



*In Defense of Democracy & Civil Rights*

# COALITION FOR HUMAN DIGNITY

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## NORTHWEST UPDATE

July 1, 1998

**1. GORTON ATTACKS INDIAN SOVEREIGNTY AGAIN:** On the heels of withdrawing his attempt to abolish Indian tribal sovereign immunity, U.S. Senator Slade Gorton (R-WA) has taken another tack aimed at undermining tribal sovereignty and violating the trust relationship between Indian nations and the U.S. government. As chair of a Senate Appropriations subcommittee, Gorton is leading an effort to withdraw \$12 million in federal aid from wealthy tribes for distribution to poorer tribes. The plan would take half the federal aid that goes to the wealthiest 10 percent of Indian tribes and distribute it among the poorest 20 percent of tribes.

Gorton's plan is duplicitous on several counts. First, the federal financial support given to Indian tribes – which counts for the major portion of the budgets of tribal governments – is not based on a needs assessments, as with federal entitlement programs, but on the trust relationship that exists between Indian nations and the federal government as a result of the political history between sovereigns. Second, Gorton's effort to target tribes for financial redistribution runs counter to his general opposition to higher taxes on wealthy individuals or other forms of just and reasonable redistribution. It selectively targets Indians and is therefore also racist (AP, June 23).

**2. CHD "PUT ON NOTICE":** Following the release of a *Dignity Report* [Spring 1998] article describing the Washington State Unorganized Militia's (WSUM) alliances with organized racists and the anti-Indian efforts of two Ferry County, Washington county commissioners, WSUM leader Jim Watkins wrote a letter to CHD and the Upper Columbia Human Rights Task Force declaring in part:

"The Washington State Unorganized Militia puts you on notice that your attempt to dishonor our elected officials within Ferry an [sic] Stevens County's [sic] as in any manner 'biggots' [sic] is an outrage. Your publication is increasingly being distributed throughout NE Washington...

You attack my integrity as a citizen, and credibility as a militiaman. It is not for you or any elected official, including Sheriff Pete Warner to determine my qualifications... You will never destroy my influence regionally, nor can you destroy the militia movement. My final comment is CONTEMPTUOUS REPULSE. DEATH TO SOCIALIST DEMOCRACY AND LEFT WING BIGGOTRY [sic]" (Letter dated June 20, 1998).

**3. NORTHWEST FAR RIGHT LEADERS AT JUBILEE:** Northwest far right activists took center stage at the 1998 Jubilation sponsored by the Identity tabloid *Jubilee* May 22-24 in Scottsdale, Arizona. Montana Identity figure Chris Temple served as master of ceremonies for the event, while Oregon-based Christian Patriot Association head Richard Flowers and Washington-based "nutritional consultant" Ken Anderson were awarded the "Effectual Doer Award" along with Steve Hempfling of the Free Enterprise Society and Walt and Anne Monroe.

Speakers at the Jubilation included James Nichols, Mark Ludwig, Bruce G. McCarthy, Bob Papovich, Norma McCorvey, L.D. Brown, Jesse Trentadue and Gerald Carroll. The special guest speaker was Rick Strawcutter. Roger Roots, a Montana-based racist, was also in attendance at the event, according to *Jubilee* (*Jubilee*, May/June 1998).

**4. ARYAN NATIONS MEMBER IMPLICATED IN MURDER:** A member of the Aryan Nations, Michael Nelson, is alleged to have shot and killed an associate of his, Joseph M. Nagel. Nelson allegedly shot Nagel three times after an argument over an apparent robbery. Both individuals have prior convictions. Nagel was previously convicted of possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine) and burglary. Nelson has a prior arrest for aggravated assault stemming from the shooting of a man in a bar brawl (*Spokesman-Review*, June 20).

**5. ANTI-IMMIGRANT FOURTH OF JULY:** The California Coalition for Immigration Reform, Voice of Citizens Together, the Stand Up America Committee and United We Stand America will host the "Americans for America" Fourth of July rally in Westwood, California. The themes of the event include "Stop Illegal Immigration," "Stop the 'Reconquista'," "Stop Destroying America," and "Stop the Chinese Communist Takeover of Long Beach Harbor and the Panama Canal." Contact: (800) 600-8642.

**6. COLORADO ANTI-IMMIGRANT CANDIDATES FOR CONGRESS:** The Texans for Fair Immigration (TFFI) announced that "immigration reform" candidates Dottie Lamm and Tom Tancredo are running for Congress in Colorado. Tancredo for Congress: 547 S. Estes St., Littleton, CO 80123.

**7. RICHARD BUTLER RAMBLES ON:** In an effort to ward off criticism of the Aryan Nations' July 18 march down the streets of Coeur d'Alene, Richard Butler gave a presentation at the Coeur d'Alene library on June 30th. Promotional material for the meeting said, "You have heard one side of the story, [about the march], have you hear the truth?" In actual truth, Butler rambled in disorganized fashion for 45 minutes covering topics ranging from the "evils" of immigration to the inability of women to effectively serve as police officers to the "communist/Jewish" plot to sink the Titanic. Butler's ramblings did little to reach the community at large. The approximately 30 on hand consisted of about 10 uniformed Aryan Nations supporters, 10 racist skinheads and few other AN supporters. Among those on hand was Idaho neo-Nazi Richard Masker and Mike Dee, a self-proclaimed Aryan Nations' pastor who introduced Butler.

**8. TEXAS KU KLUX KLAN RALLIES IN JASPER:** The Texas faction of the Knights of the White Kamellia, Ku Klux Klan was granted permission by the city of Jasper to hold a rally only two weeks after the brutal killing of a black resident [see *Northwest Update*, June 15, 1998]. The victim, James Byrd, was beaten and then dragged for over two miles by a truck driven by three whites, two with connections to the white supremacist movement. A speech by White Kamellia leader Rick Anderson at the rally reprinted by the group displayed the Klans maneuvering at the same time it illustrates the ideas that underlie white supremacist violence:

"My name is Rick Anderson and I am a Grand Titan with the Knights of the White Kamellia. The drunken act of violence that took the life of Mr. Byrd is indeed a tragedy. It is a tragedy for all the people of Jasper County. What on God's green earth could cause someone to do such a thing?... Since the killing of Mr. Byrd this tragedy here in Jasper County has broadened its scope. Because others from the outside came here and descended upon the scene, they have brought every good, White Christian, man, woman and child into immediate danger with their anti-White hate and propaganda. They have not only tried to pin the blame for this crime upon the Klan but they have blamed all of you simply because you are White. And so now you have to live in fear of reprisals and retaliation... When the good name of the Klan was slandered by false and ridiculous allegations of a possible connection to this crime we were not shocked... If the media masters had stopped with merely dragging our good name through the mud then the statements we gave to the press denying responsibility would have been all we needed to do. But as you and I both know the situation here has escalated to the point where a mere statement to the jewsmedia [sic] is not enough. Now White people's lives and property are in jeopardy and we are compelled to respond in stronger terms... Are you going to live in fear, looking over your shoulders and listening for the rattling of a chain? Or are you going to stand up for yourselves as the courageous White men and women that I know you are and defend what is yours?"

**9. IN TEXAS RACE DOES MATTER:** A recent phone survey conducted by SurveyUSA for the Houston based KPRC-TV showed that 1 in 5 Texans know someone who agrees with the KKK. The study also showed that young people (ages 18-34) are five times more likely to know someone who agrees with white supremacist views and 13% of those polled knew someone who actually is a member of a hate group. The study results showed that 63% of Texans feel that race relations are fair to poor. For a copy of this poll please SurveyUSA at 1-800-685-8500 (Business Wire, June 6).

**10. NEW REPUBLIC OF TEXAS CONVICTIONS:** Republic of Texas member Richard Keyes was convicted of burglary with intent to commit aggravated assault for the kidnapping of two people and for participating in a week-long stand-off with law enforcement. RoT leader Richard McLaren received an additional 12 ½ years on top of a 99 year sentence for his involvement in the kidnapping. McLaren will spend a minimum of 27 of the 99 years in prison (AP, June 20).

**11. OHIO MILITIA LEADER RUNS FOR SHERIFF:** The founder of the Ohio Unorganized Militia, J.J. Johnson, is preparing to run for sheriff of Nye County, Nevada. Johnson has been moving from state to state for several years but it now appears he plans to set some roots in Puhump, NV. Although Johnson says that he no longer supports the militia movement he may have trouble convincing law enforcement that he has reformed his anti-government beliefs. The Southern Poverty Law Center reports that just last fall Johnson said that cop killer Carl Drega "deserves to have a street named after him" (AP, June 22).

**12. JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY YOUTH CAMPS:** The John Birch Society will hold Robert Welch University Youth Camps July 26-August 1 in Alpine, Wyoming and August 2-8 in Wenatchee, Washington. The Wyoming event will be held at the Alpine 4-H Camp while the Wenatchee event will be held at the Lake Wenatchee YMCA Camp. Wyoming contact: Gregg R. Smith, (801) 969-8510. Washington contact: Robert R. Chipp, (360) 893-3859.

**13. RACIST PARTY MAKES GAINS IN AUSTRALIA:** Pauline Hanson's far right One Nation party won a major victory in mid-June when it won 23% of the vote in the Queensland, Australia parliamentary election. The vote has made it likely that the party will have 10 seats in parliament. The Labor party will likely hold 43 seats, the National Party 23 and the Liberals 11. At the time of this writing, it is unclear how this will play in the formation of a governing coalition. The National Party has made overtures to forming a coalition with the One Nation party – contemplating an agreement to place the racist party as a second preference on its "how-to-vote" cards distributed to members – Australia's electoral system allows voters to vote for a second preference in the event their favored party loses. Conversely, the One Nation party has apparently offered to form a government with the Labor Party.

Formed in 1997, the One Nation Party has staked out a claim on the ultra-nationalist vote in Australia, combining anti-immigrant and anti-aboriginal policies with an "Australia-First"-style nationalism. On the pages of *National Interest*, Tony Pitt's pro-One Nation Party tabloid, Hanson has sounded like a Pat Buchanan or Jack Metcalf down-under:

"For many years Australia has been divided through policies of multiculturalism and an unfair view of history that has led to the impractical, discriminatory and stupid notion of land rights, and special treatment for so-called minorities at the expense of everyone else... We must extinguish native title, without penalty to the Australian tax payer, through an amendment to the Australian constitution."

**13. MHRN YOUTH CONFERENCE:** The Montana Human Rights Network will hold a Youth Leadership Summit Aug. 9-12. Thirty youths will attend the training which will cover issues ranging from gay rights to environmentalism. Only 30 slots are available for the training. MHRN: (406) 442-5506.

**14. HUMAN RIGHTS GROUPS OPPOSE ARYAN NATIONS MARCH:** Human rights groups in northern Idaho have organized a project to show opposition to the planned march down the streets of Couer d'Alene on July 18. The Kootenai County Task Force on Human Rights, in conjunction with the regional and local human rights groups is organizing "Making Lemonade," a plan to raise money for human rights groups by gathering pledged donations for every minute the neo-Nazi marchers spend in the streets. To date, the pledge total is \$500 per minute. Sponsoring organizations include the Northwest Coalition Against Malicious Harassment (NWCAMH) and the Bonner County Human Rights Task Force. Couer d'Alene mayor Steve Judy has endorsed the campaign. For information on Making Lemonade, contact the NWCAMH at (206) 233-9136.

••• The CHD Research Department prefers incident reports, newspaper clippings, event write-ups, questions and comments to be e-mailed to [chdpdx@aol.com](mailto: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. •••

