



**Nonprofit Security Grant Program
Threat Incident Report: Supplement
February 19, 2021 to March 31, 2021**
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I. Overview of Recent Federal Risk Assessments of National Significance

The following assessments/reports/findings underscore the persistent threat of lethal violence and hate crimes against the Jewish community and other faith- and community-based institutions in the United States.

Oversight of the Federal Bureau of Investigation: Domestic Terrorism¹

According to FBI Director, Christopher Wray, the most significant threat to our homeland is posed by lone actors who often radicalize online and seek out soft targets to attack with easily accessible weapons. We see these individualized threats manifested within both domestic violent extremists (DVEs) and homegrown violent extremists (HVEs). Although they have different ideologies, they both typically radicalize and mobilize to violence on their own and are both located primarily in the United States. Individuals who commit violent criminal acts in furtherance of ideological goals stemming from domestic influences — some of which **include racial or ethnic bias** — are described as DVEs, whereas HVEs are individuals inspired primarily by achieving global jihad, but not receiving individualized direction from Foreign Terrorist Organizations (FTOs). **Domestic and homegrown violent extremists are often motivated and inspired by a mix of sociopolitical, ideological, and personal grievances against their targets, and more recently have focused on accessible targets to include houses of worship and mass public gatherings.** Selecting these types of soft targets, in addition to the insular nature of their radicalization and mobilization to violence and limited discussions with others, challenges law enforcement to detect and disrupt the activities of lone actors before they occur. **The top threat we face from DVEs continues to be those we identify as racially or ethnically motivated violent extremists (RMVEs), specifically those who advocate for the superiority of the white race, and who were the primary source of ideologically motivated lethal incidents of violence in 2018 and 2019.** The FBI assesses HVEs as the greatest, most immediate international threat to the Homeland. As I have described, HVEs are United States-based individuals, located in and radicalized primarily in the U.S., who are not receiving individualized direction from global jihad-inspired FTOs, but are inspired largely by the Islamic State of

¹ FBI Director Christopher Wray, Statement Before the Senate Judiciary Committee, Washington, D.C., March 2, 2021; Link: https://www.fbi.gov/news/testimony/oversight-of-the-federal-bureau-of-investigation-the-january-6-insurrection-domestic-terrorism-and-other-threats?utm_campaign=email-Immediate&utm_medium=email&utm_source=congressional-testimony&utm_content=%5B1113146%5D-%2Fnews%2Ftestimony%2Foversight-of-the-federal-bureau-of-investigation-the-january-6-insurrection-domestic-terrorism-and-other-threats

Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS) and al Qaeda to commit violence. An HVE's lack of a direct connection with an FTO, ability to rapidly mobilize without detection, and use of encrypted communications pose significant challenges to our ability to proactively identify and disrupt them. According to Wray, the number of US homegrown terror cases has risen sharply, as he warned that the deadly January Capitol riot may serve as 'inspiration' for extremists.² **Some 2,000 FBI domestic terror probes are open, up from 1,400 at the end of 2020, Director Christopher Wray said. Arrests of "racially motivated violent extremists," including white supremacists, have tripled since 2017. Domestic terrorism "has been metastasizing around the country for a long time now, and it's not going away anytime soon," Wray said. "Whenever we've had the chance, we've tried to emphasize that this is a top concern."**³

Examining the January 6 Attack on the U.S. Capitol⁴

According to FBI Assistant Director for Counterterrorism Jill Sanborn, it is not possible to examine the January 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol without an understanding of the overall terrorism threat picture leading up to that day. In 2020, the FBI assessed the greatest terrorism threat to the homeland was from lone actors or small cells who typically radicalize online and look to attack soft targets with easily accessible weapons; we remain confident in that assessment today. The FBI sees two distinct sets of individuals within this threat: homegrown violent extremists and domestic violent extremists. Both sets of individuals seek to engage in violent, criminal acts, but homegrown violent extremists are inspired by, or associated with, designated foreign terrorist organizations, while domestic violent extremists are motivated by domestic influences, such as **long-standing DVE drivers to include racism, anti-Semitism, perceived government or law enforcement overreach, sociopolitical conditions, and personal grievances. Over the last year, we observed activity that led us to assess there was potential for increased violent extremist activity at lawful protests taking place in communities across the United States.**

Office of the Director of National Intelligence Report⁵

The Intelligence Community assesses that in 2021:

- **Domestic violent extremists (DVEs), including those with bias related to religion, race, and ethnicity, pose an elevated threat to the Homeland.**
- Enduring DVE motivations pertaining to biases against minority populations will almost certainly continue to drive DVE radicalization and mobilization to violence.
- Racially or ethnically motivated violent extremists (RMVEs) present the most lethal DVE threats, with RMVEs most likely to conduct mass-casualty attacks against civilians.

² BBC News, "Capitol riot 'inspiration for extremism', FBI boss warns," March 2, 2021; Link: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-56258233>

³ Washington Post, "FBI director says domestic terrorism 'metastasizing' throughout U.S. as cases soar," March 2, 2021; Link: https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/christopher-wray-fbi-capitol-riot/2021/03/01/a49d177a-7ae7-11eb-85cd-9b7fa90c8873_story.html

⁴ FBI Assistant Director for Counterterrorism Jill Sanborn, Statement Before the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee and Rules and Administration Committee, Washington, D.C., March 3, 2021; Link: https://www.fbi.gov/news/testimony/examining-the-january-6-attack-on-the-us-capitol?utm_campaign=email-Immediate&utm_medium=email&utm_source=congressional-testimony&utm_content=%5B1114299%5D-%2Fnews%2Ftestimony%2Fexamining-the-january-6-attack-on-the-us-capitol

⁵ "Domestic Violent Extremism Poses Heightened Threat in 2021," 01 March 2021 (2021-01619-NCTC-ID); Link: <https://www.dni.gov/files/ODNI/documents/assessments/UnclassSummaryofDVEAssessment-17MAR21.pdf>.

- DVE lone offenders will continue to pose significant detection and disruption challenges because of their capacity for independent radicalization to violence, ability to mobilize discretely, and access to firearms.

ADL 2020 Report Tracking White Supremacist Propaganda⁶

ADL's Center on Extremism (COE) tracked a **near-doubling of white supremacist propaganda efforts in 2020, as antisemitic and racist messaging surged**. The 2020 data shows a huge increase of incidents from the previous year, with a total of 5,125 cases reported (averaging more than 14 incidents per day), compared to 2,724 in 2019. This is the highest number of white supremacist propaganda incidents ADL has ever recorded. Propaganda gives white supremacists the ability to maximize media and online attention, while limiting the risk of individual exposure, negative media coverage, arrests and public backlash that often accompanies more public events. The barrage of propaganda, which overwhelmingly features veiled white supremacist language with a patriotic slant, is an effort to normalize white supremacists' message and bolster recruitment efforts while targeting minority groups. The 2020 propaganda appeared in every state except Hawaii, with the highest levels of activity in Texas, Washington, California, New Jersey, New York, Massachusetts, Virginia, and Pennsylvania.

Far Right use of Antisemitic Secret language Online to Avoid Exposure⁷

Antisemites and white supremacists make use of a secret code and lexicon to talk online while avoiding the gaze of algorithms and law enforcement, a new study has found. According to University of Haifa's Professor Gabriel Weimann and web intelligence analyst Ari Ben-Am, the secret language works to recruit new followers and spread propaganda. The coded language makes use of certain coded phrases called "dog-whistles," which are only understood by members of certain groups. Some are simple, such as calling Jews "Skypes," African-Americans as "Googles" and Latinos as "Yahoos." Others are more complex, with letters and numbers meant to indicate certain specific phrases, people or concepts. The numbers 88, for example, represents Heil Hitler, as H is the eighth letter in the alphabet.

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⁶ ADL, "White Supremacist Propaganda Spikes in 2020," March 17, 2021; Link: <https://www.adl.org/white-supremacist-propaganda-spikes-2020>.

⁷ Jerusalem Post, "Far Right, antisemites' secret language used online exposed by new study," March 1, 2021; Link: <https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/antisemitism/far-right-antisemites-secret-language-used-online-exposed-by-new-study-660578>

II. Chronology of Recent Threat Incidents Reported

(Includes a representation of international incidents reported)

Overland park, Kansas, March 30, 2021 (Kansas City Star): American domestic terrorist and former Ku Klux Klan member Frazier Glenn Miller, who killed three people during a shooting spree in two suburban Kansas City Jewish sites on Passover Eve in 2014, has appealed to overturn his death penalty on the grounds that he was unfit to represent himself in the trial. Miller, also known as Glenn Cross, was convicted in 2015 on one count of capital murder, three counts of attempted murder, and assault and weapons charges after he chose to represent himself in court, arguing that his plan to "kill Jews" was justified since "Jews have too much power and must be stopped." Miller's April 13, 2014, rampage outside the Jewish Community Center and the Village Shalom care center took the lives of Reat Underwood, 14; his grandfather William Corporon, 69; and 53-year-old Terri LaManno, who worked with visually impaired children. **At his sentencing, Miller reiterated his desire to kill Jewish people. "I'd do it again," he said, "if they ever let me out of here."**

New York, New York, March 29, 2021 (DoJ/US Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York): Mark J. Lesko, Acting United States Attorney for the Eastern District of New York announced that the Office will double the size of its Civil Rights Section in the Criminal Division to provide additional resources to evaluate and, where appropriate, prosecute hate crimes. "Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) is proud to join together with the FBI and the United States Attorney's Office, EDNY, in combatting the rising trend of Hate Crimes that we are seeing throughout our region. **Every person should be free to live and worship as they wish without fear for repercussions or their safety,**" stated HSI New York Special Agent-in-Charge Peter C. Fitzhugh. "Working with our partners, HSI will hold those who victimize others **based on their nationality, race, religion or otherwise,** responsible for their actions."

Washington, DC, March 26, 2021 (US Department of Justice): The Justice Department announced that Sonia Tabizada, age 36, of San Jacinto, California, was sentenced to 15 months and 13 days for intentionally obstructing persons in the enjoyment of their free exercise of religious beliefs by **threatening to bomb the Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School in Washington, DC.** According to the plea agreement, Tabizada made multiple calls threatening violence against the school. On May 15, 2019, Tabizada left a voice message stating that she was going to burn and bomb the church. She also stated that she was going to kill school officials and students. Tabizada further left a voice mail stating that she was going to blow up the school and **warned that she would commit "terrorism."** "No school and no child should be subjected to death threats, because of their religious beliefs," said Pamela S. Karlan, Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division, "and the Department of Justice will continue to vigorously prosecute violent threats motivated by bias."

Atlanta, Georgia, March 26, 2021 (DoJ/US Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Georgia): Acting U.S. Attorney Kurt R. Erskine and Chris Hacker, Special Agent in Charge of FBI Atlanta are condemning bigotry, racism, and hatred against the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community and issuing a call for people to report potential discriminatory incidents immediately. "We are deeply troubled by the acts of violence and harassment against our Asian American neighbors, family, and friends in this district," said Acting U.S. Attorney Kurt R. Erskine. **"We will not tolerate discrimination or criminal acts against people based on their real or perceived race or ethnicity and will continue to examine all evidence related to the shooter's motivation in order to determine whether these horrific murders violated federal hate crime laws.** Federal law enforcement in this district is committed to the safety of the members of our AAPI community and we urge the public to report potential racial discrimination and hate crimes to law enforcement so we can address these illegal acts."

Seaside, California, March 25, 2021 (JTA): Thomas Shefflette, a former Cal State Monterey Bay graduate student, was arrested at his campus apartment on weapons-related felony and misdemeanor charges. Campus police, accompanying the Monterey County Sheriff's Office, went to his apartment to issue an eviction notice for unpaid rent and found a loaded 9 mm handgun, a **"large quantity of AR-15 weapon parts" and parts for the assembly of a ghost gun, a handmade weapon that lacks any serial number.** Police also reportedly found a swastika taped to his wall and a photo of Hitler.

Pennsylvania, March 24, 2021 (GoErie): There were 330 Hate incidents reported last year in Pennsylvania by the Anti-Defamation League — a record high since the ADL started tracking cases in the state five years ago. Most of the incidents involved white supremacist propaganda, while 96 were antisemitic incidents and eight were white supremacist events. The findings line up with those noted by the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission, the top civil rights agency in the state. The spike in hate incidents across Pennsylvania mirrors a trend across the country. White supremacist propaganda surged across the U.S. in 2020, with 5,125 cases of racist, antisemitic and other hateful messages reported by the ADL. There was an average of about 14 incidents per day and nearly double the 2,724 cases reported in 2019. Most of the cases were tied to 30 far right and white supremacy groups that spread propaganda in every state but Hawaii. **While the highest number of incidents were reported in Philadelphia, its suburbs, the Poconos, Lehigh Valley, Pittsburgh and the Harrisburg area, the ADL report shows hate was widespread through at least 100 communities in Pennsylvania.**

Worldwide, March 23, 2021 (Los Angeles Times): Experts on extremism are warning about a troubling shift in the right-wing QAnon movement toward a new vein of conspiracy that blends **anti-Chinese and anti-Jewish tropes with fears of vaccines and a global plot to take over the world.** The anti-Asian sentiment has shifted to anxiety about worldwide dominance, specifically a communist overthrow of governments backed by Jewish people who control wealth. According to researcher Joel Finkelstein, director of Rutgers University's Network Contagion Research Institute, "They are unifying under a giant umbrella of a common enemy. Sometimes it's the Jews. Occasionally it's the Asians. Usually, it's the government. What is happening is they are fishing for different issues to cause violence with."

Switzerland, March 22, 2021 (The Jerusalem Post): In a statement to mark International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, **the Swiss Federal Commission against Racism (FCR) has said that hate speech and intolerance are on the rise in the country, including antisemitic conspiracy theories often surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic.** That report found that of 485 reported incidents of online antisemitism, primarily in social media and newspaper talkback pages, there were 249 reports of contemporary antisemitic conspiracy theories. Of those, 45% involved conspiracy theories about the Jewish people and responsibility for the COVID-19 pandemic, the report said.

London, England, March 22, 2021 (Huffington Post): An **attack on a Jewish pregnant woman in which she was repeatedly punched after a pillowcase was put over her head is the latest in a string of reported anti-Semitic hate crimes.** The 20-year-old victim, who is around 28 weeks pregnant, was taken to hospital for treatment of injuries following the assault in Stamford Hill. The Metropolitan Police said a man, aged in his late 50s, had been arrested on suspicion of grievous bodily harm and is in custody. Rabbi Herschel Gluck, president of the Shomrim neighborhood watch group in the area, said the assault was part of a "general spike" targeting Jewish women and girls. **CCTV footage shared online shows a man approach the woman from behind and can be seen putting a pillowcase over her head before repeatedly punching her, then running away.** Rabbi Gluck told the PA news agency: "Over the past month, there have been seven similar incidents, assaults on women and girls. "He followed her for about a mile. In other words, it

was clearly premeditated, it wasn't an 'opportunistic' incident. "It has reached a new level of violence. It seems he wanted to kill her. It's a very shocking picture." He said the woman has been left "traumatized" by the incident, while the whole Jewish community was feeling "deeply concerned".

Rome, Italy, March 22, 2021 (JTA): A food delivery man in Rome was stabbed after telling a fellow courier to stop an anti-Semitic rant. The victim sustained lacerations on his face and required medical treatment. The incident occurred while the two men were waiting for food orders to deliver. The alleged attacker ranted about Jews and produced a knife and assaulted the other courier after he protested the man's antisemitic rhetoric. The alleged attacker left the scene on his motorcycle after the incident. Police are searching for him on suspicion of **assault aggravated by racist hatred**.

Miami, Florida, March 20, 2021 (Times of Israel): A Miami-based imam criticized those who seek peace and normalization with Jews, whom he referred to as "the offspring of apes and pigs" that are behind all corruption worldwide, in a sermon. Imam Dr. Fadi Yousef Kablawi's speech at the North Miami Islamic Center was posted to the mosque's Facebook page and translated by the Middle East Media Research Institute (MEMRI). Kablawi was likely referring to the recent signing of diplomatic agreements between Israel and various Arab and Muslim-majority states. Israel established ties last year with the UAE and Bahrain in a US-brokered deal known as the Abraham Accords. Sudan, Morocco, and Kosovo followed suit shortly after. Extremist Islamists have often referred to Jews as pigs and apes, based on their interpretation of certain Quranic verses. **Kablawi's sermon also blamed Jews for spreading "corruption" upon the land. According to MEMRI, Kablawi is a dentist and had immigrated to the United States from Jordan.**

Columbus, Ohio, March 19, 2021 (the algemeiner/Columbus Dispatch): Douglas G. Schifer, 65, who harassed his Jewish neighbors with antisemitic insults and threats was charged in a federal district court with a hate crime. Schifer is alleged to have repeatedly targeted his neighbors, a Jewish couple from California who had recently moved to the neighborhood. Alongside antisemitic insults, Schifer allegedly threw rocks through their patio door and windows, shattering the glass; an incident captured on a neighbor's doorbell camera. **On another occasion, he reportedly threatened to shoot family members.**

New York, New York, March 19, 2021 (NBC News): A man suspected of drawing a swastika front of a historic temple was captured after New York City police said he returned to the site to again mark it with other anti-Semitic symbols. Manuel Barrera, 50, of Harlem, was arrested on a charge of anti-Semitic aggravated harassment, according to authorities. New York police released video showing a man approach the doors of Temple Emanu-El on the city's Upper East Side. In the footage, the man is seen writing or drawing something before heading away. Barrera returned to Temple Emanu-El to again draw a swastika, along with a pentagram and "666," an NYPD official confirmed. The pentagram and "666" are satanic symbols. Temple officials called police, who took Barrera into custody. Temple Emanu-El, was established in 1845. One of the largest synagogues in the world, the sanctuary fits more people than New York's St. Patrick's Cathedral.

Virginia, March 17, 2021 (ABC 13 News): White supremacist propaganda has doubled in 2020 compared to 2019, according to data from Anti-Defamation League. **In Virginia, incidents increased from 138 in 2019 to 249 in 2020.**

Washington, DC, March 16, 2021 (JTA/South Florida Sun Sentinel): A Capitol Police officer has been suspended after a copy of "The Protocols of the Elders of Zion," an infamous anti-Semitic document, was

found near his work area. "The Protocols," first published in Russia in the early 20th century, is one of the most widespread anti-Semitic tracts of all time. It alleges a Jewish conspiracy to control the world.

Brevard, North Carolina, March 14, 2021 (ABC News 11): Several law enforcement agencies are investigating after multiple suspected 'incendiary devices' were found near the First Baptist Church of Brevard. The Brevard Police Department is now working with the local sheriff's office as well as the NC State Bureau of Investigation, FBI and ATF to investigate the incident.

Northern, California, March 10, 2021 (JTA): Jon Minadeo Jr., 38, as launched an online merchandise store selling virulently anti-Semitic T-shirts and apparel in an effort to fund propaganda tours across California and beyond. Dubbed Goyim Gear, "All proceeds go to the next N.T.N.T.," a message at the top of the webpage says, referring to what Minadeo calls the "Name the Nose Tour," outings on which he and others drive around California shouting anti-Semitic slurs and conspiracy theories through a megaphone. Minadeo, with a group known as the Goyim Defense League, went on a Name the Nose tour last summer in Southern California, driving in a white van scrawled with anti-Semitic messages such as "Jews killed Jesus" and "BLM is funded by Jews." **They hung banners reading "Honk if you know the Jews want a race war" on a Los Angeles highway overpass, shouted conspiracy theories about COVID-19 to mask wearers and stood outside a Chabad center claiming that "these Jewish terrorists" were behind 9/11.**

Singapore, March 10, 2021 (The Jerusalem Post/The Straights Times): A 20-year-old Singaporean man was detained on Wednesday under the Internal Security Act for **his plan to stab local Jewish community members after their prayer service at Maghain Aboth Synagogue in the city-state**, according to reports. The man, Amirull Ali, was serving as a national serviceman in the Singapore Armed Forces at the time of his arrest and is believed to have been self-radicalized since at least the age of 14. **He planned to target three Jewish men after their Saturday congregational prayers.** He seemed to have operated under the assumption that any Jewish worshipers he would be able to kill would have been involved in Israel's actions in the Gaza Strip. Home Affairs and Law Minister K. Shanmugam said that many Jewish people in Singapore are local citizens and would have served in that country's defense forces and not the Israeli Defense Forces. **He preparations for the attack included practicing stabbing movements with a practice-knife, learning about the human body to carry out an effective attack, and visiting the synagogue to familiarize himself with it.**

Atlanta, Georgia, March 10, 2021 (Atlanta Jewish Times): There have been 15 Zoombombing incidents reported to the Anti-Defamation League's Southeast regional office in Atlanta in the past year, mostly targeting the Jewish community. Zoombombing is basically a group hijacking the Zoom platform's screen-sharing feature to project graphic verbal and visual content to unwitting meeting participants in an attempt to shock and shut down those gatherings, according to a compilation of online definitions. The cases of Zoombombings in the Jewish community have trickled in throughout the pandemic, a period when more people turned to the video teleconferencing platform Zoom for such gatherings as office meetings, synagogue services, activities, simchas and family holiday celebrations, according to Rabinovitz, who handles security for the community through the **Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta** in partnership with the national Secure Community Network. Rabinovitz said perpetrators of Zoombombing, if apprehended, could be charged with state or federal crimes, depending on the circumstances. As examples, he cited: "disrupting a public meeting, computer intrusion, using a computer to commit a crime, hate crimes, or transmitting threatening communications." The Jewish community is not alone when it comes to being Zoombombed. In August, internet trolls targeted the Rev. Raphael Warnock when he was running for the U.S. Senate, according to media reports. **The perpetrators hurled racist slurs, showed**

Nazi symbols and pornographic images as Warnock began to speak on a Zoom meeting of the Hall County Democratic Party, the reports indicated.

Nationwide, March 8, 2021 (ABC News): Based on investigations between 2016 and 2020, agents and analysts with the FBI's division in San Antonio concluded that white supremacists and other right-wing extremists would "very likely seek affiliation with military and law enforcement entities in furtherance of" their ideologies, according to a confidential intelligence assessment. **In some cases, they wanted to join the military or police so they would be able to commit acts of violence toward members of minority groups. In others, they planned to join the military or police to learn how to wage war against members groups.** The document was distributed to law enforcement agencies both in Texas and elsewhere in the country. **"In the long term, FBI San Antonio assesses [racially motivated violent extremists] successfully entering military and law enforcement careers almost certainly will gain access to non-public tradecraft and information, enabling them to enhance operational security and develop new tactics in and beyond the FBI San Antonio" region, the document said.**

Australia, March 8, 2021 (The Herald Sun): There is a "dangerous" and alarming rise of the far-right movement across Australia. Far-right groups – spurred on by the dream of an "Australian Hitler" – have dramatically increased their activities on Australian soil in recent years as new cells pop up. A relatively new group to Australia – the National Socialist Network – claims to have an active footprint in Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide, Canberra, Perth and a number of regional cities. **The Brisbane Synagogue is one of the places where these groups have congregated to spread their message of hate, white supremacist and neo-Nazi ideology.** The nation's spy agency, the Australian Security Intelligence Organization, says increasing numbers of young Australians – some just 14 years old – are being radicalized by both extreme right wing and Islamist groups.

Marseille, France, March 5, 2021 (ABC News/Associated Press/JTA): **Guards protecting a Jewish school overpowered a man wielding a knife whom they suspected intended to stab patrons at a nearby kosher store and bakery.** Police took into custody the suspect after the security guards protecting the school charged at him and immobilized him, taking away the weapon. The children were briefly sequestered inside the school while police searched for any explosives or accomplices. Police suspect he was intending to carry out a terrorist attack against Jewish individuals. **In 2015, a jihadist terrorist killed four Jews at a kosher store in Paris. It happened two days after the shooting at the Charlie Hebdo satirical newspaper on Jan. 7, 2015. The perpetrators of both incidents planned the attacks together. In 2012, another jihadist killed three Jewish children and rabbi at a Jewish school in Toulouse.**

Youngstown, Ohio, March 4, 2021 (Cleveland Jewish News): According to Judge Patricia Gaughan of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio in Cleveland, the "anti-Semitic beliefs" of defendant **James P. Reardon are relevant to the threat he posed to the Youngstown, Ohio Jewish Community Center.** Judge Gaughan decided evidence placing Reardon at the Charlottesville Unite the Right rally is admissible because the "defendant's anti-Semitic beliefs are relevant to show that (the) defendant intended to issue a threat when he posted a video to his Instagram account tagging of the Youngstown Jewish Community Center and featured him speaking German phrases and shooting a World War II-era German assault rifle, accompanied by sirens and screams. **Executing a search warrant of Reardon's home, law enforcement found an MP-40, submachine gun described in court records as similar to the one in the video, an M-16 Vietnam-era model, an M-16 pellet gun with a bayonet attached to it, a knife described as a "Hitler youth knife," along with Nazi World War II propaganda posters, vintage U.S. military equipment and a Vanguard America shield.**

Christchurch, New Zealand, March 4, 2021 (France 24): New Zealand police **arrested two people over online threats against two Christchurch mosques targeted in a white supremacist attack two years ago that claimed the lives of 51 Muslims.** Police in the South Island city announced the pair's arrest as Christchurch prepares for the second anniversary of the horrific attack on March 15, 2019. While details of the threat have been limited, police said "We take all threats of this nature seriously and we are working closely with our Muslim community." In March 2019, Australian national, and **self-proclaimed white supremacist**, Brenton Tarrant targeted men, women and children who had gathered for Friday prayers in Christchurch, killing 51 and injuring dozens more.

Spokane, Washington, March 3, 2021 (The Seattle Times): **A man in a dark jacket, mask and boots crossed the grounds of Temple Beth Shalom in Spokane, pulled out a can of red spray paint and began desecrating the property. Staring into a surveillance camera, he first sprayed its lens to cover it, then moved on, marking one side of the synagogue with a swastika and defacing a Holocaust memorial.** The suspect was soon identified as Raymond Bryant, 44, of nearby Airway Heights, Spokane County, a member of a new neo-Nazi group that had sprung up in town. For months, authorities said, Bryant had been spreading hate-filled leaflets in different pockets of Spokane and Airway Heights for his chapter of the 14First Foundation. Foundation fliers also have been distributed in Texas, Kentucky and Louisiana, according to the Western States Center, a Portland-based nonprofit that tracks extremism. Experts who track extremism in the Spokane area said 14First's members had been attempting to show an increasing presence locally. Bryant had also been to the Temple Beth Shalom synagogue in Spokane at least once before in what appeared to be an earlier attempt at taunting members, according to court documents. **The defacement of the synagogue in the middle of the night last month marked an escalation in tactics that drew alarm.** The group had also taken responsibility for placing flyers around several Texas cities, including San Antonio, Abilene and Austin. Bryant told officers he was a lieutenant in the organization. Disseminating flyers in public spaces has become an increasingly common tool of white nationalists during the pandemic for recruitment, publicity and intimidation, according to the Southern Poverty Law Center, which also monitors extremists.

East Kilbride, Scotland, March 3, 2021 (Daily Record): Nazi and KKK graffiti was found spray painted on the wall of the South Parish church.

Paris, France, March 3, 2021 (the algemeiner): France's highest court began its deliberations whether to overrule a lower court's decision excusing the alleged antisemitic murderer of a Jewish woman from a criminal trial because his excessive cannabis use supposedly rendered him mentally unfit. The Court of Cassation's hearing centers on the Paris Court of Appeal's decision to excuse from trial the accused killer, Kobili Traore, because his heavy intake of cannabis had fatally compromised his "discernment," or consciousness, **when he murdered his 65-year-old Jewish neighbor, Sarah Halimi. Traore subjected Halimi to a brutal beating before throwing her out of the window of her third-floor apartment to her death, screaming Islamist and antisemitic slogans as he did so.**

Wisconsin, March 2, 2021 (Wisconsin Jewish Chronicle): **Antisemitic incidents reported in Wisconsin increased 36% from 2019 to 2020, according to the Jewish Community Relations Council of Milwaukee Jewish Federation.** The increase is one of the findings of the 2020 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents. "2020 was sadly, but not surprisingly another high-water mark year for antisemitic incidents in Wisconsin, surpassing recorded incidents from 2019," said JCRC Chair Brian Schupper. "We are seeing a significant increase in overt antisemitic expression laden with conspiracy theories and hate group rhetoric..."

Pueblo, Colorado, March 2, 2021 (JTA/Reuters): A self-described “skinhead” who plotted to blow up a Colorado synagogue in 2019 was sentenced to nearly 20 years in prison. Richard Holzer, 28, who was arrested in an FBI operation, had **planned to attack Temple Emanuel, a 100-year-old synagogue in Pueblo with 35 member families. Holzer had also planned to poison the synagogue’s water supply with arsenic.** He pleaded guilty to one count each of trying to obstruct religious services by force and attempting to destroy a building used in interstate commerce. At his sentencing hearing, Judge Raymond Moore castigated Holzer for trying “to terrorize the Jewish community.” ““It is one of the most vulgar ... evil crimes that can be committed against an entire group of people,” Moore said.

Bog Rapids, Michigan, March 1, 2021 (JTA/USA Today/Detroit Free Press): Ferris State University fired a professor for using anti-Semitic, racist, homophobic and other inflammatory language on social media. **Thomas Brennan, a physical sciences professor, had tweeted about a “Jewish mafia” and called the COVID-19 pandemic a “Jewish revolution.”**

New Jersey, Michigan and Wisconsin, February 28, 2021 (JTA/Associated Press): Richard Tobin, 19, of Brooklawn, New Jersey admitted he coordinated members of the neo-Nazi group The Base in attacks on at least two Midwestern synagogues. He pleaded guilty to conspiracy charges pertaining to **attacks on a synagogue in Hancock, Michigan, which was daubed with swastikas and SS symbols and an attack on a synagogue in Racine, Wisconsin, which was defaced with an anti-Semitic slogan and the insignia of The Base.** Tobin said he called his efforts “Operation Kristallnacht,” a reference to the pogrom throughout Nazi Germany in 1938 that many refer to as the start of the Holocaust.

Nationwide, February 26, 2021 (JTA/Politico): A U.S. State Department employee named Fritz Berggren has been moonlighting as a blogger devoted to attacking Jews and promoting white Christian nationalism. “Jesus Christ came to save the whole world from the Jews — the founders of the original Anti-Christ religion, they who are the seed of the Serpent, that brood of vipers,” Berggren wrote in an Oct. 4, 2020, post on his website titled “Jews are Not God’s Chosen People. Judeo-Christian is Anti-Christ.” Later in the post he writes, “Jewish ideas poison people.” **Berggren has been sharing his extremist and anti-Semitic views under his real name for years while working as a mid-level civil servant. Berggren espouses the idea, common among the far-right, that white people are at risk of being eliminated through demographic change and organized persecution.** Berggren works for a State Department unit that handles special immigrant visas for Afghans. He has been identified as a Foreign Service worker since as early as 2009.

Spokane, Washington, February 19, 2021 (KXLY): The suspect in a hate crime at Spokane’s Temple Beth Shalom previously harassed members, according to a newly filed search warrant. Raymond S. Bryant was **arrested for malicious harassment with hate bias and malicious mischief.** He was also found to be connected to racist and anti-Semitic flyers left on cars around Spokane earlier this month. According to court documents, Bryant, who is accused of spray-painting Nazi symbols on the temple, was identified as the suspect after being **caught on surveillance footage. Members of the synagogue told police they installed the surveillance cameras and a security system because of previous threats.** One member was able to identify Bryant from incidents in the past. Court records show Bryant previously went to Temple Beth Shalom with other members of a white supremacist group and threw up a Nazi salute.

Lincoln, Nebraska, February 19, 2021 (Associated Press): A 22-year-old man who **spray-painted swastikas and racial epithets on a Lincoln synagogue** was sentenced to a year in jail. Miller pleaded no contest to criminal mischief enhanced as a hate crime. Members of the South Street Temple discovered the vandalism on Jan. 15. A door had to be replaced at a cost of \$2,333.

National, February 19, 2021 (JTA): A Capitol rioter who sat in Mike Pence's seat in the Senate chamber during the insurrection had a **history of making antisemitic statements and associating with white supremacists**, according to a federal complaint against him. Christian Secor, who uses an online alias honoring a mass shooter, was arrested by the FBI and is charged with assault, civil disorder and other crimes related to the insurrection. According to the federal complaint, Secor described fascism as "epic," has celebrated the 2017 white supremacist rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, and "suggests Jews and the state of Israel control the politics of other governments and attempt to control 'Westerners.'" He has reportedly identified as a "Groyper," or follower of white supremacist Nick Fuentes. [Fuentes is an internet personality who streams a daily talk show on DLive, an alternative social media platform. He marched in Charlottesville during the 2017 white power rally there, speaks frequently in anti-Semitic terms and pontificates on the need to protect America's white heritage from the ongoing shift in the nation's demographics. (Source: ProPublica, January 9, 2021; Link: <https://www.propublica.org/article/several-well-known-hate-groups-identified-at-capitol-riot>)]

Washington, DC, February 19, 2021 (JTA): A Capitol rioter who sat in Mike Pence's seat in the Senate chamber during the insurrection had a history of **making anti-Semitic statements and associating with white supremacists**, according to a federal complaint against him. Christian Secor, who uses an online alias honoring a mass shooter, was arrested by the FBI and is charged with assault, civil disorder and other crimes related to the insurrection. According to the federal complaint, Secor described fascism as "epic," has celebrated the 2017 white supremacist rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, and "**suggests Jews and the state of Israel control the politics of other governments and attempt to control 'Westerners.'**"

Europe, February 19, 2021 (JTA): In a spate of antisemitic incidents in Western Europe, a swastika was carved into the door of a Swiss synagogue and a Jewish lawmaker in France received hate mail telling her to "**get ready for the camps.**" Yaël Braun-Pivet, a Jewish lawmaker of the LREM centrist party of President Emmanuel Macron, shared on Twitter an antisemitic hate mail that she received in her private email. In addition to referencing death camps, the author wrote "**This time, it's the Muslims who will deal with you.**" Also, "Jews can no longer come into some neighborhoods. Within two generations it will be whole cities. Demography determines laws." In the Switzerland incident, the members of the Jewish Community of Biel found the words "**Sieg Heil**" and "**Jews pack**" **etched onto the door of their synagogue alongside the swastika.** Police are searching for suspects, according to the Swiss Federation of Jewish Communities.

New York, New York, February 18, 2021 (QNS, Queens local news): The NYPD is investigating a hate crime incident in Rego Park **after anti-Semitic graffiti was discovered at a Jewish house of worship.** Investigators from the 112th Precinct and the NYPD's Hate Crimes Unit are viewing surveillance video of a suspect scrawling a swastika on a private property sign on the steps of the Rego Park Jewish Center. The neighborhood is home to many elderly that suffered the atrocities of the Holocaust and other who lived under the persecution of the KGB in the former Soviet Union.

Iowa, February 17, 2021 (Des Moines Register): **Eight Iowa mayors are backing a campaign to condemn hate crimes against Jewish people following the deadly riot at the U.S. Capitol on January 6th, where some participants displayed anti-Semitic symbols and messages.** According to the Anti-Defamation League, Iowans reported four anti-Semitic incidents in 2020, three of them involving public vandalism. Most recently, on the first day of Hanukkah in December, someone used red spray paint to scrawl the New Testament biblical citation "John 8:44" at an entrance of Davenport's Temple Emanuel, KWQC reported. The verse has anti-Semitic connotations, according to the Anti-Defamation League. Two Iowans,

41-year-old Doug Jensen of Des Moines and 35-year-old Leo Kelly of Cedar Rapids, face multiple federal charges for their alleged roles at the Capitol riot.

Brisbane, Australia, February 18, 2021 (Australian Jewish News): Congregants leaving Brisbane's Margaret Street Synagogue after sabbath services were reportedly assaulted with punches, spitting and, antisemitic verbal abuse. It is reported that the Community Security Group and the Queensland Police acted swiftly to contain the assault and a person was taken into custody.

Great Neck, New York, February 16, 2021 (The Island Now): A Temple Beth-El virtual Torah study event was interrupted by anti-Semitic intruders during the Jewish sabbath, according to temple officials. Several unknown people logged onto the Shabbat Torah study Zoom event and proceeded to "post offensive material and speak words of hate," according to a temple statement.

Madrid, Spain, February 16, 2021 (El Pais/La Marea): The Federation of Jewish Communities in Spain has called on the hate crimes public prosecutor to investigate **antisemitic accusations made during a neo-Nazi demonstration** in honor of the División Azul, or Blue Division, held in Madrid. The Blue Division was a military unit sent by former Spanish dictator Francisco Franco to support Adolf Hitler's invasion of the Soviet Union during the Second World War. In a video of the demonstration, a young woman is seen at a lectern with a microphone surrounded by dozens of people carrying neo-fascist and Nazi symbols and paraphernalia. **The woman in the video is heard saying that "the enemy is always going to be the same albeit wearing different masks: the Jew."** She adds: "Because there is nothing that is more true than this statement: the Jew is to blame, the Jew is to blame, and the Blue Division fought for this." She later states that communism is "a Jewish invention to pit the workers against one another."

East Cobb, Georgia, February 15, 2021 (Atlanta Jewish Times): Zoombombers brought the online Shabbat service at Congregation Etz Chaim to a standstill. Five to 10 disrupters disrupted the congregation of about 50 attendees by surprise with a **barrage of anti-Semitic and racial statements, including some penned in the Zoom chat space, such as "Kill the Jews," "F—Jews," "Hitler Rules," and "Free Palestine."** They also posted graphic pornographic images.

Germany, February 15, 2021 (Jerusalem Post/Deutsche Welle): Registered **antisemitic hate crimes in Germany significantly increased in 2020**, according to the German government. The data provided by the German police indicated that most of the hate crimes committed came from the far-right. Police recorded **at least 2,275 antisemitic crimes**. The number of antisemitic hate crimes in Germany has been steadily increasing from 1,799 recorded in 2018, to 2,032 in 2019.

Freemont, California, February 11, 2021 (The Jewish News of Northern California): A **swastika was discovered etched on the outside of the Temple Beth Torah synagogue**. Officers asked neighbors for video footage from their security cameras, the synagogue reported. Police said they would be treating the incident as a hate crime.

United Kingdom, February 11, 2021 (the algemeiner/Community Security Trust): According to the Community Security Trust's Antisemitic Incidents Report 2020, **there were at least 1,668 antisemitic incidents in the UK in 2020**, the third-highest total ever recorded in a single calendar year by the group. The Community Security Trust is a British nonprofit, which exists to provide safety, security, and advice to the Jewish community in the UK.

Nationwide, February 10, 2021 (Israel Hayom): Alums for Campus Fairness (ACF), a **watchdog group of US college alumni active on issues of antisemitism, demonization of Israel, and bigotry, has released a groundbreaking report outlining the 50 most flagrant antisemitic incidents at American universities.** Some of the most alarming examples recorded in The Guide to Protect Jewish Students include swastikas spray-painted in a Jewish professor's office, the resignation of a student government vice president due to harassment for her Zionist identity, and a performer at a school-sponsored conference inviting the audience to join him in his "antisemitism song." **"Across the nation, Jewish students are targeted, harassed, and discriminated against because of who they are and what they believe.** AEPI members were assaulted at Townson University, NYU students burned an Israeli flag, a University of Michigan professor refused to write a recommendation letter for a student to study abroad in Israel, and vandals defaced the UMass Amherst Hillel on Holocaust Memorial Day. This is only a snapshot of what Jewish students are up against," Alums for Campus Fairness Executive Director Avi D. Gordon said.

Phoenix, Arizona, February 10, 2021 (ABC 15 Arizona): One of the country's most prominent **Neo-Nazi groups says they plan to protest in Phoenix in mid-April.** The National Socialist Movement (NSM) is a hate group that "specializes in theatrical and provocative protests," according to the Southern Poverty Law Center. "They are the largest and most explicitly Neo-Nazi group in the United States," said Tammy Gillies, ADL's Regional Director over Arizona. **"They want what they call a 'greater America.' And would deny citizenship to Jews, non-whites, and anyone from the LGBTQ community."** The organization typically holds a large gathering once a year. The goal is likely two-fold," said Gillies. "It's for recruitment and it's to let the community know that they are here, and these are their beliefs." Some experts say it is also about provoking a reaction and creating a spectacle, trying to provoke counter-protesters to attack them and make them the victim.

Switzerland, February 10, 2021 (JTA): Pig meat was left at the entrance to two synagogues in Switzerland. The incidents were a **deliberate attempt to desecrate the CIL Orthodox synagogue in Lausanne and the GIL Reform synagogue in Geneva,** the Swiss Federation of Jewish Communities wrote in a statement. Far-right activists in Europe place pig meat, parts, and carcasses at mosques and at synagogues, as pigs are considered unclean in both Islam and Judaism.

St. Paul, Minnesota, February 9, 2021 (DoJ/US Attorney's Office for the District of Minnesota): Ray Ghansham Persaud, 21, was sentenced to more than a year of prison for calling in **multiple bomb threats to the University of St. Thomas** in 2019. St. Thomas is a private, Roman Catholic university founded in 1885 as a Catholic seminary. The bomb threats caused substantial fear and disruption to the University, including the evacuation of campus buildings and a childcare center, re-routing of traffic on nearby streets, and a full response by the University's Public Safety personnel.

Cornwall, England, February 9, 2021 (JTA/ Cornwall Live): A London court has **convicted of terrorism a 16-year-boy who researched producing weapons for what he described in online chats as actions to gas Jews.** The Central Criminal Court of England and Wales sentenced the teenager from Cornwall to 24 months at a youth rehabilitation program. He is the kingdom's youngest-ever person to be convicted of terrorism. He pleaded guilty last week to 10 counts of possessing terrorist material and two counts of disseminating terror documents, reported. His crimes began when he was 13.

Smiley, Texas, February 8, 2021 (DoJ/U.S. Attorney's Office, Western District of Texas): Federal authorities in San Antonio filed a criminal complaint against Caleb Nathaniel Oliver, age 19, for the **unlawful possession of a machine gun.** Oliver is a **member of the group called Iron Youth, a racially motivated violent extremist group** that advocates violence in the furtherance of its objectives.

Grand Prairie, Texas, February 8, 2021 (DoJ/U.S. Attorney's Office, Northern District of Texas): Christian Michael Mackey, 20, an alleged white nationalist apparently intent on killing members of the Jewish faith has been charged with a federal firearm offense. He attempted to sell an AM-15 rifle to a convicted felon. According to the complaint, Mr. Mackey regularly posted in online chats organized by the Iron Youth, a Neo-Nazi white nationalist group dedicated to national socialism, militancy, and political terror. The group espouses "siege" ideology – using a series of anti-government terrorist attacks to instigate a race war. **On Instagram, Mr. Mackey said he liked "control and killing," called himself a "radical jew slayer,"** and vowed he would "die attacking the sustem [sic]." **He urged fellow group members to kill Jews and African Americans.**

Alpharetta, February 8, 2021 (The Revue & News): A virtual service for Congregation Gesher Ltorah, attended by 25 to 30 people, including children, was zoom bombed by five to seven men who wrote **disparaging and profane comments about Jews** in the meeting's chat feed during the service and left sexually explicit remarks and attached a lurid photo to the feed.

San Luis Obispo, California, February 7, 2021 (JTA): Police are investigating after a **Jewish fraternity, Alpha Epsilon Pi, at the California Polytechnic State University reported finding swastikas and other anti-Semitic graffiti** spray painted on the outside of its house.

Mumbai, India, January 30, 2021 (The Indian Express): Police security was stepped up around Jewish establishments across the city after a blast was reported near the Israeli Embassy in New Delhi. Both the Chabad House and the Synagogue at Kala Ghoda receive particular attention. The Chabad House, a Jewish outreach center and synagogue, was attacked during the 26/11 terror attack on Mumbai in 2008, and six of its occupants, including Americans, were tortured and executed.

Worldwide, January 27, 2021 (USA Today): Holocaust denial content remains on Facebook three months after pledging to ban all content that "denies or distorts the Holocaust." That's according to a new report from the Anti-Defamation League, which gave Facebook a "D" for its efforts. The ADL's CEO, Jonathan Greenblatt, said the report released on Holocaust Remembrance Day, shows that Facebook and other major social media platforms are "still struggling to address anti-Semitism and Holocaust denial effectively."

France, January 27, 2021 (the algemeiner): The number of violent antisemitic assaults on Jews in France remained consistent during 2020 despite the restrictions on movement imposed COVID-19 lockdowns, a new report from the Jewish community's security service disclosed. "In 2020, it should be noted that the number of violent attacks recorded — 44 — remained almost identical to the year 2019 — 45 — despite the three and a half months of confinement and the decrease in community activities," the SPCJ security service stated in a press release. Among the more notable outrages during 2020 was a brutal assault on a 29-year-old Jewish man by two men in the elevator of his parents' apartment building in Paris. The victim, who was wearing his kippah when he was attacked while coming to collect his 7-month-old daughter, was strangled and beaten unconscious by the assailants, who yelled antisemitic insults during the attack.

Worldwide, January 25, 2021 (i24NEWS, Israel/Times of Israel): A study by Israel's Ministry of Diaspora Affairs predicted a **steep rise in antisemitic incidents around the world in 2021**, warning in a 140-page annual report that the coronavirus pandemic is being used — by Iran, among others — to spread conspiracy theories that say Jews caused the outbreak. The report said there has been a proliferation of antisemitic conspiracy theories online tying Jews and Israel to the coronavirus crisis. "Jews, Zionists, and

Israel are accused of having created, spread, financed, and used the virus to expand their global domination, impose a New World Order, but also as a means for profit," it said. Antisemitic content is spread online, particularly by using the #COVID48 hashtag, which compares Israel to the virus, echoing past depictions of Jews as viruses seeking to take over the world. The report found the hashtag, used at least 250,000 times, appears to be an Iranian campaign and was used in a tweet by Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. Over 2.3 million antisemitic posts were detected online in 2020 from nearly 413,000 users in English, French, Arabic, German, Spanish, and Russian on Twitter, 4Chan, Bitchute, Stormfront, Gab, Minds, and 8Kun, the report said. **The top country for anti-Semitic content, based on the number of users posting material, was the United States**, followed by France, Germany and the UK, according to the ministry's Antisemitic Cyber Monitoring System, which tracks modes, sources, and locations of online anti-Semitism. **The report said that the rising rates of antisemitic sentiment are expected to lead to a significant increase in violence against Jews and Jewish sites in 2021, even after the pandemic is over, and is expected to challenge communities around the world, especially the American Jewish community.**

Nationwide, January 25, 2021 (KXLY Spokane): A former Sandpoint man has been fined nearly \$10 million for making thousands of racist and anti-Semitic robocalls. The Federal Communications Commission found Scott Rhodes illegally used caller ID spoofing with the intent to cause harm. The FCC said his robocalls, which were made across six states, including Idaho, included xenophobic fearmongering (including to a victim's family), racist attacks on political candidates, an apparent attempt to influence the jury in a domestic terrorist case.

Lowell, Massachusetts, February 26, 2021 (JTA/Lowell Sun): Bob Hoey, a member of the Lowell School Committee, was on a local talk show when he referred to a Jewish former official as a "kike." The slur, used as an insulting and contemptuous term for a Jewish person, came amid statements denigrating undocumented immigrants, the diversity of a local high school, Indian Americans, and a NY progressive Democrat. **The derogatory term historically has been used as a smear against Jews who immigrated to the United States in the early 20th century from Germany, eastern Europe and Russia.**

Hamburg, Germany, February 26, 2021 (Deutsche Welle (DW)): The man who tried to kill a Jewish student in front of a Hamburg synagogue is "mentally ill" and will be treated in a psychiatric facility, a German court has ruled. While the incident was a "targeted attack on a person of Jewish religion," the attacker is suffering from paranoid schizophrenia and was driven by religious delusions, according to the Hamburg-based court. **In October 2020, the assailant put on military fatigues and took a taxi to a synagogue in Hamburg. Once there, he targeted a 26-year-old yarmulke-wearing student, hitting him over the head with a short-handled shovel. The victim was hospitalized with severe injuries. Investigators found a drawing of a swastika in one of his pockets.**

Quebec, Canada, February 26, 2021 (Montreal Gazette): A man who was arrested last month after he spray-painted swastikas on a synagogue in Westmount has been ordered to be held at a psychiatric hospital after a judge declared him not criminally responsible for his actions. **Adam Riga, 28, a resident of St-Laurent, was facing charges of possessing incendiary and explosive materials with the intention of committing a criminal act and with threatening to burn down the synagogue. The materials were found on him after a security guard working at the Shaar Hashomayim synagogue caught him in the act of spray-painting the Nazi symbols on the doors of the place of worship.**

Tulsa, Oklahoma, January 25, 2021 (The Hill): The Tulsa Police Department is looking for two suspects who allegedly destroyed several statues dedicated to Jewish children killed during the Holocaust. Law

enforcement said they were contacted about the vandalism at The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art. In an outdoor display, the museum had erected five Holocaust tribute statues. **Each design was filled with 2,000 rocks bearing the individual names of Jewish children killed by the Nazi regime during World War II. Surveillance video showed two men bending the metal statues and knocking them down. According to police, they attempted to steal them but were unsuccessful. The museum said the suspects caused more than \$15,000 in damage.** “You come out and your car’s been egged, that’s not great,” said Lt. William White in a video. “But when you have statues dedicated to the children that lost their lives in one of the greatest tragedies in the history of humankind, obviously there’s a different tier there. So we’re taking this very seriously and we really want to catch these people.” **Earlier this month, a Washington state synagogue was vandalized with spray-painted swastikas and damage to a Holocaust memorial. The Anne Frank Human Rights Memorial in Boise, Idaho, was also targeted in December with swastika flyers reading “we are everywhere.” A report released by the Anti-Defamation League last year found that anti-Semitic incidents in the U.S. in 2019 occurred at their highest rate in at least four decades, with a record 2,100 incidents of assault, vandalism and more reported across the country.**

Upper Peninsula, Michigan, February 24, 2021 (Click On Detroit/Vice News): The former leader of a neo-Nazi terrorist group was reportedly planning to establish a heavily armed, white nationalist community in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula. Southeastern Michigan man Justen Watkins, who was arrested in October for several crimes, previously led The Base: A white supremacist and far-right accelerationist group that promotes terrorism in an effort to overthrow governments and establish white ethnostates, or states where citizenship is exclusive to white people. Law enforcement say that members of The Base share a common goal of establishing a white ethnostate in the Pacific Northwest or in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula. Watkins is accused of operating a “hate camp” in 2019, where he “led tactical and firearms training for members of The Base” in Bad Axe -- where he is from -- according to court documents. **Secret chats obtained by VICE News between “known accelerationist neo-Nazis” show that Watkins was planning to take that training to the next level by creating a fortified community of white nationalist members and preparing them to carry out their racially motivated extremist ideologies.** The news outlet claims that in the encrypted chat platforms, Watkins made it clear that he was seeking “**committed, militant neo-Nazis intent on paramilitary training for the so-called race war**” to join him at his existing operation in the Upper Peninsula.

Germany, February 24, 2021 (Gatestone Institute International Policy Council/Tagesspiegel): The number of anti-Semitic hate crimes in Germany surged to a two-decade high in 2020, according to new statistics released by the German government. The problem is now being exacerbated by the Coronavirus pandemic, which far-right conspiracy theorists are blaming on both Jews and Israel. German police reported a total of 2,275 anti-Semitic hate crimes — an average of six per day — in 2020, according to preliminary data provided by the federal government. The tally represents a more than 10% increase over the number of anti-Semitic crimes reported in 2019.

Worldwide, January 24, 2021 (Cleveland Jewish News): A California lawyer has come under fire from Jewish groups for making genocidal claims against Jews on social media. In Twitter posts, the lawyer, Farhad Khorasani, claimed that Israel is “the main enemy of the human race and the world,” saying: “The Jew anywhere is an existential threat to Aryans, muslims [sic] and Iranians everywhere. Hitler has proved that he knew these terrorist semites [sic] very well. Hitler was right, we need a new Hitler.”

Worldwide, February 23, 2021 (Parentology/Facebook/USA Today): In October 2020, Facebook announced an update to their hate speech policy that, in their words, “prohibits any content that denies or distorts the events of the Holocaust.” Facebook’s goal was not only to keep Holocaust denial off their

platform but to **fight anti-Semitism, specifically widely known Jewish stereotypes. For example, Jews have too much power, Jews are greedy, and Jews are disloyal.** This policy shift comes in the wake of the U.S. Millennial Holocaust Knowledge and Awareness Survey, which revealed that a whopping **63% of Millennials and Gen Zers did not know that six million Jews were killed in the Holocaust. 48% could not name a single concentration camp or ghetto (even though there were over 40,000 of them). Most alarmingly, 11% of survey respondents believed the Jews caused the Holocaust.** “We’re taking these steps given the well-documented rise in anti-Semitism globally and the alarming level of ignorance about the Holocaust, especially among young people,” Facebook said in a statement. **The Anti-Defamation League has released a report in which they gave Facebook a “D” for the work it has done so far. The ADL’s CEO, Jonathan Greenblatt, said Facebook and other social media platforms are “still struggling to address anti-Semitism and Holocaust denial effectively.”**