



In Defense of Democracy & Civil Rights

COALITION FOR HUMAN DIGNITY

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NORTHWEST UPDATE

December 15, 1998

- 1. A NOTE TO UPDATE SUBSCRIBERS:** Northwest Update subscribers please note that we will not be publishing a January 1, 1999 edition of the Northwest Update. The next Update will be the January 15 edition. Thank you for your continued support and contributions toward the Northwest Update. We hope you have a prosperous and fulfilling New Year.
- 2. ANTI-INDIAN HARASSMENT AT CHICAGO FIREHOUSE:** Two white firefighters received 30 day suspensions without pay and four of their supervisors received from three to thirty days for racial harassment at the Engine Co. 112 firehouse in Chicago, Illinois. A Native American firefighter, who was transferred to the firehouse in the fall of 1997, was the victim of an on-going campaign of harassment since the day of his transfer. The white firefighters apparently called him "Geronimo," "Chief Sitting Bull" and mocked him with dances and chants. The victim complained to his superiors about this racist harassment as well as about racial slurs that he heard used by the other firefighters in regard to African Americans. The complaints were ignored. The suspensions were handed down after the victim complained to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. (AP, December 12, 1998)
- 3. NATIONAL FRONT LOSING GROUND:** The National Front, the French neo-fascist political party that gained popularity with a strongly anti-immigrant platform, has recently shown signs of splitting. National Front leader Jean-Marie Le Pen discharged several NF functionaries who spoke against him at a National Front reception. A rift has also appeared between Le Pen, who wants to continue the group's hard-line politics, and his top lieutenant, Bruno Megret who favors more of a soft sell approach. (AP, December 8, 1998)
- 4. PERMIT DENIED FOR WISCONSIN KLAN MARCH:** Mike McQueeney and the American Knights of the Ku Klux Klan were denied a permit to hold a rally at the Wisconsin state capitol building on January 16 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Wisconsin Governor Tommy Thompson declared that the Klan only wanted to cause a disturbance and that having the rally would be a public hazard. McQueeney said that his group would rally with or without a permit. (Reuters, December 15, 1998)
- 5. PATRIOTS GIVE PITCH TO NATIONAL ALLIANCE:** The Patriot newsmagazine "The New American" is running a commentary by National Alliance leader William Pierce in their December 1998 issue. On page 10 is a transcript of Pierce's October 24, 1998 radio broadcast of *American Dissident Voices* in which he discusses the "Corruption of America's Police by the ADL." Pierce contends that historically the ADL has had a pro-Communist and pro-mobster agenda and has no place educating law enforcement about neo-Nazi groups like the National Alliance. Pierce laments, "The ADL also offers training seminars... And the police departments take them up on it; they have their officers sit and listen to the ADL, with its history of un-American and criminal activity, tell them about how to deal with people like me." (*Free American*, December, 1998)
- 6. SIERRANS FOR U.S. POPULATION STABILIZATION:** In a recent mailing, Sierrans for U.S. Population Stabilization responded to the defeat of supporting anti-immigrant legislation by the environmental group The Sierra Club. Sierrans for U.S. Population Stabilization (SUSPS) announced that they plan to petition the Sierra Club board to vote on changing Sierra Club by-laws "to ensure fair elections in the future." SUSPS says that after petitioning the board they hope to run a new "comprehensive domestic population initiative."
Included in the mailing are petitions to nominate candidates for the Sierra Club board of directors. The

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three candidates SUSPS is promoting are: Paul Watson, founder of the animal rights group Sea Shepherd Conservation Society; Alan Kuper, a long time Sierra Club activist and co-sponsor of the failed anti-immigrant campaign earlier this year in the Sierra Club; and Frank L. Morris, former Executive Director of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, former board member of the Center for Immigration Studies, and current Board Chair of the Diversity Alliance for a Sustainable America (SUSPS November, 1998 mailing)

7. RECYCLING BIGOTRY: In response to the mass hate mailing of a Christian Identity poster and a video taped interview of Aryan Nations leader Richard Butler, the Concerned Citizens of Sandpoint (Idaho) are offering prizes for the most creative ways to deal with the hate mail. Two ideas given to the Coalition are cutting up the Identity poster and making origami peace doves for the holidays and weaving the videotape into a floor mat. CCS, 212 N. 4th Ave., Suite 189, Sandpoint, ID 83864. (*Spokesman Review*, November 24, 1998)

8. AMERICANS FOR A CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT: The Americans for a Constitutional Government meet on the third Thursday of each month at the Royal Neighbors Hall, 221 Railroad, Post Falls, Idaho to plan the establishment of their "Constitutional Republic." Meetings start at 7 p.m. (*The Idaho Observer*, November, 1998)

9. GEORGIA HATE MAILING REACHES IDAHO: The white supremacist publication, *The Truth at Last*, published by well-known racist Ed "The Non-Doctor Doctor" Fields was sent to over two thousand residents living in Sandpoint, Idaho. Fields' operation is headquartered in Marietta, Georgia. This mailing follows on the tail of a mass mailing to Sandpoint residents by the Aryan Nations. (*Spokesman Review*, December 3, 1998)

10. RACIST ARREST RECORD: An African-American man is suing the Spokane Police Department for alleged "racist stereotyping." The man was arrested in January after being identified as a participant in an armed robbery. He was kept in jail for 10 days before his charges were dropped, because police said that he has ties to street gangs. Although the man was at work during the time of the robbery the police maintained that he has gang connections but wouldn't elaborate. This is the second time the former corrections officer has been arrested by the police for his alleged gang relations. The man, with the support of the Spokane chapter of the NAACP, is suing the police department for false arrest and defamation. Also part of the lawsuit is a statement asking for an end to a "reckless pattern" of labeling African-Americans as gang members. (*Spokesman Review*, December 5, 1998)

11. CHANGE OF ADDRESS FOR CENTER FOR ACTION: Bo Gritz's SPIKE (Specially Prepared Individuals for Key Events) headquarters, Center for Action, has a new mailing address: Center for Action, Box 472 HRC-37, Sandy Valley, Nevada 89019. (*Center for Action*, November, 1998)

12. TEXANS FOR FAIR IMMIGRATION: In its December newsletter, *The Front Line*, the anti-immigrant group Texans for Fair Immigration (TFFI) are asking people to send contributions to the California-based Save Our State. SOS is a leading anti-immigrant group in California fighting in support of Proposition 187. The anti-immigrant legislation passed over four years ago but was judged unconstitutional and remains tied up in the California courts. TFFI says, "Californians have been fighting for fairness and justice against a hostile bureaucracy...and they need help to continue the struggle against a stacked deck." (*The Front Line*, December 1998)

••• 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. •••