Mar. 2001, Vol. 2, No. 2

ADC ONLINE

An online journal for discussion, news and analysis of far-right activity in Australia, New Zealand and the world.

Supremacist groups' outreach in rural Australia

In recent weeks, international violent white supremacist groups, such as the Ku Klux Klan and the World Church of the Creator, have established new branches and increased their acts of racist intimidation, in rural and regional areas on the Australian east coast.

In late February, the Illinois-based violent racist group, the "World Church of the Creator" (WCOTC) established its third Australian branch in Rockhampton, Queensland. Previously profiled in *ADC ONLINE* in August 2000, the WCOTC is a "racial religion" whose prime goal is the "survival, expansion and advancement of the White Race". It believes that the Jews "concocted" Christianity "for the very purpose of mongrelising and destroying the White Race". Numerous violent attacks in the US, including armed robberies, bashings and shootings, have been carried out by WCOTC followers in accordance with the group's dictum of "RaHoWa" (Racial Holy War).

The inaugural Australian branch of the WCOTC was formed in Melbourne in mid-1999 by Patrick John O'Sullivan, the former Victorian state organiser of the skinhead group, National Action. Another chapter was established in Adelaide in early 2000. The existence of a Rockhampton chapter only became known in February 2001, when it launched a sticker campaign, plastering "White people awake – save the White Race" stickers on Aboriginal centres and other buildings across the city to celebrate "Klassen Day", the group's "holiest" day, marking the birthday of Church founder Ben Klassen.

Recent months have also seen a marked increase in racist attacks in northern NSW, which are the work of various Ku Klux Klan (KKK) klaverns acting independently of each other. Members of various minority groups, particularly Aborigines, who reside in towns such as Casino, Coonabarabran, Lismore and Dubbo and the surrounding districts, have been targeted by KKK groups, receiving death threats and graffiti daubings on their homes. Similar material has circulated in Mildura, Victoria, where KKK graffiti has been painted across roads, bus shelters and schools.

One should not conclude from the above that the WCOTC and KKK have large followings, but their actions demonstrate an increase in outreach efforts by international white supremacist groups to recruit followers in Australia, particularly through mediums such as the Internet. This has the potential to increase the level of racist motivated violence on these shores.

Beirut blocks Holocaust-denial conference

For many years, Arab regimes and their media have peddled Holocaust-denial as a way of delegitimising the State of Israel, claiming that the Holocaust is a fabrication created to win sympathy for Jews and Israel. However, concerned about its international standing, the Lebanese Government has prevented an international Holocaust-denial conference from taking place in Beirut on 31 March. Fredrick Toben of the Holocaust-denying Adelaide Institute was to have spoken at the conference on "The control freaks and the Holocaust dogma/racket: fighting racism through tolerance and understanding".

Copyright © 2001 B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation Commission Inc.

Federation – fact or furphy?

While Australia celebrates the Centenary of Federation, factions of the racist right continue to propound the theory that Australia has had 100 years of illegal government and an invalid Constitution. Therefore, Federal governments supposedly do not represent the Australian people, passing illegal laws at the behest of the "New World Order/One World Government".

Far-right author Lance Spicer, whose books have been advertised in the racist New Age magazine *Nexus*, explores the theory in detail in his book, *For we are young and free – or are we?* He argues:

1. The British Colony of the Commonwealth of Australia Act of 1900, passed by British Parliament, allowed for the Australian colonies to federate, but the Act said nothing about Australia becoming independent or sovereign.
2. Australia only became independent with its signing, as an independent nation, of the Treaty of Versailles in 1919. Australia was only recognised as independent under international law when it signed the charter for the League of Nations in 1920.
3. Therefore, our Constitution as enacted in British Parliament in 1900 is invalid, and our governments and their laws are thus illegal, for our independence only came some twenty years later.

This theory has been rejected in several decisions by the High Court, Federal Court and in State Supreme Courts. Whilst the theory has been propounded by a number of people, its strongest protagonists are members of the racist right, who use it to reinforce their belief in the racist "New World Order/One World Government" conspiracy. The alleged illegality of the Constitution and Government supposedly vindicates the racists' belief that the Government and the judicial system are not acting in the interests of Australians, but are rather beholden to the Jewish-controlled "One World Government", at the helm of which is the United Nations.

For example, Australian League of Rights activist Reg Macey, writing in a letter to the Gosford-based far-right newspaper, *The Issue*, suggests that, after 1920, a new constitution was never drafted, as "this country is controlled by a political party dictatorship accustomed to regarding the sovereign people with fear and loathing" and "the total allegiance of our politicians is not to the people that voted for them, but to the tyrannical non-elected United Nations".

The Melbourne-based "Institute of Taxation Research" (ITR) has adopted the theory, contending that the Australian Taxation Office is an illegally constituted body and has no right to collect taxes, for all laws, including tax laws, are null and void as the Constitution is invalid. Late last year, the ITR used this argument to encourage hundreds of people to throw their Business Activity Statements in the garbage. The organisation continues to market itself as the "last-chance saloon for many businesses unable to meet their tax bills". One Nation Senator Len Harris has encouraged his supporters to attend forums addressed by ITR officials.

There are however those in the racist right who condemn the theory, arguing that the theory itself is a ploy of the "One World Government" to subjugate Australia. Kerry Spencer-Salt, a columnist for the Victorian-based racist newspaper *The Strategy*, argues that the theory has supposedly been "ingeniously planted into the Australian constitutional psyche" as it is "part of a formidable campaign by globalist forces to convince loyal Australians that their existing constitution is invalid. This removes from the people's hearts the will to defend the old constitution upon the proclamation of global sovereignty".

ADC ONLINE is a publication of the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation Commission Inc. (ADC), a national organisation dedicated to researching and combatting all forms of racism. Prepared by the Director of Research & Public Affairs. For comment on issues addressed in *ADC ONLINE*, phone 61-3-9527-1228 or email antidef@ozemail.com.au.
ISSN 1445-0402

Copyright © 2001 B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation Commission Inc.