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George McKenna, III — "When I came to Washington Preparatory there were many gangs — now there is one gang and one gang leader — me." Photo by Richard J. Brown

Educator Calls For Mandatory Homework

by Jerry Garner

A nationally known educator told a group of 150 educators and parents that educators must begin to set standards for students and adults if they are to improve the achievement level of inner-city school students.

George McKenna III, principal of George Washington Preparatory High School, South Central Los Angeles, said, "We as educators must begin to set some standards for our young people and adults. When I took over Washington Prep in 1979, we began to talk about excellence in education and established a contract with every student and parent. Under this contract, homework is mandatory, attendance is monitored, conduct is non-violent, and there is a dress code."

McKenna was referring to the preparatory school model program he developed and implemented shortly after he became principal at Washington Prep. The Preparatory School Model stresses academic excellence at all levels. Before becoming principal of George Washington Prep, the school was experiencing incidents of violence, low achievement, and lack of community confidence. Today, 80 percent of the school graduates enroll in college; there is a waiting list to enter the program. He has been recognized nationally for his accomplishments and was invited by President Reagan to the White House to participate in a panel on school discipline.

McKenna spoke last Thursday at PCC, Cascade Campus, as part of PCC's celebration of Black History Month.

McKenna said there should be a national, mandatory homework policy for every school in the United States. "Homework must be mandatory or otherwise teachers won't give it. That which isn't mandatory becomes optional. Homework cannot be optional. It should be mandatory across America."

"If every Monday night across America we gave mathematics homework, then no parents on Monday nights in America would have to ask their children from kindergarten through college, 'Do you have homework tonight?' Attendance should also be monitored on a regular basis. In our school, we cut our absenteeism from 33 percent to less than 10 percent," McKenna said.

He credits the decrease in absenteeism at his school to the teachers. McKenna said teachers at Washington Prep call the students' homes whenever they are absent from school. "At our school we don't use a computer or an office person to call; the teacher does the checking. In educating, you must personalize and individualize the learning process."

McKenna said it's the responsibility of educators to keep students from dropping out of school, stating that teachers can prevent Black kids from dropping out of school by making them successful while they're still in school. "After they've dropped out, trying to get them to come back is ridiculous. Why should a student come back to something in which they had no success?" He said students who are potential dropouts must be given a support system.

The Radical Right, Who Are They?

by Jerry Garner

One of the main reasons for the increase in racial and religious violence in the United States is due in part to the resurgence and violent activities of the radical right. Some of the nation's most violent hate groups are: The Aryan Nations; The Order; The Ku Klux Klan; The White Patriot Party; The Covenant, The Sword and The Arm of The Lord; The Posse Comitatus; The Social Nationalists Aryan Peoples' Party; and The Silent Brotherhood. Each extremist organization preaches racial hatred and advocates the use of violence, including murder.

Though few in numbers, they're trained in the arts of war, are heavily armed and inspired by a revisionist Christian theology known as "Identity." The movement's adherents believe Christ wasn't a Jew, but an ancestor of British, Germanic and Scandinavian peoples. The Identity theology is a movement founded in 1946 by Ku Klux Klan organizer Wesley Swift. Swift died in 1970.

Here is a brief background of these terrorist hate groups:

The Aryan Nations, are located right here in the Pacific Northwest, in Hayden Lake, Idaho, on a 20-acre tract. The leader of this neo-Nazi hate group is Richard Grint Butler, pastor of the Church of Jesus Christian Aryan nations.

The Aryan Nations invokes Christianity and God to denounce Blacks, Jews, Asians, Hispanics, government officials and homosexuals as "aliens" and "traitors" who are invading the white world.

They're labeled neo-Nazi because of their attacks on Jews—reminiscent of Hitler's Germany—that Jews are the sons and daughters of Satan and that non-whites and Blacks have no more spiritual worth than animals. They believe Armageddon is near, and they are God's chosen survivors.

Butler's compound has been the site of the World Aryan Congress, a gathering of white supremacists and neo-Nazi hate groups from around the nation. At the Congress' last July meeting, Butler and other group leaders announced their intentions of turning the entire Pacific Northwest region into a sacred homeland for white people. White supremacists and neo-Nazis from around the country are encouraged to move to the Pacific Northwest.

They are also actively recruiting hard core convicted criminals from prisons. Members of The Aryan Brotherhood prison gang were recently involved in a race riot at the Arizona State Prison, Florence, Ariz., as they fought with members of the all-Black Mau Maus gang. According to Arizona officials, The Aryan Brotherhood has some 250-300 members in the state's prison system.

Gary Yarbrough, a former member of The Aryan Nations, one of ten Order members convicted in Seattle in 1985 of racketeering and conspiracy charges, was recruited by The Aryan Nations while serving time in an Arizona prison. Yarbrough was captured Nov. 24, 1984, at the Capri Motel in Portland during a shoot-out with FBI agents.

The Order, was formed by former members of The Aryan Nations in Hayden Lake, Idaho, in 1983. Robert J. Matthews was the founder of this neo-Nazi group. He was involved in the same Nov. 24, 1984, shoot-out with FBI agents at the Capri Motel, but escaped after attempting to kill a FBI agent.

Members of The Order had come to Portland for a strategy meeting in which a new base of operations for the group would be established near Mount Hood. The Order had rented five "safe houses" in Welches, Brightwood, Government Camp and Rhododendron. Former Order members testified that the group hoped to re-establish in that part of Oregon.

Matthews was killed two weeks later on Whitbey Island, Washington, by FBI agents after 35 hours of negotiating. During the gun battle, ammunition in the house ignited, starting a fire; Matthews was burned to death.

In December of 1985, in Federal District Court in Seattle, Ten Order members were found guilty on 20 counts of a 21-count indictment charging them with racketeering, conspiracy and a number of federal crimes. They were sentenced to prison terms ranging from 40 to 125 years. Although the convictions of The Order members crippled the organization, the group is still out there.

Three Order members are on trial in Tucson, Arizona, for the Sept. 15, 1986, bombing of the home of a Catholic priest and the Sept. 29th bombing of the Federal Building and a luggage store and outside restaurant in Coeur d'Alene.

The Ku Klux Klan, is the oldest hate and terrorist group in the U.S. The Klan was organized at Pulaski, Tennessee, in 1865 by Confederate General Nathan B. Forrest, a former slave trader. According to Klan-watch, the investigation arm of the Montgomery, Alabama-based Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC), national membership of The Klan is estimated at 7,500 scattered throughout 22 states, with the majority of them in the Deep South.

Today's Klan is as violent as it was 122 years ago. Two Klansmen in Alabama were convicted last year for the 1981 murder of a Black teenager in Mobile. The youth, 19-year-old Micheal Donald, died a brutal death at the hands of the two Klansmen. He was beaten, his throat cut three times, and his body was left dangling from a tree. One of the Klansman involved in the murder testified that Donald was killed at random, because he was Black and to show Klan strength in Alabama.

In Sept. 1985 nine members of the KKK were indicted by the U.S. Justice Department on charges of conspiring to violate the civil rights of blacks and

whites in a series of cross-burings and shootings in 1982 and 1983 in North Carolina.

Some of the main leaders in The Klan are James Farrands, Robert Miles, Thomas Robb and Tom Metzger. Farrands, a Connecticut native, recently was elected Imperial Wizard of The Klan during their national convention.

Federal authorities consider Miles a leading figure in the U.S. racist movement. He is a former KKK Grand Dragon and now pastor of the Mountain Church in Cohoctah, Mich. Miles served six years in Federal prison for busing school buses shortly before court-ordered busing was to begin in Pontiac, Mich., and for tarring and feathering of a school principal.

Miles has close ties to The Aryan Nations and other neo-Nazi groups from around the nation. He was one of the organizers of the World Aryan Congress held last July in Hayden Lake. The World Aryan Congress is a gathering of white supremacists and neo-Nazis.

Miles caused an uproar in the state of Oregon when he announced his intentions of moving to Coos Bay this year.

Robb is a KKK leader and Christian Identity minister based in Harrison, Ark. He is the former National Chaplain of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. Metzler is founder of the White American Resistance and former head of the California Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. Metzger was in Seattle when 10 Order defendants were convicted in 1985 and snapped a "Heil Hitler" salute at the van that carried the defendants from the court house jail.

The White Patriot Party, formerly The Confederation Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, is based in Angier, N.C. Its founder and leader is Glenn Miller, a Vietnam veteran. This neo-Nazi group operates a paramilitary army whose members wear military-style combat fatigues and participate in weapons and tactical training.

Members of the United States Marines Corps at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, have participated in paramilitary exercises and rallies staged by The White Patriot Party. In May of last year, three Marines were discharged for their involvement in Patriot activities.

Nathan Perlmutter, director of the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) voiced his concerns regarding U.S. Marines participation in Patriot activities in a May 19, 1986, letter to Secretary of Defense, Casper Weinberger, where Perlmutter said, "Particularly troublesome is the possibility that U.S. Marines could be providing Patriots members with weapons or explosives to which they have access."

The Covenant, The Sword and The Arm of The Lord, an anti-Semitic group, is based in Fort Smith, Ark. The founder is James Ellison. Ellison and two other leaders of the neo-Nazi hate group testified before a Ft. Smith, Ark., grand jury in January about the internal nationwide structure of the right wing underground, its leader and their alleged plans to attack the U.S. government.

Ellison and his companions were arrested at the group's 224-acre compound in northern Arkansas in 1984 after 150 state and federal agents surrounded it. After searching the compound, authorities confiscated: semi-automatic weapons, hand grenades, an armored tank and a 30-gallon drum of cyanide. Federal officials said the group had planned to use the cyanide to poison the water supply in an unnamed city.

In addition, four Order members were arrested during the raid, and a machine gun similar to ones used in the June, 1984 murder of Denver radio host Alan Berg, and in the April, 1984 killing of a Missouri state trooper, was confiscated.

The Posse Comitatus, a militant tax-resistance group, is headquartered in Wisconsin. The leader of the group is Donald Minniechek. The Posse is also an Identity group. Members of the group are known for their penchant for violence.

Gordon Kahl, a Posse member from Idaho, was killed in June, 1983 in northeastern Arkansas after more than 40 law enforcement officers encircled his hideout. The bunker caught fire after an ammunition cache inside ignited from gunfire. Kahl's remains were identified by dental plates. Federal authorities had been searching for Kahl for four months for the murders of two officers in North Dakota who came to arrest him for probation violations.

In recent years Posse leaders have focused on recruiting new members from depressed farm areas.

The Social Nationalists Aryan Peoples' Party, located in Post Falls, Idaho, was founded by Keith Gilbert. Gilbert is a former member of the Aryan Nations and pastor of the Restored Church of Jesus Christ. He once served five years in San Quentin Prison for a plot to explode 1,400 pounds of dynamite during a speech by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., to the B'nai B'rith.

Gilbert preaches that Hitler was the reincarnation of the prophet Elijah, and that "Mein Kampf" belongs in the Biblical canon. In 1984, Gilbert ran unsuccessfully for the Kootenai County, Idaho, Sheriff's office on the Democratic ticket. Although he lost, Gilbert received 22.7 percent of the vote in the primary.

It is apparent that these neo-Nazi hate groups are infiltrating the Pacific Northwest. As their populations grow, it becomes more imperative that people of the Pacific Northwest become aware of these groups and their goals and actions, so that they can counteract the influence these groups might have on the quality of life and increasing racist-inspired violence in the Pacific Northwest.

DRUG ALERT!

(The following are excerpts re-printed from a flyer being distributed by the New York City Police Department to schools and families in that city. Portland residents should advise their children of this danger.)

The Police Department has informed us that there is another danger in our community. It's called "BLUE STAR" and it is sold all over the United States. It's a white piece of paper with a little blue star soaked with LSD which is a very dangerous drug. It's the size of a pencil eraser. You can pull it off the piece of paper and put it in your mouth. This drug can also penetrate the skin just by touching the paper. Some of these pieces of LSD come in colored papers which are like stamps and appear with a Mickey Mouse picture, Superman and other comic characters.

These stamps are packaged in a red box with a Mickey Mouse print and are wrapped with aluminum foil in a sealed box. This package contains five stamps and is a new method to sell LSD in order to get more customers.

If an innocent child were to use this drug they would be in trouble. Please advise your children about this drug.

Some adolescents give this drug to children in order to get them to test it and then keep them as customers. If you see someone sick because of this drug and know who is selling it, please call the police and inform them about it.

The symptoms of this drug are vomiting, hallucinations and change of body temperature. Please take care of your children and don't let them go alone to the street and to the stores.

If you see these packages, PLEASE DO NOT TOUCH THEM!!!