskins lengthy manifesto perverts passages of the Bible, including the story of the zealot Phineas, to justify racists and anti-Semitic acts of violence.

Conspiracy Theories

Anti-government extremists have bought into a host of conspiracy theories, including age-old racist and anti-Semitic ones. In their paranoia they see an evil Federal Government working in tandem with the United Nations to strip Americans of their constitutional rights. Some examples of these conspiracy fantasies are:

*The Federal Government was illegally set up by European bankers and other conspirators in 1881. (Montana Freeman, Russell Dean Landers)

*The U.S. Army inserts "bio-chips" into servicemen to monitor their activities (Oklahoma City bombing defendant, Timothy McVeigh).

*The U.S. Government controls the weather (former Militia of Montana Member, Robert Fletcher).

*The ultimate goal of the Federal Government is to establish a "New World Order" through the United Nations and subjugate Americans to the control of foreign troops (Militia of Montana co-founder, John Trochmann).

* Jews and Jewish institutions are co-conspirators in the "New World Order."

The 68-page *Vigilante Justice* documents in great detail right-wing anti-government extremist groups and individuals and includes a state-by-state survey of extremist activities.

EDITORS/PRODUCERS NOTE: *Vigilante Justice* is available on-line on *NEXIS*, search code USNWR, and from the ADL Media Relations Department. To arrange interviews with ADL experts contact the ADL Media Relations Department at (212) 885-7749 (evenings/weekend (212) 885-7911.)

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Two Years Later: Militias Remain A Threat to Americans

by
Abraham H. Foxman

On April 19, 1995, Americans learned that we are not immune to acts of domestic terrorism. The Oklahoma City bombing and the arrests of suspects Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols also introduced many citizens to the angry, volatile, conspiracy-laden netherworld of the militias. McVeigh's trial, now in its early stages in Denver, is opening yet another window into the right-wing anti-government extremist movement. Two years after the blast, what does the picture look like?

A cursory glance at the recent findings of a survey we conducted leaves the impression that the militia menace has receded: Several months after the Oklahoma bombing, militias were active in 40 states across the country. Today, militias operate in only 30 states. But there's more to the story. In the last 18 months, dozens of militiamen were arrested or convicted for acting upon their conspiratorial beliefs -- a dramatic increase in militia-related crime. In February, Washington State Militia members were convicted on illegal weapons and explosives charges. Testimony in court showed that the group practiced "instinctive shooting" using pictures of U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno and other Federal agents as targets. Last month, ten members of the Arizona Vipers were sentenced to prison terms ranging from one to nine years after pleading guilty to Federal conspiracy charges. At the time of their arrests, Federal agents discovered an arsenal of illegal weapons and bomb-making materials at the home of the group's alleged leader.

While public militia activities have slowed in some states, there's been evidence that more dangerous operations lurk underground. Militia leaders have been advising activists to dodge the eyes of the police and the press by holding small, private meetings and keeping their anti-government thoughts to themselves. They've also advocated "leaderless resistance," a strategy of avoiding detection by operating in tiny phantom cells. Like several states in the Midwest, Michigan has experienced a drop in public militia activity in the last year. But it appears that anti-government hostility has been percolating under the surface. Weeks ago the leader of the North American Militia, a small militia cell based in Kalamazoo, was arrested and charged with manufacturing pipe bombs and other illegal explosives in his home. Federal documents suggest he had plans that, if carried out, would have made him the next Oklahoma City-style bomber; they accuse him and several members of his group of targeting the Battle Creek federal building, the IRS building in Portage, federal armories and a local television station.

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Today's militiamen have also expanded their repertoire. No longer do they all only fit the gun-toting, black helicopter-spotting, paranoid profile. Many militiamen – nearly 50% in some parts of the country – are also involved in the so-called “common law court” movement. Members of these extralegal “courts” are engaged in a systematic effort to paralyze and eventually overthrow our nation's legal system, and replace it with one of vigilante justice. These pseudo-jurists render unenforceable judgments and issue phony legal documents in bogus courts in an effort to intimidate or defraud their enemies.

Perhaps the most well-known anti-government militant to spout “common law court” gobbledegook has been accused Oklahoma City bomber Terry Nichols, who described himself as a “common law citizen” in 1993 to justify his use of phony checks to pay off a credit card bill.

Like militia activists, “common law court” adherents use outlandish versions of American history and bizarre conspiracy theories to justify their activities. Some serve up bigotry on their menus, asserting that the rights of white citizens are God-given, while non-whites derive citizenship only through the Fourteenth Amendment. One leading “court” group distributes the anti-Jewish forgery *Protocols of the Elders of Zion*.

The new breed of extremists are hardened activists with a range of anti-government weapons at their disposal. As militiamen, they are obsessed with stockpiling weapons, and as “common law court” members, they furiously deny the legitimacy of state and federal government. The combination has proven especially threatening to law enforcement agents, who have found themselves in bitter, and occasionally deadly, confrontations with these militants.

The current stagnation of the militia movement can largely be credited to increased vigilance by law enforcement officials. State-sponsored anti-paramilitary training laws have proven to be an effective deterrent when properly enforced -- and their federal counterpart should be expanded for those circumstances in which local authorities can't or won't act against extremists. Statutes restricting the intimidation and harassment tactics of “common law courts” will provide public officials with the legal protection they deserve.

Enactment of these measures would go a long way toward preventing a repeat of Oklahoma City.

Abraham H. Foxman is National Director of the Anti-Defamation League.



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ADL APPLAUDS GUILTY VERDICT IN MCVEIGH TRIAL
CALLS FOR LEGISLATION TO PROTECT AGAINST TERRORISM ON OUR SOIL

New York, NY, June 2...The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) said today that the guilty verdict in the trial of Oklahoma City bombing defendant, Timothy McVeigh, "sends an unequivocal message to would-be terrorists that the American people will not tolerate terrorism on our own soil." ADL, which tracks and exposes right-wing extremists, including armed militias, called for legislation to directly address the threat posed by such potentially violent anti-government groups.

Abraham H. Foxman, ADL National Director, issued the following statement:

The verdict sends an unequivocal message to would-be terrorists that the American people will not tolerate terrorism on our own soil. The horrific bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Building in Oklahoma City brought home the reality that home-grown extremists have the capacity and the willingness to murder innocent citizens as part of their resistance to the American government.

Though the Oklahoma City bombing was clearly the work of a relative few, thousands of other right-wing anti-government extremists remain active, promoting an agenda of violence, hatred and paranoia. In order to protect America from would-be terrorists, law enforcement must be empowered to take on these thugs and avert future tragedies. We call on Congress to enact a statute that would criminalize the paramilitary activities of militia groups.

We commend the Justice Department for its dedication in tracking down McVeigh and successfully prosecuting him for the single worst act of domestic terrorism in American history. We applaud Judge Richard P. Matsch for the dignified manner in which he presided over the proceedings, and we are satisfied that the trial was conducted in a fair, efficient and speedy way.

The Anti-Defamation League, founded in 1913, is the world's leading organization fighting anti-Semitism through programs and services that counteract hatred, prejudice and bigotry.

Editor's Note: For background material on militias and other right-wing extremists and to speak with an ADL expert contact the ADL Media Relations Department.

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NEWS

**ADL SAYS GUILTY VERDICT SENDS MESSAGE
THAT TERRORISM WILL NOT BE TOLERATED**

New York, NY, December 23, 1997...The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) said today that the guilty verdict in the trial of Oklahoma City bombing defendant Terry Nichols "makes it clear that the American people will not tolerate acts of terrorism and violence on our soil."

Abraham H. Foxman, ADL National Director, issued the following statement:

The verdict makes it clear that the American people will not tolerate acts of terrorism and violence on our soil. Like his co-conspirator Timothy McVeigh, who was convicted and sentenced to death earlier this year for the bombing, Mr. Nichols was driven by fierce anti-government views. Mr. Nichols has also actively participated in the "common law court" movement, whose adherents are engaged in an ongoing war against the United States government.

The verdict brings to a close the federal prosecution of the two known perpetrators of the bombing in Oklahoma City. But the pain and suffering of the 168 victims' friends and families will not end.

Moreover, violence-prone, anti-government extremists with beliefs similar to those of Mr. Nichols and Mr. McVeigh, continue to pose a threat to the American people. The Nichols trial uncovered some alarming details about this underground movement, reminding us all that we must remain vigilant.

We commend the Justice Department for successfully prosecuting Terry Nichols for the worst act of domestic terrorism committed in our country. We also applaud Richard P. Matsch for the just, fair and efficient manner in which he handled the proceedings.

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**ADL COMMENDS RENO AND FREEH FOR VIGILANCE IN FIGHT AGAINST EXTREMISM
ON ANNIVERSARY OF OKLAHOMA CITY BOMBING AND WACO TRAGEDY
AND URGES EXPANDED ROLE FOR ANTI-TERRORISM TASK FORCES**

New York, NY, April 16, 1998...The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) today commended law enforcement for their stepped up vigilance as April 19, the anniversary date of the Oklahoma City bombing and deadly fire at the Branch Davidian compound in Waco, Texas, approaches. While recognizing the diligent, ongoing efforts of Federal law enforcement agencies in tracking the criminal activities of violence-prone hate groups and anti-government militias and bringing them to justice, ADL urged the Justice Department and the FBI to expand the mandate of anti-terrorism task forces.

"Unfortunately, as you know all too well, there is a need to step up vigilance, especially in the days to come," said Abraham H. Foxman, ADL National Director, in a letter to Attorney General Janet Reno and Louis Freeh, Director of Federal Bureau of Investigation. "Despite increased public awareness of the dangers posed by white supremacist and anti-government organizations," continued Mr. Foxman, "members of these groups have continued to stockpile weapons and explosives and to target government facilities around the country. Many have shifted their activities underground, making the work of law enforcement all the more critical."

April 19, the anniversary of the deadly fire at the Branch Davidian compound in Waco, Texas, continues to be a significant date on the extremist calendar. At least one Texas militia supporter has posted an Internet communication calling upon militia groups to unleash an anti-government terror campaign on April 19. The message instructs militias to "Rise up against the current government," and states that "ALL Federal Buildings, Federal establishments, Federal holdings...are considered valid MILITARY targets." The same Internet site also advertises monthly courses in the "fundamentals of combat."

"Messages like these demonstrate that despite the recent successes of Federal law enforcement," said Mr. Foxman, "the extremists have not given up their war against the government. Today's terrorists have the potential to plague our citizens with bio-toxins and chemical weapons in addition to their firearms and explosives. We need to stop these individuals before a disaster occurs."

ADL urged the Justice Department and the FBI to use the model of the Hate Crime working groups, now established in every U.S. Attorney's office, to expand the mandate of Federal, state and local Anti-Terrorism Task Forces to work along with civic groups to help educate and raise public awareness to the threat of domestic terrorism.

According to the ADL, law enforcement's recent efforts to thwart the plots of would-be domestic terrorists, have led to:

- The conviction of five members of the so-called Aryan Republican Army in the Midwest;
- The recent conviction on mail fraud charges of nine members of the Republic of Texas;
- The indictment on racketeering charges of white supremacists Chevie Kehoe, Faron Lovelace and Danny Graham in Arkansas;
- The indictment, in Illinois, of several men allegedly plotting to bomb the buildings of civil rights organizations, including the ADL's national headquarters.

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EDITOR'S/PRODUCER'S NOTE: For additional information on right-wing extremist groups and militias and to arrange interviews with ADL experts contact the Media Relations Department at (212) 885-7749 – on weekends (212) 885-7911. Visit our Web site at www.adl.org
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