

## **U.S. White Supremacy Groups**

### **Key Points:**

- Some modern white supremacist groups, such as The Base, Hammerskin Nation, and National Socialist Order (formerly Atomwaffen Division), subscribe to a National Socialist (neo-Nazi) ideology. These groups generally make no effort to hide their overt racist belief that the white race is superior to others.
- Other modern white supremacist groups, however, propagate their radical stances under the guise of white ethno-nationalism, which seeks to highlight the distinctiveness—rather than the superiority—of the white identity. Such groups, which include the League of the South and Identity Evropa, usually claim that white identity is under threat from minorities or immigrants that seek to replace its culture, and seek to promote white ethno-nationalism as a legitimate ideology that belongs in mainstream political spheres.
- Most modern white supremacist groups eschew violent tactics in favor of using demonstrations and propaganda to sway public opinion and portray their ideologies as legitimate. However, their racial elitist ideologies have nonetheless spurred affiliated individuals to become involved in violent altercations.
- White supremacist groups often target youth for recruitment through propaganda campaigns on university campuses and social media platforms. White supremacists have long utilized Internet forums and websites to connect, organize, and propagate their extremist messages.

### **Executive Summary**

Since the [Ku Klux Klan](#) (KKK) first formed in 1865, white supremacist groups in the United States have propagated racism, hatred, and violence. Individuals belonging to these groups have been charged with a range of crimes, including civil rights violations, racketeering, solicitation to commit crimes of violence, firearms and explosives violations, and witness tampering.<sup>1</sup> Nonetheless, white supremacist groups—and their extremist ideologies—persist in the United States today. A February 2017 Southern Poverty Law Center report identified 100 active white nationalist and 99 active neo-Nazi groups in the country.<sup>2</sup>

The Counter Extremism Project (CEP) has identified eight especially virulent white supremacist groups, which principally espouse white ethno-nationalism and/or National Socialism (neo-Nazi). Neo-Nazi groups, such as the National Socialist Movement (NSM), Hammerskin Nation, and Atomwaffen Division (AWD), generally make no effort to hide their belief that the white race is superior to others. Their ideologies also usually include anti-Semitic and homophobic components that are in line with Nazi dogma. In contrast, groups such as the League of the South and Identity Evropa propagate their radical stances under the guise of white ethno-nationalism, which seeks to highlight the distinctiveness—rather than the superiority—of the white identity.

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<sup>1</sup> “Domestic Threat White Supremacy Extremism,” Federal Bureau of Investigation, May 22, 2012, <https://www.fbi.gov/news/stories/domestic-threat>.

<sup>2</sup> “Active Hate Groups 2016,” Southern Poverty Law Center, February 15, 2017, <https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/intelligence-report/2017/active-hate-groups-2016#whitenationalist>.

Furthermore, it claims that the white identity is under threat from minorities or immigrants that seek to replace its culture. For example, Identity Evropa’s chant, “You will not replace us,” insinuates that growing minority populations threaten to overtake whites of European heritage in American society.<sup>3</sup> Members of this new generation of white supremacists, such as former Traditionalist Worker Party (TWP) leader Matthew Heimbach, have decried the traditional supremacist narrative of the inferiority of non-white races. Heimbach and his contemporaries have instead focused on racial separation rather than racial superiority, promoting the idea that all races are better served by remaining separate.<sup>4</sup>

Spurred by the rise of these younger ethno-nationalist leaders and organizations, some overtly racist groups have attempted to soften their radical images. In late 2016, the NSM abandoned its use of the swastika in order to “appear more integrated and more mainstream,” according to NSM leader Jeff Schoep.<sup>5</sup> Despite the cosmetic change, the NSM’s ideology and rhetoric have largely remained unchanged, while groups like the Hammerskins have thoroughly rejected the attempt at rebranding.

In a further effort to gain popular support and acceptance for their radical platforms, most of the groups profiled in this resource have officially renounced violence and instead rely on demonstrations and propaganda to sway public opinion. Nonetheless, many affiliated individuals have still been involved in violent altercations spurred by ideologies that encourage racial elitism. Furthermore, violence plays a defining role for groups like Atomwaffen Division, which projects the image of a heavily armed militia preparing for an impending race war.<sup>6</sup>

Groups like Identity Evropa—which shut down in March 2019 as its leaders created the American Identity Movement (AIM)—officially reject violence but their identitarian ideology has directly inspired it. Identitarians—including those based in non-European countries such as the United States and Australia—associate their Western identity as European. Identitarians subscribe to a theory known as the Great Replacement, in which non-European migrants threaten to replace the dominant white European culture.<sup>7</sup> The March 15, 2019, attack on two New Zealand mosques that left at least 50 dead was a direct manifestation of the identitarian ideology to which Identity Evropa and AIM subscribe. Alleged attacker Brenton Tarrant entitled his manifesto “The Great Replacement” and wrote about the “crisis of mass immigration ... that, if

<sup>3</sup> Identity Evropa, Twitter post, July 28, 2017, <https://twitter.com/IdentityEvropa/status/890912720920379392>.

<sup>4</sup> Vegas Tenold, *Everything You Love Will Burn* (New York: Nation Books, 2018), 175-201.

<sup>5</sup> Serge F. Kovalski, Julie Turkewitz, Joseph Goldstein, and Dan Barry, “An Alt-Right Makeover Shrouds the Swastikas,” *New York Times*, December 10, 2016, <https://www.nytimes.com/2016/12/10/us/alt-right-national-socialist-movement-white-supremacy.html>.

<sup>6</sup> Matt Lebovic, “Inside ‘Atomwaffen,’ where Blaze Bernstein’s alleged killer trained for race war,” *Times of Israel*, January 29, 2018, <https://www.timesofisrael.com/inside-atomwaffen-where-blaze-bernsteins-alleged-killer-trained-for-race-war/>; A.C. Thompson, Ali Winston, and Jake Hanrahan, “Inside Atomwaffen As It Celebrates a Member for Allegedly Killing a Gay Jewish College Student,” *ProPublica*, last updated August 3, 2018, <https://www.propublica.org/article/atomwaffen-division-inside-white-hate-group>; “SIEGE! THE LEFT-RIGHT SPECTRUM - ATOMWAFFEN DIVISION SPECIAL,” Bitchute video, 4:01, posted August 29, 2017, <https://www.bitchute.com/video/eFLaKY5ePJxO/>; “#RESISTRACIALECLIPSE - ATOMWAFFEN DIVISION,” Bitchute video, 2:01, posted September 14, 2017, <https://www.bitchute.com/video/pwgBtaUkUGn4/>.

<sup>7</sup> “Frequently Asked Question,” *Generation Identity United Kingdom and Ireland*, accessed March 8, 2018, <https://www.generation-identity.org.uk/faqs/>.

not combated, will ultimately result in the complete racial and cultural replacement of the European people.”<sup>8</sup> Like Identity Evropa, Tarrant identified a broader white European ethnic identity prevalent in the Western world that transcended national borders.

Most of the groups profiled are comprised of a younger demographic of individuals in their 20s and 30s, and primarily target youth for recruitment through social media and other means. Groups like Identity Evropa, AWD, and Vanguard America have actually spread their propaganda on college campuses, and groups such as the National Socialist Movement and League of the South have created youth wings and student memberships.<sup>9</sup> In recent years, social media and the Internet have also provided new outlets for white supremacists to spread their messages and recruit supporters. The founders of AWD met and organized on the now-defunct fascist online forum IronMarch and created a cult-like subculture on social media through which they have further propagated their ideology.<sup>10</sup> After the February 2020 arrest of several AWD leaders, a group of former AWD leaders who were not arrested reorganized online in July 2020 as National Socialist Order.<sup>11</sup> Stormfront, America’s oldest and most notorious neo-Nazi online forum founded in 1995, was removed by its Internet host in August 2017, but simply resurfaced months later.<sup>12</sup> Other forums, like the Daily Stormer, have moved their operations to the Dark Web, which is accessible only through encrypted software.<sup>13</sup> Websites like American Renaissance—which is easily accessible on the surface web—act as online media outlets, displaying links to pseudo-intellectual articles, videos, and podcasts that attempt to present white supremacy as a legitimate social science.

CEP’s U.S. White Supremacy Groups report provides an overview of the history, propaganda, violent activities, and notable rhetoric of the most active and virulent white supremacist groups in the United States, as well as several prominent white supremacist media outlets.

## **Group Summaries**

### **American Renaissance**

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<sup>8</sup> Brenton Tarrant, “The Great Replacement,” Internet Archive, accessed April 1, 2019.

<sup>9</sup> “Frequently Asked Questions,” National Socialist Movement, accessed August 25, 2017, <http://www.nsm88.org/faqs/frequently%20asked%20questions%20about%20national%20socialism.pdf>; “Join the Cause!” League of the South, accessed August 25, 2017, <http://leagueofthesouth.com/application/>.

<sup>10</sup> “Worldview,” Universal Order, accessed August 16, 2018, <http://siegeculture.biz/worldview/>.

<sup>11</sup> Ben Makuch, “Audio Recording Claims Neo-Nazi Terror Group Is Disbanding,” Vice, March 14, 2020, [https://www.vice.com/en\\_us/article/qjdnam/audio-recording-claims-neo-nazi-terror-group-is-disbanding](https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/qjdnam/audio-recording-claims-neo-nazi-terror-group-is-disbanding); “National Socialist Order Announcement!,” American Futurist, July 25, 2020.

<sup>12</sup> Andrew Blake, “Stormfront, internet’s longest-running white supremacist site, goes offline,” *Washington Times*, August 26, 2017, <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2017/aug/26/stormfront-internets-longest-running-white-suprema/>.

<sup>13</sup> Hilary Whiteman, “I will not be silenced: Australian Muslim fights Twitter ‘troll army,’” CNN, February 28, 2015, <http://edition.cnn.com/2015/02/27/asia/australia-muslim-twitter-campaign/>; “Neo-Nazi Site Daily Stormer Is Banned By Google After Attempted Move From GoDaddy,” NPR, August 14, 2017, <http://www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2017/08/14/543360434/white-supremacist-site-is-banned-by-go-daddy-after-virginia-rally>; John Biggs, “Daily Stormer has officially retreated to the dark web,” Tech Crunch, August 24, 2017, <https://techcrunch.com/2017/08/24/daily-stormer-has-officially-retreated-to-the-dark-web/>.

## COUNTER EXTREMISM PROJECT

- **Summary:** American Renaissance is a right-wing magazine-turned-blog dedicated to discussing the “problems of race.”<sup>14</sup> The online magazine is edited by Jared Taylor, who has previously acted as a spokesman for the white supremacist group Council of Conservative Citizens (CCC). CCC president Earl Holt has also contributed to and commented on American Renaissance’s website.<sup>15</sup> American Renaissance’s publishers consider it the “Internet’s premier race-realist site.”<sup>16</sup>

American Renaissance ran as a monthly print magazine from 1990 to 2012 before switching to an online-only format.<sup>17</sup> American Renaissance collects tax-deductible donations through the New Century Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit Taylor created in 1994.<sup>18</sup> According to the Southern Poverty Law Center, the New Century Foundation promotes “pseudo-scientific studies and research that purport to show the inferiority of blacks to whites,” which utilize academic jargon to disguise itself as serious scholarship.<sup>19</sup> In 2016, the Associated Press reported that the New Century Foundation, alongside three other white supremacist non-profit groups, had raised more than \$8 million in a 10-year period.<sup>20</sup>

- **Base of Operations:** Oakton, Virginia<sup>21</sup>
- **Website:** [www.amren.com](http://www.amren.com)
- **Social Media:** [Twitter](#) (suspended), [YouTube](#) (suspended), [Gab](#), [Gab](#) (Gregory Hood), [Telegram](#), [Telegram](#) (Gregory Hood), [BitChute](#), [Parler](#), [Parler](#) (Jared Taylor), [Parler](#) (Gregory Hood), [VK](#) (Gregory Hood)
- **Leadership:** Editor-in-chief Jared Taylor, with support from Henry Wolff and Chris Roberts.<sup>22</sup> Chris Roberts is the director of special projects.<sup>23</sup>
- **Membership Size and Relevance:** American Renaissance has a major online presence. Its Twitter account had more than 27,000 followers as of August 25, 2017, but has since been suspended.<sup>24</sup> Its YouTube channel has 132,000 subscribers and 225 videos as of

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<sup>14</sup> “About Us,” American Renaissance, accessed July 10, 2015, <http://www.amren.com/about/>; Associated Press, “Missouri group cited in shooting suspect’s alleged manifesto,” *Springfield News Leader*, June 22, 2015, <https://www.news-leader.com/story/news/politics/2015/06/23/missouri-group-cited--shooting-suspects-alleged-manifesto/29148931/>.

<sup>15</sup> “Archives,” American Renaissance, accessed August 30, 2017, <https://www.amren.com/search/?q=holt>;

<sup>16</sup> “About Us,” American Renaissance, accessed August 25, 2017, <http://www.amren.com/about/>.

<sup>17</sup> “About Us,” American Renaissance, accessed August 25, 2017, <http://www.amren.com/about/>.

<sup>18</sup> “AR Donation Form,” American Renaissance, accessed August 25, 2017, <https://store.amren.com/donate.php>;

<sup>19</sup> “New Century Foundation,” GuideStar, accessed August 25, 2017, <https://www.guidestar.org/profile/61-6212159>.

<sup>20</sup> “American Renaissance,” Southern Poverty Law Center, accessed August 25, 2017, <https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/group/american-renaissance>.

<sup>21</sup> Michael Kunzelman, “White nationalists raise millions with tax-exempt charities,” Associated Press, December 22, 2016, <https://apnews.com/ae1c8163ac574bb3bd1f3facfa5fb83/White-nationalists-raise-millions-with-tax-exempt-charities>.

<sup>22</sup> “About Us,” American Renaissance, accessed August 25, 2017, <http://www.amren.com/about/>.

<sup>23</sup> “About Us,” American Renaissance, accessed August 25, 2017, <http://www.amren.com/about/>.

<sup>24</sup> Chris Roberts, “Compare and Contrast: White Victimization and Anti-White Animus,” American Renaissance, May 28, 2020, <https://www.amren.com/blog/2020/05/compare-and-contrast-white-victimization-and-anti-white-animus/>.

<sup>25</sup> American Renaissance, Twitter account, accessed August 25, 2017, <https://twitter.com/AmRenaissance>; American Renaissance, Twitter account, accessed January 2, 2018, <https://twitter.com/AmRenaissance>.

June 10, 2020, compared with more than 104,000 subscribers and 177 videos as of March 19, 2019.<sup>25</sup> YouTube had added a warning label to some of American Renaissance’s videos.<sup>26</sup> YouTube suspended American Renaissance’s account in early July 2020 for “multiple or severe violations of YouTube’s policy prohibiting hate speech.”<sup>27</sup> American Renaissance’s Gab account has approximately 9,600 followers as of June 10, 2020.<sup>28</sup> By early July 2020, American Renaissance had been suspended from Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, and Amazon. Twitter deleted more than 50 white supremacist account that month. American Renaissance encouraged its readers to follow it on other platforms such as Gab, Telegram, BitChute, and Parler.<sup>29</sup> As of July 14, 2020, American Renaissance had 2,725 followers on Telegram,<sup>30</sup> 10,100 followers on Gab,<sup>31</sup> 14,881 followers on BitChute.<sup>32</sup>

In addition to its online activities, the website’s followers also meet in person. American Renaissance’s 2017 annual conference drew what it called a “sell-out,” “record” crowd of 300 participants, and allegedly turned away up to 150 others.<sup>33</sup> The conference included notorious white supremacists such as Richard Spencer and Nathan Damigo of Identity Evropa.<sup>34</sup> More than 250 attended the 2018 conference.<sup>35</sup> Approximately 300 attended American Renaissance’s 2019 conference in Tennessee.<sup>36</sup>

- **Recruitment and Propaganda:** American Renaissance employs what Jared Taylor has referred to as “sober, factual discussion” in order to present its ethno-nationalism as an academic endeavor.<sup>37</sup> The website’s leaders employ academic language to present racist ideas as legitimate social science. For example, the group’s self-description claims they

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<sup>25</sup> American Renaissance, YouTube channel, accessed March 19, 2019, <https://www.youtube.com/user/AmRenVideos/featured>; American Renaissance YouTube channel, accessed June 10, 2020, <https://www.youtube.com/user/AmRenVideos/featured>.

<sup>26</sup> Chris Roberts, “The American Renaissance Videos YouTube Won’t Tolerate,” American Renaissance, February 2, 2020, <https://www.amren.com/blog/2020/02/youtube-censorship-jared-taylor/>.

<sup>27</sup> American Renaissance, YouTube account, accessed July 14, 2020, <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMLbmp5tcLxzahMLTmeM4lg>.

<sup>28</sup> American Renaissance Gab account, accessed June 10, 2020, <https://gab.com/AmRenaissance>.

<sup>29</sup> Chris Roberts, “Please Follow AmRen on Alternative Social Media,” American Renaissance, July 7, 2020, <https://www.amren.com/news/2020/07/please-follow-amren-on-alternative-social-media/>; Anna Schechter, “Twitter suspends more than 50 white nationalist accounts,” NBC News, July 10, 2020, <https://www.nbcnews.com/tech/social-media/twitter-suspends-more-50-white-nationalist-accounts-n1233469>.

<sup>30</sup> American Renaissance, Telegram account, accessed July 14, 2020, <https://t.me/amrenofficial>.

<sup>31</sup> American Renaissance, Gab account, accessed July 14, 2020, <https://gab.com/AmRenaissance>.

<sup>32</sup> American Renaissance, BitChute account, accessed July 14, 2020, <https://www.bitchute.com/channel/5Q4sa6rObtGx/>.

<sup>33</sup> “Sell-Out Conference Shrugs Off Anti-Fa,” American Renaissance, July 31, 2017, <https://www.amren.com/features/2017/07/sell-conference-shrugs-off-anti-fa/>.

<sup>34</sup> “Sell-Out Conference Shrugs Off Anti-Fa,” American Renaissance, July 31, 2017, <https://www.amren.com/features/2017/07/sell-conference-shrugs-off-anti-fa/>.

<sup>35</sup> Gregory Hood, “AmRen 2018: The Fire Taking Hold,” American Renaissance, April 30, 2018, <https://www.amren.com/features/2018/04/amren-2018-the-fire-taking-hold/>.

<sup>36</sup> AJ Abell, “Middle Tennessee conference attendees discuss, defend white advocacy,” Fox 17 Nashville, May 19, 2019, <https://fox17.com/news/local/middle-tennessee-conference-attendees-discuss-defend-white-advocacy>.

<sup>37</sup> Jared Taylor, “Am I the First Victim of YouTube’s New Censorship?” August 28, 2017, <https://www.amren.com/commentary/2017/08/big-brothers-first-victim-youtube-censorship-race-intelligence/>.

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are “dedicated to the study of immigration and race relations so as to better understand the consequences of America's increasing diversity...”<sup>38</sup> American Renaissance labels its so-called academic approach as “race realism,” the study of which it promotes as necessary for “the survival of the West.”<sup>39</sup>

American Renaissance also maintains a merchandise section on its website, and encourages visitors to donate directly to the site’s non-profit parent group, New Century Foundation, or bequeath a donation in their wills.<sup>40</sup>

In June 2020, American Renaissance took advantage of racial protests over the death of African American man George Floyd in police custody. In a June 9 blog post, Taylor welcomed new readers who understand that American Renaissance writers “have an understanding of race that you are not likely to find elsewhere.”<sup>41</sup> As protests against police brutality spread across the country, American Renaissance writers such as political commentator Pat Buchanan warned of a the “Left’s Coming War on Cops,” which, he wrote, will “likely to become a forever war in America” that results in “more violent collisions between white cops and black suspects, collisions that result in deaths.”<sup>42</sup> Other American Renaissance writers pointed to “decades of anti-white indoctrination” and “anti-white anarcho-tyranny” that sparked the 2020 racial protests.<sup>43</sup>

- **Violent Activities:** American Renaissance is not known to have instigated any violent attacks. The organization instead relies on the spread of racist propaganda through its own media channels.
- **Rhetoric:**
  - Chris Roberts, American Renaissance blog post, June 8, 2020: “Whites in America and around the world have work to do. Go to the gym, read a book, learn a skill, make a friend, join a club. So long as whites exist, we are worth fighting for.”<sup>44</sup>
  - Chris Roberts, American Renaissance blog post, June 8, 2020: “Like never before, I am convinced that whites must create their own separate country to survive. We have seen days of looting and rioting, with the government doing little to stop it. There have been huge displays of ethnomasochism in Europe,

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<sup>38</sup> American Renaissance YouTube channel, accessed August 30, 2017, <https://www.youtube.com/user/AmRenVideos/about>.

<sup>39</sup> “About Us,” American Renaissance, accessed August 25, 2017, <http://www.amren.com/about/>.

<sup>40</sup> “How to Include American Renaissance in Your Will,” American Renaissance, accessed August 30, 2017, <https://www.amren.com/donate/bequests/>.

<sup>41</sup> Jared Taylor, “A Welcome to New Readers,” American Renaissance, June 9, 2020, <https://www.amren.com/blog/2020/06/a-welcome-to-new-readers/>.

<sup>42</sup> Pat Buchanan, “The Left’s Coming War on Cops,” American Renaissance, June 9, 2020, <https://www.amren.com/commentary/2020/06/the-lefts-coming-war-on-cops/>.

<sup>43</sup> Chris Roberts, “Preparing for the Fire Next Time,” American Renaissance, June 8, 2020, <https://www.amren.com/commentary/2020/06/preparing-for-the-fire-next-time/>.

<sup>44</sup> Chris Roberts, “Preparing for the Fire Next Time,” American Renaissance, June 8, 2020, <https://www.amren.com/commentary/2020/06/preparing-for-the-fire-next-time/>.

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- promoted and applauded by the media. There is little doubt what will happen to whites if we do nothing.”<sup>45</sup>
- Donald Williamson, American Renaissance blog post, June 1, 2020: “I pray that white America will not suffer the same fate as that of the Jews. There is still time for our people to act. It is time for our people to speak and act in their own best interests. The time for denial is over.”<sup>46</sup>
  - Chris Roberts, American Renaissance blog post, May 28, 2020: “Where blacks have power over whites, whites usually suffer. This is true in Zimbabwe, where whites were forced off their farms without compensation. It is true in American cities such as Baltimore, where black-run government makes life harder for everyone. It is true for unsuspecting whites who wander into black neighborhoods. It is true for whites (teachers and students alike) in black schools. It is true for white prisoners who are raped by blacks, and even bought and sold as sex slaves.”<sup>47</sup>
  - Jared Taylor, American Renaissance conference, May 2019: “If a Jewish person says, ‘I want to marry another Jew and have Jewish children,’ if black people say, ‘no, I want my children to be black,’ that’s okay. If white people say that, it’s ‘oh my God, that’s just white supremacy that’s unspeakable.’”<sup>48</sup>
  - Jared Taylor, American Renaissance conference, May 2019: “They could be socially shunned. We really do live in a kind of a soft tyranny.”<sup>49</sup>
  - Patrick Casey, American Renaissance conference, May 2019: “We’re looking at America’s white majority becoming a minority around 2040 or 2050, it’s hard to pinpoint exactly when it’s going to happen, but it’s important to point out that no one voted for this and most white people in this country do not want that.”<sup>50</sup>
  - Patrick Casey, American Renaissance conference, May 2019: “There’s a lot of historical and sociological evidence that indicates that mass immigration – diversity in particular – reduce levels of trust.”<sup>51</sup>
  - Jared Taylor, American Renaissance annual conference, July 2017: “We are in a battle for our lives. We are all soldiers in this titanic battle. And we will win!”<sup>52</sup>

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<sup>45</sup> Chris Roberts, “White Survival in the Current Century,” American Renaissance, June 8, 2020, <https://www.amren.com/blog/2020/06/white-survival-in-the-current-century/>.

<sup>46</sup> Donald Williamson, “America’s Kristallnacht?,” American Renaissance, June 1, 2020, <https://www.amren.com/news/2020/06/americas-kristallnacht/>.

<sup>47</sup> Chris Roberts, “Compare and Contrast: White Victimization and Anti-White Animus,” American Renaissance, May 28, 2020, <https://www.amren.com/blog/2020/05/compare-and-contrast-white-victimization-and-anti-white-animus/>.

<sup>48</sup> AJ Abell, “Middle Tennessee conference attendees discuss, defend white advocacy,” Fox 17 Nashville, May 19, 2019, <https://fox17.com/news/local/middle-tennessee-conference-attendees-discuss-defend-white-advocacy>.

<sup>49</sup> AJ Abell, “Middle Tennessee conference attendees discuss, defend white advocacy,” Fox 17 Nashville, May 19, 2019, <https://fox17.com/news/local/middle-tennessee-conference-attendees-discuss-defend-white-advocacy>.

<sup>50</sup> AJ Abell, “Middle Tennessee conference attendees discuss, defend white advocacy,” Fox 17 Nashville, May 19, 2019, <https://fox17.com/news/local/middle-tennessee-conference-attendees-discuss-defend-white-advocacy>.

<sup>51</sup> AJ Abell, “Middle Tennessee conference attendees discuss, defend white advocacy,” Fox 17 Nashville, May 19, 2019, <https://fox17.com/news/local/middle-tennessee-conference-attendees-discuss-defend-white-advocacy>.

<sup>52</sup> “Sell-Out Conference Shrugs Off Anti-Fa,” American Renaissance, July 31, 2017, <https://www.amren.com/features/2017/07/sell-conference-shrugs-off-anti-fa/>.

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- Jared Taylor, YouTube video, May 3, 2017: “White people all around the world are waking up to the fatal dangers of Third-World immigration, of multiculturalism, of race denial, of demographic dispossession that will make us minorities in our own lands and lead to oblivion. Our movement is growing because it is based on a correct understanding of science, human nature, and history, and because it is morally superior to any view that denies to whites, and only to whites, a racial identity that is vital to our survival as a people.”<sup>53</sup>
- Jared Taylor, American Renaissance blog post, October 20, 2016: “Neither the French nor the Americans can solve their race problem because they are mentally paralyzed. They refuse to see that the multi-racial societies they are trying to build cannot succeed, and they continue to pile compromise onto accommodation rather than give up on a futile goal.”<sup>54</sup>
- Jared Taylor, American Renaissance blog post, October 11, 2016: “What whites are expected to do is without precedent in human history. We have the power to keep our lands for ourselves, but we are throwing them open to aliens, aliens who despise us as they take what is ours. Many nations have been overrun by powerful invaders. Never has any people or nation let itself be pillaged by the weak. This is a mental sickness unique to whites and unique to our era.”<sup>55</sup>
- Jared Taylor, American Renaissance blog post, April 28, 2015: “These days, it doesn’t even take a specific event to send a crowd of blacks into the streets. A few enterprising youths with Twitter accounts can whip up a ‘flash mob’ most any time they like... Why do blacks behave this way? Young men of all races are savages, and young blacks are the hardest to tame. Low IQ, high testosterone, and a short time horizon make them the perfect tinder for disorder. We see this in every country that has a black population.”<sup>56</sup>

### Atomwaffen Division/National Socialist Order

- **Summary:** German for “atomic weapons,” Atomwaffen Division (AWD) is a neo-Nazi organization that seeks the creation of a National Socialist government through a violent “white revolution,” and believes that a race war is inevitable.<sup>57</sup> The group promotes Nazi

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<sup>53</sup> “Welcome to American Renaissance,” YouTube video, 1:49, posted by “American Renaissance,” May 3, 2017, [https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=88&v=OMVzDI4kzqU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=88&v=OMVzDI4kzqU).

<sup>54</sup> Jared Taylor, “The Art of Racial Paralysis,” American Renaissance, October 20, 2016, <https://www.amren.com/news/2016/10/the-art-of-racial-paralysis-race-riots-paris-muslims/>.

<sup>55</sup> Jared Taylor, “What is the Alt-Right?” American Renaissance, October 11, 2016, <https://www.amren.com/news/2016/10/what-is-the-alt-right-jared-taylor/>.

<sup>56</sup> Jared Taylor, “We Used to Shoot Looters,” American Renaissance, April 28, 2015, <https://www.amren.com/news/2015/04/we-used-to-shoot-looters/>.

<sup>57</sup> Matt Lebovic, “Inside ‘Atomwaffen,’ where Blaze Bernstein’s alleged killer trained for race war,” Times of Israel, January 29, 2018, <https://www.timesofisrael.com/inside-atomwaffen-where-blaze-bernsteins-alleged-killer-trained-for-race-war/>; A.C. Thompson, Ali Winston, and Jake Hanrahan, “Inside Atomwaffen As It Celebrates a Member for Allegedly Killing a Gay Jewish College Student,” ProPublica, last updated August 3, 2018, <https://www.propublica.org/article/atomwaffen-division-inside-white-hate-group>; “SIEGE! THE LEFT-RIGHT SPECTRUM - ATOMWAFFEN DIVISION SPECIAL,” Bitchute video, 4:01, posted August 29, 2017, <https://www.bitchute.com/video/eFLaKY5ePJxO/>; “#RESISTRACIALECLIPSE - ATOMWAFFEN DIVISION,” Bitchute video, 2:01, posted September 14, 2017, <https://www.bitchute.com/video/pwgBtaUkUGn4/>.



and satanic propaganda in pursuit of “total Aryan victory.”<sup>58</sup> AWD gained national prominence after some of its members attacked counter-protesters at the August 2017 Unite the Right rally in Charlottesville, Virginia. Police also suspect individual AWD members to be the perpetrators of multiple murders throughout 2017 and 2018.<sup>59</sup> The FBI arrested multiple AWD members in February 2020 on harassment charges, leading to the group’s alleged disbanding the following month.<sup>60</sup> In July 2020, former AWD members reorganized as National Socialist Order (NSO) in order to “build an Aryan, National Socialist world by any means necessary.”<sup>61</sup>

AWD follows a neo-Nazi ideology promoted by James Mason, a former American Nazi Party member and a follower of cult leader Charles Manson.<sup>62</sup> During the 1980s, Mason wrote a series of pro-Manson and pro-Nazi newsletters that he called *Siege* and later compiled into a book of the same name.<sup>63</sup> Users on the now-defunct fascist web forum IronMarch formed AWD after discovering *Siege*. They based AWD’s ideology on Mason’s ideas of autonomous terror cells fighting a guerilla war against “the system.”<sup>64</sup>

A 2018 joint ProPublica and PBS investigation identified multiple active-duty and former U.S. soldiers in AWD, including co-founder Brandon Russell, who served in the Florida National Guard.<sup>65</sup> These AWD members have reportedly organized training sessions in hand-to-hand combat and weaponry.<sup>66</sup> ProPublica identified active-duty Marine Vasillios Pistolis as an AWD cell leader responsible for physical attacks during the 2017

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<sup>58</sup> A.C. Thompson, Ali Winston, and Jake Hanrahan, “Inside Atomwaffen As It Celebrates a Member for Allegedly Killing a Gay Jewish College Student,” ProPublica, last updated August 3, 2018, <https://www.propublica.org/article/atomwaffen-division-inside-white-hate-group>.

<sup>59</sup> Greg Myre, “Deadly Connection: Neo-Nazi Group Linked To 3 Accused Killers,” NPR, March 6, 2018, <https://www.npr.org/2018/03/06/590292705/5-killings-3-states-and-1-common-neo-nazi-link>.

<sup>60</sup> Ben Makuch, “Audio Recording Claims Neo-Nazi Terror Group Is Disbanding,” Vice, March 14, 2020, [https://www.vice.com/en\\_us/article/qjdnam/audio-recording-claims-neo-nazi-terror-group-is-disbanding](https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/qjdnam/audio-recording-claims-neo-nazi-terror-group-is-disbanding).

<sup>61</sup> “National Socialist Order Announcement!,” American Futurist, July 25, 2020.

<sup>62</sup> Matt Lebovic, “Inside ‘Atomwaffen,’ where Blaze Bernstein’s alleged killer trained for race war,” Times of Israel, January 29, 2018, <https://www.timesofisrael.com/inside-atomwaffen-where-blaze-bernsteins-alleged-killer-trained-for-race-war/>.

<sup>63</sup> A.C. Thompson, Ali Winston, and Jake Hanrahan, “Inside Atomwaffen As It Celebrates a Member for Allegedly Killing a Gay Jewish College Student,” ProPublica, last updated August 3, 2018, <https://www.propublica.org/article/atomwaffen-division-inside-white-hate-group>.

<sup>64</sup> “Worldview,” Universal Order, accessed August 16, 2018, <http://siegeculture.biz/worldview/> (site discontinued).

<sup>65</sup> “He’s a proud neo-Nazi, Charlottesville attacker – and a U.S. Marine,” YouTube video, 3:02, posted May 3, 2018, by “ProPublica,” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UGtCvPFsEQ4&feature=youtu.be>; Howard Altman, “Neo-Nazi Florida National Guard soldier gets five years in prison on bombmaking charges,” *Tampa Bay Times*, August 20, 2018, [https://www.tampabay.com/news/publicsafety/crime/Neo-Nazi-Florida-National-Guard-soldier-gets-five-years-in-prison-on-bombmaking-charges\\_164309905](https://www.tampabay.com/news/publicsafety/crime/Neo-Nazi-Florida-National-Guard-soldier-gets-five-years-in-prison-on-bombmaking-charges_164309905).

<sup>66</sup> A.C. Thompson, Ali Winston, and Jake Hanrahan, “California Murder Suspect Said to Have Trained With Extremist Hate Group,” ProPublica, January 26, 2018, <https://www.propublica.org/article/california-murder-suspect-atomwaffen-division-extremist-hate-group>; A.C. Thompson, Ali Winston, and Jake Hanrahan, “Ranks of Notorious Hate Group Include Active-Duty Military,” ProPublica, May 3, 2018, <https://www.propublica.org/article/atomwaffen-division-hate-group-active-duty-military>.

Charlottesville protest.<sup>67</sup> The Marines court martialled, jailed, and discharged Pistolis after the public revelation of his identity.<sup>68</sup>

Other far-right groups have condemned AWD as a cult front for the British neo-Nazi Satanist group the Order of the Nine Angles. In January 2018, a former AWD member wrote online that the group had been infiltrated by Satanists. According to leaked chat transcripts, several AWD members resigned as of March 2018 because of the growing occult fixation, while others embraced the satanic imagery.<sup>69</sup>

On February 26, 2020, federal authorities arrested former AWD leader John Cameron Denton and four other members on multiple harassment charges, including sending anti-Semitic and racist threats to journalists and participation in swatting conspiracies. Swatting is a harassment tactic that involves misleading dispatchers with information on an imminent threat in a specific location, leading authorities to respond in full force, including a SWAT team response.<sup>70</sup> In early March 2020, *Politico* reported the U.S. government sought to designate a white supremacist group as a foreign terrorist organization. Former U.S. government officials and counterterrorism analysts suggested AWD could be designated.<sup>71</sup> On March 9, 2020, an alleged audio recording by Mason announced AWD would immediately disband due to increasing pressure from authorities. According to the recording, anything found online in the future claiming to be from AWD is fake.<sup>72</sup>

On July 25, 2020, a group of former AWD leaders announced the reorganization of AWD into the National Socialist Order (NSO). NSO leaders claimed they learned from the mistakes of AWD, pointing to a lack of ideological cohesion. The NSO leaders further claimed they had built the NSO with a new leadership dedicated to creating an “Aryan, National Socialist world by any means necessary.”<sup>73</sup> NSO declared itself to be a U.S.-based organization dedicated to Adolf Hitler and in “support the overthrow of all Jew-

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<sup>67</sup> “He’s a proud neo-Nazi, Charlottesville attacker – and a U.S. Marine,” YouTube video, 3:02, posted May 3, 2018, by “ProPublica,” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UGtCvPFsEQ4&feature=youtu.be>.

<sup>68</sup> “Marine tied to Charlottesville violence booted from service,” Associated Press, August 5, 2018, <https://www.apnews.com/33e0e7fd8a074982914d8a76cad9d444>.

<sup>69</sup> Kelly Weill, “Satanism Drama Is Tearing Apart the Murderous Neo-Nazi Group Atomwaffen,” Daily Beast, March 21, 2018, <https://www.thedailybeast.com/satanism-drama-is-tearing-apart-the-murderous-neo-nazi-group-atomwaffen>.

<sup>70</sup> “Two men arrested in Montgomery County linked to hate group with history of violence,” KHOU 11, February 26, 2020, <https://www.khou.com/article/news/crime/hate-group-based-in-montgomery-county-has-history-of-violence/285-d08cc091-c237-4df3-9a43-5df9fbad91c1>; “Former Atomwaffen Division Leader Arrested for Swatting Conspiracy,” U.S. Department of Justice, February 26, 2020, <https://www.justice.gov/usao-edva/pr/former-atomwaffen-division-leader-arrested-swatting-conspiracy>; Tess Owen, “The FBI Just Arrested a Bunch of Neo-Nazi Atomwaffen Members,” Vice, February 26, 2020, [https://www.vice.com/en\\_us/article/bvg9a/the-fbi-just-arrested-a-bunch-of-neo-nazi-atomwaffen-members](https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/bvg9a/the-fbi-just-arrested-a-bunch-of-neo-nazi-atomwaffen-members).

<sup>71</sup> Natasha Bertrand, Nahal Toosi, and Daniel Lippman, “State pushes to list white supremacist group as terrorist org,” *Politico*, March 9, 2020, <https://www.politico.com/news/2020/03/09/state-department-white-supremacist-group-124500>.

<sup>72</sup> Ben Makuch, “Audio Recording Claims Neo-Nazi Terror Group Is Disbanding,” Vice, March 14, 2020, [https://www.vice.com/en\\_us/article/qjdnam/audio-recording-claims-neo-nazi-terror-group-is-disbanding](https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/qjdnam/audio-recording-claims-neo-nazi-terror-group-is-disbanding).

<sup>73</sup> “National Socialist Order Announcement!,” American Futurist, July 25, 2020.

## COUNTER EXTREMISM PROJECT

controlled governments worldwide in order to liberate the Aryan race.”<sup>74</sup> According to NSO’s official program, NSO completely rejects the current social-political world order, which the group denounced as a “left-wing framework cultivated by the Jew.”<sup>75</sup> The group further called for all members to be armed and “ready at a moment’s notice” as its priority is to “seize territorial power by any means necessary.”<sup>76</sup>

- **Base of Operations:** AWD has no central base of operations. AWD reportedly operated chapters in Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia, Washington, Washington, D.C., Wisconsin, Canada, and Germany.<sup>77</sup>

NSO claims to be a U.S.-based organization.<sup>78</sup>

- **Website:** <https://atomwaffendivision.org> (suspended), <https://siegeculture.biz/> (offline as of March 2019), American Futurist (NSO)
- **Social Media Presence:** [Gab \(Dark Foreigner\)](#), [Gab \(Groz\)](#), [Gab \(Siege Culture\)](#), [Gab \(Sonnenkreig Division\)](#), [Twitter \(AtomwaffenDiv\) \(Suspended\)](#), [Twitter \(Dark Foreigner\)](#), [Twitter \(Siege Culture\) \(Suspended\)](#), [Twitter \(Wallcroft AW\) \(Suspended\)](#), [Tumblr \(Dark Foreigner\)](#), YouTube (Atomwaffen Division) (Suspended), [YouTube \(Dark Foreigner\)](#), [YouTube \(SiegeWave\) \(Discontinued\)](#), [YouTube \(Read SIEGE\) \(Discontinued\)](#), Telegram (NSO), BitChute (NSO)

AWD has posted propaganda videos on the video-sharing service BitChute.<sup>79</sup> The group previously posted propaganda videos to YouTube, which led to a February 2018 Daily Beast report on YouTube’s refusal to ban AWD for violations of its terms of service. YouTube subsequently suspended AWD’s account, citing “multiple or severe violations of YouTube’s policy prohibiting hate speech.”<sup>80</sup>

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<sup>74</sup> “National Socialist Order Program,” American Futurist, July 25, 2020.

<sup>75</sup> “National Socialist Order Program,” American Futurist, July 25, 2020.

<sup>76</sup> “National Socialist Order Program,” American Futurist, July 25, 2020.

<sup>77</sup> A. C. Thompson, Ali Winston, and Jake Hanrahan, “California Murder Suspect Said to Have Trained With Extremist Hate Group,” ProPublica, January 26, 2018, <https://www.propublica.org/article/california-murder-suspect-atomwaffen-division-extremist-hate-group>; A. C. Thompson, Ali Winston, and Jake Hanrahan, “Inside Atomwaffen As It Celebrates a Member for Allegedly Killing a Gay Jewish College Student,” ProPublica, last updated August 3, 2018, <https://www.propublica.org/article/atomwaffen-division-inside-white-hate-group>; Mack Lamoureux and Ben Makuch, “An American Neo-Nazi Group Has Dark Plans for Canada,” Vice News, July 10, 2018, [https://www.vice.com/en\\_us/article/ev847a/an-american-neo-nazi-group-has-dark-plans-for-canada](https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/ev847a/an-american-neo-nazi-group-has-dark-plans-for-canada); Jake Hanrahan, Twitter post, June 2, 2018, 7:44 p.m., [https://twitter.com/Jake\\_Hanrahan/status/1003059715293794304](https://twitter.com/Jake_Hanrahan/status/1003059715293794304).

<sup>78</sup> “National Socialist Order Program,” American Futurist, July 25, 2020.

<sup>79</sup> Matt Lebovic, “Inside ‘Atomwaffen,’ where Blaze Bernstein’s alleged killer trained for race war,” Times of Israel, January 29, 2018, <https://www.timesofisrael.com/inside-atomwaffen-where-blaze-bernsteins-alleged-killer-trained-for-race-war/>; “SIEGE! THE LEFT-RIGHT SPECTRUM - ATOMWAFFEN DIVISION SPECIAL,” BitChute video, 4:01, posted August 29, 2017, <https://www.bitchute.com/video/eFLaKY5ePJxO/>; “#RESISTRACIALECLIPSE - ATOMWAFFEN DIVISION,” BitChute video, 2:01, posted September 14, 2017, <https://www.bitchute.com/video/pwgBtaUkUGn4/>.

<sup>80</sup> Kelly Weill, “YouTube Won’t Ban Neo-Nazi Group Chanting ‘Gas the K\*\*kes, Race War Now,’” Daily Beast, February 26, 2018, <https://www.thedailybeast.com/youtube-wont-ban-neo-nazi-group-chanting-gas-the-kkes-race-war-now>; “YouTube removes US neo-Nazi group Atomwaffen Division’s channel,” Al Jazeera, March 1, 2018,

- **Leadership:** Brandon Russell and Devon Arthurs co-founded AWD in 2015.<sup>81</sup> John Cameron Denton, a.k.a. “Rape,” was the last reported leader of AWD, though Russell reaffirmed his position as leader in a May 2018 recording from prison.<sup>82</sup> Denton was arrested on February 26, 2020. The U.S. Justice Department identified him as a former leader of AWD.<sup>83</sup> Kaleb J. Cole was the reported leader of AWD’s Washington state chapter. Sean Michael Fernandez was a leader of the Texas cell.<sup>84</sup> According to Vice News, a Canadian individual who goes by the pseudonym Dark Foreigner was AWD’s official propagandist and graphic designer.<sup>85</sup>

Upon NSO’s creation in July 2020, a member named Ryan Arthur introduced the new group on the American Futurist website. It is unclear what Arthur’s official role is or whether this is a pseudonym.<sup>86</sup>

- **Membership Size and Relevance:** AWD reportedly had approximately 80 members in about 20 cells around the United States as of 2018. According to a former AWD member, AWD saw a membership surge after the 2017 Unite the Right rally in Charlottesville, Virginia. A 2018 ProPublica investigation identified AWD members in at least 23 states. According to AWD chat records, its largest chapters were in Washington, Virginia, and Texas.<sup>87</sup> The group had also reportedly expanded into Canada and Germany.<sup>88</sup>

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<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/03/youtube-removes-neo-nazi-group-atomwaffen-division-channel-180301115414748.html>.

<sup>81</sup> “Neo-Nazi Leader Sentenced to Five Years in Federal Prison for Explosives Charges,” U.S. Department of Justice, January 9, 2018, <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/neo-nazi-leader-sentenced-five-years-federal-prison-explosives-charges>; Janet Reitman, “How Did a Convicted Neo-Nazi Release Propaganda From Prison?” *Rolling Stone*, May 25, 2018, <https://www.rollingstone.com/politics/politics-news/how-did-a-convicted-neo-nazi-release-propaganda-from-prison-628437/>.

<sup>82</sup> Mack Lamoureux and Ben Makuch, “An American Neo-Nazi Group Has Dark Plans for Canada,” *Vice*, July 10, 2018, [https://www.vice.com/en\\_us/article/ev847a/an-american-neo-nazi-group-has-dark-plans-for-canada](https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/ev847a/an-american-neo-nazi-group-has-dark-plans-for-canada); Jake Hanrahan, Twitter post, May 23, 2018, 7:41 a.m., [https://twitter.com/Jake\\_Hanrahan/status/999254034786734080?ref\\_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etweetembed%7Ctterm%5E999254034786734080&ref\\_url=https%3A%2F%2Fmedium.com%2Fmedia%2F96c8edaec5812772bf7321fbdbeaf8cd%3FpostId%3Dc662cb4d1aa6](https://twitter.com/Jake_Hanrahan/status/999254034786734080?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etweetembed%7Ctterm%5E999254034786734080&ref_url=https%3A%2F%2Fmedium.com%2Fmedia%2F96c8edaec5812772bf7321fbdbeaf8cd%3FpostId%3Dc662cb4d1aa6).

<sup>83</sup> “Former Atomwaffen Division Leader Arrested for Swatting Conspiracy,” U.S. Department of Justice, February 26, 2020, <https://www.justice.gov/usao-edva/pr/former-atomwaffen-division-leader-arrested-swatting-conspiracy>.

<sup>84</sup> Mack Lamoureux and Ben Makuch, “An American Neo-Nazi Group Has Dark Plans for Canada,” *Vice*, July 10, 2018, [https://www.vice.com/en\\_us/article/ev847a/an-american-neo-nazi-group-has-dark-plans-for-canada](https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/ev847a/an-american-neo-nazi-group-has-dark-plans-for-canada); A.C. Thompson, Ali Winston, and Jake Hanrahan, “Inside Atomwaffen As It Celebrates a Member for Allegedly Killing a Gay Jewish College Student,” *ProPublica*, last updated August 3, 2018, <https://www.propublica.org/article/atomwaffen-division-inside-white-hate-group>.

<sup>85</sup> Mack Lamoureux and Ben Makuch, “An American Neo-Nazi Group Has Dark Plans for Canada,” *Vice*, July 10, 2018, [https://www.vice.com/en\\_us/article/ev847a/an-american-neo-nazi-group-has-dark-plans-for-canada](https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/ev847a/an-american-neo-nazi-group-has-dark-plans-for-canada).

<sup>86</sup> Ryan Arthur, “A Eulogy for AWD,” *American Futurist*, July 26, 2020.

<sup>87</sup> A.C. Thompson, Ali Winston, and Jake Hanrahan, “California Murder Suspect Said to Have Trained With Extremist Hate Group,” *ProPublica*, January 26, 2018, <https://www.propublica.org/article/california-murder-suspect-atomwaffen-division-extremist-hate-group>; A.C. Thompson, Ali Winston, and Jake Hanrahan, “Inside Atomwaffen As It Celebrates a Member for Allegedly Killing a Gay Jewish College Student,” *ProPublica*, last updated August 3, 2018, <https://www.propublica.org/article/atomwaffen-division-inside-white-hate-group>.

<sup>88</sup> Mack Lamoureux and Ben Makuch, “An American Neo-Nazi Group Has Dark Plans for Canada,” *Vice News*, July 10, 2018, [https://www.vice.com/en\\_us/article/ev847a/an-american-neo-nazi-group-has-dark-plans-for-canada](https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/ev847a/an-american-neo-nazi-group-has-dark-plans-for-canada);

In July 2018, AWD members on the social media site Gab began displaying the name Sonnenkrieg Division, which launched its own Gab page the following month. The group is a British branch of AWD and uses similar propaganda and imagery.<sup>89</sup> Two members were imprisoned in 2019 for threatening to kill Prince Harry, whom they labeled a “race traitor” for marrying a woman of mixed race. The United Kingdom banned Sonnenkrieg Division in February 2020.<sup>90</sup> In July 2020, the United Kingdom banned another AWD-linked organization, Feuerkrieg Division.<sup>91</sup>

In February 2020, a series of arrests decimated AWD’s leadership and led to the group to officially disband.<sup>92</sup> A group of former AWD leaders who were not arrested reorganized in July 2020 as NSO, which claimed to be a U.S.-centered organization. It is unclear how large its membership is.<sup>93</sup>

- **Recruitment and Propaganda:** James Mason’s book *Siege* was required reading for AWD members.<sup>94</sup> In 2017, a group of IronMarch members created a website for Mason’s writings at <https://siegeculture.biz/>.<sup>95</sup> The site’s administrators credit AWD for the development of the so-called Siege Culture promoting Mason and his writings.<sup>96</sup> The website was offline as of March 2019.<sup>97</sup> AWD openly embraces Nazi and satanic imagery and rhetoric based on Mason’s Nazi beliefs and fealty to the late cult leader Charles

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Jake Hanrahan, Twitter post, June 2, 2018, 7:44 p.m., [https://twitter.com/Jake\\_Hanrahan/status/1003059715293794304](https://twitter.com/Jake_Hanrahan/status/1003059715293794304).

<sup>89</sup> Sonneinkreig Division, Gab account, accessed August 16, 2018, <https://gab.ai/skd>.

<sup>90</sup> “Extremist neo-Nazi group to be banned under terror laws,” BBC News, February 24, 2020, <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-51618248>; Press Association, “Teenager who called Prince Harry a ‘race traitor’ sentenced,” *Guardian* (London), June 18, 2019, <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2019/jun/18/michal-szewczuk-sentenced-prince-harry-online-post-far-right>.

<sup>91</sup> “FEUERKRIEG DIVISION (FKD) PROSCRIBED AS TERRORIST GROUP,” Counter Terrorism Policing, July 17, 2020, <https://www.counterterrorism.police.uk/fkd-proscribed/>.

<sup>92</sup> Ben Makuch, “Audio Recording Claims Neo-Nazi Terror Group Is Disbanding,” *Vice*, March 14, 2020, [https://www.vice.com/en\\_us/article/qjdnam/audio-recording-claims-neo-nazi-terror-group-is-disbanding](https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/qjdnam/audio-recording-claims-neo-nazi-terror-group-is-disbanding).

<sup>93</sup> “National Socialist Order Announcement!,” *American Futurist*, July 25, 2020.

<sup>94</sup> A.C. Thompson, Ali Winston, and Jake Hanrahan, “California Murder Suspect Said to Have Trained With Extremist Hate Group,” *ProPublica*, January 26, 2018, <https://www.propublica.org/article/california-murder-suspect-atomwaffen-division-extremist-hate-group>; Jessica Schulberg and Luke O’Brien, “We Found The Neo-Nazi Twitter Account Tied To A Virginia Double Homicide,” *Huffington Post*, last updated January 5, 2018, [https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/nicholas-giampa-neo-nazi-teenager-murder-girlfriends-parents-virginia-us\\_5a4d0797e4b0b0e5a7aa4780](https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/nicholas-giampa-neo-nazi-teenager-murder-girlfriends-parents-virginia-us_5a4d0797e4b0b0e5a7aa4780).

<sup>95</sup> James Poulter, “The Obscure Neo-Nazi Forum Linked to a Wave of Terror,” *Vice News*, March 12, 2018, [https://www.vice.com/en\\_au/article/437pkd/the-obscure-neo-nazi-forum-linked-to-a-wave-of-terror](https://www.vice.com/en_au/article/437pkd/the-obscure-neo-nazi-forum-linked-to-a-wave-of-terror).

<sup>96</sup> “Worldview,” *Universal Order*, accessed August 16, 2018, <http://siegeculture.biz/worldview/>.

<sup>97</sup> *Universal Order*, accessed March 13, 2019, <http://siegeculture.biz/>.

Manson.<sup>98</sup> AWD members have also cited Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh and mass shooters Dylann Roof and Anders Breivik as inspirations.<sup>99</sup>

AWD targeted college students, teenagers, and other youth—in particular on college campuses—for recruitment.<sup>100</sup> In 2016, the group reportedly posted fliers, buttons, banners, and other propaganda adorned with Nazi imagery on eight college campuses.<sup>101</sup>

In June 2018, AWD reportedly began selling t-shirts through the online retailer Teespring in support of Sam Woodward, the AWD member who allegedly murdered Blaze Bernstein in California earlier that year.<sup>102</sup>

NSO remains dedicated to *Siege* and Mason. In July 2020, NSO announced itself and posted its manifesto on the pro-*Siege* American Futurist website. The site lists Mason and former AWD leaders among its contributors.<sup>103</sup> NSO has also created accounts on Telegram and BitChute to spread propaganda.<sup>104</sup> The group also declared its dedication to Adolf Hitler and support of the “overthrow of all Jew-controlled governments worldwide in order to liberate the Aryan race.”<sup>105</sup> As its symbol, NSO adopted a sword overlaying a red swastika on a black background.<sup>106</sup> According to NSO’s official program, NSO completely rejects the current social-political world order, which the group denounced as a “left-wing framework cultivated by the Jew.”<sup>107</sup> NSO seeks to create a “revolutionary atmosphere” in order to overthrow the current socio-economic system and “liberate” the Aryan race.<sup>108</sup>

**Violent Activities:** AWD propaganda videos have featured members armed with assault weapons attending military-style training sessions. Leaked chat logs of AWD members

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<sup>98</sup> A.C. Thompson, Ali Winston, and Jake Hanrahan, “California Murder Suspect Said to Have Trained With Extremist Hate Group,” ProPublica, January 26, 2018, <https://www.propublica.org/article/california-murder-suspect-atomwaffen-division-extremist-hate-group>; Kelly Weill, “Satanism Drama Is Tearing Apart the Murderous Neo-Nazi Group Atomwaffen,” Daily Beast, March 21, 2018, <https://www.thedailybeast.com/satanism-drama-is-tearing-apart-the-murderous-neo-nazi-group-atomwaffen>; Sonneinkreig Division, Gab account, accessed August 16, 2018, <https://gab.ai/skd>; “Worldview,” Universal Order, accessed August 16, 2018, <http://siegeculture.biz/worldview/>.

<sup>99</sup> A.C. Thompson, Ali Winston, and Jake Hanrahan, “Inside Atomwaffen As It Celebrates a Member for Allegedly Killing a Gay Jewish College Student,” ProPublica, last updated August 3, 2018, <https://www.propublica.org/article/atomwaffen-division-inside-white-hate-group>.

<sup>100</sup> Ana Sofia Knauf, “Neo-Nazi Group Posts Flyers at Evergreen State College After Student Demonstrations,” *The Stranger*, June 7, 2017, <https://www.thestranger.com/slog/2017/06/07/25198365/neo-nazi-group-posts-flyers-at-evergreen-state-college-after-student-demonstrations>.

<sup>101</sup> Matt Lebovic, “Inside ‘Atomwaffen,’ where Blaze Bernstein’s alleged killer trained for race war,” Times of Israel, January 29, 2018, <https://www.timesofisrael.com/inside-atomwaffen-where-blaze-bernsteins-alleged-killer-trained-for-race-war/>.

<sup>102</sup> Jake Hanrahan, Twitter post, June 13, 2018, 12:32 p.m.,

[https://twitter.com/Jake\\_Hanrahan/status/1006937314621382656](https://twitter.com/Jake_Hanrahan/status/1006937314621382656).

<sup>103</sup> “Staff & Contributors,” American Futurist, accessed July 30, 2020.

<sup>104</sup> “National Socialist Order Announcement!,” American Futurist, July 25, 2020.

<sup>105</sup> “National Socialist Order Program,” American Futurist, July 25, 2020.

<sup>106</sup> “National Socialist Order Program,” American Futurist, July 25, 2020.

<sup>107</sup> “National Socialist Order Program,” American Futurist, July 25, 2020.

<sup>108</sup> “National Socialist Order Program,” American Futurist, July 25, 2020.

include discussions of targeting U.S. power facilities and other infrastructure.<sup>109</sup> The group itself has not yet claimed any specific attacks, but individual AWD members have been linked to multiple acts of violence.

- On January 2, 2018, AWD member Sam Woodward allegedly fatally stabbed 20-year-old University of Pennsylvania student Blaze Bernstein in California. Authorities accuse Woodward of killing Bernstein for being gay.<sup>110</sup> AWD has praised Bernstein's murder.<sup>111</sup>
- On December 22, 2017, 17-year-old Nicholas Giampa murdered his girlfriend's parents, Buckley Kuhn-Fricker and Scott Fricker, in their Reston, Virginia, home. Giampa then shot himself but survived. The Frickers had reportedly encouraged their daughter to break up with Giampa because of his extremist views. Prior to the murders, Giampa had tweeted about using Jews for target practice, his love for Adolf Hitler, and hatred of transgender people. He had also praised James Mason's book, *Siege*.<sup>112</sup> AWD members said that Giampa had been in direct contact with the group.<sup>113</sup> Police charged Giampa with murder upon his release from the hospital, though he was charged as a minor.<sup>114</sup> In September 2019, a juvenile court judge in Fairfax County, Virginia, ruled Giampa could be tried as an adult.<sup>115</sup>

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<sup>109</sup> A.C. Thompson, Ali Winston, and Jake Hanrahan, "Inside Atomwaffen As It Celebrates a Member for Allegedly Killing a Gay Jewish College Student," ProPublica, last updated August 3, 2018, <https://www.propublica.org/article/atomwaffen-division-inside-white-hate-group>.

<sup>110</sup> Greg Myre, "Deadly Connection: Neo-Nazi Group Linked To 3 Accused Killers," NPR, March 6, 2018, <https://www.npr.org/2018/03/06/590292705/5-killings-3-states-and-1-common-neo-nazi-link>; Michael Boren, "Accused killer of Penn student Blaze Bernstein charged with hate crime," *Inquirer*, August 7, 2018, <http://www.philly.com/philly/news/crime/blaze-bernstein-murder-samuel-woodward-hate-crime-20180807.html>.

<sup>111</sup> A.C. Thompson, Ali Winston, and Jake Hanrahan, "Inside Atomwaffen As It Celebrates a Member for Allegedly Killing a Gay Jewish College Student," ProPublica, last updated August 3, 2018, <https://www.propublica.org/article/atomwaffen-division-inside-white-hate-group>; Mack Lamoureux and Ben Makuch, "An American Neo-Nazi Group Has Dark Plans for Canada," *Vice News*, July 10, 2018, [https://www.vice.com/en\\_us/article/ev847a/an-american-neo-nazi-group-has-dark-plans-for-canada](https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/ev847a/an-american-neo-nazi-group-has-dark-plans-for-canada).

<sup>112</sup> Jessica Schulberg and Luke O'Brien, "We Found The Neo-Nazi Twitter Account Tied To A Virginia Double Homicide," *Huffington Post*, last updated January 5, 2018, [https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/nicholas-giampa-neo-nazi-teenager-murder-girlfriends-parents-virginia\\_us\\_5a4d0797e4b0b0e5a7aa4780](https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/nicholas-giampa-neo-nazi-teenager-murder-girlfriends-parents-virginia_us_5a4d0797e4b0b0e5a7aa4780); Justin Jouvenal, "A teen is charged with killing his girlfriend's parents. They had worried he was a neo-Nazi," *Washington Post*, December 23, 2017, [https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/public-safety/teen-charged-with-killing-girlfriends-parents-they-had-worried-he-was-a-neo-nazi/2017/12/23/e2102894-e761-11e7-833f-155031558ff4\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.e657e30d67c7](https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/public-safety/teen-charged-with-killing-girlfriends-parents-they-had-worried-he-was-a-neo-nazi/2017/12/23/e2102894-e761-11e7-833f-155031558ff4_story.html?utm_term=.e657e30d67c7).

<sup>113</sup> A.C. Thompson, Ali Winston, and Jake Hanrahan, "California Murder Suspect Said to Have Trained With Extremist Hate Group," ProPublica, January 26, 2018, <https://www.propublica.org/article/california-murder-suspect-atomwaffen-division-extremist-hate-group>.

<sup>114</sup> Dan Taylor, "Why Is The Accused Reston Killer Being Charged As A Juvenile?" *Reston Patch*, January 24, 2018, <https://patch.com/virginia/reston/why-accused-reston-killer-being-charged-juvenile>.

<sup>115</sup> Justin Jouvenal, "Va. teen accused of killing girlfriend's parents to be tried as an adult," *Washington Post*, September 24, 2019, [https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/public-safety/va-teen-accused-of-killing-girlfriends-parents-to-be-tried-as-an-adult/2019/09/24/3e628fae-af13-11e9-a0c9-6d2d7818f3da\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/public-safety/va-teen-accused-of-killing-girlfriends-parents-to-be-tried-as-an-adult/2019/09/24/3e628fae-af13-11e9-a0c9-6d2d7818f3da_story.html).

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- On August 12, 2017, AWD members attacked counter-protesters at the Unite the Right rally in Charlottesville, Virginia.<sup>116</sup> In July 2018, the U.S. Marine Corps discharged AWD member Vasillios Pistoris after he served 28 days in a military prison for disobeying orders and lying about his participation in the Charlottesville rally. Pistoris had bragged online about engaging in violence at the rally.<sup>117</sup>
- On May 19, 2017, former AWD member and co-founder Devon Arthurs took hostages at a smoke shop in Tampa, Florida. Police convinced Arthurs to release the hostages without incident. Arthurs then confessed that he had killed two of his roommates, Jeremy Himmelman and Andrew Oneschuk. Arthurs also told police that his other roommate, AWD co-founder Brandon Russell, was stockpiling explosives to blow up power plants and synagogues in Florida.<sup>118</sup> Arthurs claimed he killed his roommates to prevent an AWD terror attack.<sup>119</sup> Police discovered the bodies of Himmelman and Oneschuk and explosive materials at the shared condo.<sup>120</sup> In September 2017, Russell pled guilty to stockpiling the explosives.<sup>121</sup> He received a five-year sentence in January 2018.<sup>122</sup> In February 2018, Arthurs was found mentally unfit to stand trial.<sup>123</sup>

- **Rhetoric:**

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<sup>116</sup> A.C. Thompson, Ali Winston, and Jake Hanrahan, “Ranks of Notorious Hate Group Include Active-Duty Military,” ProPublica, May 3, 2018, <https://www.propublica.org/article/atomwaffen-division-hate-group-active-duty-military>.

<sup>117</sup> Neal Augenstein, “Marine kicked out of Marine Corps for role in Charlottesville white supremacist march,” WTOP News, August 6, 2018, <https://wtop.com/virginia/2018/08/marine-kicked-out-of-marine-corps-for-role-in-charlottesville-white-supremacist-march/>.

<sup>118</sup> Gloria Gomez, “Accused double-murderer found unfit to stand trial,” Fox 13 News, <http://www.fox13news.com/news/local-news/accused-double-murderer-found-unfit-to-stand-trial>; Janet Reitman, “How Did a Convicted Neo-Nazi Release Propaganda From Prison?” *Rolling Stone*, May 25, 2018, <https://www.rollingstone.com/politics/politics-news/how-did-a-convicted-neo-nazi-release-propaganda-from-prison-628437/>.

<sup>119</sup> Tamara Lush and Michael Kunzelman, “Prosecutors: Neo-Nazi leader clings to ‘violent ideology,’” Associated Press, January 8, 2018, <https://www.apnews.com/d9ff2409350a4766a494fa262874e14f/Prosecutors:-Neo-Nazi-leader-clings-to-'violent-ideology'>.

<sup>120</sup> Gloria Gomez, “Accused double-murderer found unfit to stand trial,” Fox 13 News, <http://www.fox13news.com/news/local-news/accused-double-murderer-found-unfit-to-stand-trial>; Janet Reitman, “How Did a Convicted Neo-Nazi Release Propaganda From Prison?” *Rolling Stone*, May 25, 2018, <https://www.rollingstone.com/politics/politics-news/how-did-a-convicted-neo-nazi-release-propaganda-from-prison-628437/>.

<sup>121</sup> “Neo-Nazi group founder pleads guilty to explosives charges,” Associated Press, September 27, 2017, <https://www.apnews.com/231694dab5024ad0b6b3982834a237ef/Neo-Nazi-group-founder-pleads-guilty-to-explosives-charges>.

<sup>122</sup> “Neo-Nazi Leader Sentenced to Five Years in Federal Prison for Explosives Charges,” U.S. Department of Justice, January 9, 2018, <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/neo-nazi-leader-sentenced-five-years-federal-prison-explosives-charges>; Janet Reitman, “How Did a Convicted Neo-Nazi Release Propaganda From Prison?” *Rolling Stone*, May 25, 2018, <https://www.rollingstone.com/politics/politics-news/how-did-a-convicted-neo-nazi-release-propaganda-from-prison-628437/>.

<sup>123</sup> Gloria Gomez, “Accused double-murderer found unfit to stand trial,” Fox 13 News, <http://www.fox13news.com/news/local-news/accused-double-murderer-found-unfit-to-stand-trial>.



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- NSO Program, July 25, 2020: “We are strict followers of the worldview established by our Führer, Adolf Hitler.”<sup>124</sup>
- NSO Program, July 25, 2020: “While solely based in the United States, we support the overthrow of all Jew-controlled governments worldwide in order to liberate the Aryan race.”<sup>125</sup>
- NSO Program, July 25, 2020: “We scorn and reject the current political system, and all notions of working within the left-right framework cultivated by the Jew.”<sup>126</sup>
- NSO Program, July 25, 2020: “We believe that the earth should be solely populated by the Aryan race.”<sup>127</sup>
- NSO member Ryan Arthur, July 26, 2020: “The Atomwaffen Division was founded and maintained by ardent National Socialists. We all understood the kike plan to destroy the Aryan race. It burned in our hearts. We all came to the same conclusion: this can not last, and it can not continue! Otherwise, the Aryan race would be destroyed for all time. This, we knew that we needed to stop from happening. We needed to reawaken an Aryan race of strength, honor, passion, and greatness, by any means necessary.”<sup>128</sup>
- Tweet from AWD member “Wallcroft AW,” posted with a picture of armed and masked AWD members, August 13, 2018: “We avenge you for centuries of rape, murder and theft! Behold the power of our killing machine! There’ll be nothing but dust when the vultures have left.”<sup>129</sup>
- Audio recording of AWD imprisoned co-founder Brandon Russell in an AWD propaganda video, May 2018: “I have become a prisoner of war in this war against society.... To all the outsiders who tried to hinder our efforts, I say this to you: I created something beautiful. Beautiful things scare you people. You just don’t like it because it doesn’t like you. Night shall turn to day as flames burn brilliantly. The sword has been drawn. There is no turning back.”<sup>130</sup>
- AWD flier found in Brandon Russell’s car, January 2018: “Don’t prepare for exams, prepare for a race war.”<sup>131</sup>
- Unidentified AWD member in a video announcing the formation of a German chapter, June 2018: “Sieg Heil.” (A Nazi salute meaning “Hail victory.”)<sup>132</sup>

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<sup>124</sup> “National Socialist Order Program,” American Futurist, July 25, 2020.

<sup>125</sup> “National Socialist Order Program,” American Futurist, July 25, 2020.

<sup>126</sup> “National Socialist Order Program,” American Futurist, July 25, 2020.

<sup>127</sup> “National Socialist Order Program,” American Futurist, July 25, 2020.

<sup>128</sup> Ryan Arthur, “A Eulogy for AWD,” American Futurist, July 26, 2020.

<sup>129</sup> Wallcroft AW, Twitter post, August 13, 2018, 12:37 a.m., <https://twitter.com/WallcroftAW/status/1028863190879358977>.

<sup>130</sup> Jake Hanrahan, Twitter post, May 23, 2018, 7:41 a.m., [https://twitter.com/Jake\\_Hanrahan/status/999254034786734080?ref\\_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etweetembed%7Ctterm%5E999254034786734080&ref\\_url=https%3A%2F%2Fmedium.com%2Fmedia%2F96c8edaec5812772bf7321fbdbeaf8cd%3FpostId%3Dc662cb4d1aa6](https://twitter.com/Jake_Hanrahan/status/999254034786734080?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etweetembed%7Ctterm%5E999254034786734080&ref_url=https%3A%2F%2Fmedium.com%2Fmedia%2F96c8edaec5812772bf7321fbdbeaf8cd%3FpostId%3Dc662cb4d1aa6).

<sup>131</sup> Associated Press, “Neo-Nazi leader gets 5 years for having explosive material,” *New York Post*, January 9, 2018, <https://nypost.com/2018/01/09/neo-nazi-leader-gets-5-years-for-having-explosive-material/>.

<sup>132</sup> Jake Hanrahan, Twitter post, June 2, 2018, 7:44 p.m., [https://twitter.com/Jake\\_Hanrahan/status/1003059715293794304](https://twitter.com/Jake_Hanrahan/status/1003059715293794304).

- AWD member “Vass” in a private chat log, January 28, 2018: “First sergeants are officially all homosexual Jews who will die during the revolution.”<sup>133</sup>
- Dark Foreigner in a blog post on Tumblr, January 18, 2018: “Let’s bring a new image of terror and dread, to the 21st century.”<sup>134</sup>
- Unidentified former AWD member to ProPublica, 2018: “We want men who are willing to be the boots on the ground. Joining us means serious dedication not only to the Atomwaffen Division and its members, but to the goal of Total Aryan Victory.”<sup>135</sup>
- Twitter post by AWD member Vasillios Pistolis on his participation in the Unite the Right rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, August 12, 2017: “Today cracked three skulls open with virtually no damage to myself.”<sup>136</sup>
- Leaked communication from an AWD chatroom, undated: “Rats and traitors get the rope first.”<sup>137</sup>
- Unidentified AWD member in a leaked audio conversation, undated: “You guys can get all moralistic if you want about satanism but at the end of the day when the fuckin’ race war comes, morals aren’t going to do anything but get you fuckin’ killed.”<sup>138</sup>
- Propaganda flier, undated: “A new world order will rise from the ashes of the kike system.”<sup>139</sup>

### **The Base**

- **Summary:** The Base is a neo-Nazi, white-supremacist network that describes itself as an “international survivalist and self-defense network” that seeks to train their members for fighting a race war.<sup>140</sup> The network is active in North America, Europe, South Africa, and Australia. The Base is influenced by the race war called for in the book *Siege* by neo-Nazi James Mason. The Base is an accelerationist group that encourages the onset on

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<sup>133</sup> Jake Hanrahan, Twitter post, May 3, 2018, 5:46 a.m.,

[https://twitter.com/Jake\\_Hanrahan/status/991977238592655360](https://twitter.com/Jake_Hanrahan/status/991977238592655360).

<sup>134</sup> Dark Foreigner Tumblr post, January 18, 2018, <https://darkforeigner.tumblr.com/post/169858978629/the-dark-foreigner-network-well-as-those-who>.

<sup>135</sup> A.C. Thompson, Ali Winston, and Jake Hanrahan, “Inside Atomwaffen As It Celebrates a Member for Allegedly Killing a Gay Jewish College Student,” ProPublica, last updated August 3, 2018, <https://www.propublica.org/article/atomwaffen-division-inside-white-hate-group>.

<sup>136</sup> A.C. Thompson, Ali Winston, and Jake Hanrahan, “Ranks of Notorious Hate Group Include Active-Duty Military,” ProPublica, May 3, 2018, <https://www.propublica.org/article/atomwaffen-division-hate-group-active-duty-military>.

<sup>137</sup> A.C. Thompson, Ali Winston, and Jake Hanrahan, “Inside Atomwaffen As It Celebrates a Member for Allegedly Killing a Gay Jewish College Student,” ProPublica, last updated August 3, 2018, <https://www.propublica.org/article/atomwaffen-division-inside-white-hate-group>.

<sup>138</sup> Kelly Weill, “Satanism Drama Is Tearing Apart the Murderous Neo-Nazi Group Atomwaffen,” Daily Beast, March 21, 2018, <https://www.thedailybeast.com/satanism-drama-is-tearing-apart-the-murderous-neo-nazi-group-atomwaffen>.

<sup>139</sup> A.C. Thompson, Ali Winston, and Jake Hanrahan, “Inside Atomwaffen As It Celebrates a Member for Allegedly Killing a Gay Jewish College Student,” ProPublica, last updated August 3, 2018, <https://www.propublica.org/article/atomwaffen-division-inside-white-hate-group>.

<sup>140</sup> “What is The Base?,” Internet Archive video, 2:21, uploaded by “The Base” on September 21, 2019.

anarchy so it can then “impose order from chaos.”<sup>141</sup> In a September 2018 episode of the podcast *The Roper Report*, Base founder Roman Wolf claimed The Base’s goal is to unite white nationalists for the coming race war that will overthrow the government and reshape society.<sup>142</sup>

The Base has described itself as a “white protection league” and has organized training camps around North America for their members in weaponry and military tactics.<sup>143</sup> Wolf has called for members to focus on non-attributable actions that destabilize society. The Base has distributed to its members manuals for lone-wolf terror attacks, bomb-making, counter-surveillance, and guerilla warfare.<sup>144</sup> In November 2019, the FBI charged Base member Richard Tobin with orchestrating the vandalism of synagogues in Michigan and Wisconsin that September. Tobin told investigators that he envisioned a nationwide campaign, which he called Operation Kristallnacht after the 1938 night of pogroms against Jewish businesses in Germany that marked the beginning of the Holocaust.<sup>145</sup>

The name The Base is the English translation of al-Qaeda, though it is unclear if the link was intentional as the two networks share no other similarities. The Base heavily draws inspiration from the Atomwaffen Division (AWD) and *Siege*, the neo-Nazi manifesto written by James Mason that inspired Atomwaffen Division. The exact relationship between AWD and The Base remains unclear beyond inspiration.<sup>146</sup> The Base’s membership reportedly includes members of AWD and the far-right group Eco-Fascist Order.<sup>147</sup>

Since the public revelation of the identities of The Base’s leadership and several high-profile arrests in January 2020, some U.S. media have claimed U.S. authorities

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<sup>141</sup> “What is The Base?,” Internet Archive video, 2:21, uploaded by “The Base” on September 21, 2019; Ryan Thorpe, “Homegrown hate,” *Winnipeg Free Press*, August 16, 2019, <https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/homegrown-hate-547510902.html>.

<sup>142</sup> Ben Makuch and Mack Lamoureux, “Neo-Nazis Are Organizing Secretive Paramilitary Training Across America,” *Vice News*, November 20, 2018, [https://www.vice.com/en\\_us/article/a3mexp/neo-nazis-are-organizing-secretive-paramilitary-training-across-america](https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/a3mexp/neo-nazis-are-organizing-secretive-paramilitary-training-across-america).

<sup>143</sup> Jeremy Roebuck, “South Jersey man accused in synagogue vandalisms, revealing dark network of neo-Nazi organizing online,” *Philadelphia Inquirer*, November 15, 2019, <https://www.inquirer.com/news/richard-tobin-synagogue-vandalism-the-base-white-supremacist-racine-wisconsin-hancock-michigan-20191115.html>; Ryan Thorpe, “Homegrown hate,” *Winnipeg Free Press*, August 16, 2019, <https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/homegrown-hate-547510902.html>.

<sup>144</sup> Ryan Thorpe, “Homegrown hate,” *Winnipeg Free Press*, August 16, 2019, <https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/homegrown-hate-547510902.html>.

<sup>145</sup> Jeremy Roebuck, “South Jersey man accused in synagogue vandalisms, revealing dark network of neo-Nazi organizing online,” *Philadelphia Inquirer*, November 15, 2019, <https://www.inquirer.com/news/richard-tobin-synagogue-vandalism-the-base-white-supremacist-racine-wisconsin-hancock-michigan-20191115.html>.

<sup>146</sup> Ryan Thorpe, “Homegrown hate,” *Winnipeg Free Press*, August 16, 2019, <https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/homegrown-hate-547510902.html>.

<sup>147</sup> Ben Makuch and Mack Lamoureux, “Neo-Nazis Are Organizing Secretive Paramilitary Training Across America,” *Vice News*, November 20, 2018, [https://www.vice.com/en\\_us/article/a3mexp/neo-nazis-are-organizing-secretive-paramilitary-training-across-america](https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/a3mexp/neo-nazis-are-organizing-secretive-paramilitary-training-across-america).

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dismantled The Base.<sup>148</sup> Also in January 2020, federal authorities arrested three men suspected of membership in The Base who were allegedly plotting to murder a couple, supposedly affiliated with the far-left antifa movement, in Bartow County, Georgia.<sup>149</sup> That same month, three suspected Base members were arrested for allegedly stockpiling weapons and training for an assault on a pro-Second Amendment rally in Virginia, reportedly in the hopes of sparking a civil war.<sup>150</sup> Despite these arrests and the revelation of The Base's leadership, the group's strategy of creating small, independent cells means it will likely adapt and continue.

- **Base of Operations:** International. The Base's presence has been recorded around the United States, Canada, Europe, and Australia.<sup>151</sup>
- **Website:** <https://thebase966874062.wordpress.com/> (defunct)
- **Social Media Presence:** The Base previously had an official presence on Gab, Twitter, and Reddit until the respective sites deleted The Base's accounts. Supporters continue to upload video content to BitChute and the Internet Archive. The Base also maintains a channel on Telegram.
- **Leadership:** The Base claims to be a leaderless resistance group.<sup>152</sup> Norman Spear, a.k.a. Roman Wolf, launched The Base in June 2018. Both names are reportedly pseudonyms.<sup>153</sup> Spear's true identity was revealed in January 2020 as Rinaldo Nazzaro, a U.S.-born military contractor living in Russia.<sup>154</sup>

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<sup>148</sup> Jason Wilson, "Revealed: the true identity of the leader of an American neo-Nazi terror group," *Guardian* (London), January 24, 2020, <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/jan/23/revealed-the-true-identity-of-the-leader-of-americas-neo-nazi-terror-group>; Neil MacFarquhar, "Many Claim Extremists Are Sparking Protest Violence. But Which Extremists?," *New York Times*, May 31, 2020, <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/31/us/george-floyd-protests-white-supremacists-antifa.html>.

<sup>149</sup> Doug Walker, "Judge: Case against men accused in white supremacist plot to go forward," *Rome News-Tribune*, May 29, 2020, [https://www.northwestgeorgianews.com/rome/news/local/judge-case-against-men-accused-in-white-supremacist-plot-to-go-forward/article\\_42700ffc-a1e5-11ea-a35a-9367e2d93e72.html](https://www.northwestgeorgianews.com/rome/news/local/judge-case-against-men-accused-in-white-supremacist-plot-to-go-forward/article_42700ffc-a1e5-11ea-a35a-9367e2d93e72.html); Derek Hawkins and Hannah Knowles, "Alleged members of white supremacy group 'the Base' charged with plotting to kill antifa couple," *Washington Post*, January 18, 2020, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/2020/01/18/the-base-white-supremacist-arrests/>.

<sup>150</sup> "Three Alleged Members of the Violent Extremist Group 'The Base' Facing Federal Firearms and Alien-Related Charges," U.S. Department of Justice, January 16, 2020, <https://www.justice.gov/usao-md/pr/three-alleged-members-violent-extremist-group-base-facing-federal-firearms-and-alien>; Michael Kunzelman, "Documents: Extremist group wanted rally to start civil war," Associated Press, January 21, 2020, <https://apnews.com/e5d17a8735678aa604a22f011c2685db>.

<sup>151</sup> Mack Lamoureux and Zachary Kamel, "Neo-Nazi Terror Groups Are Using iFunny to Recruit," *Vice News*, November 14, 2019, [https://www.vice.com/en\\_us/article/vb5kx3/neo-nazi-terror-groups-are-using-ifunny-to-recruit](https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/vb5kx3/neo-nazi-terror-groups-are-using-ifunny-to-recruit);

<sup>152</sup> "What is The Base?," Internet Archive video, 2:21, uploaded by "The Base" on September 21, 2019.

<sup>153</sup> Ryan Thorpe, "Homegrown hate," *Winnipeg Free Press*, August 16, 2019, <https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/homegrown-hate-547510902.html>; Ben Makuch and Mack Lamoureux, "Neo-Nazis Are Organizing Secretive Paramilitary Training Across America," *Vice News*, November 20, 2018, [https://www.vice.com/en\\_us/article/a3mexp/neo-nazis-are-organizing-secretive-paramilitary-training-across-america](https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/a3mexp/neo-nazis-are-organizing-secretive-paramilitary-training-across-america).

<sup>154</sup> Jason Wilson, "Revealed: the true identity of the leader of an American neo-Nazi terror group," *Guardian* (London), January 24, 2020, <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/jan/23/revealed-the-true-identity-of-the-leader-of-americas-neo-nazi-terror-group>.

- **Membership Size and Relevance:** The Base’s total membership is unknown as the group has no formal membership.<sup>155</sup> Its primary web forum reportedly has 45 members. There are also regional chat groups.<sup>156</sup>
- **Recruitment and Propaganda:** The Base’s emblem is composed of three white Eihwaz symbols on a black background. The Nazis adopted the Eihwaz symbol to memorialize members who died in the 1923 beer hall uprising.<sup>157</sup> The Base’s propaganda encourages membership to join a future race war. Posters displayed in Canada in 2019 brandished the slogan, “Save your Race, Join The Base.”<sup>158</sup>

The Base has also used the meme-generating website iFunny to create propaganda memes and post videos, which has sparked interest from some of iFunny’s users. Memes often includes emails or QR codes with which users can get in touch with a recruiter.<sup>159</sup>

The Base seeks to create two- to three-man cells around North America, Europe, Australia, and South Africa. According to founder Roman Wolf, The Base’s members includes National Socialists and fascists, as well as “run-of-the-mill white nationalists.”<sup>160</sup>

Membership is limited to men of European descent who share The Base’s political philosophy.<sup>161</sup> The Base also requires members to be at least 17 years old.<sup>162</sup> An undercover reporter for the *Winnipeg Free Press* underwent a “multi-tiered vetting process” that included encrypted online communication, a phone call with founder Roman Wolf, and an in-person meeting with a local representative.<sup>163</sup> In a September 2018 episode of the far-right podcast *The Roper Report*, Wolf claimed that the white nationalist movement is primarily based online and that needs to change. Wolf said the Base is “focused on meeting and training” in order to build a network of trainers across the country.<sup>164</sup>

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<sup>155</sup> “What is The Base?,” Internet Archive video, 2:21, uploaded by “The Base” on September 21, 2019.

<sup>156</sup> Ryan Thorpe, “Homegrown hate,” *Winnipeg Free Press*, August 16, 2019, <https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/homegrown-hate-547510902.html>.

<sup>157</sup> Jeremy Roebuck, “South Jersey man accused in synagogue vandalisms, revealing dark network of neo-Nazi organizing online,” *Philadelphia Inquirer*, November 15, 2019, <https://www.inquirer.com/news/richard-tobin-synagogue-vandalism-the-base-white-supremacist-racine-wisconsin-hancock-michigan-20191115.html>.

<sup>158</sup> Ryan Thorpe, “Homegrown hate,” *Winnipeg Free Press*, August 16, 2019, <https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/homegrown-hate-547510902.html>.

<sup>159</sup> Mack Lamoureux and Zachary Kamel, “Neo-Nazi Terror Groups Are Using iFunny to Recruit,” *Vice News*, November 14, 2019, [https://www.vice.com/en\\_us/article/vb5kx3/neo-nazi-terror-groups-are-using-ifunny-to-recruit](https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/vb5kx3/neo-nazi-terror-groups-are-using-ifunny-to-recruit).

<sup>160</sup> Ryan Thorpe, “Homegrown hate,” *Winnipeg Free Press*, August 16, 2019, <https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/homegrown-hate-547510902.html>.

<sup>161</sup> “What is The Base?,” Internet Archive video, 2:21, uploaded by “The Base” on September 21, 2019.

<sup>162</sup> Mack Lamoureux and Zachary Kamel, “Neo-Nazi Terror Groups Are Using iFunny to Recruit,” *Vice News*, November 14, 2019, [https://www.vice.com/en\\_us/article/vb5kx3/neo-nazi-terror-groups-are-using-ifunny-to-recruit](https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/vb5kx3/neo-nazi-terror-groups-are-using-ifunny-to-recruit).

<sup>163</sup> Ryan Thorpe, “Homegrown hate,” *Winnipeg Free Press*, August 16, 2019, <https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/homegrown-hate-547510902.html>.

<sup>164</sup> Ben Makuch and Mack Lamoureux, “Neo-Nazis Are Organizing Secretive Paramilitary Training Across America,” *Vice News*, November 20, 2018, [https://www.vice.com/en\\_us/article/a3mexp/neo-nazis-are-organizing-secretive-paramilitary-training-across-america](https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/a3mexp/neo-nazis-are-organizing-secretive-paramilitary-training-across-america).

The network specifically seeks to recruit current and former members of the armed forces so that they can share their skills. Rinaldo Nazzaro, a.k.a. Roman Wolf, has claimed to be a veteran of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.<sup>165</sup> Nazzaro has also claimed to be an intelligence, security, and military contractor.<sup>166</sup> In August 2019, the *Winnipeg Free Press* identified Canadian Armed Forces soldier Master Corporal Patrik Mathews as responsible for posting recruitment propaganda around Winnipeg, Canada. The Base reportedly ran a recruitment drive across Canada in 2019.<sup>167</sup> Mathews was arrested in January 2020 in Maryland alongside Brian Mark Lemley Jr. and William Garfield Bilbrough IV. Lemley previously served as a Cavalry Scout in the U.S. Army. The three were allegedly stockpiling weapons and training for an assault on a pro-Second Amendment rally in Virginia that month.<sup>168</sup>

- **Violent Activities:** The Base has not yet claimed responsibility for violent acts, but it has organized military training camps across North America. Founder Roman Wolf and several other members have served in the U.S. or Canadian militaries and used those skills to train other members of The Base in weaponry and combat.<sup>169</sup> In November 2019, federal authorities accused Base member Richard Tobin of orchestrating the vandalism of two synagogues earlier in the year. Tobin also admitted to plotting a violent attack against black shoppers at a New Jersey mall. Tobin did not follow through with the attack. He told authorities after his arrest that he had contemplated “suicide by cop,” insinuating that he planned to die while carrying out a future attack.<sup>170</sup> In January 2020, authorities in Maryland arrested alleged Base members Patrik Mathews, Brian Mark

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<sup>165</sup> Ryan Thorpe, “Military, RCMP investigating Winnipeg neo-Nazi army reserves leader,” *Winnipeg Free Press*, August 18, 2019, <https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/military-rcmp-investigating-winnipeg-neo-nazi-army-reserves-leader-554974742.html>; Ryan Thorpe, “White supremacist in army reserve,” *Winnipeg Free Press*, August 19, 2019, <https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/breakingnews/white-supremacist-in-army-reserve-553050082.html>.

<sup>166</sup> Jason Wilson, “Revealed: the true identity of the leader of an American neo-Nazi terror group,” *Guardian* (London), January 24, 2020, <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/jan/23/revealed-the-true-identity-of-the-leader-of-americas-neo-nazi-terror-group>.

<sup>167</sup> Ryan Thorpe, “Military, RCMP investigating Winnipeg neo-Nazi army reserves leader,” *Winnipeg Free Press*, August 18, 2019, <https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/military-rcmp-investigating-winnipeg-neo-nazi-army-reserves-leader-554974742.html>; Ryan Thorpe, “White supremacist in army reserve,” *Winnipeg Free Press*, August 19, 2019, <https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/breakingnews/white-supremacist-in-army-reserve-553050082.html>.

<sup>168</sup> “Three Alleged Members of the Violent Extremist Group ‘The Base’ Facing Federal Firearms and Alien-Related Charges,” U.S. Department of Justice, January 16, 2020, <https://www.justice.gov/usao-md/pr/three-alleged-members-violent-extremist-group-base-facing-federal-firearms-and-alien>; Michael Kunzelman, “Documents: Extremist group wanted rally to start civil war,” Associated Press, January 21, 2020, <https://apnews.com/e5d17a8735678aa604a22f011c2685db>.

<sup>169</sup> Ben Makuch and Mack Lamoureux, “Neo-Nazis Are Organizing Secretive Paramilitary Training Across America,” *Vice News*, November 20, 2018, [https://www.vice.com/en\\_us/article/a3mexp/neo-nazis-are-organizing-secretive-paramilitary-training-across-america](https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/a3mexp/neo-nazis-are-organizing-secretive-paramilitary-training-across-america); Ryan Thorpe, “Homegrown hate,” *Winnipeg Free Press*, August 16, 2019, <https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/homegrown-hate-547510902.html>; Ryan Thorpe, “Military, RCMP investigating Winnipeg neo-Nazi army reserves leader,” *Winnipeg Free Press*, August 18, 2019, <https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/military-rcmp-investigating-winnipeg-neo-nazi-army-reserves-leader-554974742.html>.

<sup>170</sup> Jeremy Roebuck, “South Jersey man accused in synagogue vandalisms, revealing dark network of neo-Nazi organizing online,” *Philadelphia Inquirer*, November 15, 2019, <https://www.inquirer.com/news/richard-tobin-synagogue-vandalism-the-base-white-supremacist-racine-wisconsin-hancock-michigan-20191115.html>.

Lemley Jr., and William Garfield Bilbrough IV. The three were allegedly stockpiling weapons and training for an assault on a pro-Second Amendment rally in Virginia that month, reportedly in the hopes that violence at the rally could spark a civil war.<sup>171</sup> Also in January 2020, federal authorities arrested three suspected Base members allegedly plotting to murder a couple, supposedly affiliated with the far-left antifa movement, in Bartow County, Georgia.<sup>172</sup>

- **Rhetoric:**

- Roman Wolf, 2019: “Most of our members are National Socialists and/or fascists, although we also have some run-of-the-mill white nationalists... We have a strong revolutionary and militant current running through The Base. Most of our members are pretty hard core in that sense. You’re going to be stepping into probably the most extreme group of pro-white people that you can probably come across.”<sup>173</sup>
- Unidentified member in online chat forum, undated: “If you do it, do it (expletive) right, high casualties or go home... Breivik, Tarrant and McVeigh are the gold standard. If you can’t keep up, don’t bother.”<sup>174</sup>
- Unidentified member in online chat forum, undated: “I feel like were (sic) crossing a Rubicon here soon. The calls for civil war are totally mainstream now. Even the civnat (sic) talking heads are calling for uprising and acknowledging that race war is about to break out. The political climate has shifted.”<sup>175</sup>
- Unidentified member in online chat forum, undated: “Something is changing for sure even if it doesn’t pop off imidiatly (sic) they are pushing very hard for legal ways to fight us. Either way I’m getting ready for the worst.”<sup>176</sup>
- Social media post by The Base member identified only as Patrick, undated: “At this point it is the system that is fomenting armed (white nationalist) revolution,

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<sup>171</sup> “Three Alleged Members of the Violent Extremist Group “The Base” Facing Federal Firearms and Alien-Related Charges,” U.S. Department of Justice, January 16, 2020, <https://www.justice.gov/usao-md/pr/three-alleged-members-violent-extremist-group-base-facing-federal-firearms-and-alien>; Michael Kunzelman, “Documents: Extremist group wanted rally to start civil war,” Associated Press, January 21, 2020, <https://apnews.com/e5d17a8735678aa604a22f011c2685db>.

<sup>172</sup> Doug Walker, “Judge: Case against men accused in white supremacist plot to go forward,” *Rome News-Tribune*, May 29, 2020, [https://www.northwestgeorgianews.com/rome/news/local/judge-case-against-men-accused-in-white-supremacist-plot-to-go-forward/article\\_42700ffc-a1e5-11ea-a35a-9367e2d93e72.html](https://www.northwestgeorgianews.com/rome/news/local/judge-case-against-men-accused-in-white-supremacist-plot-to-go-forward/article_42700ffc-a1e5-11ea-a35a-9367e2d93e72.html); Derek Hawkins and Hannah Knowles, “Alleged members of white supremacy group ‘the Base’ charged with plotting to kill antifa couple,” *Washington Post*, January 18, 2020, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/2020/01/18/the-base-white-supremacist-arrests/>.

<sup>173</sup> Ryan Thorpe, “Homegrown hate,” *Winnipeg Free Press*, August 16, 2019, <https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/homegrown-hate-547510902.html>.

<sup>174</sup> Ryan Thorpe, “Homegrown hate,” *Winnipeg Free Press*, August 16, 2019, <https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/homegrown-hate-547510902.html>.

<sup>175</sup> Ryan Thorpe, “Homegrown hate,” *Winnipeg Free Press*, August 16, 2019, <https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/homegrown-hate-547510902.html>.

<sup>176</sup> Ryan Thorpe, “Homegrown hate,” *Winnipeg Free Press*, August 16, 2019, <https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/homegrown-hate-547510902.html>.

not us. We tried the peaceful route. The system closed it off at every turn. Now the system shall reap what it has sown. I'll leave it at that.”<sup>177</sup>

- Social media post by The Base member identified only as Patrick, undated: “After the collapse, social media will be a wonderful record for figuring out what surviving whites will get the rope in the new state.”<sup>178</sup>

### **Hammerskin Nation (a.k.a. Hammerskins)**

- **Summary:** Hammerskin Nation (a.k.a. Hammerskins) is reportedly the largest, most organized, and most violent neo-Nazi skinhead gang in the United States.<sup>179</sup> The group launched in 1988 and has since spread internationally.<sup>180</sup> Hammerskins have been arrested on charges of murder, assault, arson, vandalism, harassment, and other hate crimes.

The Hammerskin movement grew out of the skinhead punk music scene in the 1980s. The first Hammerskin chapter launched in Dallas, Texas, in 1988 as the Confederate Hammerskins. In 1990, the group created its first international chapters in Northern Ireland and Switzerland. Australian and Canadian chapters emerged in 1993. In 1994, the various regional Hammerskin chapters united under the single banner of Hammerskin Nation. The Hammerskins reinstated their regional system in 1999 while maintaining the international umbrella.<sup>181</sup>

The Hammerskins’ website and its online forums reportedly shut down in 2001 under unclear circumstances. Shortly after, noted white supremacist Tom Metzger declared there was no longer an official Hammerskin Nation.<sup>182</sup> Nevertheless, a site declaring itself the official Hammerskin Nation site went online in 2002.<sup>183</sup> The site remained active as of October 2018, though its online forums were inoperable.<sup>184</sup> The site was inactive as of April 2020.<sup>185</sup> Despite the diminished online presence, the Hammerskins remain active. In his 2018 book *Everything You Love Will Burn*, journalist Vegas Tenold reported on Hammerskin activities in 2016 and the group’s relations with other white supremacist organizations.<sup>186</sup> The Hammerskins also continue to organize and promote

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<sup>177</sup> Ryan Thorpe, “Homegrown hate,” *Winnipeg Free Press*, August 16, 2019, <https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/homegrown-hate-547510902.html>.

<sup>178</sup> Ryan Thorpe, “Homegrown hate,” *Winnipeg Free Press*, August 16, 2019, <https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/homegrown-hate-547510902.html>.

<sup>179</sup> A.C. Thompson, Ali Winston, and Darwin BondGraham, “Racist, Violent, Unpunished: A White Hate Group’s Campaign of Menace,” *ProPublica*, October 19, 2017, <https://www.propublica.org/article/white-hate-group-campaign-of-menace-rise-above-movement>; “The Hammerskin Nation,” Anti-Defamation League, accessed October 12, 2018, <https://www.adl.org/education/resources/profiles/hammerskin-nation>; Vegas Tenold, *Everything You Love Will Burn* (New York: Nation Books, 2018), 177.

<sup>180</sup> “Our History,” Hammerskins.net, accessed October 3, 2018, <https://www.hammerskins.net/history.html>.

<sup>181</sup> “Our History,” Hammerskins.net, accessed October 3, 2018, <https://www.hammerskins.net/history.html>.

<sup>182</sup> The Hammerskin Nation,” Anti-Defamation League, accessed October 15, 2018, <https://www.adl.org/education/resources/profiles/hammerskin-nation>.

<sup>183</sup> “Whois search results,” WhoIsHostingThis?, accessed October 16, 2018, <https://bit.ly/2P9o857>.

<sup>184</sup> Homepage, Hammerskins.net, accessed October 3, 2018, <https://www.hammerskins.net/index.html>.

<sup>185</sup> Homepage, Hammerskins.net, accessed April 14, 2020, <https://www.hammerskins.net/index.html>.

<sup>186</sup> Vegas Tenold, *Everything You Love Will Burn* (New York: Nation Books, 2018), 175-201.



## COUNTER EXTREMISM PROJECT

the annual Hammerfest white power music concert. The group held Hammerfest in October 2018 in California<sup>187</sup> and in November 2019 in western Europe.<sup>188</sup> In October 2019, the Southern Cross Hammerskins and Blood & Honour Australia intended to hold the annual Hammered Music Festival in Melbourne, Australia, but reportedly canceled the plans at the last minute. Anti-hate groups had asked the government to stop the concert, but it was permitted on free-speech grounds. The reason for the cancellation is not known.<sup>189</sup>

- **Base of Operations:** The first Hammerskins chapter emerged in Dallas, Texas, but the group has no centralized global base of operations. As of October 12, 2018, the Hammerskins' website listed six U.S. chapters divided by region: West, Northwest, Midland, Confederate, Northern, and Eastern. Additionally, the group maintains chapters in Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, New Zealand, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Luxembourg, and Switzerland.<sup>190</sup>
- **Website:** <https://www.hammerskins.net/> (defunct), <http://www.crew38.com/forum38/index.php> (defunct)
- **Social Media Presence:** [Facebook](#) (Crew 38, Finland) (defunct), [Facebook](#) (Crew 38, Spain), [Facebook](#) (Crew 38, Sweden) (defunct)
- **Leadership:** The Hammerskins declare themselves to be a leaderless organization.<sup>191</sup>
- **Membership Size and Relevance:** The Hammerskins include six regional chapters in the United States and 12 international chapters.<sup>192</sup> There are no estimates of the group's membership numbers, but it is reportedly the largest neo-Nazi skinhead gang in the United States.<sup>193</sup>
- **Recruitment and Propaganda:** Prospective Hammerskin members are vetted through multiple stages. First, they become what journalist Vegas Tenold called "hang-arounds," following members of a Hammerskin chapter but without any status in the group. If

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<sup>187</sup> Bootboys Birthrite, Facebook post, May 9, 2018,

<https://www.facebook.com/149128215727362/photos/a.168906250416225/168906237082893/?type=3&theater;> Kristina Davis, "Which 'hate' groups are operating in San Diego?," *San Diego Union-Tribune*, May 26, 2019,

[https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/news/public-safety/story/2019-05-25/hate-groups-operating-in-san-diego.](https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/news/public-safety/story/2019-05-25/hate-groups-operating-in-san-diego)<sup>188</sup> "Rechte Hammerskin-Feier war Behörden bekannt," *Saarbrücker Zeitung* (Saarland), November 6, 2019,

[https://www.saarbruecker-zeitung.de/saarland/antifa-saar-kritisiert-inaktivitaet-der-behoerden-gegenueber-rassisten-aid-47003107.](https://www.saarbruecker-zeitung.de/saarland/antifa-saar-kritisiert-inaktivitaet-der-behoerden-gegenueber-rassisten-aid-47003107)<sup>189</sup> "White supremacist concert in Melbourne cannot be stopped, Premier says," Australian Broadcasting Corporation, October 8, 2019, <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-10-08/white-supremacist-neo-nazi-concert-in-melbourne-to-go-ahead/11582120>; Rick Goodman, "Melbourne's neo-Nazi festival stopped, Jewish leader says," 7 News, October 16, 2019, [https://7news.com.au/news/vic/melbournes-neo-nazi-festival-stopped-jewish-leader-says-c-506975?fbclid=IwAR0iNXFuMFRtOGCrhYKIDzz73HUvs1\\_XDGal\\_zIJtwXPoMW57Nx3K6ghurM.](https://7news.com.au/news/vic/melbournes-neo-nazi-festival-stopped-jewish-leader-says-c-506975?fbclid=IwAR0iNXFuMFRtOGCrhYKIDzz73HUvs1_XDGal_zIJtwXPoMW57Nx3K6ghurM)

<sup>190</sup> "Hammerskin Nation," Hammerskins.net, accessed October 3, 2018, <https://www.hammerskins.net/chapters.html>.

<sup>191</sup> Homepage, Hammerskins.net, accessed October 3, 2018, <https://www.hammerskins.net/index.html>.

<sup>192</sup> "Hammerskin Nation," Hammerskins.net, accessed October 3, 2018, <https://www.hammerskins.net/chapters.html>.

<sup>193</sup> A.C. Thompson, Ali Winston, and Darwin BondGraham, "Racist, Violent, Unpunished: A White Hate Group's Campaign of Menace," ProPublica, October 19, 2017, <https://www.propublica.org/article/white-hate-group-campaign-of-menace-rise-above-movement>; "The Hammerskin Nation," Anti-Defamation League, accessed October 12, 2018, <https://www.adl.org/education/resources/profiles/hammerskin-nation>; Vegas Tenold, *Everything You Love Will Burn* (New York: Nation Books, 2018), 177.

members approve of a hang-around's behavior, he or she receives a probationary membership in Crew 38, a Hammerskin support network. After proving their loyalty, the prospective member is then offered membership in the Hammerskins. The process can last years before a member advances to the main group.<sup>194</sup>

White power music remains the Hammerskins' primary recruitment method. The Hammerskins host the annual Hammerfest music festival to celebrate the genre of white power music.<sup>195</sup> The group held the first Hammerfest in 1999.<sup>196</sup> Bands that have performed at Hammerfest include Beer Hall Putsch and Definite Hate, which previously included Wade Michael Page, who attacked a Sikh temple in 2012.<sup>197</sup> Then-Traditionalist Worker Party leader Matthew Heimbach spoke at the 2016 Hammerfest, praising the Hammerskins as "an example for all Nationalists."<sup>198</sup> White supremacist record label Antipathy Records previously maintained a "Hammerskin Gear" section on its website.<sup>199</sup>

The Hammerskins promote the numeral 14 based on the 14-word white supremacist motto: "We must secure the existence of our people and a future for White Children."<sup>200</sup> The movement is also represented by the number 838, which corresponds to the letters H, C, H, an acronym of the Hammerskin motto, "Hail the Crossed Hammers." The motto is a reference to the Hammerskin flag, which portrays two crossed hammers. The symbol is a constant in Hammerskin propaganda and its various chapter logos.<sup>201</sup> It is derived from the symbol of a fictional neo-Nazi movement in the 1982 movie *Pink Floyd: The Wall*.<sup>202</sup> Hammerskin member Wade Michael Page, who killed six people at a Sikh temple in 2012, had 838 tattooed on his arm to signify membership in the Hammerskins.<sup>203</sup>

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<sup>194</sup> Vegas Tenold, *Everything You Love Will Burn* (New York: Nation Books, 2018), 178.

<sup>195</sup> Michael Deeds, "White supremacist skinhead organization plans Boise music festival, says online flyer," *Idaho Statesman*, August 17, 2017, <https://www.idahostatesman.com/entertainment/ent-columns-blogs/words-deeds/article167774787.html>.

<sup>196</sup> "Our History," Hammerskins.net, accessed October 3, 2018, <https://www.hammerskins.net/history.html>.

<sup>197</sup> Dillon Price, "Neo-Nazi Music Festival Happening in Boise, ID," *Sound Renaissance*, August 16, 2017, <http://www.soundrenaissance.net/neo-nazi-music-festival-happening-boise-id/>.

<sup>198</sup> "Hate, Hypocrisy, and Head Wounds: Matthew Heimbach At Hammerfest," Southern Poverty Law Center, October 10, 2016, <https://www.splcenter.org/hatewatch/2016/10/10/hate-hypocrisy-and-head-wounds-matthew-heimbach-hammerfest>.

<sup>199</sup> "Hammerskin Gear," Antipathy Records, accessed October 12, 2018,

[http://www.antipathyrecords.com/index.php?main\\_page=index&cPath=6&zenid=ijetej8ftpevgr10tqe2bk9757](http://www.antipathyrecords.com/index.php?main_page=index&cPath=6&zenid=ijetej8ftpevgr10tqe2bk9757).

<sup>200</sup> Homepage, Hammerskins.net, accessed October 3, 2018, <https://www.hammerskins.net/index.html>; Brendan O'Brien and Nick Carey, "Sikh shooting puts 'white power music' under scrutiny," *Reuters*, August 6, 2012, <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-wisconsin-shooting/sikh-shooting-puts-white-power-music-under-scrutiny-idUSBRE8740FP20120807>; Michael Deeds, "White supremacist skinhead organization plans Boise music festival, says online flyer," *Idaho Statesman*, August 17, 2017, <https://www.idahostatesman.com/entertainment/ent-columns-blogs/words-deeds/article167774787.html>.

<sup>201</sup> "Hammerskin Nation," Hammerskins.net, accessed October 3, 2018, <https://www.hammerskins.net/chapters.html>.

<sup>202</sup> "The Hammerskin Nation," Anti-Defamation League, accessed October 15, 2018, <https://www.adl.org/education/resources/profiles/hammerskin-nation>.

<sup>203</sup> Russell Goldman, "Cracking Wisconsin Gunman's Secret Racist Tattoo Code," *ABC News*, August 7, 2012, <https://abcnews.go.com/Blotter/wisconsin-gunman-wade-michael-pages-tattoos-racist-beliefs/story?id=16949676>.

- **Violent Activities:** The Hammerskins encourage members to enlist in military forces, such as the U.S. Army, in order to train for a pending race war. Military personnel told Reuters in 2012 that white nationalists are dedicated to the military training because they want to learn weaponry and combat skills.<sup>204</sup> Hammerskin Nation as an organization has not orchestrated violent activities. Nonetheless, Hammerskin members have been involved in numerous violent acts. Further, there have been multiple reports of Hammerskin members engaging each other in physical altercations during Hammerskin events.<sup>205</sup>
  - On November 8, 2016, Portuguese police arrested 20 Hammerskins across the country on suspicion of involvement in a series of violent hate crimes in Portugal between 2013 and 2015.<sup>206</sup>
  - On July 10, 2015, police in East Windsor, New Jersey, arrested Richard Pearson on charges of maintaining a drug manufacturing facility, aggravated arson, theft and destruction of evidence. Pearson had multiple previous convictions in Florida and Massachusetts on charges of attempted murder, aggravated assault, home invasion, bias crimes, and bail jumping. Prosecutors have accused Pearson of affiliation with the Hammerskins.<sup>207</sup>
  - On March 18, 2015, skinhead Ryan Giroux shot dead one person and wounded six others in an hours-long ordeal that began outside a motel in Mesa, Arizona. He then carjacked a vehicle and traveled to a condominium complex where he was arrested by a SWAT team. A retired Mesa police detective familiar with Giroux identified him as a member of the Hammerskins. Giroux pled guilty to first-degree murder and 22 other charges. He received a life sentence in 2016.<sup>208</sup>
  - On August 5, 2012, Hammerskin member Wade Michael Page attacked a Sikh temple in Oak Creek, Wisconsin, killing six and critically wounding three others. A police officer shot and killed Page on the scene.<sup>209</sup> The Anti-Defamation

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<sup>204</sup> Daniel Trotta, “U.S. Army battling racists within its own ranks,” Reuters, August 21, 2012, <https://www.reuters.com/article/usa-wisconsin-shooting-army/u-s-army-battling-racists-within-its-own-ranks-idUSL2E8JHO6K20120821>.

<sup>205</sup> “Hate, Hypocrisy, and Head Wounds: Matthew Heimbach At Hammerfest,” Southern Poverty Law Center, October 10, 2016, <https://www.splcenter.org/hatewatch/2016/10/10/hate-hypocrisy-and-head-wounds-matthew-heimbach-hammerfest>; Vegas Tenold, *Everything You Love Will Burn* (New York: Nation Books, 2018), 177-201.

<sup>206</sup> Portugal anti-terror police arrest 20 neo-Nazis over hate crimes,” Reuters, November 8, 2016, <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-portugal-neonazis/portugal-anti-terror-police-arrest-20-neo-nazis-over-hate-crimes-idUSKBN1332F0>.

<sup>207</sup> Keith Brown, “Florida man with white supremacist ties set East Windsor car fire while making meth,” NJ.com, July 21, 2015, <https://www.nj.com/mercer/index.ssf/2015/07/florida-man-with-white-supremacist-ties-set-east-w.html>.

<sup>208</sup> Terrence McCoy, “An Arizona shooting suspect and the resilience of American hate groups,” *Washington Post*, March 19, 2015, [https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/morning-mix/wp/2015/03/19/a-suspected-phoenix-gunman-and-the-resiliency-of-american-hate-groups/?utm\\_term=.24a22eb7d1b2](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/morning-mix/wp/2015/03/19/a-suspected-phoenix-gunman-and-the-resiliency-of-american-hate-groups/?utm_term=.24a22eb7d1b2); David Schwartz, “Arizona man receives life sentence for deadly 2015 shooting spree,” Reuters, June 10, 2016, <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-arizona-shooting-sentence-idUSKCN0YW2GE>.

<sup>209</sup> “Wisconsin Sikh temple gunman identified as Wade Michael Page, 40,” Reuters, August 6, 2012, <https://www.reuters.com/article/usa-wisconsin-shooting-gunman/wisconsin-sikh-temple-gunman-identified-as-wade-michael-page-40-idUSL2E8J645320120806>.

League had identified Page as a white supremacist in 2010 based on his involvement in white power music bands.<sup>210</sup>

- In April 2011, Hammerskins member Matthew Branstetter and an accomplice beat a Jewish man unconscious and robbed him in a park in Orange County, California. Branstetter was convicted of aggravated assault with a hate crime enhancement. He was sentenced to 20 months in prison.<sup>211</sup>
- On March 17, 1999, six Hammerskin members attacked a 23-year-old black man in Temecula, California. The Hammerskins allegedly shouted racial epithets while beating Randy Bowen, who managed to escape. Three of the Hammerskin members pled guilty to assault with a deadly weapon and committing a hate crime.<sup>212</sup> Five of the attackers received sentences ranging from four to 14 years in prison.<sup>213</sup>
- On December 24, 1991, Hammerskin members Louis Oddo and Adam Galleon reportedly beat a homeless black man to death in Birmingham, Alabama. Both Oddo and Galleon were convicted of murder.<sup>214</sup>
- On June 7, 1991, Hammerskin members William George “Trey” Roberts III, Joshua Everette Hendry, and Christopher Brosky shot and killed 32-year-old black man Donald Thomas in a drive-by shooting in Arlington, Texas.<sup>215</sup>
- In the summer of 1991, members of the Confederate Hammerskins reportedly formed “park patrols” in Dallas and “chased, beat, and assaulted any nonwhites they found,” according to the U.S. Department of Justice.<sup>216</sup> Also that summer, Hammerskin members vandalized a Dallas synagogue and Jewish community center.<sup>217</sup>

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<sup>210</sup> Brendan O’Brien and Nick Carey, “Sikh shooting puts ‘white power music’ under scrutiny,” Reuters, August 6, 2012, <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-wisconsin-shooting/sikh-shooting-puts-white-power-music-under-scrutiny-idUSBRE8740FP20120807>.

<sup>211</sup> A.C. Thompson, Ali Winston, and Darwin BondGraham, “Racist, Violent, Unpunished: A White Hate Group’s Campaign of Menace,” ProPublica, October 19, 2017, <https://www.propublica.org/article/white-hate-group-campaign-of-menace-rise-above-movement>.

<sup>212</sup> “The Hammerskin Nation,” Anti-Defamation League, accessed October 15, 2018, <https://www.adl.org/education/resources/profiles/hammerskin-nation>.

<sup>213</sup> *Press-Enterprise*, “Supremacists get maximum prison terms in hate crime,” Cult Education Institute, March 19, 2002, <https://culteducation.com/group/1154-skinheads/19323-supremacists-get-maximum-prison-terms-in-hate-crime.html>.

<sup>214</sup> Vegas Tenold, *Everything You Love Will Burn* (New York: Nation Books, 2018), 177; “The Hammerskin Nation,” Anti-Defamation League, accessed October 15, 2018, <https://www.adl.org/education/resources/profiles/hammerskin-nation>.

<sup>215</sup> “Juror ‘sick’ about sentence given skinhead,” United Press International, 25, 1993, <https://www.upi.com/Archives/1993/03/25/Juror-sick-about-sentence-given-skinhead/4561733035600/>; Terri Langford, “Skinhead Goes on Trial Again in Drive-By Killing,” Associated Press, November 4, 1993, <https://www.apnews.com/3f79453ab6fcf6db67793175712ff597>; Vegas Tenold, *Everything You Love Will Burn* (New York: Nation Books, 2018), 177.

<sup>216</sup> Barbara Kay Bosserman and Angela M. Miller, “Prosecuting Federal Hate Crimes” in *Emerging Issues in Federal Prosecutions*, U.S. Department of Justice, January 2018, <https://www.justice.gov/usao/page/file/1030666/download>.

<sup>217</sup> Barbara Kay Bosserman and Angela M. Miller, “Prosecuting Federal Hate Crimes” in *Emerging Issues in Federal Prosecutions*, U.S. Department of Justice, January 2018,

- **Rhetoric:**

- Hammerskin member Travis Miskam after attacking 23-year-old black man Randy Bowen with five other Hammerskin members, March 17, 1999: “We don’t like niggers here; I don’t like niggers.”<sup>218</sup>
- Online comment by imprisoned Hammerskin member Jimmy Matchette, undated: “Being a Hammerskin is the distinct feeling of being set apart from the entire planet. And of knowing we will conquer & overcome all obstacles to achieve our goals and accomplish our great work, knowing that if we fail, all is lost forever and the west will perish. Even though I am locked down in a maximum security federal penitentiary, I wouldn’t [have] traded the opportunity for all the gold in the world. You my true comrades hold all the glory of victory at your fingertips. We really are the most notorious White power Skinhead group in the entire World!”<sup>219</sup>
- Editorial in now-defunct Hammerskin Press, undated: “We’ve experienced death, prison, and numerous court battles. Through all this, we’re still standing! No LAWS will ever break us!”<sup>220</sup>
- Statement from now-defunct Hammerskin Press, undated: “The MOST NOTORIOUS band of Skinheads in the World have metastasized from the mean streets, and into your home [sic]. Where ever you go, our WEB of Racism will follow!”<sup>221</sup>

### **Identity Evropa/American Identity Movement**

- **Summary:** Created in 2016, Identity Evropa was a white supremacist group that promoted white European identity and the preservation of white culture based on the concept of “identitarian politics.” Identity Evropa claimed to represent a “generation of awakened Europeans” who “oppose those who would defame our history and rich cultural heritage.”<sup>222</sup> In March 2019, Identity Evropa’s leaders announced the closure of the group. They simultaneously announced the formation of a new group called American Identity Movement (AIM), which they said would remain committed to Identity Evropa’s cause while promoting nationalism, identitarianism, non-interventionism, protectionism, and populism.<sup>223</sup>

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<https://www.justice.gov/usao/page/file/1030666/download>; “The Hammerskin Nation,” Anti-Defamation League, accessed October 15, 2018, <https://www.adl.org/education/resources/profiles/hammerskin-nation>.

<sup>218</sup> The Hammerskin Nation,” Anti-Defamation League, accessed October 15, 2018, <https://www.adl.org/education/resources/profiles/hammerskin-nation>.

<sup>219</sup> The Hammerskin Nation,” Anti-Defamation League, accessed October 15, 2018, <https://www.adl.org/education/resources/profiles/hammerskin-nation>.

<sup>220</sup> The Hammerskin Nation,” Anti-Defamation League, accessed October 15, 2018, <https://www.adl.org/education/resources/profiles/hammerskin-nation>.

<sup>221</sup> The Hammerskin Nation,” Anti-Defamation League, accessed October 15, 2018, <https://www.adl.org/education/resources/profiles/hammerskin-nation>.

<sup>222</sup> Identity Evropa homepage, accessed August 25, 2017, <https://www.identityevropa.com/>.

<sup>223</sup> American Identity Movement, Twitter post, March 10, 2019, 4:46 a.m., [https://twitter.com/AIM\\_America/status/1104664690439962625](https://twitter.com/AIM_America/status/1104664690439962625).

Identity Evropa founder Nathan Damigo is a former Marine who was convicted of armed robbery after returning from two tours in Iraq. In prison, he read the works of former KKK leader David Duke and racial scientist J. Philippe Rushton.<sup>224</sup> Damigo has spoken publicly alongside white nationalist Richard Spencer. Identity Evropa largely targeted college students and viewed protests like the August 2017 Unite the Right rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, as recruitment drives.<sup>225</sup>

Eli Mosley, who took over Identity Evropa from Damigo in late August 2017, played a key role in organizing the Unite the Right rally earlier that month in Charlottesville. Encouraged by the perceived success of the rally, Mosley told the media that he planned to organize many more rallies for Identity Evropa.<sup>226</sup> In early December 2017, Mosley resigned and Patrick Casey, a.k.a. Reinhard Wolff, became the group's new CEO. Casey reportedly wanted to distance Identity Evropa from the negative coverage of the Charlottesville rally through more private, invitation-only events rather than large gatherings like Unite the Right. Casey called for more public banner displays and more demonstrations on college campuses, as well as at meet-ups, fitness clubs, and similar communal events.<sup>227</sup> Identity Evropa joined a November 2018 lawsuit against the city of Charlottesville claiming city officials violated their rights by not allowing the rally to go forward. Identity Evropa dropped out of the lawsuit the following month. The National Socialist Movement, Traditionalist Worker Party, and rally organizer Jason Kessler remained on the lawsuit.<sup>228</sup>

In March 2019, Identity Evropa's leaders simultaneously announced the organization's closure and the creation of AIM. Casey said in a press release that Identity Evropa was "held down by baggage accumulated before my tenure."<sup>229</sup> This is likely a reference to Identity Evropa's linkage with the Unite the Right rally, from which Casey had previously sought to distance the group. Further, a series of racist and anti-Semitic Identity Evropa private chat messages leaked from the online chat server Discord earlier

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<sup>224</sup> Hailey Branson-Potts, "In diverse California, a young white supremacist seeks to convert fellow college students," *Los Angeles Times*, December 7, 2016, <http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-nathan-damigo-alt-right-20161115-story.html>.

<sup>225</sup> KQED, "Californian Who Helped Lead Charlottesville Protests Used Berkeley as a Test Run," *San Francisco Chronicle*, August 14, 2017, <http://www.sfgate.com/news/article/Californian-Who-Helped-Lead-Charlottesville-11818005.php>.

<sup>226</sup> A.C. Thompson and Karim Hajj, "A New Generation of White Supremacists Emerges in Charlottesville," *Pro Publica*, August 13, 2017, <https://www.propublica.org/article/a-new-generation-of-white-supremacists-emerges-in-charlottesville>; Alan Feuer, "Far Right Plans Its Next Moves With a New Energy," *New York Times*, August 14, 2017, [https://www.nytimes.com/2017/08/14/us/white-supremacists-right-wing-extremists-richard-spencer.html?\\_r=0](https://www.nytimes.com/2017/08/14/us/white-supremacists-right-wing-extremists-richard-spencer.html?_r=0).

<sup>227</sup> "The Future of Identity Evropa," 18:45, YouTube video, posted by "Red Ice TV," December 2, 2017, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z-pDqldGGRU&feature=youtu.be&a=>.

<sup>228</sup> "White nationalist group dropped from Unite the Right lawsuit," *Daily Progress*, December 7, 2018, [https://www.dailyprogress.com/news/local/courts/white-nationalist-group-dropped-from-unite-the-right-lawsuit/article\\_39a3cd76-fa59-11e8-af45-a708e69927ae.html](https://www.dailyprogress.com/news/local/courts/white-nationalist-group-dropped-from-unite-the-right-lawsuit/article_39a3cd76-fa59-11e8-af45-a708e69927ae.html).

<sup>229</sup> American Identity Movement, Twitter post, March 10, 2019, 4:46 a.m., [https://twitter.com/AIM\\_America/status/1104664690439962625](https://twitter.com/AIM_America/status/1104664690439962625).

## COUNTER EXTREMISM PROJECT

that March.<sup>230</sup> Casey claimed on Twitter that the brand change had been planned for months and had nothing to do with the leaked messages. According to Casey, Identity Evropa focused solely on the promotion of white identity but AIM would expand its focus through a “holistic approach” that would include identitarianism, non-interventionism, nationalism, protectionism, and populism.<sup>231</sup> Casey and AIM have sought to disavow Identity Evropa and “the decisions of former leaders and members,” claiming that Casey had no leadership role in the organization during Charlottesville.<sup>232</sup>

AIM announced that it would phase out Identity Evropa’s web presence and create its own.<sup>233</sup> AIM claims to be “a growing, active movement defending our nation against mass immigration and the scourge of globalism.”<sup>234</sup> AIM further claims that it seeks “peaceful, visible action” and the “restoration of American identity.”<sup>235</sup> The group held an inaugural conference in Nashville, Tennessee, on March 9, 2019.<sup>236</sup> The following day, almost 100 AIM members rallied at the State Capitol in Nashville in the group’s inaugural protest.<sup>237</sup>

- **Base of Operations:** Leesburg, Virginia<sup>238</sup>
- **Website:** [www.identityevropa.com](http://www.identityevropa.com) (deleted), <https://americanidentitymovement.com/>
- **Social Media Presence:** [Twitter \(Identity Evropa\)](#) (suspended), [Twitter \(Ladies of IE\)](#), [Twitter \(Nathan Damigo\)](#) (deleted), [Twitter \(Eli Mosley\)](#) (suspended), [Twitter \(Patrick Casey\)](#) (suspended), [Twitter \(AIM\)](#) (suspended), [YouTube \(Identity Evropa\)](#), [YouTube \(AIM\)](#) (deleted), [Telegram](#), [BitChute](#)
- **Leadership:** Nathan Damigo is the founder and former leader of Identity Evropa. On August 27, 2017, Damigo stepped down as Identity Evropa’s leader and named Eli

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<sup>230</sup> “Neo-Nazi Hipsters Identity Evropa Exposed In Discord Chat Leak,” Unicorn Riot, March 6, 2019, <https://unicornriot.ninja/2019/neo-nazi-hipsters-identity-evropa-exposed-in-discord-chat-leak/>.

<sup>231</sup> Patrick Casey, Twitter post, March 14, 2019, 6:07 p.m., <https://twitter.com/PatrickCaseyUSA/status/1106315890864214017>.

<sup>232</sup> “American Identity Movement responds to far-left SPLC and cohorts,” American Identity Movement, March 15, 2019, <https://www.americanidentitymovement.com/american-identity-movement-responds-to-far-left-splc-and-cohorts/>.

<sup>233</sup> American Identity Movement, Twitter post, March 10, 2019, 4:46 a.m., [https://twitter.com/AIM\\_America/status/1104664690439962625](https://twitter.com/AIM_America/status/1104664690439962625).

<sup>234</sup> American Identity Movement homepage, accessed March 13, 2019, <https://www.americanidentitymovement.com/>.

<sup>235</sup> “AIM’s incredible first demonstration,” American Identity Movement, March 10, 2019, <https://www.americanidentitymovement.com/category/activism/>.

<sup>236</sup> “American Identity Movement’s Inaugural Conference,” American Identity Movement, March 12, 2019, <https://www.americanidentitymovement.com/category/conference/>.

<sup>237</sup> “AIM’s incredible, first demonstration,” American Identity Movement, March 12, 2019, <https://www.americanidentitymovement.com/category/activism/>.

<sup>238</sup> “Donate,” American Identity Movement, accessed June 11, 2020, <https://americanidentitymovement.com/donate/>.

Mosley as the new CEO.<sup>239</sup> In December 2017, Mosley resigned and Patrick Casey became the new CEO.<sup>240</sup> Casey is the founding president of AIM.<sup>241</sup>

- **Membership Size and Relevance:** Identity Evropa allegedly had a nationwide membership of 300 as of February 2017, but the group had an increasingly visible presence at national white supremacy rallies and in the media.<sup>242</sup>

Identity Evropa had more than 29,000 followers on Twitter as of April 2018.<sup>243</sup> Damigo had 19,000 Twitter followers as of April 2, 2018.<sup>244</sup> His Twitter account has since been discontinued.<sup>245</sup> Patrick Casey had more than 14,000 Twitter followers as of March 15, 2019, an increase of 6,000 over the course of the previous year.<sup>246</sup> The Identity Evropa YouTube account had 7,085 subscribers as of March 11, 2019. The account's 12 videos had collectively received more than 117,000 views as of April 2018 but had been deleted by March 2019 as AIM closed Identity Evropa's accounts.<sup>247</sup> AIM's Twitter account had 2,887 followers as of March 19, 2019.<sup>248</sup> Its Facebook page had 165 followers as of the same date.<sup>249</sup> Its YouTube page had received 1,101 views in the six days following its launch on March 13, 2019.<sup>250</sup> AIM's Twitter and YouTube accounts had been deleted as of April 2020. AIM's Telegram account had more than 2,400 followers as of July 14, 2020.<sup>251</sup> AIM's BitChute account had 571 subscribers as of the same date.<sup>252</sup>

AIM claimed it drew almost 100 people to its inaugural rally at the State Capitol in Nashville, Tennessee, on March 10, 2019.<sup>253</sup>

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<sup>239</sup> "A Renewal of Leadership," Identity Evropa, August 29, 2017, <https://www.identityevropa.com/2017-08-27-press-release.html>.

<sup>240</sup> "The Future of Identity Evropa," 18:45, YouTube video, posted by "Red Ice TV," December 2, 2017, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z-pDqldGGRU&feature=youtu.be&a=>.

<sup>241</sup> American Identity Movement, Twitter post, March 10, 2019, 4:46 a.m., [https://twitter.com/AIM\\_America/status/1104664690439962625](https://twitter.com/AIM_America/status/1104664690439962625).

<sup>242</sup> Harry Shukman, "Meet the neo-Nazi coming to put up white pride posters on your campus," The Tab, February 13, 2017, <http://thetab.com/us/2017/02/15/nathan-damigo-identity-evropa-60697>.

<sup>243</sup> Identity Evropa Twitter account, accessed April 2, 2018, <https://twitter.com/IdentityEvropa>.

<sup>244</sup> Nathan Damigo Twitter account, accessed April 2, 2018, <https://twitter.com/nathandamigo?lang=en>.

<sup>245</sup> Nathan Damigo Twitter account, accessed March 15, 2019, <https://twitter.com/nathandamigo?lang=en>.

<sup>246</sup> Patrick Casey Twitter account, accessed April 2, 2018, <https://twitter.com/patrickcaseyIE>; Patrick Casey Twitter account, accessed March 15, 2019, <https://twitter.com/PatrickCaseyUSA>.

<sup>247</sup> Identity Evropa YouTube Channel, accessed April 2, 2018, <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8ZmnNg0kKjX2C0NeXsukXg/featured>; Identity Evropa YouTube Channel, accessed March 11, 2019, <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8ZmnNg0kKjX2C0NeXsukXg/featured>.

<sup>248</sup> American Identity Movement Twitter account, accessed March 19, 2019, [https://twitter.com/AIM\\_America](https://twitter.com/AIM_America).

<sup>249</sup> American Identity Movement Facebook account, accessed March 19, 2019, <https://www.facebook.com/American-Identity-Movement-2333433496688143>.

<sup>250</sup> American Identity Movement YouTube account, accessed March 19, 2019, <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzKhB1XzGbwS2pJHCPG7Bw/about>.

<sup>251</sup> American Identity Movement, Telegram account, accessed July 14, 2020, [https://t.me/s/AIM\\_America](https://t.me/s/AIM_America).

<sup>252</sup> American Identity Movement, BitChute account, accessed July 14, 2020, <https://www.bitchute.com/channel/swVdkWPdGEsX/>.

<sup>253</sup> "AIM's incredible, first demonstration," American Identity Movement, March 12, 2019, <https://www.americanidentitymovement.com/category/activism/>.



- **Recruitment and Propaganda:** Identity Evropa focused its propaganda and recruitment efforts primarily on university campuses, where it sought to start student groups. In 2017, Identity Evropa propaganda appeared on more than 30 college campuses.<sup>254</sup> The group’s membership form invites those U.S. residents “of European, non-Semitic heritage” to join its ranks. Applicants “ready to make a real difference for the future of our people” are interviewed over video conference call.<sup>255</sup> The group used as its logo an old European design of a dragon’s eye with a “Y” inside, which it claims represents the choice between good and evil.<sup>256</sup>

AIM portrays itself as a patriotic American organization that seeks to protect the American cultural identity. The group’s language in its propaganda specifically promotes American nationalism and references ideas such as “the preservation of America’s historical demographics in the face of mass immigration” and protecting “American industry and workers, rather than benefit globalist interests.”<sup>257</sup> AIM has adopted patriotic colors and symbolism in its propaganda. Its logo features a bald eagle and shield decorated with stars colored in red, white, and blue. AIM has created flyers and shirts with its logo and other imagery reminiscent of U.S. propaganda during World War II.<sup>258</sup> AIM’s language is couched in patriotism. It uses slogans such as “Defend America!” to promote its anti-immigration positions. The group proudly displays American flags to give the illusion that they are supporting the country rather than xenophobia.<sup>259</sup> AIM claims to reject extremism, political violence, and all forms of supremacy in favor of “peacefully and lawfully” effecting change through activism and popular protest.<sup>260</sup> Despite its claims of rejecting supremacy, AIM’s rhetoric firmly supports the preservation of what it considers to be the white identity of America.<sup>261</sup>

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<sup>254</sup> Patrick Cines, “White ‘Identitarian’ Group Identity Evropa Considers Seeking Student Org Representation,” Onward State, April 13, 2017, <https://onwardstate.com/2017/04/13/meet-the-white-identitarian-group-here-at-penn-state-thats-growing-in-numbers/>; “ADL: White Supremacists Making Unprecedented Effort on U.S. College Campuses to Spread Their Message, Recruit,” Anti-Defamation League, April 24, 2017, <https://www.adl.org/news/press-releases/adl-white-supremacists-making-unprecedented-effort-on-us-college-campuses-to>.

<sup>255</sup> “Join Us,” Identity Evropa, accessed August 25, 2017, <https://www.identityevropa.com/apply.html>.

<sup>256</sup> Matt Pearce, “A guide to some of the far-right symbols seen in Charlottesville,” *Los Angeles Times*, August 14, 2017, <http://www.latimes.com/nation/la-na-far-right-symbols-20170814-story.html>.

<sup>257</sup> “Five Principles,” American Identity Movement, accessed April 17, 2020, <https://americanidentitymovement.com/five-principles/>.

<sup>258</sup> Patrick Casey, Twitter post, March 9, 2019, 4:13 a.m., <https://twitter.com/PatrickCaseyUSA/status/1104309239483375616>; Patrick Casey, Twitter post, March 9, 2019, 1:43 a.m., <https://twitter.com/PatrickCaseyUSA/status/1104271417233805313>.

<sup>259</sup> “AIM’s incredible, first demonstration,” American Identity Movement, March 12, 2019, <https://www.americanidentitymovement.com/category/activism/>.

<sup>260</sup> “About AIM,” American Identity Movement, accessed March 19, 2019, <https://www.americanidentitymovement.com/about/>.

<sup>261</sup> “Five Principles,” American Identity Movement, accessed April 17, 2020, <https://americanidentitymovement.com/five-principles/>.

AIM accepts donations through various cryptocurrencies as well as checks and money orders sent to its Virginia headquarters.<sup>262</sup> AIM has created a merchandise section on its website selling flags, shirts, mugs, and literature. Like AIM's donations page, the shop prefers cash, check, or money orders.<sup>263</sup>

AIM has also allegedly attempted to use fake Twitter accounts to promote hate toward the group's ideological opponents. Following the death of black man George Floyd by a white police officer in Minnesota in May 2020, protests spread across the United States and often devolved into violent riots. In late May, a Twitter account called @ANTIFA\_US called for further violence. The account claimed to belong to a national organization representing the far left antifa movement, which U.S. President Donald Trump declared should be designated as a terrorist organization for instigating violence during the protests. The Twitter account released tweets such as "Tonight we say 'F--- The City' and we move into the residential areas... the white hoods.... and we take what's ours..." Twitter suspended the account after it called for violence, but an investigation by Twitter found that the account was actually linked to AIM, not antifa, in an attempt to sow further public division and opposition to antifa. Though Identity Evropa transitioned to AIM in 2019, Twitter specifically linked the fraudulent account to Identity Evropa. According to Twitter, the account violated the platform's policy against platform manipulation and spam.<sup>264</sup> Twitter had previously suspended both AIM and Identity Evropa's accounts. AIM denied the allegations and called the individual in question an Internet troll who never belonged to Identity Evropa or AIM.<sup>265</sup>

- **Violent Activities:** Identity Evropa members have been involved in violent confrontations during several far-right rallies across the country. AIM officially rejects violence and its members have not been involved in violent activities.
  - During an August 7, 2017, rally in Portland, Oregon, members of Identity Evropa were reportedly responsible for violent confrontations with counter-protesters.<sup>266</sup>
  - During an April 15, 2017, anti-Trump rally in Berkeley, California, Identity Evropa counter-protesters reportedly verbally and physically assaulted protesters in attempts to instigate violence. Damigo was filmed personally punching a protester in the face. Students at California State University at Stanislaus, where

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<sup>262</sup> "Donate," American Identity Movement, accessed June 11, 2020,

<https://americanidentitymovement.com/donate/>.

<sup>263</sup> "Shop," American Identity Movement, accessed June 11, 2020, <https://americanidentitymovement.com/shop/>.

<sup>264</sup> Ben Collins, Brandy Zadrozny, and Emmanuelle Saliba, "White nationalist group posing as antifa called for violence on Twitter," NBC News, June 1, 2020, <https://www.nbcnews.com/tech/security/twitter-takes-down-washington-protest-disinformation-bot-behavior-n1221456>; Nicholas Bogel-Burroughs and Sandra E. Garcia, "What Is Antifa, the Movement Trump Wants to Declare a Terror Group?," *New York Times*, May 31, 2020, <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/02/us/what-antifa-trump.html>.

<sup>265</sup> "Past CEO of Identity Evropa – Twitter's Claims About Identity Evropa and Fake Antifa Account Are False and Irresponsible," American Identity Movement, June 2, 2020, <https://americanidentitymovement.com/2020/06/02/twitters-claims-about-identity-evropa-and-fake-antifa-account-are-false-and-irresponsible/>.

<sup>266</sup> "What You Need To Know About Saturday's 'Patriot' Rally In San Francisco," Southern Poverty Law Center, August 25, 2017, <https://www.splcenter.org/hatewatch/2017/08/25/what-you-need-know-about-saturdays-patriot-rally-san-francisco>.

Damigo is a student, signed a petition to the university stating they do not feel safe with Damigo on campus.<sup>267</sup>

- **Rhetoric:**

- Patrick Casey, blog post, March 20, 2020: “The Republican Party, while occasionally – and perhaps miraculously – boasting sincere patriots among its elected officials, is best understood as controlled opposition. While the Democratic Party at this point explicitly supports open borders, transgender ideology, and anti-white hatred, the GOP exists to ensure that opposition thereto never goes anywhere. And given the cultural shift leftward, the Republican Party must only buy time, knowing that eventually conservatives will begrudgingly adopt positions previously considered liberal.”<sup>268</sup>
- Patrick Casey, American Renaissance conference, May 2019: “We’re looking at America’s white majority becoming a minority around 2040 or 2050, it’s hard to pinpoint exactly when it’s going to happen, but it’s important to point out that no one voted for this and most white people in this country do not want that.”<sup>269</sup>
- Patrick Casey, American Renaissance conference, May 2019: “There’s a lot of historical and sociological evidence that indicates that mass immigration – diversity in particular – reduce levels of trust.”<sup>270</sup>
- AIM website, accessed March 18, 2019: “We acknowledge that identity plays a central role in human affairs. Identity comes in many forms and is often the source of much social conflict. Like it or not, identity politics are the norm in multicultural societies. We staunchly defend the preservation of America’s historical demographics in the face of mass immigration, and are opposed to the demonization of and discrimination against America’s white majority.”<sup>271</sup>
- AIM website, accessed March 18, 2019: “We see America’s currently ruling elites as hostile to the historical people, culture, and identity of America. Our ultimate goal is thus a shift in the American power structure. So long as we’re ruled by hostile individuals and institutions, America will not be made great again.”<sup>272</sup>

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<sup>267</sup> Daniel Politi, “White Supremacist Caught on Video Sucker Punching a Woman at Berkeley Protest,” Slate, April 16, 2017,

[http://www.slate.com/blogs/the\\_slatest/2017/04/16/white\\_supremacist\\_caught\\_on\\_video\\_sucker\\_punching\\_a\\_woman\\_at\\_berkeley\\_protest.html](http://www.slate.com/blogs/the_slatest/2017/04/16/white_supremacist_caught_on_video_sucker_punching_a_woman_at_berkeley_protest.html); Lindsey Bever, “A white supremacist is accused of punching a protester. Classmates say he makes them feel ‘unsafe,’” *Washington Post*, April 27, 2017, [https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/grade-point/wp/2017/04/27/students-rally-against-hate-speech-and-a-white-supremacist-embroiled-in-berkeley-protests/?utm\\_term=.8c3f1ebb6dcf](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/grade-point/wp/2017/04/27/students-rally-against-hate-speech-and-a-white-supremacist-embroiled-in-berkeley-protests/?utm_term=.8c3f1ebb6dcf).

<sup>268</sup> Patrick Casey, “Nationalism, Not Globalism,” American Identity Movement, March 20, 2020, <https://americanidentitymovement.com/2020/03/20/nationalism-not-globalism/>.

<sup>269</sup> AJ Abell, “Middle Tennessee conference attendees discuss, defend white advocacy,” Fox 17 Nashville, May 19, 2019, <https://fox17.com/news/local/middle-tennessee-conference-attendees-discuss-defend-white-advocacy>.

<sup>270</sup> AJ Abell, “Middle Tennessee conference attendees discuss, defend white advocacy,” Fox 17 Nashville, May 19, 2019, <https://fox17.com/news/local/middle-tennessee-conference-attendees-discuss-defend-white-advocacy>.

<sup>271</sup> “Our Principles,” American Identity Movement, accessed March 18, 2019, <https://www.americanidentitymovement.com/principles/>.

<sup>272</sup> “Our Principles,” American Identity Movement, accessed March 18, 2019, <https://www.americanidentitymovement.com/principles/>.

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- AIM poster in Richmond, Virginia, March 14, 2019: “Diversity destroys nations.”<sup>273</sup>
- Patrick Casey tweet, March 14, 2019: “The irony, of course, is that the opposite is true—the only institutional discrimination in America is against white people.”<sup>274</sup>
- AIM press release, March 12, 2019: “Americans of European heritage are being demographically replaced as a result of mass immigration.”<sup>275</sup>
- Nathan Damigo, August 27, 2017: “We have lit a beautiful fire that is engulfing the Western world. The existence of our people is not negotiable, and a new order is now emerging as the old paradigm spasms and flails under the weight of its own contradictions.”<sup>276</sup>
- Identity Evropa graphic advertising the Unite the Right rally, July 28, 2017: “You will not replace us”<sup>277</sup>
- Identity Evropa Twitter account, July 15, 2017: “The #WarOnWhites is an imminent threat to the security of our nations and the future of our people. Fight back!”<sup>278</sup>

### League of the South

- **Summary:** Created in 1994, the League of the South is a self-proclaimed “neo-Confederate” group that seeks a second Southern secession and a society dominated by “European Americans.”<sup>279</sup> The League advocates the transformation of southern U.S. states into independent nations in order to protect Southerners of European descent who are “committed to preserving the traditional culture of the South.”<sup>280</sup> The group promotes itself as pro-South and pro-white, and has levied hateful rhetoric against non-Christians and African Americans, among other minorities. The League further claims that it is not a racist organization, as it deems the word “racist” to be “a slur used by anti-Whites.” Instead, the group argues it is “pro-South and pro-White.”<sup>281</sup>

The League of the South has warned supporters about the loss of white, Christian culture in America due to what the group calls the “corrupt and corrupting influence of post-

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<sup>273</sup> American Identity Movement twitter post, March 14, 2019, 4:12, p.m., [https://twitter.com/AIM\\_America/status/1106286966495170560](https://twitter.com/AIM_America/status/1106286966495170560).

<sup>274</sup> Patrick Casey, Twitter post, March 14, 2019, 2:38 p.m., <https://twitter.com/PatrickCaseyUSA/status/1106263391524528128>.

<sup>275</sup> “American Identity Movement’s Inaugural Conference,” American Identity Movement, March 12, 2019, <https://www.americanidentitymovement.com/category/conference/>.

<sup>276</sup> “A Renewal of Leadership,” Identity Evropa, August 29, 2017, <https://www.identityevropa.com/2017-08-27-press-release.html>.

<sup>277</sup> Identity Evropa, Twitter post, July 28, 2017, <https://twitter.com/IdentityEvropa/status/890912720920379392>.

<sup>278</sup> Identity Evropa, Twitter post, July 15, 2017, 8:26 p.m., <https://twitter.com/IdentityEvropa/status/886381556671139840>.

<sup>279</sup> League of the South homepage, accessed August 25, 2017, <http://leagueofthesouth.com/>.

<sup>280</sup> “Frequently Asked Questions,” League of the South, accessed August 25, 2017, <http://leagueofthesouth.com/faqs/>.

<sup>281</sup> “League of the South,” Southern Poverty Law Center, accessed August 23, 2017, <https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/group/league-south>; “Frequently Asked Questions,” League of the South, accessed August 25, 2017, <http://leagueofthesouth.com/faqs/>.

Christian culture in America.”<sup>282</sup> In August 2019, League founder and leader Michael Hill declared that America is in the early stages of a “war for white survival.”<sup>283</sup> He has written that the “Jew-dominated media” and “Jew-dominated White House” condemn any white person who defends himself as a white supremacist.<sup>284</sup> During the League’s June 2017 national conference in Alabama, former KKK leader David Duke said that there has been a “purposeful destruction of our country” and praised the League’s “glorious leader,” Michael Hill.<sup>285</sup>

The League and its founder, Hill, are vehemently anti-Semitic. Hill has singled out Jews as the international puppeteers behind communism,<sup>286</sup> multiculturalism and Third World immigration,<sup>287</sup> and a global agenda to weaken and eventually destroy the white race.<sup>288</sup> According to Hill, “the Jew has used every means at hand to foster anti-White hatred and malice in the minds of non-Whites,” including “the steady increase across the decades of violent black-on-White crime” to create “a actual physical war against Whiteness.”<sup>289</sup>

In February 2017, the League of the South created the Southern Defense Force to “combat this growing leftist menace to our historic Christian civilization.” League of the South founder Michael Hill noted that the League does not promote violence except in “self-defense of life, liberty, and property,” but has called on followers to stand ready by building their firearms and hand-to-hand combat skills. Though Hill officially disavowed the use of violence in an offensive capacity, his inflammatory rhetoric threatens to inspire others to violence, as Hill makes vague and provocative statements such as the assertion that whites will “not only fight back, but relish doing so!”<sup>290</sup>

- **Base of Operations:** Killen, Alabama<sup>291</sup>
- **Website:** [leagueofthesouth.com](http://leagueofthesouth.com)

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<sup>282</sup> “League of the South,” Southern Poverty Law Center, <https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/group/league-south>.

<sup>283</sup> Michael Hill, “The War on Whiteness,” League of the South, August 6, 2019, <https://leagueofthesouth.com/the-war-on-whiteness/>.

<sup>284</sup> Michael Hill, “The War on Whiteness,” League of the South, August 6, 2019, <https://leagueofthesouth.com/the-war-on-whiteness/>.

<sup>285</sup> Harold Crews, “Dr. David Duke - The Keynote Address,” YouTube video, posted July 2, 2017, 1:55:00, [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZG\\_Q3FctE2I](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZG_Q3FctE2I); “Dr. David Duke’s keynote address,” League of the South, accessed August 25, 2017, <http://leagueofthesouth.com/dr-david-dukes-keynote-address/>.

<sup>286</sup> Michael Hill, “Some thoughts on the current crisis in the streets,” League of the South, June 1, 2020, <https://leagueofthesouth.com/some-thoughts-on-the-current-crisis-in-the-streets/>.

<sup>287</sup> Michael Hill, “Some thoughts on the current crisis in the streets,” League of the South, June 1, 2020, <https://leagueofthesouth.com/some-thoughts-on-the-current-crisis-in-the-streets/>.

<sup>288</sup> Michael Hill, “Some thoughts on the current crisis in the streets,” League of the South, June 1, 2020, <https://leagueofthesouth.com/some-thoughts-on-the-current-crisis-in-the-streets/>.

<sup>289</sup> Michael Hill, “Some thoughts on the current crisis in the streets,” League of the South, June 1, 2020, <https://leagueofthesouth.com/some-thoughts-on-the-current-crisis-in-the-streets/>.

<sup>290</sup> Michael Hill, “Charlotte and negro violence,” League of the South, September 22, 2016, <http://leagueofthesouth.com/charlotte-and-negro-violence/>.

<sup>291</sup> League of the South homepage, accessed August 25, 2017, <http://leagueofthesouth.com/>.

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- **Social Media Presence:** [Facebook](#) (suspended), [YouTube](#) (suspended), [Facebook](#) (Arkansas), [Facebook](#) (Florida), [Gab](#) (Florida), [VK](#) (Florida), [YouTube](#) (Florida), [Facebook](#) (North Florida), [Gab](#) (North Florida), [Facebook](#) (Virginia)
- **Leadership:** Michael Hill is the League of the South’s founder and president.<sup>292</sup>
- **Membership Size and Relevance:** The League of the South claims to maintain chapters in 16 states across the United States.<sup>293</sup> The group’s membership has significantly increased since its founding in 1994. By 1998, the League of the South claimed to have recruited 4,000 members. By 2000, it reportedly had roughly 9,000 members, and in the early 2000s, that number allegedly grew to 15,000 members nationwide. In 2009, Michael Hill claimed that his organization had 25,000 members, but far-right watchdog groups doubted the veracity of this claim.<sup>294</sup> As of August 25, 2017, more than 7,500 people followed the League of the South’s Facebook page, which has since been suspended.<sup>295</sup> The group’s main YouTube channel has received more than 50,000 views as of April 2, 2018.<sup>296</sup> The page has since been suspended. The YouTube and Facebook pages of individual League of the South chapters remain active.

In the mid-2000s, the League of the South splintered as many group leaders defected over Hill’s increasingly overt racism. However, the group has adapted to internal fissures by mobilizing new followers around mainstream political issues such as immigration and “traditional marriage.”<sup>297</sup>

- **Recruitment and Propaganda:** The League of the South appeals to Southern pride and nationalism by propagandizing that the Southern way of life is under threat. Those who join the group are told that they are joining “a group of Southern Nationalist men and women who are not content to sit by and allow their land, liberty, and culture be destroyed by an alien regime and ideology.”<sup>298</sup> The League of the South offers membership rates ranging from \$30 for students to \$1,000 for “sustaining” members.<sup>299</sup> To spread its propaganda, the League maintains a social-media presence through Facebook and YouTube. It also hosts annual conferences and distributes newsletters. The League has also set up an online store to sell uniforms, shirts, baby clothes, mugs, totes, and other merchandise brandishing the group’s name and logo. The store is hosted by the League’s Florida chapter through a WordPress website.<sup>300</sup>

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<sup>292</sup> League of the South homepage, accessed August 25, 2017, <http://leagueofthesouth.com/>.

<sup>293</sup> “State Chapters,” League of the South, accessed April 17, 2020, <https://leagueofthesouth.com/state-chapters/>.

<sup>294</sup> “League of the South,” Southern Poverty Law Center, <https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/group/league-south>.

<sup>295</sup> League of the South Facebook page, accessed August 25, 2017, <https://www.facebook.com/leagueofthesouth/>;  
League of the South Facebook page, accessed September 12, 2017, <https://www.facebook.com/leagueofthesouth/>.

<sup>296</sup> “Dixienet II,” YouTube Channel, accessed April 2, 2018, <https://www.youtube.com/user/DixieNetII/featured>.

<sup>297</sup> “League of the South,” Southern Poverty Law Center, <https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/group/league-south>.

<sup>298</sup> Michael Hill, “What is the League of the South?” League of the South, accessed August 25, 2017, <http://leagueofthesouth.com/about/>.

<sup>299</sup> “Join the Cause!” League of the South, accessed August 25, 2017, <http://leagueofthesouth.com/application/>.

<sup>300</sup> “Southern Nationalist Shirts & Patches,” Florida League of the South, accessed June 11, 2020, <https://patches.freeflorida.org/>.

The League of the South also provides multilingual international editions of its propaganda in Chinese, Hungarian, and Russian.<sup>301</sup>

- **Violent Activities:** At least one member of the League of the South has been linked to political violence and domestic terrorism plots.
  - In 2004, police arrested Michael Tubbs, a leading activist in Florida and former soldier, and found several caches of arms and explosives along with a target list that included newspapers, television stations, and Jewish-owned businesses.<sup>302</sup> After his arrest, news outlets discovered that Tubbs had a history of violence and had robbed fellow soldiers at gunpoint. Despite the arrest, Michael Hill and other leaders allowed Tubbs to remain a member.<sup>303</sup>
- **Rhetoric:**
  - Michael Hill, blog post, June 1, 2020: “International Jewry has continually pushed for non-White ‘civil rights’ in tandem with open-border, Third World immigration. The target was the White Man—America—for there would be no America as we know it without the White Man.”<sup>304</sup>
  - Michael Hill, blog post, June 1, 2020: “Over the last half century, the Jew has used every means at hand to foster anti-White hatred and malice in the minds of non-Whites. Slowly, as exemplified by the steady increase across the decades of violent black-on-White crime, there unfolded an actual physical war against Whiteness. Attacks on Whites have been justified in the Jew lügenpresse because of slavery, Jim Crow, institutionalized ‘racism,’ etc. Whites are evil oppressors; non-Whites (including the poor Jews, of course) are perpetual victims. And the hatred runs very deep.”<sup>305</sup>
  - Michael Hill, blog post, June 1, 2020: “Seeing that Whites have no champion in government and that they are literally on their own, the Jew has moved his New Red Terror into a fresh, and perhaps final, stage: the Final Solution of the White Problem. I said years ago that the US, if Whites did not take a firm stand, would devolve into Rhodesia/South Africa. That day seems now at hand. If non-Whites can riot, loot, burn cities, and assault and kill people with impunity, why do you think you’ll be safe in your little neighborhood? Do you think they’ll send in heavily-armed troops to protect you when they won’t even fire a shot in defense of their own police stations and city buildings? White will and resistance is what the Jew is now testing.”<sup>306</sup>
  - Michael Hill, blog post, May 26, 2020: “The following article is very important to understanding what anti-White Jews are up to regarding their plans for 2020. In

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<sup>301</sup> League of the South homepage, accessed June 11, 2020, <https://leagueofthesouth.com/>.

<sup>302</sup> “League of the South,” Southern Poverty Law Center, <https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/group/league-south>.

<sup>303</sup> “League of the South,” Southern Poverty Law Center, <https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/group/league-south>.

<sup>304</sup> Michael Hill, “Some thoughts on the current crisis in the streets,” League of the South, June 1, 2020, <https://leagueofthesouth.com/some-thoughts-on-the-current-crisis-in-the-streets/>.

<sup>305</sup> Michael Hill, “Some thoughts on the current crisis in the streets,” League of the South, June 1, 2020, <https://leagueofthesouth.com/some-thoughts-on-the-current-crisis-in-the-streets/>.

<sup>306</sup> Michael Hill, “Some thoughts on the current crisis in the streets,” League of the South, June 1, 2020, <https://leagueofthesouth.com/some-thoughts-on-the-current-crisis-in-the-streets/>.

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- essence, they have launched an all-out attack against Southern/White nationalists using every trick in their satanic book. Fight back and don't let them win!"<sup>307</sup>
- Michael Hill, blog post, February 21, 2020: "Because Jews control the media, there is no danger of 'Hunters' being de-platformed as 'hate.' In fact, those who speak out against this crude piece of vile anti-White propaganda are the ones likely to lose access to social media, among other things."<sup>308</sup>
  - Michael Hill, blog post, February 21, 2020: "Having studied Jew behavior for many years, I can say with assurance that there is not another group more hypocritical nor prone to telling lies. After all, Christ Himself called them liars and children of the father of lies (Satan) in John 8:44. Their modus operandi for the last 2000 years has been to play the victim, accusing their enemies (chiefly White Christians) of doing to them (Jews) what they themselves plan on doing to Whites."<sup>309</sup>
  - Michael Hill, blog post, February 21, 2020: "The Holocaust, the world's biggest and most lucrative con game, has become a religion in the West, Auschwitz taking the place of Calvary and the eternally-victimized Jew taking the place of Christ. The Holocaust has been used to cover a multitude of Jew sins, from the Holodomor (a true holocaust) to the current attempt to destroy all White countries through massive non-White immigration and the demonization of Whites who oppose such as 'White nationalists' or White supremacists.' In the end, the Jew does to you exactly what he accuses you of having done to him. So when he speaks of a real holocaust, you can be sure that he intends for you to be the victim, White Man."<sup>310</sup>
  - Michael Hill, blog post, August 21, 2019: "Historically, Jews have propagated virulent anti-White and anti-Christian ideas."<sup>311</sup>
  - Michael Hill, blog post, August 21, 2019: "The biggest temporal threat to Jew world hegemony, and hence the primary target for their 'culture of critique,' is a resurgence of nationalism among Whites, especially White Christians, and especially in the American South. Blood and soil nationalism, meaning an organic system in which a racially- and culturally-distinct people inhabit a certain geographical territory and seek their own particular interests to the exclusion of other 'out groups' (especially Jews and other non-Whites) is anathema to the international Jew . . . except when it comes to the ethno-nationalist state of Israel."<sup>312</sup>
  - Michael Hill, August 6, 2019: "We are in the early stages of a war for White survival. As Southern nationalists, we will do our work for the survival and prosperity of our people on the lands we love—Dixie. From the plains of Texas, to

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<sup>307</sup> Michael Hill, "Jews scheming against nationalists," League of the South, May 26, 2020, <https://leagueofthesouth.com/jews-scheming-against-nationalists/>.

<sup>308</sup> Michael Hill, "Hunters," League of the South, February 21, 2020, <https://leagueofthesouth.com/hunters/>.

<sup>309</sup> Michael Hill, "Hunters," League of the South, February 21, 2020, <https://leagueofthesouth.com/hunters/>.

<sup>310</sup> Michael Hill, "Hunters," League of the South, February 21, 2020, <https://leagueofthesouth.com/hunters/>.

<sup>311</sup> Michael Hill, "The New Red Terror: Part Two," League of the South, August 21, 2019, <https://leagueofthesouth.com/the-new-red-terror-part-two/>.

<sup>312</sup> Michael Hill, "The New Red Terror: Part Two," League of the South, August 21, 2019, <https://leagueofthesouth.com/the-new-red-terror-part-two/>.



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- the hills of Alabama, to the bluegrass of Kentucky, and every place in between, we will defend our patrimony like the blessing it is.”<sup>313</sup>
- Michael Hill, blog post March 28, 2017: “With each passing day, we move closer to open conflict in America—civil war, if you will—between the forces of Western Civilization (which is founded on a biblical understanding of nationalism) and the forces of Judeo-Marxism or godless international leftism in general.”<sup>314</sup>
  - Michael Hill, blog post, September 22, 2016: “Feral negroes and those puppeteers who control their actions had best be careful not to take their street theater too far from the urban kraals in which it has thus far been confined. When they hit the suburbs, the small towns, and the rural areas of the South, there is going to be a surprise awaiting them: white people who not only fight back, but relish doing so!”<sup>315</sup>
  - Michael Hill, blog post, August 18, 2016: “I remember a time when I felt comfortable pretty much everywhere I went, from the rural, the suburban, to the urban. And the reason was simple: the white European man was clearly in control of all those areas. I never thought of taking a pistol with me when I went to downtown Birmingham, or Memphis, or Atlanta. The South, in particular, was still thoroughly White Man’s Land (but that was slowly changing because of the federal government’s involvement in forcing “civil rights” for negroes down our throats).”<sup>316</sup>
  - Michael Hill, blog post, July 12, 2016: “If you put every negro in America in California or Texas with its present great wealth and infrastructure, those places would turn into uncivilized hell holes in no time at all. Negroes cannot maintain white civilization, and they surely cannot build it on their own.”<sup>317</sup>
  - League of the South board member Jack Kershaw, 1998: “Somebody needs to say a good word for slavery. Where in the world are the Negroes better off today than in America?”<sup>318</sup>
  - Frequently Asked Questions, League of the South website, undated: “‘Racist’ is a slur used by anti-Whites. We are pro-South and pro-White.”<sup>319</sup>

### National Socialist Movement

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<sup>313</sup> Michael Hill, “The War on Whiteness,” League of the South, August 6, 2019, <https://leagueofthesouth.com/the-war-on-whiteness/>.

<sup>314</sup> Michael Hill, “The coming civil war in America,” League of the South, March 28, 2017, <http://leagueofthesouth.com/the-coming-civil-war-in-america/>.

<sup>315</sup> Michael Hill, “Charlotte and negro violence,” League of the South, September 22, 2016, <http://leagueofthesouth.com/charlotte-and-negro-violence/>.

<sup>316</sup> Michael Hill, “Michael Hill: My pledge of allegiance,” League of the South, August 18, 2016, <http://leagueofthesouth.com/michael-hill-my-pledge-of-allegiance/>.

<sup>317</sup> Michael Hill, “A little race reality,” League of the South, July 12, 2016, <http://leagueofthesouth.com/a-little-race-reality/>.

<sup>318</sup> “League of the South,” Southern Poverty Law Center, <https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/group/league-south>.

<sup>319</sup> “Most Frequently Asked Questions about The League of the South,” League of the South, June 11, 2020, <https://leagueofthesouth.com/faqs/>.

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**Summary:** The National Socialist Movement (NSM) is a prominent neo-Nazi group that has directed extremist, incendiary rhetoric toward Jews and other minorities while supporting violence in pursuit of its political goal of “the union of all Whites into a greater America on the basis of the right of national self-determination.”<sup>320</sup> The Southern Poverty Law Center identifies the NSM as the largest neo-Nazi movement in the United States.<sup>321</sup> The NSM bills itself as “America’s premier white civil rights organization.”<sup>322</sup> Though the NSM officially rejects violence, the group has declared its intention to defend itself.<sup>323</sup> The NSM acknowledges that Adolf Hitler created Nazism in Germany, but believes that it can be applied anywhere. The movement believes society promotes a “big lie” of equality among the races, and “the White Race” is “the most advanced and progress producing race on earth.” The NSM believes that the white race faces extinction through race mixing as well as violence. To that end, the NSM calls for street demonstrations, rallies, and marches in order to spread its message, as it believes that the mainstream media is dominated by Jews.<sup>324</sup>

In February 2019, black activist James Stern replaced longtime leader Jeff Schoep as president of the NSM. Schoep reportedly sought to disband the group, but Stern convinced Schoep to sign it over to him instead. Schoep claimed that he was tricked into the transfer. Stern has promised to render the group impotent rather than allow Schoep to disband it, which would allow somebody else to later revive the group.<sup>325</sup> Other members of the NSM have tried to wrest control away from Stern. Stern died of cancer in October 2019, leaving the NSM’s future in limbo. Schoep has since become an anti-extremism consultant and speaker.<sup>326</sup>

- **Base of Operations:** Kissimmee, Florida<sup>327</sup>
- **Website:** [www.nsm88.org](http://www.nsm88.org)
- **Social Media Presence:** [YouTube \(Suspended\)](#)
- **Leadership:** Commander Jeff Schoep was NSM’s founder and national director. Other prominent leaders include Captain Brian Culpepper, public relations, and Captain Butch Urban, chief of staff.<sup>328</sup> Black activist James Stern took over leadership of the NSM in

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<sup>320</sup> “25 points of American National Socialism” National Socialist Movement, <http://www.nsm88.org/25points/25pointseagl.html>.

<sup>321</sup> “National Socialist Movement,” Southern Poverty Law Center, August 16, 2017, <https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/group/national-socialist-movement>.

<sup>322</sup> National Socialist Movement homepage, accessed August 24, 2017, <http://www.nsm88.org/>.

<sup>323</sup> Lois Beckett, “Armed neo-Nazis prepare for potential clash in small Kentucky town,” *The Guardian*, April 29, 2017, <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2017/apr/29/neo-nazi-rally-pikeville-kentucky-anti-fascist>.

<sup>324</sup> “Frequently Asked Questions,” National Socialist Movement, accessed August 25, 2017, <http://www.nsm88.org/faqs/frequently%20asked%20questions%20about%20national%20socialism.pdf>.

<sup>325</sup> “Black activist says he took over neo-Nazi group to kill it,” Associated Press, March 2, 2019, <https://www.apnews.com/18924fe2da834e49a9aad47201937b12>.

<sup>326</sup> Neil Genzlinger, “James Stern, Who Disrupted a Racist Group, Dies at 55,” *New York Times*, November 6, 2019, <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/11/06/us/james-stern-dead.html>.

<sup>327</sup> “National Officers & Departments,” National Socialist Movement, accessed April 17, 2020, <http://www.nsm88.org/contact/index.htm>.

<sup>328</sup> “National Officers & Departments,” National Socialist Movement, accessed August 24, 2017, <http://www.nsm88.org/contact/index.htm>.

February 2019.<sup>329</sup> The following month, Schoep issued a press release that Stern had no affiliation with NSM and Schoep had appointed former chief of staff Burt Colucci as the group's new commander.<sup>330</sup> Colucci launched a legal battle for control of the NSM and its website. Stern died of cancer in October 2019, leaving the group's future uncertain.<sup>331</sup> In addition to Colucci's role as party leader/commander, NSM claims Butch Urban is its chief of staff and Harry Hughes is head of its public relations department.<sup>332</sup>

- **Membership Size and Relevance:** NSM reportedly had 40 dues-paying members nationwide as of 2018, according to former outreach coordinator Matthew Heimbach.<sup>333</sup> NSM's total nationwide membership is unknown. As of 2018, the group has 61 local chapters in 35 states and is the largest neo-Nazi group in America.<sup>334</sup> The group also claims to have chapters in the United Kingdom, Italy, Estonia, New Zealand, and Sweden, with a new chapter planned in South Africa.<sup>335</sup> On YouTube, the group had 1,020 subscribers and 149 videos as of January 2, 2018, but has since been suspended.<sup>336</sup>

In 2016, NSM leader Jeff Schoep created a national far-right alliance called the Aryan Nationalist Alliance (ANA), which included neo-Nazis, racist skinheads, and Klansmen. Schoep saw the alliance as an opportunity for NSM to gain more acceptance among the far right.<sup>337</sup> The Traditionalist Worker Party joined the coalition that November and ANA rebranded as the Nationalist Front. The League of the South joined the Nationalist Front in April 2017. The Nationalist Front has since held several rallies across the United States, attracting a few dozen supporters at each event. The Nationalist Front calls for the creation of separate, independent ethnostates in North America for each racial group.<sup>338</sup> TWP collapsed in March 2018 and League of the South pulled out of the Nationalist Front shortly after, leaving the coalition's future in doubt.<sup>339</sup>

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<sup>329</sup> "Black activist says he took over neo-Nazi group to kill it," Associated Press, March 2, 2019, <https://www.apnews.com/18924fe2da834e49a9aad47201937b12>.

<sup>330</sup> "Setting the Record Straight," National Socialist Movement, March 6, 2019, [http://www.nsm88.org/press/nsm-JS\\_press-release\\_march\\_6\\_2019.htm](http://www.nsm88.org/press/nsm-JS_press-release_march_6_2019.htm).

<sup>331</sup> Adam Popescu, "Why a Black Preacher Is Fighting for Control of a Neo-Nazi Group," *New York Times*, July 23, 2019, <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/07/23/us/national-socialist-movement-james-hart-stern.html>; Neil Genzlinger, "James Stern, Who Disrupted a Racist Group, Dies at 55," *New York Times*, November 6, 2019, <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/11/06/us/james-stern-dead.html>.

<sup>332</sup> "National Officers and Departments," National Socialist Movement, accessed July 14, 2020, <https://www.nsm88.org/contact/index.htm>.

<sup>333</sup> Michael Kunzelman, "Neo-Nazi group's leader is black man who vows to dissolve it," Associated Press, March 1, 2019, <https://www.apnews.com/e3e80a2036994e71b0c4b331473734d1>.

<sup>334</sup> "National Socialist Movement," Southern Poverty Law Center, August 16, 2017, <https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/group/national-socialist-movement>.

<sup>335</sup> "Contacts by State," National Socialist Movement, accessed July 14, 2020, <http://www.nsm88.org/units/contact.html>.

<sup>336</sup> "NSM Media TV," YouTube Channel, accessed January 2, 2018, <https://www.youtube.com/user/LeniAndJoeTV/featured>; "NSM Media TV," YouTube Channel, accessed April 2, 2018, <https://www.youtube.com/user/LeniAndJoeTV/featured>.

<sup>337</sup> Vegas Tenold, *Everything You Love Will Burn* (New York: Nation Books, 2018), 157.

<sup>338</sup> "National Socialist Movement/Nationalist Front," Anti-Defamation League, accessed October 15, 2018, <https://www.adl.org/resources/backgrounders/national-socialist-movementnationalist-front>.

<sup>339</sup> Brett Barrouquere, "Days after guilty plea, Matthew Heimbach re-emerges in new alliance with National Socialist Movement," Southern Poverty Law Center, September 24, 2018,

- **Recruitment and Propaganda:** The NSM’s main goal is to “secure the existence of our people and a future for White children.”<sup>340</sup> NSM’s *25 Points of American National Socialism*” manifesto also contains anti-Semitic rhetoric and insists that NSM’s process of nationalization will “remove the Jewish, internationalist, and capitalist stranglehold on information and resources and put these to work for the benefit of the nation and people, not international stockholders or Jewish oligarchs.”<sup>341</sup>

The NSM’s manifesto, “25 Points of American National Socialism,” details the hate group’s goal of securing “freedom for the White population of North America through the principle of self-determination.”<sup>342</sup> The manifesto calls for an end to all immigration to the United States and a series of economic changes, including the dissolution and nationalization of corporations. The manifesto also calls for the abolishment of the U.S. healthcare system and replacing it with universal healthcare. At the same time, the manifesto is peppered with racist and anti-Semitic language blaming immigrants, non-whites, and Jews for societal and political problems in the United States.<sup>343</sup>

The NSM requires its members to be at least 18 years old, but it also maintains a youth wing called the Viking Youth Corps for children between the ages of 14 and 17. The program is open to children of NSM members who are of pure European descent. The NSM refuses membership to children with Jewish or mixed-race bloodlines.<sup>344</sup> The NSM previously used the swastika as its symbol, believing that it represents the white race just as the Star of David represents Jews.<sup>345</sup> The NSM also publishes a print and online magazine of the same name.<sup>346</sup>

In November 2016, the NSM abandoned the swastika as its symbol. It instead adopted a pre-Roman alphabet symbol that had also been used by the Nazis. According to Schoep, the move was “an attempt to become more integrated and more mainstream.”<sup>347</sup> In

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<https://www.splcenter.org/hatewatch/2018/09/24/days-after-guilty-plea-matthew-heimbach-re-emerges-new-alliance-national-socialist-movement>.

<sup>340</sup> “Frequently Asked Questions,” National Socialist Movement, accessed April 17, 2020,

<https://www.nsm88.org/faqs/nsm%20faq%20v.4.pdf>.

<sup>341</sup> “25point plan,” National Socialist Movement, accessed April 17, 2020,

<https://www.nsm88.org/25points/25PontsComplete.pdf>.

<sup>342</sup> “25point plan,” National Socialist Movement, accessed April 17, 2020,

<https://www.nsm88.org/25points/25PontsComplete.pdf>.

<sup>343</sup> “25point plan,” National Socialist Movement, accessed April 17, 2020,

<https://www.nsm88.org/25points/25PontsComplete.pdf>.

<sup>344</sup> “What a Viking Youth Is,” National Socialist Movement, accessed August 25, 2017,

<http://www.nsm88.org/youth/vycjoin.html>.

<sup>345</sup> “Frequently Asked Questions,” National Socialist Movement, accessed August 25, 2017,

<http://www.nsm88.org/faqs/frequently%20asked%20questions%20about%20national%20socialism.pdf>.

<sup>346</sup> “NSM Party Magazine,” National Socialist Movement, accessed August 24, 2017,

<http://www.nsm88.org/stormtrooper/index.html>.

<sup>347</sup> Serge F. Kovalski, Julie Turkewitz, Joseph Goldstein, and Dan Barry, “An Alt-Right Makeover Shrouds the Swastikas,” *New York Times*, December 10, 2016, <https://www.nytimes.com/2016/12/10/us/alt-right-national-socialist-movement-white-supremacy.html>.

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September 2018, former Traditionalist Worker Party leader Matthew Heimbach joined the NSM as its community outreach director.<sup>348</sup>

- **Violent Activities:** NSM officially disavows violent tactics.<sup>349</sup> Nonetheless, NSM members have been involved in violent activities.
  - On October 23, 2017, NSM member Taylor Michael Wilson disabled the engine and internal lights of an Amtrak train traveling through Nebraska. Wilson was carrying a bag with a handgun, ammunition, a knife, a gas mask, a hammer, and NSM ID cards. Crew members subdued Wilson in the engine room. Investigators searching Wilson’s Missouri home in December 2017 found Nazi propaganda and unregistered firearms. A search of Wilson’s emails revealed he had purchased a ticket to Syria in order to join ISIS the previous year. Wilson told a cellmate that he had taken acid prior to boarding the Amtrak train and wanted to “save the train from black people.”<sup>350</sup> Wilson pled guilty in July 2018 and was sentenced to 14 years in prison that October. He claimed that he was high on acid and did not intend to hurt anybody.<sup>351</sup>
  - On April 16, 2011, members of the National Socialist Movement fought with counter-demonstrators after the latter threw rocks at a church where the group was holding a meeting.<sup>352</sup> No NSM members were arrested by the police.
- **Rhetoric:**
  - NSM Frequently Asked Questions: “The first step is to awaken White people the world over to their own racial identity and to give them a profound appreciation of who they are. This is a huge undertaking! But it must be done and the NSM is doing everything in its power to do it! Conducting street demonstrations, marches and public rallies are all great ways to awaken and enable our racial family.”<sup>353</sup>
  - NSM Frequently Asked Questions: “In the U.S. we’ve suffered under a false economy since the establishment of the unconstitutional Federal Reserve. Under this Jew infected system, the Jews and bankers charge the U.S. for its own money

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<sup>348</sup> Brett Barrouquere, “Days after guilty plea, Matthew Heimbach re-emerges in new alliance with National Socialist Movement,” Southern Poverty Law Center, September 24, 2018, <https://www.splcenter.org/hatewatch/2018/09/24/days-after-guilty-plea-matthew-heimbach-re-emerges-new-alliance-national-socialist-movement>.

<sup>349</sup> “Welcome to the Commander's Desk Commander Jeff Schoep's Blog,” National Socialist Movement, accessed August 25, 2017, <http://www.nsm88.org/commandersdesk/>.

<sup>350</sup> Shane Croucher, “Armed Neo-Nazi’s Amtrak Rampage in Nebraska meant to ‘Save the Train from Black People,’” *Newsweek*, July 13, 2018, <https://www.newsweek.com/armed-neo-nazis-amtrak-rampage-nebraska-meant-save-train-black-people-1021856>.

<sup>351</sup> Lori Pilger, “Prosecutor: Missouri man who stopped Amtrak train in Nebraska ‘presents a very real and present danger,’” *Lincoln Journal Star*, October 5, 2018, [https://journalstar.com/news/local/911/prosecutor-missouri-man-who-stopped-amtrak-train-in-nebraska-presents/article\\_0d092ad9-5038-531f-8dd6-3872031ccbf7.html](https://journalstar.com/news/local/911/prosecutor-missouri-man-who-stopped-amtrak-train-in-nebraska-presents/article_0d092ad9-5038-531f-8dd6-3872031ccbf7.html).

<sup>352</sup> Matt Fair, “Neo-Nazi rally at N.J. Statehouse is outnumbered by counter-protests,” *The Times of Trenton*, April 17, 2011, [http://www.nj.com/mercer/index.ssf/2011/04/neo-nazi\\_demonstration\\_at\\_nj\\_s.html](http://www.nj.com/mercer/index.ssf/2011/04/neo-nazi_demonstration_at_nj_s.html).

<sup>353</sup> “Frequently Asked Questions,” National Socialist Movement, accessed August 25, 2017, <http://www.nsm88.org/faqs/frequently%20asked%20questions%20about%20national%20socialism.pdf>.

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- through interest! Under the NSM we will abolish the Federal Reserve and have our money based on the quality of the goods produced by the nation.”<sup>354</sup>
- NSM Frequently Asked Questions: The unnatural power of the Jews desperately needs to be broken. Through dedication and lots of hard work, the National Socialist Movement will bring us to victory! Due to the uncompromising nature and reason based principles of National Socialism, it is ONLY National Socialism that will succeed! When it is a fight for the very existence of our People and a future for White children, there is no other alternative! Victory or death!!!<sup>355</sup>
  - Jeff Schoep: “When ... you take a German Shepherd and mix him with a Golden Retriever you have a worthless animal that nobody wants and that isn’t worth anything if you’re trying to breed him or sell him. ... [T]hese degenerates that allow their children to race mix and this sort of thing, they’re destroying the bloodlines of both races.”<sup>356</sup>
  - JT Ready, June 15, 2000: “I do not see the niggers, homosexuals, mexicans, jews, or even child molesters ashamed or afraid to speak their minds and rally, march, post, and be activists for their sick cause. And too many brave men and women died to give me the chance to fight now. I will honor their blood and fight for soil.”<sup>357</sup>

### Traditionalist Worker Party/Traditionalist Youth Network

- **Summary:** The Traditionalist Worker Party (TWP) emerged in 2015 as the political arm of the Traditionalist Youth Network (TYN), which Matthew Parrott and Matthew Heimbach created in 2013. The TWP claimed to be America’s “first political party created by and for working families.”<sup>358</sup> Although the TWP claimed that it opposed racism, it endorsed former KKK leader David Duke for the U.S. Senate, praising his “service of our identity” and his work “against the actual racial supremacists: the Zionists.”<sup>359</sup> The group is guided by the Fourteen Words mantra: “We must secure the existence of our people and a future for White children.”<sup>360</sup> Deceased white supremacist David Lane created the motto, which has been adopted by the TWP and various other

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<sup>354</sup> “Frequently Asked Questions,” National Socialist Movement, accessed August 25, 2017, <http://www.nsm88.org/faqs/frequently%20asked%20questions%20about%20national%20socialism.pdf>.

<sup>355</sup> “Frequently Asked Questions,” National Socialist Movement, accessed August 25, 2017, <http://www.nsm88.org/faqs/frequently%20asked%20questions%20about%20national%20socialism.pdf>.

<sup>356</sup> “National Socialist Movement,” Southern Poverty Law Center, August 16, 2017, <https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/group/national-socialist-movement>.

<sup>357</sup> “National Socialist Movement,” Southern Poverty Law Center, August 16, 2017, <https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/group/national-socialist-movement>.

<sup>358</sup> Traditionalist Worker Party homepage, accessed August 24, 2017, <http://www.tradworker.org/>; “Traditionalist Worker Party,” Southern Poverty Law Center, <https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/group/traditionalist-worker-party>.

<sup>359</sup> “TradWorker Endorses Dr. David Duke for Senate,” Traditionalist Worker Party, August 10, 2016, <https://www.tradworker.org/2016/08/tradworker-endorses-dr-david-duke-for-senate/>.

<sup>360</sup> “25 Points,” Traditionalist Worker Party, accessed March 1, 2018, <https://www.tradworker.org/points/>.

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white nationalist groups.<sup>361</sup> The Fourteen Words are the basis for the TWP's dedication to creating a "sustainable Homeland for our culture, identity, families, and blood."<sup>362</sup>

The Southern Poverty Law Center has dubbed Heimbach a "rising star in the white supremacist world."<sup>363</sup> According to the Anti-Defamation League, Heimbach cites Duke as a major influence.<sup>364</sup> Parrott owns a compound in southern Indiana where he and his son-in-law, Heimbach, lived with other followers. The TWP planned to put forward candidates in Indiana's state and local elections in 2018.<sup>365</sup> Heimbach promoted and attended the August 2017 Unite the Right rally in Charlottesville, Virginia.<sup>366</sup>

The TWP focused its rhetoric on what it termed the pillars of faith, family, and folk. The party called for a rejection of atheism and secularism while claiming its members come from the "traditional faiths of the European people." It promoted what it called traditional family values, and fought for the interests of white Americans, who it says have been "abandoned by the System and actively attacked by globalists and traitorous politicians." The group claims it actively fights for a white homeland in order to secure the future existence of the white people.<sup>367</sup>

The group's leadership fell into disarray in March 2018 after Heimbach was arrested for physical assault against his wife and Parrott, his step-father-in-law. Heimbach is married to Parrott's stepdaughter. On March 13, 2018, Heimbach was arrested after a physical altercation with Parrott following Heimbach's affair with Parrott's wife. Matthew Parrott resigned from TWP following the incident.<sup>368</sup> Parrott told the Daily Beast that because of the public altercation, "people have lost faith in the party on every level."<sup>369</sup> The TWP's website shut down shortly after Parrott's resignation, though its YouTube presence remains active. In September 2018, Heimbach briefly joined the National Socialist

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<sup>361</sup> Brian Palmer, "White Supremacists by the Numbers," Slate, October 29, 2008,

[http://www.slate.com/articles/news\\_and\\_politics/explainer/2008/10/white\\_supremacists\\_by\\_the\\_numbers.html](http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/explainer/2008/10/white_supremacists_by_the_numbers.html).

<sup>362</sup> "25 Points," Traditionalist Worker Party, accessed March 1, 2018, <https://www.tradworker.org/points/>.

<sup>363</sup> "Traditionalist Worker Party," Southern Poverty Law Center, <https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/group/traditionalist-worker-party>.

<sup>364</sup> "Traditionalist Youth Network," Anti-Defamation League, accessed August 24, 2017,

<https://www.adl.org/education/resources/backgrounders/traditionalist-youth-network>.

<sup>365</sup> Shay McAlister, "S. Indiana white nationalists working to shut the door on multicultural America," 2016, WHAS 11 ABC, <http://www.whas11.com/news/special-reports/s-indiana-white-nationalists-working-to-shut-the-door-on-multicultural-america/373394558>.

<sup>366</sup> Allison Carter and Robert King, "What we know about Matthew Heimbach, Indiana white nationalist who helped promote Charlottesville," *Indianapolis Star*, August 15, 2017,

<http://www.indystar.com/story/news/crime/2017/08/15/what-we-know-matthew-heimbach-indiana-white-nationalist-who-helped-promote-charlottesville/568805001/>.

<sup>367</sup> "Party Platform," Traditionalist Worker Party, accessed August 24, 2017, <http://www.tradworker.org/platform/>.

<sup>368</sup> Marwa Eltagouri, "White nationalist leader Matthew Heimbach arrested on domestic battery charges,"

*Washington Post*, March 13, 2018, [https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/post-nation/wp/2018/03/13/white-nationalist-leader-matthew-heimbach-arrested-for-domestic-battery/?utm\\_term=.9680702f43da](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/post-nation/wp/2018/03/13/white-nationalist-leader-matthew-heimbach-arrested-for-domestic-battery/?utm_term=.9680702f43da).

<sup>369</sup> Kelly Weill, "Neo-Nazi Group Implodes Over Love Triangle Turned Trailer Brawl," *Daily Beast*, March 14, 2018, <https://www.thedailybeast.com/matthew-heimbachs-traditional-workers-party-implodes-over-love-triangle-turned-trailer-brawl>.

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Movement as its community outreach director.<sup>370</sup> It remains to be seen whether other leaders will arise to continue the TWP.

- **Base of Operations:** Paoli, Indiana<sup>371</sup>
- **Website:** [www.tradworker.org](http://www.tradworker.org) (defunct)
- **Social Media Presence:** [Twitter \(TYN\)](#) (suspended), [Twitter \(TWP\)](#) (suspended), [Twitter \(Matthew Parrott\)](#) (suspended), [YouTube \(TWP\)](#) (repurposed), [YouTube \(TYN\)](#) (defunct)
- **Leadership:** Matthew Heimbach was the chairman and co-founder of the TWP. Matthew Parrott was the chief information officer and co-founder.<sup>372</sup> Parrott resigned from the TWP in March 2018.<sup>373</sup>
- **Membership Size and Relevance:** The TWP had chapters in Kentucky and Ohio.<sup>374</sup> On YouTube, the group had gathered more than 6,800 subscribers and more than 407,000 channel views as of January 2, 2018.<sup>375</sup> By March 19, 2019, that number had decreased to 5,961.<sup>376</sup> The TYN YouTube channel had more than 55,000 views and 756 subscribers as of January 2, 2018.<sup>377</sup> As of March 19, 2019, the YouTube channel's subscribers had decreased to 729.<sup>378</sup> As of August 2017, the TYN had more than 6,700 Twitter followers.<sup>379</sup> By January 2018, the TYN and TWP Twitter accounts had been suspended.
- **Recruitment and Propaganda:** TWP promotes pro-white and pro-National Socialist propaganda.<sup>380</sup> The TWP and TYN rely on the distribution of printed propaganda materials as well as social media and the group's website. The party's website offers a

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<sup>370</sup> Brett Barrouquere, "Days after guilty plea, Matthew Heimbach re-emerges in new alliance with National Socialist Movement," Southern Poverty Law Center, September 24, 2018,

<https://www.splcenter.org/hatewatch/2018/09/24/days-after-guilty-plea-matthew-heimbach-re-emerges-new-alliance-national-socialist-movement>; Michael Kunzelman, "Neo-Nazi group's leader is black man who vows to dissolve it," Associated Press, March 1, 2019, <https://www.apnews.com/e3e80a2036994e71b0c4b331473734d1>.

<sup>371</sup> Allison Carter and Robert King, "What we know about Matthew Heimbach, Indiana white nationalist who helped promote Charlottesville," *Indianapolis Star*, August 15, 2017,

<http://www.indystar.com/story/news/crime/2017/08/15/what-we-know-matthew-heimbach-indiana-white-nationalist-who-helped-promote-charlottesville/568805001/>.

<sup>372</sup> "Traditionalist Youth Network," Anti-Defamation League, accessed August 24, 2017,

<https://www.adl.org/education/resources/backgrounders/traditionalist-youth-network>.

<sup>373</sup> Marwa Eltagouri, "White nationalist leader Matthew Heimbach arrested on domestic battery charges," *Washington Post*, March 13, 2018, [https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/post-nation/wp/2018/03/13/white-nationalist-leader-matthew-heimbach-arrested-for-domestic-battery/?utm\\_term=.9680702f43da](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/post-nation/wp/2018/03/13/white-nationalist-leader-matthew-heimbach-arrested-for-domestic-battery/?utm_term=.9680702f43da).

<sup>374</sup> Allison Carter and Robert King, "What we know about Matthew Heimbach, Indiana white nationalist who helped promote Charlottesville," *Indianapolis Star*, August 15, 2017,

<http://www.indystar.com/story/news/crime/2017/08/15/what-we-know-matthew-heimbach-indiana-white-nationalist-who-helped-promote-charlottesville/568805001/>.

<sup>375</sup> Traditionalist Worker Party YouTube Channel, accessed January 2, 2018,

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4f8Z2XefBDL421pnNEQH0Q/about>.

<sup>376</sup> Traditionalist Worker Party YouTube Channel, accessed March 19, 2019,

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4f8Z2XefBDL421pnNEQH0Q/about>.

<sup>377</sup> Traditionalist Youth Network YouTube Channel, accessed January 2, 2018,

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCKmcfC22VcMbUMJAAWq9zdw/about>.

<sup>378</sup> Traditionalist Youth Network YouTube Channel, accessed March 19, 2019,

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCKmcfC22VcMbUMJAAWq9zdw/about>.

<sup>379</sup> TradYouth, Twitter page, accessed August 24, 2017, <https://twitter.com/tradyouth>.

<sup>380</sup> "Propaganda," Traditionalist Worker Party, accessed March 1, 2018, <https://www.tradworker.org/propaganda/>.



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propaganda section with multiple pro-Nazi and white nationalist fliers, stickers, and other materials.<sup>381</sup> Followers were encouraged to move to the group's compound in Indiana.<sup>382</sup>

- **Violent Activities:** TWP has not been found to instigate violence. Some of its followers have, however, physically clashed with protesters.
  - A June 2016 TWP rally in Sacramento, California, turned into a brawl between TWP supporters and the Sacramento chapter of the Anti-Fascist Network, leaving 10 people injured.<sup>383</sup>
  - In March 2016, Heimbach physically assaulted a black protester at a Donald Trump campaign rally in Louisville, Kentucky. He was fined and ordered to attend an anger management program.<sup>384</sup>
- **Rhetoric:**
  - TWP: “The organized Jewish community’s record of deceit, duplicity, and double-standards in lobbying against American interests within the American political system is unmatched.”<sup>385</sup>
  - Matthew Heimbach, 2017: “We are the only ideology that can defeat the international Jew and the international capitalist.”<sup>386</sup>
  - Matthew Heimbach, 2016: “White Americans are getting fed up and they’re learning that they must either push back or be pushed down.”<sup>387</sup>
  - Matthew Parrott, 2016: “When critical thinkers are shown what to look for, they become anti-Semites in due time despite themselves, as Jewish subversion of the West is too pervasive and consistently hostile and destructive to remain objective about for long.”<sup>388</sup>
  - Matthew Parrott, 2016: “Homosexuality is universally taboo because it’s dangerous, dysfunctional, and degenerate. It’s not a healthy part of a balanced civilization. Homosexuality’s like shingles, always lingering in the background

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<sup>381</sup> “Propaganda,” Traditionalist Worker Party, accessed August 24, 2017, <http://www.tradworker.org/propaganda/>.

<sup>382</sup> Shay McAlister, “S. Indiana white nationalists working to shut the door on multicultural America,” 2016, WHAS 11 ABC, <http://www.whas11.com/news/special-reports/s-indiana-white-nationalists-working-to-shut-the-door-on-multicultural-america/373394558>.

<sup>383</sup> Tim Stelloh, Christopher Essner, and Jo Ling Kent, “10 Injured During White Nationalist Rally in California Capital,” NBC News, June 26, 2016, <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/six-stabbed-during-white-supremacy-rally-california-n599281>.

<sup>384</sup> “Man charged with harassment over removal of Trump protesters,” Associated Press, May 1, 2017, <https://apnews.com/80eb94c018c5449e8089fd69f51a538b/Man-charged-with-harassment-over-removal-of-Trump-protesters>; “White nationalist leader pleads guilty in Trump rally case,” Associated Press, July 19, 2017, <https://apnews.com/ee14f79ada6947e38e90ee9cac33d999/White-nationalist-leader-pleads-guilty-in-Trump-rally-case>.

<sup>385</sup> “Party Platform,” Traditionalist Worker Party, accessed August 24, 2017, <http://www.tradworker.org/platform/>.

<sup>386</sup> “What is National Socialism,” YouTube Video, posted February 8, 2017, by Traditionalist Workers Party, <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4f8Z2XefBDL421pnNEQH0Q>.

<sup>387</sup> Dan Good, “Reviled racist Matthew Heimbach admits to pushing black woman at Trump rally, blames tension on Black Lives Matter,” *Daily News*, March 2, 2016, <http://www.nydailynews.com/news/national/matthew-heimbach-recalls-pushing-black-woman-trump-rally-article-1.2550304>.

<sup>388</sup> “Traditionalist Worker Party,” Southern Poverty Law Center, <https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/group/traditionalist-worker-party>.

but only flaring up into a real problem when a civilization's somehow weakened or decrepit.”<sup>389</sup>

### **Vanguard America/Patriot Front**

- **Summary:** Vanguard America (VA) is a white nationalist, neo-Nazi group that opposes the idea of a multicultural America and has propagated an extremist, incendiary platform targeting African Americans, immigrants, Jews, and other minorities. Founded in 2014, the group primarily operates online, though its website was suspended in August 2017 by its Internet service provider. However, the site has since reappeared with the same URL as the online home of the Patriot Front. As exemplified by its slogan of “blood and soil,” VA ties national identity with racial identity. The group believes that the United States is meant exclusively for the white nation.<sup>390</sup>

In December 2016, authorities discovered VA fliers posted on the University of Maryland campus.<sup>391</sup> During the 2016-2017 school year, the Anti-Defamation League discovered 32 incidents of VA propaganda on university campuses in Arkansas, California, Florida, Indiana, Maryland, New Jersey, Oregon, Texas, Virginia, and Washington. The group also organizes public rallies in conjunction with other white supremacist groups.<sup>392</sup>

Thomas Ryan Rousseau, leader of VA's Texas chapter, brought a contingent of VA members to the August 2017 Unite the Right rally in Charlottesville, Virginia.<sup>393</sup> Alex Fields, who drove his car into a crowd of counter-protesters, killing one, was photographed wearing VA's uniform during the rally. However, VA later denied that Fields belonged to the movement and condemned the use of violence, reiterating its claim to be a political movement.<sup>394</sup> In late August 2017, Rousseau broke from VA to form the Patriot Front after disagreements with its leaders. Rousseau reportedly seized control of VA's servers and repurposed its website and social media accounts. The Patriot Front has

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<sup>389</sup> “Traditionalist Worker Party,” Southern Poverty Law Center, <https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/group/traditionalist-worker-party>.

<sup>390</sup> “Vanguard America,” Anti-Defamation League, accessed August 28, 2017, <https://www.adl.org/education/resources/backgrounders/vanguard-america>.

<sup>391</sup> Justin Wm. Moyer, “‘We have a right to exist.’ White supremacist fliers reported at the University of Maryland,” *Washington Post*, December 14, 2016, [https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/grade-point/wp/2016/12/14/we-have-a-right-to-exist-white-supremacist-fliers-reported-at-the-university-of-maryland/?tid=a\\_inl&utm\\_term=.744321a59264](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/grade-point/wp/2016/12/14/we-have-a-right-to-exist-white-supremacist-fliers-reported-at-the-university-of-maryland/?tid=a_inl&utm_term=.744321a59264).

<sup>392</sup> “Vanguard America,” Anti-Defamation League, accessed August 28, 2017, <https://www.adl.org/education/resources/backgrounders/vanguard-america>.

<sup>393</sup> “Patriot Front,” Anti-Defamation League, accessed December 27, 2017, <https://www.adl.org/education/resources/backgrounders/patriot-front>.

<sup>394</sup> Justin Wm. Moyer and Lindsey Bever, “Vanguard America, a white supremacist group, denies Charlottesville ramming suspect was a member,” *Washington Post*, August 15, 2017, [https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/vanguard-america-a-white-supremacist-group-denies-charlottesville-attacker-was-a-member/2017/08/15/2ec897c6-810e-11e7-8072-73e1718c524d\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.816c2d8e5755](https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/vanguard-america-a-white-supremacist-group-denies-charlottesville-attacker-was-a-member/2017/08/15/2ec897c6-810e-11e7-8072-73e1718c524d_story.html?utm_term=.816c2d8e5755).

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since held rallies and displayed propaganda in California, Maryland, Illinois, Texas, Florida, and elsewhere across the country.<sup>395</sup>

- **Base of Operations:** New Mexico (VA),<sup>396</sup> Texas (Patriot Front)<sup>397</sup>
- **Website:** [bloodandsoil.org](http://bloodandsoil.org) (suspended under VA and repurposed for Patriot Front)
- **Social Media Presence:** [Twitter \(Vanguard America, suspended\)](#), [Twitter \(Patriot Front\)](#) (suspended), [Twitter \(Patriot Front\) \(suspended\)](#), [Twitter \(Patriot Front Texas Chapter\) \(suspended\)](#), [Twitter \(Patriot Front Washington Chapter\) \(suspended\)](#), [Twitter \(Patriot Front\)](#) (deleted), [YouTube Channel \(Patriot Front, formerly Vanguard\)](#), [Gab](#) (Patriot Front), [BitChute](#) (Patriot Front), [BitChute](#) (Patriot Front videos), [Minds](#) (Patriot Front), [Telegram](#) (Patriot Front), [Telegram](#) (Patriot Front videos)
- **Leadership:** Dillon Hopper, a.k.a. Dillon Irizarry, a Marine Corps veteran from New Mexico, is the leader of Vanguard America.<sup>398</sup> Francisco Rivera claims to be the group's public relations liaison.<sup>399</sup> Thomas Ryan Rousseau is the former leader of VA's Texas chapter and the founder of the Patriot Front.<sup>400</sup>
- **Membership Size and Relevance:** As of August 2017, the VA had active chapters in Arizona, California, Florida, Indiana, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia, and Washington. Irizarry has claimed the group is active in 20 states and has a membership of at least 200. VA formed a women's division in 2017.<sup>401</sup> According to the Anti-Defamation League, VA primarily targets 18- to 24-year-olds.<sup>402</sup>

The exact size of the Patriot Front is undetermined. As of June 11, 2020, the Patriot Front's YouTube channel had just more than 1,300 subscribers but no content.<sup>403</sup> Created in September 2017, the Patriot Front's Twitter account had 1,005 followers as of January 2, 2018, but was suspended soon after.<sup>404</sup> The Patriot Front created a new Twitter account

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<sup>395</sup> "Patriot Front," Anti-Defamation League, accessed December 27, 2017, <https://www.adl.org/education/resources/backgrounders/patriot-front>.

<sup>396</sup> "Vanguard America," Anti-Defamation League, accessed August 28, 2017, <https://www.adl.org/education/resources/backgrounders/vanguard-america>.

<sup>397</sup> "Patriot Front," Anti-Defamation League, accessed December 27, 2017, <https://www.adl.org/education/resources/backgrounders/patriot-front>.

<sup>398</sup> "Vanguard America," Anti-Defamation League, accessed August 28, 2017, <https://www.adl.org/education/resources/backgrounders/vanguard-america>.

<sup>399</sup> Francisco Rivera, Twitter account, accessed August 28, 2017, <https://twitter.com/SpokesmanRivera>.

<sup>400</sup> "Patriot Front," Anti-Defamation League, accessed December 27, 2017, <https://www.adl.org/education/resources/backgrounders/patriot-front>.

<sup>401</sup> "Vanguard America," Anti-Defamation League, accessed August 28, 2017, <https://www.adl.org/education/resources/backgrounders/vanguard-america>.

<sup>402</sup> Justin Wm. Moyer and Lindsey Bever, "Vanguard America, a white supremacist group, denies Charlottesville ramming suspect was a member," *Washington Post*, August 15, 2017, [https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/vanguard-america-a-white-supremacist-group-denies-charlottesville-attacker-was-a-member/2017/08/15/2ec897c6-810e-11e7-8072-73e1718c524d\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.816c2d8e5755](https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/vanguard-america-a-white-supremacist-group-denies-charlottesville-attacker-was-a-member/2017/08/15/2ec897c6-810e-11e7-8072-73e1718c524d_story.html?utm_term=.816c2d8e5755).

<sup>403</sup> Patriot Front, YouTube channel, accessed June 11, 2020, <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrcGs2Nj6rZX0XNdEd1b09Q/featured>.

<sup>404</sup> Patriot Front, Twitter account, accessed January 2, 2018, <https://twitter.com/FrontPatriot>.

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in February 2018, which had 589 followers as of April 2, 2018.<sup>405</sup> The Twitter account of the Patriot Front's Texas chapter, which was repurposed from VA's Texas chapter, had 765 followers as of April 2, 2018.<sup>406</sup> Also repurposed from VA's Washington chapter, the Twitter account of the Patriot Front's Washington chapter had 805 followers as of April 2, 2018.<sup>407</sup> All of these Twitter accounts have since been suspended. The Patriot Front launched a new Twitter account in January 2019, which had 424 followers as of March 19 that year.<sup>408</sup> That account has also since been suspended.

Since the suspension of the Patriot Front's social media accounts on Twitter, the group has created accounts on Gab, Telegram, Minds, and BitChute. Patriot Front's primary Telegram channel had approximately 2,500 members as of June 11, 2020, while its videos Telegram channel had 797 members.<sup>409</sup> Its Gab account had approximately 2,400 followers as of the same date.<sup>410</sup> The Front's main BitChute account had 1,195 subscribers, while its BitChute Newsclips account had 80 subscribers.<sup>411</sup> The Front had 141 subscribers on Minds as of the same date.<sup>412</sup>

- **Recruitment and Propaganda:** VA and the Patriot Front utilize the Internet to spread their propaganda through fliers, stickers, and social media channels. The group has distributed propaganda at universities, and synagogues, and publicly displayed white nationalist and anti-Semitic banners and other propaganda.<sup>413</sup> VA requires its members to be at least 80 percent European ancestry, while banning felons, addicts, "homosexuals, transsexual, adulterers, or any other form of sexual degeneracy."<sup>414</sup>

The Patriot Front has embraced imagery that is both patriotic American and traditional fascist. The Front has imbued its manifesto with patriotic language that paints the organization as the savior of an America that, "as we know it, is already dead or will not survive. This age of our people will instead be seen as an era of rebirth, and the beginning of a new chapter in history." The Front is dedicated to creating a "nation within a nation" that it claims will be a "hard reset" of the current America and "a return to the traditions

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<sup>405</sup> Patriot Front, Twitter account, accessed April 2, 2018, <https://twitter.com/PatriotFront>.

<sup>406</sup> Texas Front, Twitter account, accessed April 2, 2018, [https://twitter.com/Texas\\_Front](https://twitter.com/Texas_Front).

<sup>407</sup> Washington Front, Twitter account, accessed April 2, 2018, <https://twitter.com/WashingtonFront>.

<sup>408</sup> Patriot Front, Twitter account, accessed March 19, 2019, <https://twitter.com/patriotfront2>.

<sup>409</sup> Patriot Front, Telegram channel, accessed June 11, 2020, <https://t.me/s/PatriotFrontUpdates>; Patriot Front

Videos, Telegram channel, accessed June 11, 2020, <https://t.me/s/PatriotFrontVideos>.

<sup>410</sup> Patriot Front, Gab account, accessed June 11, 2020, <https://gab.com/PatriotFront>.

<sup>411</sup> Patriot Front, BitChute account, accessed June 11, 2020, <https://www.bitchute.com/channel/patriot-front/>; PatriotFrontNewsClips, BitChute account, accessed June 11, 2020, <https://www.bitchute.com/channel/patriotfrontnewsclips/>.

<sup>412</sup> Patriot Front, Minds account, accessed June 11, 2020, <https://www.minds.com/PatriotFront/>.

<sup>413</sup> "Vanguard America," Anti-Defamation League, accessed August 28, 2017,

<https://www.adl.org/education/resources/backgrounders/vanguard-america>; "Patriot Front," Anti-Defamation League, accessed December 27, 2017, <https://www.adl.org/education/resources/backgrounders/patriot-front>.

<sup>414</sup> Terence Cullen, "Vanguard America, group Charlottesville driver James Fields Jr. marched with, has increasingly become a neo-Nazi voice," *Daily News*, August 13, 2017, <http://www.nydailynews.com/news/national/vanguard-america-increasingly-neo-nazi-voice-article-1.3408117>.

and virtues of our forefathers.”<sup>415</sup> During its demonstrations, the Front has employed anti-immigrant, anti-Semitic, and racist language that calls for the deportation and/or the marginalization of non-whites.<sup>416</sup>

- **Violent Activities:** Neither the VA nor the Patriot Front have directly engaged in violent activity. Nonetheless, the VA insignia was displayed by a person who engaged in a violent attack.
  - **August 12, 2017:** James Alex Fields displayed a VA shield during the Unite the Right rally in Charlottesville, Virginia. At the rally, Fields drove his car into a group of counter-protesters, killing one woman. VA later denied that Fields belonged to the organization.<sup>417</sup>
- **Rhetoric:**
  - Patriot Front website, March 27, 2020: “America’s interests have been sold to the hands of the international Zionist mob, and they cannot simply be purchased back. What must take place is a complete reorganization of the nation’s voice into an entity which can expunge the foreign entanglements that threaten it’s sovereignty.”<sup>418</sup>
  - Patriot Front website, March 27, 2020: “The further that the state goes on its path away from the nation, the more entrenched the alien and vested powers will become in its functioning. Zionist entrapment and monied interests form one of the sturdy, yet rotten, pillars of the International State’s vile agenda.”<sup>419</sup>
  - Patriot Front website, February 8, 2020: “The International State governs over the American people. It is a vast collection of competing nationalities squabbling in their impoverished squalor for the vapid attention of the favored few, dolling out meager pittance whenever one collective grows excessively troublesome. This is the most nightmarish form of tyranny. The tyranny of imperialism and misrepresentative governance.”<sup>420</sup>
  - Patriot Front website, February 8, 2020: “The national government is dead, and the International State killed it. Through the importation of foreign masses, to the destruction of the nation’s social and economic defenses, to the expansion of materialistic ideologies and the attacks on the American family, the International State has sought to dilute and dissolve the nation into a boiling pot of alien peoples for the sake of political profiteering.”<sup>421</sup>

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<sup>415</sup> “The American Fascist Manifesto,” Patriot Front, accessed December 27, 2017, <http://bloodandsoil.org/manifesto/>.

<sup>416</sup> “Patriot Front,” Anti-Defamation League, accessed December 27, 2017, <https://www.adl.org/education/resources/backgrounders/patriot-front>.

<sup>417</sup> Justin Wm. Moyer and Lindsey Bever, “Vanguard America, a white supremacist group, denies Charlottesville ramming suspect was a member,” *Washington Post*, August 15, 2017, [https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/vanguard-america-a-white-supremacist-group-denies-charlottesville-attacker-was-a-member/2017/08/15/2ec897c6-810e-11e7-8072-73e1718c524d\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.816c2d8e5755](https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/vanguard-america-a-white-supremacist-group-denies-charlottesville-attacker-was-a-member/2017/08/15/2ec897c6-810e-11e7-8072-73e1718c524d_story.html?utm_term=.816c2d8e5755).

<sup>418</sup> “Tyrannical Interests,” Patriot Front, March 27, 2020, <https://patriotfront.us/tyrannical-interests/>.

<sup>419</sup> “Tyrannical Interests,” Patriot Front, March 27, 2020, <https://patriotfront.us/tyrannical-interests/>.

<sup>420</sup> “National March,” Patriot Front, February 8, 2020, <https://patriotfront.us/national-demonstration-2020/>.

<sup>421</sup> “National March,” Patriot Front, February 8, 2020, <https://patriotfront.us/national-demonstration-2020/>.

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- Patriot Front website, July 31, 2019: “Long gone are the days of weak-willed opposition to those who wish nothing less than the complete destruction of America, and its erasure from history. The American people deserve a voice which will meet those decrying their existence in the public space. The nation’s future is not to be ground beneath the boot of materialistic production in service of some global delusion.”<sup>422</sup>
- Patriot Front website, July 6, 2019: “Lies and slander erupt from the corrupted voices in the false press, and the financial puppets in the Boston government unworthy of the blood-stained soil they desecrate with their unrighteous governance. Bureaucrats masquerading as legitimate officials preside over a nearly identical tyranny to that which first stirred the hearts of patriots in defiance, yet mistakenly claim to protect the lineage they disrespect with every day that passes. Patriotism is loyalty to the nation and its people, and without exception presents absolute opposition to the dictations of an international tyranny such as the one facing Americans today.”<sup>423</sup>
- Patriot Front website, June 27, 2019: “International Zionism has intimidated, coerced, and bribed the once-American government into an all-too-willing lapdog of Israel’s corrupting influences. While American politicians vow allegiance to a people most foreign from those of the nation, American interests are forgotten or suppressed. The revolutionary revival of America’s spirit must shatter the careless, degrading loyalties of America’s forlorn representatives, and hold accountable those who have spent the lives of Americans as if they were currency in their foreign conflicts for foreign peoples and lands.”<sup>424</sup>
- Patriot Front manifesto: “Our mission is a hard reset on the nation we see today, and a return to the traditions and virtues of our forefathers. The same spirit that urged our ancestors onward to create this nation will once again be brought to light, and a new America will be built within its current dilapidated, shameful iteration. Generation after generation lived in war and strife so that their descendants may know peace. It was their duty to give their lives in such a way. It is now our duty to make their sacrifices mean something.”<sup>425</sup>
- Patriot Front manifesto: “When the American nation sees the thin veneer of civilization begin to wane as resources are diverted from them to the replacement population that has been imported to supersede and then be enslaved on their ashes, they will reasonably turn to the only force whose vision of the future includes them.”<sup>426</sup>
- Patriot Front manifesto: “America is a bleeding carcass, bereft of the moral foundations which made it powerful. The America of modernity is little more than an economic zone in which the dollar is used. A unified culture no longer exists

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<sup>422</sup> “An End to Tolerance,” Patriot Front, July 31, 2019, <https://patriotfront.us/an-end-to-tolerance/>.

<sup>423</sup> “A Declaration of Resistance,” Patriot Front, July 6, 2019, <https://patriotfront.us/a-declaration-of-resistance/>.

<sup>424</sup> “Remembering Liberty,” Patriot Front, June 27, 2019, <https://patriotfront.us/remembering-liberty/>.

<sup>425</sup> “The American Fascist Manifesto,” Patriot Front, accessed December 27, 2017, <http://bloodandsoil.org/manifesto/>.

<sup>426</sup> “The American Fascist Manifesto,” Patriot Front, accessed December 27, 2017, <http://bloodandsoil.org/manifesto/>.

due to replacement migration. Ethical standards no longer exist due to the steady erosion of the history of the American nation. The State has situated itself on an ever growing pile of parasitic rules and regulations. Bloated to the point of breaking by bureaucracy, each action taken to solve any problem is done so as a means to delay the inevitable. Nothing about the current system is sustainable. The hard truth of the coming struggle is that America, as we know it, is already dead or will not survive. This age of our people will instead be seen as an era of rebirth, and the beginning of a new chapter in history.”<sup>427</sup>

- Patriot Front Texas chapter Twitter account, December 22, 2017: “From February 23 – March 6, 1836 Texas Patriots fought and died against a Mexican invasion. Today Patriot Front stands up against an ongoing Mexican invasion.”<sup>428</sup>
- Patriot Front Washington chapter Twitter account, December 22, 2017: “Stand up and defend your nation whiteman. Get off the sidelines.”<sup>429</sup>
- Patriot Front Twitter account, December 18, 2017: “#PatriotFront activists in Maryland did a banner drop. Those that are, and have been, incompatible with the American way of life have forfeited any right to this soil. Our nationhood is not worth gambling on a multicultural experiment.”<sup>430</sup>
- Patriot Front Twitter account, December 12, 2017: “The vermin at the SPLC and their “Hatewatch” have turned their beady-eyed gaze towards us. Their slanderous statements are a resounding endorsement to our “nationwide white-nationalist network”. #PatriotFront#FakeNews”<sup>431</sup>
- Vanguard America Michigan chapter Twitter account, July 14, 2017: “Our ancestors built this country. Be proud and honor their struggle. Stand up White Man and defend your lands.”<sup>432</sup>
- Francisco Rivera, June 2017: “I don’t believe in having Muslims in the United States. Their culture is incompatible with ours.”<sup>433</sup>

### **Additional White Nationalist Media Resources**

Like other extremist movements, the white nationalist movement has an aversion to mainstream media, which it largely views as controlled by Jewish/Zionist interests, beholden to the far left,

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<sup>427</sup> “The American Fascist Manifesto,” Patriot Front, accessed December 27, 2017,

<http://bloodandsoil.org/manifesto/>.

<sup>428</sup> Texas Front, Twitter post, December 22, 2017, 11:33 p.m.,

[https://twitter.com/Texas\\_Front/status/944425687137570816](https://twitter.com/Texas_Front/status/944425687137570816).

<sup>429</sup> Washington Front, Twitter post, December 22, 2017, 1:38 p.m.,

<https://twitter.com/WashingtonFront/status/944275872613146624>.

<sup>430</sup> Patriot Front, Twitter post, December 18, 2017, 6:28 p.m.,

<https://twitter.com/FrontPatriot/status/942899467350691840>.

<sup>431</sup> Patriot Front, Twitter post, December 12, 2017, 1:55 p.m.,

<https://twitter.com/FrontPatriot/status/940656415890395139>.

<sup>432</sup> Vanguard America Michigan Chapter, Twitter post, July 14, 2017, 2:34 p.m.,

[https://twitter.com/Vanguard\\_MI/status/885975741485207553](https://twitter.com/Vanguard_MI/status/885975741485207553).

<sup>433</sup> Abigail Hauslohner and Justin Wm. Moyer, “Anti-sharia demonstrators hold rallies in cities across the country,”

*Washington Post*, June 10, 2017, [https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/anti-sharia-marches-planned-for-numerous-cities-across-the-country-saturday/2017/06/10/40faf61e-4d6f-11e7-a186-60c031eab644\\_story.html?tid=a\\_inl&utm\\_term=.8946b5f5dff](https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/anti-sharia-marches-planned-for-numerous-cities-across-the-country-saturday/2017/06/10/40faf61e-4d6f-11e7-a186-60c031eab644_story.html?tid=a_inl&utm_term=.8946b5f5dff).

and/or anti-white. For example, in February 2017, League of the South leader Michael Hill accused the *New York Times* of being “anti-white and anti-Christian”<sup>434</sup> As such, white nationalists have created their own media platforms in order to propagate their views. CEP has compiled the following list of some of the most popular white nationalist propaganda outlets:

- **Barnes Review**: An online magazine that promotes revisionist history, eugenics, and anti-Semitism. Blog posts include topics such as “Why the Holocaust Story Was Invented,”<sup>435</sup> “DNA and Ancient White Egypt,”<sup>436</sup> and “Black History Month Myths.”<sup>437</sup> The website also includes an online bookstore that sells racist material such as *IQ and Race* by Richard Hume, which argues that race determines intelligence.<sup>438</sup>
- **Occidental Quarterly**: A print and online magazine that “unapologetically defends the cultural, ethnic, and racial interests of Western European peoples and examines contemporary political, social, and demographic trends that impact the posterity of Western Civilization.”<sup>439</sup> Articles include “Whiteness Studies: Jews, Communists, and Genocidal Hate,”<sup>440</sup> “The Holocaust Industry in the UK,”<sup>441</sup> and special sections on “white pathology.”<sup>442</sup>
- **Occidental Observer**: An online newspaper spun off from the Occidental Quarterly. The Occidental Observer focuses on “themes of white identity, white interests, and the culture of the West.”<sup>443</sup>
- **The Reality Calls Show**: A podcast run by Tara McCarthy, who believes that “the solution to reversing the destruction that globalism has wrought on our civilization is ethno-nationalism—a natural and traditional way of living that has been heavily demonized by the mainstream media.”<sup>444</sup> McCarthy’s book, *Irreplaceable – How We Can (And Why We Must) Save the West*, expounds on her white supremacist views and provides tips to living an alt-right lifestyle.<sup>445</sup>
- **The Right Stuff**: A website founded by Mike Peinovich, a.k.a. Mike Enoch, which hosts podcasts, a blog, and a forum. Notable podcasts on the site include “The Daily Shoah,”

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<sup>434</sup> Michael Hill, “What’s wrong with a ‘whiter America?’” League of the South, February 22, 2017, <http://leagueofthesouth.com/whats-wrong-with-a-whiter-america/>.

<sup>435</sup> John Wear, “Why the Holocaust Story Was Invented,” Barnes Review, accessed March 1, 2018, <https://barnesreview.org/holocaust-story-invented/>.

<sup>436</sup> “DNA and Ancient White Egypt,” Barnes Review, accessed March 1, 2018, <https://barnesreview.org/dna-ancient-white-egypt/>.

<sup>437</sup> “Black History Month Myths,” Barnes Review, accessed March 1, 2018, <https://barnesreview.org/black-history-month-myths/>.

<sup>438</sup> “IQ and Race,” Barnes Review, accessed March 1, 2018, <http://barnesreview.org/product/iq-and-race-the-complete-overview/>.

<sup>439</sup> “Occidental Quarterly,” Southern Poverty Law Center, accessed March 1, 2018, <https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/group/occidental-quarterly>.

<sup>440</sup> “Back Issues: The Occidental Quarterly,” Occidental Quarterly, Fall 2015, <http://www.toqonline.com/archive/>.

<sup>441</sup> “Back Issues: The Occidental Quarterly,” Occidental Quarterly, Winter 2013-2014, <http://www.toqonline.com/archive/>.

<sup>442</sup> “Back Issues: The Occidental Quarterly,” Occidental Quarterly, Summer 2013, <http://www.toqonline.com/archive/>.

<sup>443</sup> Kevin MacDonald, “Mission Statement,” Occidental Observer, accessed March 1, 2018, <http://www.theoccidentalobserver.net/mission/>.

<sup>444</sup> “About Tara McCarthy,” Reality Calls, accessed March 1, 2018, <https://realitycallsshow.com/about/>.

<sup>445</sup> <http://www.irreplaceablebook.com/>



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“Fash the Nation,” and “This Week in White Genocide.” The forum, blog, and podcasts touch on a variety of white supremacist, fascist, and neo-Nazi topics such as anti-miscegenation, homophobia, and anti-Semitism, while also promoting groups such as Identity Evropa.

- [Rense Radio Network](#): An online radio network founded by Jeff Rense, whom the Anti-Defamation League and Southern Poverty Law Center have labeled anti-Semitic.<sup>446</sup> The network features well-known white supremacists such as David Duke and Don Black of Stormfront.
- [RedIce.tv](#): An online media forum run by Henrik Palmgren, Lana Lokteff, Fredrik Tormann, and Patrick Casey. The site features video and audio programs geared toward an audience “seeking an alternative to the mainstream, covering politics and social issues from a pro-European perspective.”<sup>447</sup> Palmgren created RedIce in 2003. According to the site, he is “most concerned with European heritage and culture and counter acting the globalists seeking to destroy it.”<sup>448</sup>

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<sup>446</sup> “Rense Web Site Promotes Anti-Semitic View,” Anti-Defamation League, March 17, 2009, <https://www.adl.org/news/article/rense-web-site-promotes-anti-semitic-view>; Heidi Beirich, “Jeff Rense: In His Own Words,” Southern Poverty Law Center, April 26, 2015, <https://www.splcenter.org/hatewatch/2015/04/26/jeff-rense-his-own-words>.

<sup>447</sup> “About Red Ice,” Redice.tv, accessed March 1, 2018, <https://redice.tv/about>.

<sup>448</sup> “About Red Ice,” Redice.tv, accessed March 1, 2018, <https://redice.tv/about>.