THE "CHRISTIAN IDENTITY" MOVEMENT IN AMERICA

prepared for

The North American Lausanne Consultation on Jewish Evangelism

by

Louis S. Lapides

April 4-5, 1989

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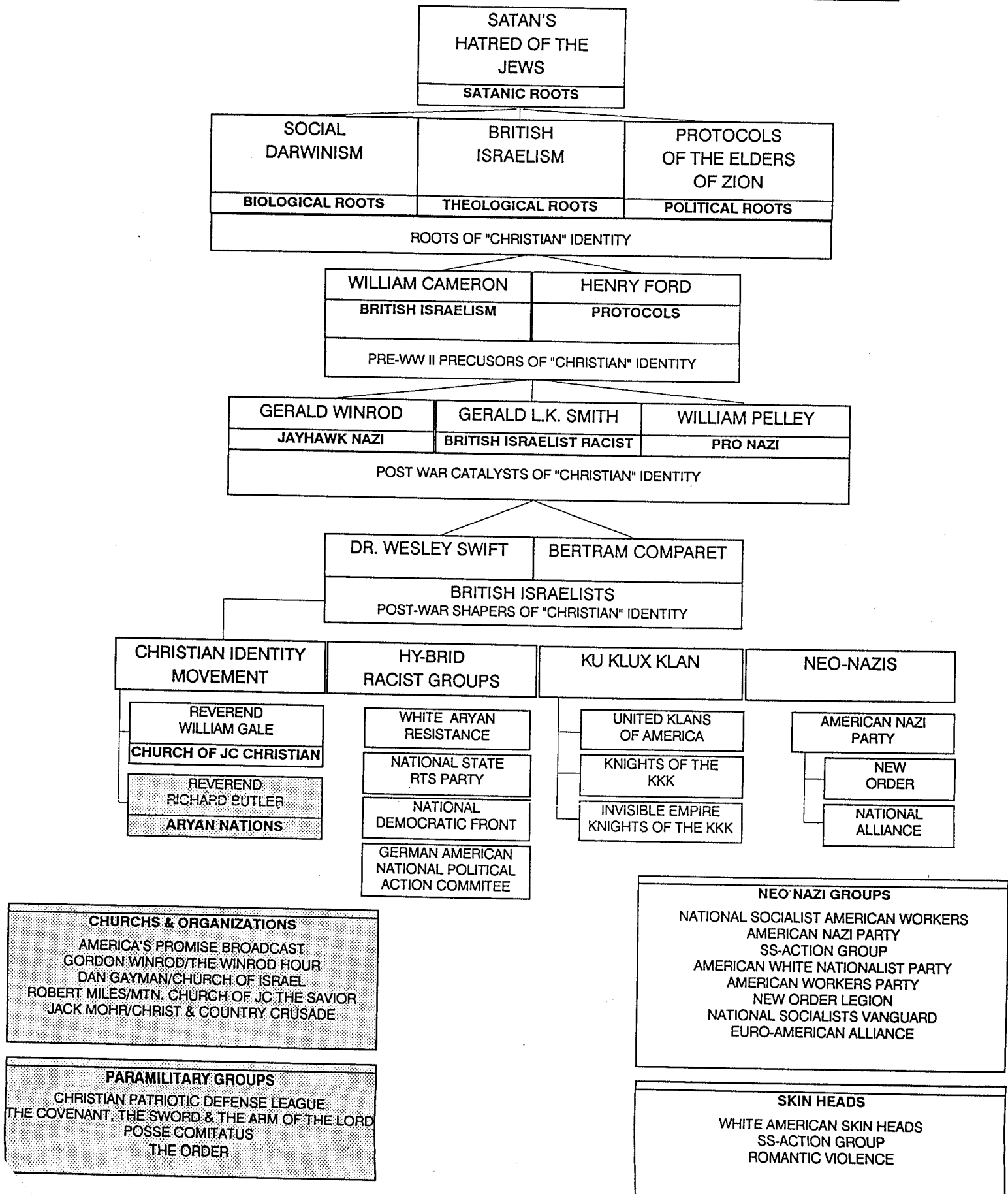The North American Lausanne Consultation on Jewish Evangelism

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THE RISE & DEVELOPMENT OF THE "CHRISTIAN" IDENTITY MOVEMENT

SATAN'S HATRED OF THE JEWS
SATANIC ROOTS

SOCIAL DARWINISM	BRITISH ISRAELISM	PROTOCOLS OF THE ELDERS OF ZION
BIOLOGICAL ROOTS	**THEOLOGICAL ROOTS**	**POLITICAL ROOTS**

ROOTS OF "CHRISTIAN" IDENTITY

WILLIAM CAMERON	HENRY FORD
BRITISH ISRAELISM	**PROTOCOLS**

PRE-WW II PRECUSORS OF "CHRISTIAN" IDENTITY

GERALD WINROD	GERALD L.K. SMITH	WILLIAM PELLEY
JAYHAWK NAZI	**BRITISH ISRAELIST RACIST**	**PRO NAZI**

POST WAR CATALYSTS OF "CHRISTIAN" IDENTITY

DR. WESLEY SWIFT	BERTRAM COMPARET

BRITISH ISRAELISTS
POST-WAR SHAPERS OF "CHRISTIAN" IDENTITY

CHRISTIAN IDENTITY MOVEMENT	HY-BRID RACIST GROUPS	KU KLUX KLAN	NEO-NAZIS

CHRISTIAN IDENTITY MOVEMENT
- REVEREND WILLIAM GALE — **CHURCH OF JC CHRISTIAN**
- REVEREND RICHARD BUTLER — **ARYAN NATIONS**

HY-BRID RACIST GROUPS
- WHITE ARYAN RESISTANCE
- NATIONAL STATE RTS PARTY
- NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC FRONT
- GERMAN AMERICAN NATIONAL POLITICAL ACTION COMMITEE

KU KLUX KLAN
- UNITED KLANS OF AMERICA
- KNIGHTS OF THE KKK
- INVISIBLE EMPIRE KNIGHTS OF THE KKK

NEO-NAZIS
- AMERICAN NAZI PARTY
- NEW ORDER
- NATIONAL ALLIANCE

CHURCHS & ORGANIZATIONS

AMERICA'S PROMISE BROADCAST
GORDON WINROD/THE WINROD HOUR
DAN GAYMAN/CHURCH OF ISRAEL
ROBERT MILES/MTN. CHURCH OF JC THE SAVIOR
JACK MOHR/CHRIST & COUNTRY CRUSADE

PARAMILITARY GROUPS

CHRISTIAN PATRIOTIC DEFENSE LEAGUE
THE COVENANT, THE SWORD & THE ARM OF THE LORD
POSSE COMITATUS
THE ORDER

NEO NAZI GROUPS

NATIONAL SOCIALIST AMERICAN WORKERS
AMERICAN NAZI PARTY
SS-ACTION GROUP
AMERICAN WHITE NATIONALIST PARTY
AMERICAN WORKERS PARTY
NEW ORDER LEGION
NATIONAL SOCIALISTS VANGUARD
EURO-AMERICAN ALLIANCE

SKIN HEADS

WHITE AMERICAN SKIN HEADS
SS-ACTION GROUP
ROMANTIC VIOLENCE

INTRODUCTION
The Reality of Racism in America

During the Nazi regime of World War II, a Jewish man, reading a Nazi propaganda sheet was observed by an acquaintance. The observer was furious, "How can you as a Jew read such racist trash?" The reader responded quite casually, "It's very easy. When I read the Jewish newspapers, all I read about is how the Jewish people are being persecuted by Nazis and their synagogues are being burned and their lives are in a tumolt. Frankly, the Jewish newspapers depress me. But when I read Nazi propaganda, I read about how the Jews are in control of international banking, the press and the entertainment field. Frankly, reading about all these things the Jews are supposedly accomplishing gives me a great deal of joy."

Since I took on the assignment of compiling a paper on "The Christian Identity" movement, I too became distressed after reading all the racist literature filled with its loathing against the Jews. But being a person who is not easily discouraged, I sought for reasons why this pseudo-Christian movement needs to be unmasked. Sure enough, the January 13, 1989 issue of *Christianity Today* named "resurgent racism" as one of the major issues Christians need to focus on in 1989! The article asked, "Is the evangelical church in America confronting racism as a serious moral problem?"(CT, 1/13/89 pg. 45). In addition, for the past year, none of us could escape the media's constant chatter on the activities of racist groups across America from the Skinheads to the fiasco on the Geraldo Rivera program to Costa Grava's film <u>Betrayed</u> to the election of Ex-Klan member David Duke to the Louisiana State House of Representatives and to the hyped-up "Aryan Woodstock" in Napa, California.

Regardless, I have detected a lot of hesitancy from Christians toward dealing with this movement. Perhaps it is because we are fearful of facing anti-Semitism from people who call themselves "Christian". But whether we want to deal with it or not, this racist movement is a problem for Bible-believing Christians! Consequently, we must respond to the question, "Why can't we ignore these "Christian" hate groups?"

1. <u>These groups may be small and insignificant but they are influential.</u> My concern is with the open ears of the "Christian" who listens to the racist radio programs; receives the newsletters, attends the Bible conferences, buys the "Christian Identity" tapes and books, sends in financial support and latches on to these doctrines for answers and begins to view Jewish people as the "seed of Satan". "Network TV is the most important means for them to get their message out," complained Stuart Suall, fact-finding director of the ADL. 'There's not the slightest doubt in my mind that .. hate-mongers in this country have had more free air time in 1988 than hate groups have enjoyed in decades." (LA Times, 12/22/88). In a telephone interview in 1986 with Rev. Richard Butler, "pastor" of "Identity church", "Church of Jesus Christ Christian", Butler said the " Identity" movement is gaining members, most of whom had been active in churches. These people are drawn to "Identity" churches because the traditional churches are not offering solutions to such social problems in America as decline in education and disintegration of the families. ("White Supremacists Take on Trappings of Religion", *CT*, 8/8/86, pp. 30-31).

2. <u>These groups use Christianity to advance bigotry.</u> The people in this "Christian" hate movement claim to speak for God. They represent "churches", "Christian" organizations and claim to be "ministers" of the Gospel. Their literature is filled with quotes from Scriptures in presenting

the appearance of a well-thought out argument for "biblical racial superiority". Consequently, I have chosen to retain the name "Christian" in quotations when referring to this movement though I am seriously doubtful as to the reality of this movement's "Christianity."

    3. <u>These groups have a great potential for inciting racial violence</u>. In a time when Israel is at the center of such bad press, it would not be unlike Satan to create this re-surfacing of anti-Semitism in this country. In the January 27, 1989 issue of the <u>Jewish Heritage</u>, the ADL reported there has been a nationwide upsurge in anti-Semitic incidents during 1988. There was an increase nationally of 18.5% in anti-Jewish vandalism, i.e. arson, bombings, swastika daubings, and a 41% increase in harassment, threats and assaults against Jews and Jewish institutions. ("Anti-Jewish Vandalism Soars Nationwide, Declines in California," *Jewish Heritage*, 1/27/89, pg. 1).

    4. <u>These groups will discourage Christians from supporting Jewish Evangelism</u>. Thousands of Christians across America are hearing "Identity" ministers with the message of hatred toward Jews. Unfortunately, anti-Semitism breeds anti-Jewish evangelism. To ask whether this hate movement will harm efforts at Jewish Evangelism is to beg the question.

The Role of Christian Identity in America

The "Christian Identity" movement is neither a single organization nor a monolithic doctrine. It is best understood as a <u>movement</u> composed of interactive parts that continually develop and redevelop its theological and organizational expression (Leonard Zeskind, The 'Christian Identity' Movement, Center for Democratic Renewal, [October 1986], pg. 7). To understand the impact of the "Christian Identity" movement, we must look at the dual role it plays in the hate movement in general.

 First, it provides religious unity for differing racist groups. Under the banner of "Christian Identity", we see racists groups such as" Crusade for Christ and Country", "Aryan Nations", "The Covenant, The Sword, and the Arm of the Lord", "Christian Defense League", "Christian-Patriots Defense League" which desire to be thought of as "Christian". Consequently, this pseudo-Christian hate movement has laid the groundwork for an ideological merger of white supremacist groups in the United States. However, not all hate groups under the "Identity" umbrella view themselves as "Christian" (e.g. Skinheads). Their unity with other "Identity" groups is their Jew-hatred.

 Second, it brings religious people into contact with the racist movement. Leonard Zeskind, of the Center for Democratic Renewal, summarizes the danger of "Identity's" magnetic appeal,

" Organizers use these distinct beliefs as recruiting tools among people whose initial interest in Christian Identity is primarily religious . . . As a result, Identity can funnel new recruits into a racist and anti-Semitic movement through ostensible non-political means" (ibid., pg. 7)

The theological system of the "Identity" movement maintains the Christian's racial identity is the "true nation of Israel", and acts as a powerful magnet and recruitment tool to Christians looking for a deeper identity ("the true Israel") and seeking answers for the ills of this world ("the Jews as the scapegoat").

My purpose in unmasking this insipid movement is part of my refusal to sit in silence while the name of God is being blasphemed among the non-believing world by the "Christian Identity" movement (Romans 2:24). Therefore, this paper will concentrate on the birth and development of the "Christian Identity" movement, its theology, and organizational structure.

THE ROOTS OF THE CHRISTIAN IDENTITY MOVEMENT
SATANIC ROOTS IN SATAN'S HATRED OF THE JEWS

Since the beginning of Israel's history, Satan has always displayed his hatred toward Israel. His provocation against the Jews is on account of two biblical promises to the Jews: 1st, it is through the Jewish people the Messiah would come (Romans 9:4-5). Since Satan's downfall would come through the Messiah (Genesis 3:15), his anger burned toward Israel throughout biblical history as seen under Pharaoh (Exodus 1:10); under Haman (Esther 3:6); and under Antiochus Epiphanes. 2nd, it is through the nation of Israel that the world would be spiritually blessed (Genesis 12:3). In this regard, Satan continued to demonstrate his hatred toward Israel in deceiving professing "Christians" to become his tools against the Jews throughout Church history. While it is beyond the scope of this paper to trace Satan's hand in the persecution of Jews by "Christians" during the past 1900 years, our concentration brings us to Satan's four-fold methodology in plaguing the Jews today:

First, Satan must deny that the Jews are God's chosen people. Once the divine call to be "God's chosen people" is lifted from Israel, it is usually bestowed upon a new group which claims they have "replaced" the Jews. In such schemes of thinking as "British Israelism" and "Dominion Theology" (the view that Christians are to bring in God's kingdom on earth at the present moment as a condition of Jesus' return to the detriment of any future messianic kingdom for Israel), the Jewish people are set aside. The focus becomes one of spiritual pride (as with Dominion Theology and the "Church is Israel" movement) and racial supremacy (as with British Israelism).

Satan's second ploy is to convince people the Jews are responsible for the world's problems. Once the Jews are removed from their God-given role as

the elect people of God, they take on the role of "God's cursed people". In the hands of anti-Semites, the "cursed Jews" become the ones who are responsible for economic failures, for communism, for the control of the Federal Reserve System, and for the deterioration of our morals via the press and the media. In tracing the roots of the "Christian Identity" movement, it is no coincidence that the movement finds its fire against Israel in the "replacement theology" of British Israelism and for "Jewish scapegoating" in the "Jewish world conspiracy" theories found in the <u>Protocols of the Elders of Zion</u>.

Third, Satan must convince the Body of Christ not to bring the gospel to the Jewish people. The heart of Paul is an enemy to Satan when the apostle prays, "Brethren, my heart's desire and my prayer to God for them (Israel) is for their salvation (Romans 10:1). If Satan can convince Christians that the Jews are not God's elect national people, then the need to bring the Good News to Israel is undermined. On the other hand, Christian groups concerned about anti-Semitism can move to the opposite swing of the pendulum and become convinced that reaching out to the Jewish people with the Gospel is an anti-Semitic action. I am fearful that those who denounce the 'Christian Identity" movement as destructive to Jewish-Christian relations, will also denounce Jewish Evangelism.

Finally, Satan uses of Christianity to stir up anti-Semitism. In "Christian" groups that espouse "replacement theologies", racial and spiritual superiority toward the Jews is sometimes observed:

Racial Superiority. As an example of racial superiority in the replacement theology of the "Identity" movement, Rev. Richard G. Butler, an "Identity preacher", declares that he rejects the "born again" concept of Christian conversion. "We [white people] are Christians in the sense that we

Christian conversion. "We [white people] are Christians in the sense that we are born [physically]" (CT, 8/8/86, pg. 31). In light of the body of this paper, there is no need to prove this racial superiority of the "Identity" movement has resulted in anti-Semitism.

Spiritual superiority. In a sermon delivered at the Metro Church in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma (April 11, 1988) by Rick Godwin, an advocate of the Faith movement and "Kingdom Now" teaching , Godwin said of Israel, "They are not chosen; they are cursed. They are not blessed; they are cursed." Godwin maintains the basic premise that "Christians are the true spiritual Israel." Godwin's view of the Church has managed to create a contempt for national Israel that results in a spiritual superiority by those who see themselves as the "true spiritual Israel." David Lewis, a popular Assemblies of God speaker and teacher categorizes the "Dominion Theology" or "Kingdom Now" teaching as seen in Godwin's message as a theological anti-Semitism, "This theological anti-Semitism manifests itself in both contempt for the Jewish people and the idea of replacement." (Dave Hunt, *Christian Information Newsletter*, August 1988).

To summarize, in Satan's plan we must see primarily that he convinces a group they are the "true Israel" and then points the finger to the Jews as the "false Israel" . Furthermore, he convinces both those who hate the Jews and those who love the Jews, that there is no need to share the Gospel with Israel, and he uses so-called "Christians" to manifest the worst forms of racial and spiritual superiority toward the Jews. In the development of the "Christian Identity" movement all of these elements of Satan's hatred for the Jews can be observed.

THEOLOGICAL ROOTS IN BRITISH-ISRAELISM

In Leonard Zeskind's article "The 'Christian Identity' Movement", he explains, "It would be impossible to understand the Identity movement without understanding its theological roots in British Israelism or Anglo-Israelism" (Zeskind, "The 'Christian Identity' Movement," pg. 15). Unfortunately, the "Identity" movement in America has become captivated with British-Israelism because the *identity* as the "true Israel", ". . . for these early British-Israelites, no less than for our modern day Aryan Nations members, was racial." (Zeskind, pp. 17-18).

The Originators of British-Israelism

British-Israelism is a doctrine that became highly developed in the mid-19th century. The 1st person to propound this belief system was a peculiar man named Richard Brothers (1757-1824). Brothers, a psychic visionary from Canada who settled in London in the 1780's, is named the "apostle of British-Israelism" (Melton, J. Gordon, Encyclopedia of American Religions, vol. 1, pg. 447). He published a book in 1822 showing the English nation to be the descendants of the Ten "Lost" Tribes of Israel. British-Israelism under Brothers got off to a bizarre beginning:

> He began to publish the content of revelations that identified Brothers as a descendant of King David and demanded the crown of England. He was found guilty of treason, but insane, and sent to an asylum. Brothers' ideas caught on with some influential men such as Orientalist Nathaniel Brassey Halhead, Quaker psychic William Bryan, and Scottish lawyer John Finleyson. (ibid., pg. 447).

In 1840 John Wilson published a book espousing British-Israelism entitled Our Israelite Origins. His book was published in the United States in the 1850's and found some scattered disciples. But in the British Empire another exponent of Anglo-Israelism appeared in the person of Edward

Hine, author of <u>Identification of the British Nations with Lost Israel</u> (1871).
Hine saw himself as a "British-Israelite Savior" and was denounced by his
fellow "Israelites" during his own lifetime as being unreliable and
extravagant in his teachings. (Dr. Charles Wm. Walkem, <u>Contradictions,</u>
<u>Absurdities, Errors of the British-Israel Myth</u>, The Church Press, Glendale,
CA, [1948], pg. 5).

British-Israelism had no real following in the U.S. until after World War
I, and reached its peak of popularity in the 1930's and 40's. The longest-
lived and largest group of the movement was the "Anglo-Saxon Federation of
America" started in the late 1920's and headed up by Howard B. Rand,
lawyer and Bible student. The position of the Federation is summarized in its
monthly periodical *Destiny*:

> The key item in biblical interpretation is identifying Israel. Present
> day Israel is found by determining which nation or race fulfills God's
> promises made in the Old Testament. The Anglo-Saxon Federation believes
> only Great Britain and the United States fulfills the biblical description of
> Israel (Melton, <u>Encyclopedia of American Religion</u>, pg. 449).

The Influences on British-Israelism

It has already been noted that Brothers, founder of Anglo-Israelism, was
connected with the metaphysical occult. Since Metaphysics was notorious for
its beliefs in the spiritual evolution of man, it which fit wonderfully with
British-Israelism's racial superiority.

In addition, it is no surprise that the social Darwinism of the mid-19th
century with its "racial evolution" would be another major influence on
British-Israelism. In fact, in W. H. Fasken's book <u>Israel's Racial Origin and</u>
<u>Migration</u>, he borrowed heavily from social Darwinist Madison Grant. Post-
Darwinian writers such as Galton, de Gobineaum, Chamberlain and Madison

Grant believed some races were healthier than others and non-eugenic races such as people of color and Jews should be forced to curtail their population growth. As it was a short step from racial science to British-Israelism, it was a shorter step from British-Israelite racism to white supremacy theories. (Zeskind, pp. 15-16). Although it would be inaccurate to include all contemporary British-Israelites as white supremacists, one cannot help but observe how the "Identity" movement found it so easy to employ British-Israelism to reinforce their racist theology.

The Doctrine of British-Israelism

The premise of British-Israelism is spelled out by Walter Martin:

" . . . the Anglo-Israelite theory is that ten tribes were lost (Israelites) when the Jews were captured by the Assyrians under King Sargon and that these so-called 'lost' tribes are, in reality, the Saxae, or Scythians, who surged westward through Northern Europe and eventually became ancestors of the Saxons, who later invaded England. The theory maintains that the Anglo-Saxons are the ten "lost" tribes of Israel and are substituted in Anglo-Israel interpretation and exegesis, for the Israel of the Bible" (Martin, Kingdom of the Cults. 1985, pg. 307).

Since 1800, numerous erroneous speculations have appeared as to the present day descendants of the 10 "lost" tribes of Israel. But only two opinions ever gained a real following. The first of these speculations identified the American Indians as the "lost" tribes. This theory was offered by Joseph Smith, founder of the Mormon Church. Mormon theology also holds that they (the Mormons) are the descendants of the tribe of Joseph. Unlike British-Israelism, Latter Day Saint doctrine does not allow for the Mormons to replace Israel as "true Israelites", but will call themselves "Israelites" along with the descendants of Judah, the Jews.

The second speculation was the identification of the tribes with Anglo-Saxon people. The British-Israelites think they have "found" the Lost Tribes

and they are it. In Anglo-Israelism thinking "Israel" is to be distinguished from the Jews (Judah). The British-Israelite claims no Jew has the blood of Abraham in him. The Jews may be descendants of the southern kingdom of Judah, but the racial characteristics that exists in Jews today are the result of intermarriages in the days of Ezra and Nehemiah. Through these intermarriages the Jews have polluted their descent from Abraham. The British-Israelist argues that the Anglo-Saxon nations of Great Britain and America are the lineal descendants of ten "lost" tribes of Israel. The goal of biblical history for the "Israelites" (Anglo-Saxons) was to preserve their racial purity not their spiritual identity. (Zeskind, pg. 18).

The Biblical Response to British-Israelism

The two major problems with British-Israelism concerns the lostness of the ten "lost" tribes of Israel, and whether the Bible teaches "Israel and Judah are two names for the same nation".

The lostness of the ten "lost" tribes of Israel. We must take into account the schism between Judah and Israel which came after the death of Solomon during which time the nation was divided into "Israel" in the north and "Judah" in the south. But it was only to last for a limited time (I Kings 11:39). According to II Kings 17:18-23 the people of the northern kingdom of Israel were taken from their land by the Assyrians, "Therefore, the Lord was very angry with Israel, and removed them out of His sight: there was none left but the tribe of Judah only" (vs. 18). The phrase "out of His sight" speaks of the ten tribes being driven out of the land. But they did not disappear. On one hand, after the Assyrian Captivity took place, a remnant of Israelites still remained in the Holy Land and were still identified as "Israelites". For example, under the reforms of King Josiah (640 B. C.; 81 years after the Assyrian Captivity) of Judah, he held a nationwide

observance of Passover. In II Chronicles 35:17 we read, "Thus the *sons of Israel* (emphasis mine) who were present celebrated the Passover at that time, and the Feast of Unleavened Bread seven days." The sons of Israel were by no means lost or unidentifiable.

On the other hand, in biblical texts that describe Israel and Judah's return from Captivity, we discover the "lost" tribes of Israel again. In 458 B.C. Ezra, in accordance with the decree of King Artaxerxes of Persia, organized a caravan of those who willing to return to the land of their fathers Ezra 7:13 describes this caravan, "I have issued a decree that any of the people of *Israel* (emphasis mine); and their priests and the Levites in my kingdom who are willing to go to Jerusalem, may go with you." Irrespective of tribal distinctions, these families, among whom are descendants of Judah, that left Persia for Israel, are called "sons of Israel." Therefore, the people of Israel were never lost but part of the ensuing Assyrian and Babylonian and Persia empires and eventually were part of the remnant that returned to the Holy Land .

<u>The distinction between the names "Israel" and "Judah"</u>

Messianic Jewish scholar David Baron said, "It is one of the absurd fallacies of Anglo-Israelism to presuppose that the term 'Jew' stands only for a bodily descendant of the tribe of 'Judah'." (Baron, David, *A Letter to an Inquirer,* London: privately published, [n.d.], pp. 36-38).). Baron goes on to quote one Bible scholar who claims "that the name 'Jews' became general for all Israelites who were anxious to preserve their theocratic nationality ... since the political independence of the ten tribes was destroyed." (Ibid). The unmasking of the British-Israelite error on this matter is as follows:

<u>Evidence in the historical references.</u> After the Babylonian Captivity, Ezra records that the remnant who returned, were called by the

name "Jews" (8 times) and by the name "Israel (40 times). If only Jews returned to the land of Israel, there ought to be no references to "Israel". Nehemiah records eleven times that there were "Jews" and proceeds to describe them as "Israel" twenty two times (Martin, pg. 314). Thus, it would be unbiblical to conclude that only Judah (Jews) and not Israel was restored to the Holy Land. In referring to the people who returned to the land, the words "all Israel" are used consistently as inclusive of the Jews as well (Ezra 2:70; 6:17; 8:25, 35; 10:5; Nehemiah 7:73; 12:47). So we must conclude that after the captivities and the returns from the exiles, the terms "Israel": and "Jews" were interchangeable.

Evidence in the meaning of the term "Judah". The name "Judah" was used in relation to one of Jacob's sons, Judah (Gen. 29:35). The descendants of Judah were of the tribe of Judah, and all of the twelve tribes including Judah were called "Israel" in Genesis 49:28, "All these are the twelve tribes of Israel . . ." The name "Jew" as derived from the term "Judah" was first used in II Kings 16:6. But even though a member of the tribe of Judah was called a "Jew", he was also called an "Israelite" and a "Hebrew." The later distinction that came between the names "Israel" and "Judah" resulted from the division of the kingdom after Solomon. This distinction was only temporary as shown in the discussion above.

Evidence from the New Testament equation of Israel and Judah as one nation. Sometimes the New Testament uses the terms "Israel" and "Jews" in reference to the one nation of Israel. On the day of Pentecost Peter addressed Jewish language groups from all over the Diaspora and referred to them as "Men of Judea, and all you who live in Jerusalem" (vs. 14) and then later in the same speech he says, "Men of Israel, listen to these words . . " (vs. 22). Jesus instructed His disciples to reach the lost sheep of the house

of Israel (Matthew 10:6). That His instructions included the Jews is evidenced by the fact that the missionary journeys of the twelve disciples were limited to the land of Israel. (Martin, pg. 315).

If "Israel" and the "Jews" are separate nations then why does Paul, the Jew, describe the Jews as "my brethren and as "kinsmen, according to the flesh" (Romans 9:3), and then identifies them as "Israelites, heirs to the promises of God" (Romans 9:4). Paul also called himself a "Jew," an "Israelite" and a "Hebrew." (Acts 21:39; 22:3; Romans 11:1-2; Philippians 3:5). In II Corinthians 11:22 Paul says of himself, "Are they Hebrews? So am I? Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they descendants of Abraham? So am I." In Acts 22:3 Paul says quite clearly, "I am a Jew, born in Tarsus of Cilicia, but brought up in this city, educated under Gamaliel, strictly according to the law of our fathers ... " Concerning Jesus, He was called the King of the Jews (Matt. 2:1-3; Rev. 5:5). Jesus was said to be from Judah (the supposed "mongrelized" tribe) and a Jew, yet He came forth from Israel (Romans 9:5).

Horataius Bonar sums up the delusion of British-Israelism in four brief statements:

(1) It distorts and confuses the whole prophetic (S)criptures and seeks to appropriate the mil(l)ennium and its blessings for the present time.

(2) It fosters national pride and nationalizes God's blessings, undispensationally, reckoning that Britain must become mistress of the whole world.

(3) It befogs the fact that Christian destiny, whether of Jews or Gentiles, is linked, neither with Palestine, America, or England, but with an inheritance which is incorruptible and undefiled, and which fadeth not away.

(4) It robs the Jewish nation of many promises in relation to their future, by applying them to the British race.

(cited by Dr. Charles Wm. Walkem, Contradictions, Absurdities, Errors of the British-Israel Myth, 1948, pg. 31)

POLITICAL ROOTS IN THE PROTOCOLS OF THE ELDERS OF ZION

To only understand the "Identity" movement from the perspective of its theological roots in British Israelism would be an injustice. It is not enough to substantiate their belief in the Anglo-Saxon as the "true Israel." The "Identity Christian" must also use political sources to substantiate their belief in the "enemy Jew" who has hatched a "communist, anti-Christian, anti-American Jewish plot" to take over the world. In a newsletter of "Aryan Nations", Rev. Richard Butler voices his view of the "international Jewish conspiracy",

"World Jewry through their interlocking network of world-wide organizations is launching a major, all out offensive to crush the last remnants of Aryan's Israel's resistance to Jew Satanic dominion over all the earth." ("Aryan Nations," June 9, 1986, No. 63., pg. 1).

The Significance of the Protocols

One of the major sources responsible for perpetrating the anti-Semitic idea of an "international Jewish conspiracy" is the infamous document known as the Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion. According to the Protocols, "The real enemy of Americans is not international communism but "international Jewry." (Protocols of the Elders of Zion: a Fabricated "Historic" Document, "Introduction", A Report Prepared by the Subcommittee to Investigate the Administration of the Internal Security Act and Other Internal Security Laws to the Committee on the Judiciary, 1964, p. iii).

Hugo Valentin, lecturer in history at the University of Upsala, Sweden during the 1930's viewed the Protocols as a "... diabolism in a new form, a secularized diabolism." I wish we could say that the Protocols remained a "secular diabolism". But since this diabolism has crept into the dark crevices

of right-wing "Christian" hate groups, the Protocols are also now in the arena of "religious diabolism". For this reason, the Protocols are significant enough to be included in our analysis of the "Christian Identity" movement .

The Definition of the *Protocols*.

A summary description of the "program" of the Protocols is ventured by the Encyclopedia Britannica (1950 edition, vol. 2, pages 78a),

" The 'Protocols" are supposed to be a report of a series of 24 meetings held in Basle, Switzerland in 1897, at the time of the First Zionist Congress. There plans were said to have been worked out whereby Jews, together with Freemasons, were to disrupt the entire Christian civilization & on the ruins of Christendom erect a world state ruled over by Jews and Freemasons. (cited in " (Protocols of the Elders of Zion: a Fabricated "Historic" Document, op. cit., pg. 1).

Allegedly, out of these 24 secret meetings arose a series of 24 lectures by the so-called "elders" on the plans and methods for subjugating the world via a "Jewish world conspiracy", and establishing a "Jewish world state". But in Valentin's work , Anti-Semitism, Historically and Critically Examined (1936), he characterizes the Protocols as "the Greatest Forgery of the Century" (ibid., pg. 3). For the Protocols have been shown by numerous scholars to be a total forgery and a plagiarism of a satire written by Maurice Joly (1864) on Napoleon's "secret plot" against the safety of Europe. In spite of the proven forgery charged against the Protocols, this document continues to exert a profound influence in the literature of the "Christian Identity" movement. In the hands of right wing extremists, "It (the Protocols) has generated virulent anti-Semitic movements, triggered pogroms, and provided the Nazis with a 'warrant for genocide.'" (Korey, *The New Leader*, January 29, 1979, pg. 11).

The Influence of the Protocols of the Elders of Zion

From France in the late 19th century, where the Protocols were first concocted, the document migrated to Russia, where it was popular with anti-Semitic monarchists. The Protocols were used in Russia to discredit the Bolshevik movement (Russian liberalism) in the eyes of the Czar as a Jewish/Masonic plot. After the Bolshevik Revolution (which some believed was part of the "Jewish conspiracy"), fleeing Russians took the Protocols to Germany. When the Protocols entered Germany in the 1920's, the establishment of the" *volkish*-racist outlook" was occurring in that country. This nationalist movement in Germany was articulated in an earlier work, The Foundations of the Nineteenth Century (1899) by Houston Stewart Chamberlain. According to Chamberlain, the Jews have been striving throughout the ages to secure dominion over all other nations. If only the Jews could be defeated by the German "race", Germany would create a new world (Cohn, Warrant for Genocide, Scholars Press, 1981, pg. 172).

In the eyes of Germans who had been indoctrinated with the *volkish*-racist outlook of German nationalists, the Protocols embodied everything which they attributed to the "Jewish race." Now those in Germany who maintained the *volkish*-racist outlook had the evidence they needed to uncover the Jewish conspiracy against the "Aryan" or Germanic "race," and the Protocols contained their plan of campaign. (Cohn, Warrant for Genocide, (Cohn, Warrant for Genocide, Scholars Press, [1981] pp. 178-179).

Once Hitler arrived on the German scene, his thinking was already permeated by the Protocols. They served as the source for his Mein Kampf. Hitlr saw the Protocols as the text for the Jews. Hitler told one of his loyalists, "I have read The Protocols of the Elders of Zion. It simply appalled me. The stealthiness of the enemy, and his ubiquity! I saw at once that we must copy

it-in our own way, of course." If the Jews could "dominate the world" so could the Aryans, thought Hitler. Heinrich Himmler confirmed Hitler's devotion to the Protocols, by reporting that of the Protocols, "the Fuhrer learned it by heart." (Rhodes, Richard, _The Making of the American Bomb,_ Simon and Schuster, [1986], pg. 181). Consequently, Hitler saw the Jews as a threat to his Nazi machine and saw as the only recourse the genocide of the Jews. It cannot be escaped that the Protocols, though a fraudulent work, has the potential to create unprecedented anti-Semitism!

Occultic Connection with the Protocols

As the Protocols were penned in France, it was surprising for French anti-Semitism to provide the setting for the creation of the Protocols. Many propagators of French anti-Semitism were also involved in occult activities. In the Occult Establishment by James Webb, the author admits to the large part the occult has played in the genesis and propagation of the Protocols and the myth of "Jewish international conspiracy". Once again as with British Israelism, Satan managed to infect others with his hatred of the Jews. For example, the father of French anti-Semitism, Edouard Drumont, a practitioner of the occult, did his writing during a time when France was crumbling, and scapegoats had to be found. The internationalism of Jewry made it quite simple for him and others to latch on to the Jews as scapegoats. (Webb, _The Occult Establishment,_ Public Open Court, [1976], pg. 214-215).

Furthermore, in the later propagation of the Protocols, the document was mostly transmitted through occultic circles! Yuliana Glinka (1184-1918) is acclaimed to be the person who carried the Protocols into Russia. She was the daughter of a Russian diplomat and was a Theosophist, a group known for its anti-Semitic documents, racism, and conspiracy theories. (Webb, op. cit., pg. 230-31). The point is that the Protocols were transmitted through

occultic circles. (ibid., pg. 255-256). James Webb makes a significant statement connecting occultism and anti-Semitism.

"In the 19th and 20th centuries the chief repository of superstition has been the Occult Underground, and it is chiefly from this source that there stems the most vital element in modern anti-Semitism". (ibid., pg. 218).

The Propagation of the Protocols.

The Protocols were first published in 1905 in Russia by an occult illuminate named Segius Nilus. Nilus added them to his mystical work The Great in the Small (Webb, op. cit., pg. 217). Nilus connected his manuscript of the Protocols with the expectation of the coming of the Antichrist, the King of the Jews, the "head of international Jewry". In our own country during the 1920's, Henry Ford promoted the dissemination of the Protocols through his paper, the *Dearborn Independent*. Ever since Ford's introduction of the Protocols into America, this document has become a fixture in America's right-wing underground. (Johnson, George, *NY Times*, 7/26/87, n.p.).

The "Identity" movement has proven to be no exception to the susceptibility of the Protocols. In a work entitled, Who's Who in the World Zionist Conspiracy, the author James Combs cites Protocol number five which states, "We shall wear down the Goyim that they will be compelled to offer us international power. . that . .will enable us . . to form a super-government". Combs uses this quotation to prove Jews are out for the destruction of "White Christian Nationalists". (Combs, James,Who's Who in the World Zionist Conspiracy, Liberty Bell Publications 1978., pg. 39).

Others "Christian" hate spokesman reflect the "International Jewish "Conspiracy" theory by proclaiming that any patriotic Christian American ought to realize that Communism is Jewish from start to finish. (LeBus, Phillip

D., "Who Causes Wars," *Christian Educational Association, Inc,* [1981], p 1).
When Henry Ford Sr. saw the horror of World War I, of "Christian fighting
Christians" in a war "financed by Jews", he spent seven million dollars in
1914 and compiled the book, The International Jew in which Ford lays out
the "Jewish blue print for world control through Communism".(ibid., pg. 2).

Finally, as is claimed by the Twelfth Protocol, the "Zionists have the
control of media throughout the world". The major assumption of those who
echo the Protocols on this issue is that since there are Jewish people in
ownership and chairing different media organizations, there must be an
"international Zionist conspiracy". One "Identity" propagandist greatly
influenced by the Protocols is Brig. Gen, Jack Mohr who expresses his fear of
Jewish control:

> "Look behind the immoral influence of Hollywood and television and you
> find them Jewish controlled! The same can be said of popular music, which
> combines weak-mindedness with sexual filth. Only a mind imbued [sic] with
> Talmudic evil could produce such filth!" . . . Look at every organized anti-
> Christian effort in America-the things which seek to destroy Christian law
> and the freedom its brings-behind it, you will find the sinister figure of the
> International Jew" (Mohr, Jack, " The Assault on Freedom, *For Christ And
> Country,* Bay St. Louis, Miss., "pp. 5-6)

One does not have to look to far to see that the "Identity" movement has
chosen to put more faith in the racist filth that has created a Nazi Germany
than to believe in the providence of God who has put His hand upon "His
chosen people"-the Jews.

THE THEOLOGICAL AND POLITICAL LINKS WITH CHRISTIAN IDENTITY

British Israelism in the hands of right wing "Christian" anti-Semites became the"Christian Identity" movement. For the sake of a working definition, the "Christian Identity" movement is a "pseudo-Christian" movement which holds to the belief that white-Anglo Saxons, not Jews, are the "true Israel" and "God's chosen people". (The "Identity Churches": A Theology of Hate, op. cit, pg. 5). So when a person speaks of "Christian Identity", he is speaking of the fact he believes his racial identity is in the nation of Israel and that He is a follower of Israel's Messiah Jesus. The "Anglo-Saxon Christian" believes he has a racial identity to fulfill in establishing God's kingdom on earth. This is to be accomplished by keeping the white race pure. In this section, we want to examine how this British-Israelism took root in America, and how it ended up in the hands of American white supremacists.

THE PRE-WAR PRECURSORS OF IDENTITY CHRISTIANITY IN AMERICA

Already from Great Britain, America had become the depository for British Israelism. But then out of Russia at the end of the Great War came several factors that helped to steer the thinking of conservatives in America in the direction of anti-Semitism. One was the threat of communism and socialism in the "red scare" of the 1920's. It didn't take much to convince people that the Bolshevik movement was guided by" atheistic, marxist Jews". (Pierard, Richard V., "Conservative Protestantism and Anti-Semitism", published in the conference volume of the 16th Annual Bernhard E. Olson Conference on the church Struggle and the Holocaust, [n. d.], pg. 3)

The second force from Russia was the arrival of the Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion. On May 22, 1920 automaker, Henry Ford started to

publish the <u>Protocols</u> in a series of articles in the *Dearborn Independent*.
Much of the anti-Semitic ravings of Ford were preserved by his editor Wm.
Cameron in a four volume collection entitled <u>The International Jew: The
World's Foremost Problem.</u> (1920-1922). <u>The International Jew</u> echoed all
the themes of Jewish conspiracy theories:

> Jews were responsible for Communism and the Russian Revolution; Jews
> were the hidden hand behind Freemasonry; Jews were responsible for usury
> and finance capitalism; Jews controlled the banks; the trade union movement
> was Jewish; Jews killed Christ and were Satanic; Jews were behind the
> problems in agriculture ... (cited by Zeskin, pg. 12)

Though Cameron used the *Independent* to attack Jews, he also employed
the publication to spout forth his British Israelism. After a public outcry
against Ford's hate campaign, he stopped publishing <u>The International Jew</u> in
1927. But in 1933 Cameron became the president of the newly founded
"Anglo-Saxon Federation of America" in Detroit. "The Anglo Saxon
Federation" published <u>Destiny</u> magazine which became the pre-eminent
racist publication of its time. Its readership included all the major racists of
the 30's, such as William Pelley of the Silver Shirts, Gerald L. K. Smith, and
Gerald Winrod, the "Jayhawk Nazi."

Gerald L. K. Smith (1898-1976) was major figure who took the conspiracy
theories of the <u>Protocols,</u> the Anglo-Saxon racial claims, and anti-Semitic
sentiments and became a major catalyst in birthing the "Christian Identity"
movement. Smith was a successful Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
minister who was also an avid British-Israelist. After WW II he gained the
reputation of being the most militant Christian anti-Semite in America with
his various political ventures, his "Christian Nationalist Crusade" and his hate
sheet, <u>The Cross and the Flag</u> in which he disguised his racism in the

"political commentary" of his magazine. *Smith died in 1976 ending the living link between the pre-WW II racist movement & the racist movement of the post-war period.* (Pierard, pg. 7).

. THE POST-WAR FORMATION OF THE "CHRISTIAN IDENTITY" MOVEMENT

Dr. Wesley Swift and "The Anglo-Saxon Christian Congregation."

The prime activist in the resurgence of racism in the post WW II years was Dr. Wesley Swift. He and Bertram Comparet (a one-time attorney for the Gerald L. K. Smith's "Christian Nationalist Crusade" and a speaker and writer with blatant racist views) elaborated the British-Israelism theology within the context of the white supremacist movement. Swift, a member of the KKK, served as top West Coast lieutenant of Gerald L. K. Smith. Swift soon founded a church in Los Angeles during the 1950's called "The Anglo-Saxon Christian Congregation." (Zeskin, pg. 14). Swift's anti-Semitic teachings were colored by such public statements as, "All Jews must be destroyed" (The "Identity Churches": A Theology of Hate, ADL Report, pg. 6). On segregation and the Bible, Swift taught,

"If you believe the Bible, you are going to be a segregationist. If you believe the Bible you are not going to work out any deal of coexistence in the devil's kingdom b/c your race was sent down here to overthrow it." (Swift, "Anti-Christ in the Pulpits", from a sermon by Dr. Wesley Swift, pg. 7)

When Swift died in 1970, his mantle was claimed by "Rev." Richard G. Butler, the leader of the Idaho-based hate group, "Aryan Nations".

Rev. Richard Girnt Butler and "Aryan Nations"

Rev. Richard Girnt Butler is the best known of the "Identity" leaders due to his role in "Aryan Nations". After the war, Butler, a veteran of the U.S. Air Force, was deeply troubled about the future of America. .He spent

most all of his spare time studying and delving into various service and political organizations trying to arouse attention concerning the threat of "Jewish communism." (Butler, Richard, "Foundation: Biography of Aryan Nations" pamphlet published by Aryan Nations, no page). Butler was introduced to the Identity movement and to Dr. Wesley Swift, by Col. William P. Gale, a member of Swift's congregation in Los Angeles (The "Identity Churches" : A Theology of Hate, op. cit. pg. 6).

Beginning in 1961, Butler immediately formed a very close relationship with Dr. Swift, which continued to Dr. Swift's death. Butler spent years of study with Dr. Swift and Rev. Bertrand Comparet. Upon the death of Dr. Swift, Butler struggled with Identity preacher William Gale for the leadership of Wesley Swift's "The Anglo-Saxon Christian Congregation" in Los Angeles. Butler inherited the church and in the 1970's moved it to Idaho under the name, the "Church of Jesus Christ Christian". Soon Butler started "Aryan Nations" as the political arm of his "Identity" church.

The "Aryan Nation's" compound in northern Idaho has become the center of an emergent alliance of neo-Nazi and "Identity" factions extending across the US and to Europe. Every summer " Aryan Nations"hosts a conclaves of Posse Comitatus leaders, Klansmen, supermilitant survivalists, neo- Nazis and now the Skinheads. "The Hate Movement Today: A Chronicle of Violence and Disarray" ADL Report, 1987, pg. 8)   In others words, "Aryan Nations" has developed into a "theo-political" organization aimed at fostering national and international Aryan solidarity" The "Aryan Nations" organization has the goal of setting up a white country purified of all mongrel races. They want to set up this "national racist state" in the 5 northwestern states: Oregon, Idaho, Washington, Wyoming, and Montana. (Lake, Peter, "Exegesis of the Radical Right, *California Magazine* pg. 98).

Rev. William Potter Gale and the "Ministry of Christ Church"

Gale, a retired Army Colonel, was another disciple of Dr. Wesley Swift. Gale attended Dr. Wesley Swift's church and was a longtime associate of Swift. Thus, Gale is considered to be one of the early leaders in the "Identity" movement. Currently, Gale is the "minister" of his own "Identity" church, the "Ministry of Christ Church" in Mariposa, California. (The "Identity Churches" : A Theology of Hate, op. cit. pg. 7). In 1960 Gale organized the paramilitary "California Rangers" which were closely linked with the views, activities and personnel of Wesley Smith. In 1969 he organized a branch of the "Posse Comitatus" in Glendale, CA, called "US Christian Posse Association." He wrote a book for the "Posse" as well as several manuals on guerilla warfare. (ibid., pp. 7-8)

In Gale's widely broadcasted sermons he rants against "Zionist conspirators" who have "taken over America". One of these sermons stated, "If the Jews even fool around with us, or try to harm us in any way, every rabbi in LA will die within 24 hours." (ibid, pg. 7). In another sermon he exposed his anti-Semitism,

"the evil in Jews is incurable for its rises from the illicit coupling of Eve with Satan. From that union came the 1st murderer, Cain, who set an example for all Jews to become killers of God's Chosen People, the Gentiles. (Lake, op. cit., pg. 98)

Once we leave Swift, we find ourselves trying to trace the ever developing "Identity" movement. Thus, we need to examine the one place where this movement finds some semblance of cohesiveness-its theology.

THE THEOLOGY OF THE "CHRISTIAN IDENTITY" MOVEMENT

"Christian Identity" is a movement whereby so-called "Christians" are involved in the oxymoron of "Christian racism". The major theological thesis of the "Christian Identity" movement is the belief that the white Anglo-Saxon, not the Jew, is the "true Israel" and "God's Chosen people". In other words, the major belief of the "Christian Identity" movement is the doctrine of the inherent superiority of the white race. In delineating the theology of the 'Christian Identity" movement, we need to survey the most essential teachings in the movement

1. The Bible is the true Word of God written for and about the white people. According to the "Identity" movement, the Bible is the genesis, history, and prophecy of the white race only. There is no genesis for the Jew, black, yellow or "mongrelized races" in the Bible.

2. The creation of Adam was the placing of the white race on earth.

God initially created a pre-Adamic race. The pre-Adamic races of people were the ancient Asiatics, who, under the influence of Satan, "mongrelized the earth with the Negroids" and established new racial lines and lowered the blood of the pre-Adamic society (Swift, Dr. Wesley, "Who are the Jews?" from a sermon, no date, pg. 4, pp 14-15). God desired the pre-Adamic creation to procreate after their own kind. But because God saw His pre-Adamic creation had not brought forth an advanced civilization, He decided a superior species was needed to bring forth His kingdom on earth.

God created Adam-the progenitor of the Caucasian race. God put the Adamites here b/c He wanted His own special race-the white race- to rule with Him. Adam, the first white man, became the physical offspring of God and the only race possessing His Spirit. God forbade Adam and Eve and their descendants from having sexual relations with people of other races.

God's family of Adamic children were to be a "divinely segregated race". (Murray, Satan's Descendants, pg. 3-4).

3. There are literal children of Satan in the world today. In the Garden of Eden, Satan appeared to Eve as a beautiful "white god" and seduced her. Thus, the original sin was that Eve cohabited with Satan, and Adam cohabited with Satan's mistress and they both spoiled the pure white race (Murray, Satan's Descendants, pp. 1, 4). The offspring of the union between Eve and Satan was Cain. Cain genetically inherited all the evil of his father, Satan. Eve then seduced Adam producing Abel. Abel inherited only good from his father Adam. However, Genesis 4:1-2 says that both Cain and Abel were children of Adam and Eve, and there is no mention of Satan.

Cain was responsible for producing the 1st white mongrels. After being banished from Eden, Cain settled among the Pre-Adamic races and took an Asian wife and produced the 1st white mongrels. He started the line of descendants which "Identity people" call "Cain's seed." The line of Cainites included the Chaldeans, the Babylonians, the Canaanites, the Edomites, the Amalakites, the Hivites, the Hittites, the Ammonites and others. (Murray, pg. 11). Supposedly, the tribe of Judah (the Jews) intermarried and absorbed so many of these different tribes of Canaan that a mixed race resulted and they became what is known today as "Jews." (Col. Jack Mohr, "Who Is True Israel?" [n.d.] pg. 6).

Seth was responsible for furthering the white race. After seven gestation periods, Eve was cleansed of her contamination by Satan, and she and Adam produced Seth. Seth was the first child of Adam and Eve to qualify to propagate a "pure white race" (Murray, Satan's Descendants, pg. 9). Therefore, the "Identity" adherent sees two seed lines in the Bible: the Adamic seed line coming down through Seth to Abraham and then on down

through the twelve tribes of Israel, and the Satanic seed line which came down through Cain to the people known as the Jews today (No author, "The Cain-Satanic Seed Line," Your Heritage, San Diego, Ca., [no date], pp. 28-29).

4. The true, literal children of the Bible are the ten tribes of Israel now scattered throughout the world and known as the Anglo-Saxon, Celtic, Scandinavian, and Teutonic people of this earth "Identity" preacher, Nobert Murray advocates ," No Jew is a Semite, no Jew is a Hebrew, no Jew is an Israelite, Neither are they Zion." (Murray, pg. 6). Much of the material on this belief reflects British-Israelism and has been dealt with in that section.

The Jews do not fit the biblical description of the nation of Israel.

Col. Jack Mohr in his pamphlet, "Who Is True Israel?" puts forth 37 reasons why the Jews are not the true Israel. Mohr points to all the spiritual descriptions of the "ideal Israel", and since the Jews rejected Jesus, they could not be fulfilling their status as "spiritual Israel." Mohr concludes that when he surveys all nations and people who are living today, only one group meets all this biblical criteria: "this is the Anglo-Saxon, Celtic, Scandinavian and Germanic people . . ". (Mohr, "Phariseeism (sic) or Anglo-Saxon Identity", [no date], pg. 6). But Mohr fails to see the present spiritual remnant within Israel consisting of Jewish believers in Jesus as fulfilling this biblical criteria. (Romans 11:1-5). Mohr also has no concept of God's progressive program for Israel. In Romans 11:25 Paul teaches that for the present Church Age, a partial hardening has happened to the nation of Israel. This partial hardening of the Israel shall last until the fulness of the Gentiles has come in and then "all Israel (as opposed to a remnant of the nation) shall be saved". Mohr is looking at the part of the nation of Israel that is hardened and is making grandiose conclusions about the Jewish people as a whole.

The Jews are not Semites   "Semite" means you are descended from Noah's son, Shem.   To the "Identity Christian" the term "Semites" take in the white, Anglo Saxon, Celtic, Germanic, Scandinavian and related people. However, it does not include the people who call themselves "Jews". (Mohr, "Exploding the 'Chosen People' Myth", pg. 4).

The Jews are not Hebrews   Dr. Wesley Swift taught that every white man on the face of the earth today is a descendant of Eber. Every white man is not a Jew, and most Jews are not white men (Swift, "Who are the Jews?" pg. 17.)

The Jews are not connected with the tribe of Judah

"Jew" comes from Hebrew word "Yehudi" which means "cursed one". This goes back to Genesis 3:17 where God curses Satan. In contrast, The New International Dictionary of the New Testament, vol.2, says the word is closely connected with the Hebrew yadah-"to praise", based on Leah's remark on the birth of her son, "'This time I will praise the Lord'; therefore she called his name Judah." . (Brown, Colin, Ed., New International Dictionary of the New Testament, vol.2, Zondervan, pg. 305).

According to Identity thinking, "Yehudah" refers to the tribe of Judah in the racial sense or one who is a citizen of southern Judah (can include tribes of Benjamin and Levi as well as Canaanites living there) or one who is a follower of the religion of Judah as given by Moses and the prophets (as opposed to rabbinical Judaism (no author, "The Origin of the Jews, Lord's Covenant Church. pg. 1). The "Identity" representatives are quick to point out that the term "Jew" was not used until II Kings 16:6, more than 1000 years after the death of Abraham and 700 years after the death of Moses. The word "Jew" found in the New Testament is a mistranslation by the KJV of the proper Greek word IOUDEAN, which simply means " an inhabitant of Judah."

(no author, "The Origin of the Jews, The Lord's Covenant Church, pg. 1). Jesus was only called a "Judean" *Ioudias* by His contemporaries. But He was not a Jew. (Mohr, "Exploding the 'Chosen People' Myth", [no date], pp. 8-9; cf. Mohr, "A Jew speaks Out, [no date], pg. 7). The woman at the well in John 4:9 was simply saying that Jesus has come from Judea before entering into Samaria (cf. John 4:3-4).

Yes, the term "Yehudah" can refer to a geographical location (John 11:8, 19, 31, 33, 36, 45, 54; 12:9, 11; 19:20), or the tribe which settled there (John 2:6, 13; 3:1, 25; 4:9; 5:1; 7:2; 8:52; 11:55; 18:12, 35; 19:21, 40, 42). But according to biblical and extra biblical usage, the terms "Judah", "Jew", and "Judaism" came to denote membership of the nation or a race (Tacitus, *Histories*, 5,5); but then also of the people who turned to Judaism (Dio.,. Cass., 37, 17) and lived according to Jewish customs (Acts 2:10; Gal. 1:13; 2:14). (Brown, Colin, Ed., New International Dictionary of the New Testament, vol.2, Zondervan, pg. 310.

If *Ioudias* only refers to a geographical location, a tribe, or the Mosaic religion, then many New Testament statements are rendered nonsense. Romans 1:16-the gospel is to "the Jew first, and also to the Greek." Why would Paul contrast Gentiles with the tribe of Judah or inhabitants of Judah? Unless one sees "Jews" as representative of the whole nation, passages like these make little sense. Why would Paul call himself a Jew in Acts 21:39 and 22:3 since he was not from Judea, nor a member of the tribe of Judah?

5. The Jew is the adversary of our race and God, as is attested by all secular history and the Word of God. Murray states his view of the Jews as the "satanic race" or the "children of Cain":

"They tell you that the Jews who make war against us are the chosen people. I am going to prove to you that they are not. I am going to prove to you from your Holy Bible that the Jews could not possibly be the chosen people .. because every Jew on the face of the earth .. was and is descended from Cain and therefore descended from Satan." ((Murray Satan's Descendants, pg. 6).

John 8:44-Jesus tells the Jews they are "of their father the devil". But there is no evidence in the verse that Jesus was speaking of Jewish racial descent. He was speaking to a select group of Jewish leaders who were plotting to kill Him. Based on their statement that Abraham is their father, Jesus called them to behave like Abraham. In John 8:40 Jesus says," .. you are seeking to kill Me . . . this Abraham did not do." The emphasis is on their actions. Verse 41 starts off, "You are doing the deeds of your father." Their behavioral solidarity (and not their racial descent) with Satan and his desires was certain!

John 8:47-Jesus tells the Jews they are not of God. This is not referring to the fact the Jews are no longer God's Chosen people. Jesus is stating that if they were of God, they would hear His message. Their rejection of His word was an indication that though they are God's national children, they are not God's spiritual children.

I John 3:12-Cain's descendancy from Satan reaffirms the Jews as the offspring of Satan. In Matthew 23:34-35 Jesus tells the Jews they are responsible for all that have been killed upon the earth even unto the righteous Abel. To the Identity "Christian" this means the Jews are the descendants of Cain. Since Cain is the descendant of Satan (I John 3:12) the Jews must be descendants of Satan as well. To correct their erroneous view of Scripture, in the context of I John 3, John is exhorting Christians to love one another. Before telling the reader what love is, he tells them what it is

not. It most certainly is not the kind of behavior Cain exhibited in the murder of his brother Abel. In the action of murdering Abel, Cain was of the evil one. So if an "Identity Christian" hates his brother, his action is of the devil as well!

Rev. 2:9; 3:9-"Jews are even blaspheming in saying they are Jews". In both portions of Revelation, Jesus is speaking to churches undergoing testing and persecution. Most likely these congregations were being persecuted not only by pagans but also by Jewish people who were hostile to Christianity-specifically to Jewish believers in Jesus. Because of their behavior they are called "the synagogue of Satan." Jesus was not characterizing "the synagogue" or all synagogues as being satanic.

6. There is a battle being fought this day between the children of darkness (today known as Jews) and the children of God (the Aryan race, the true Israel of the Bible). Several evidences are given of this battle:

The Jews hate our Messiah. Col. Jack Mohr freely cites isolated and disconnected passages from the Talmud to prove the "Jewish hatred of Jesus and Christianity": Shabbaoth 104b-Jesus is referred to as a fool; Obhodah Zarah 15b-Christians are said to have sex relations with animals; Makktoh 97b-a Jew is innocent of murder if his intent was to kill a Christian; Midrash Talpioth 22-Christians were created to minister to the Jews; Babba Kama 113a-Jews must always try and deceive Christians; Zohar 11, 43a-extermination of Christians is a necessary sacrifice (Mohr, "From the Horses Mouth, no date, pg. 12). Kallah 1b (18b)-"Jesus was illegitimate and was conceived during menstruation"; Sabbath 114-"Jesus is referred to as the son of a Roman soldier and a Jewish prostitute"; Sanhedrin 103a; Hilkoth Hilkoth Maakhaloth-this states that Christians are idolators (Mohr, "Exploding the 'Chosen People' Myth, pg 11).

The Jews are bent on destroying the "True Israel" The genetic function of Jewish existence is to do the works of Satan, their father. For years the Jews have been trying to rule the world and to enslave the "Anglo-Saxon Israelite children of God" and to break down Aryan culture and racial purity(Murray, Satan's Descendants, pp. 7-8). They do this by destroying the white race, morally, spiritually and then physically.

7. God created pure seed lines and each have a specific place in His order on this earth under His Law. These so-called "biblical separatists" argue that the Jews have mongrelized and integrated with every race on earth. The white race is the only race that is head and shoulders above all the rest since it has remained racially pure. Dr. Wesley Swift comments on this idea of a "racially pure Israel",

"... Yawheh separated the Israelites and segregated them from other peoples of the earth, especially from the Jews. If any race was to be pure, the House of Abraham, or the Hebrew people were to be pure." (Swift, "Who Are the Jews?' pg. 18).

8. The present world problems are a result of disobedience to God's laws. God's intention is that His racial kinsmen would be in charge of this earth. When the "Aryan Christian" gives power to God's enemies, the Jews, they experience evil in this world. Col Jack Mohr warns:

"We have brought this judgment of God on ourselves, because we have disobeyed God. The Jews themselves are not to blame. We, the Israel people did this to ourselves by our disobedience. God is using our enemies [the Jews-author's note], as He promised, to drive His Israel sheep back into the fold." (Mohr, "Red Cloud Over America, no date, pg. 16).

Colonel Mohr points the finger at the Jews again,

"What has been the era of America's worst problems? ... You know the answer. It has been since 1948, the year we recognized 'Satan's kid's' as the rightful owners of Palestine. Could it be that God is punishing us for our presumptuousness? (Mohr, " Woe Unto Ye Fundamentalists!", pg. 5).

9. Redemptive work of Jesus was finished on cross. In the "Identity" understanding of redemption, their focus is "Saved by race not by grace". But some Identity preachers like Jack Mohr argue against this position by saying "just being an Israelite by blood will not get you into the kingdom." Mohr make it very clear that you are saved when you make Jesus the Lord of your life. (Mohr, "Red Cloud Over America, no date, pg. 13).

10. There is a day of reckoning.

There will be a day of judgment and a day when Jesus' kingdom will be established on earth. Identity preachers believe that mankind has already entered into the Tribulation. The Tribulation is a divine retribution for their sin of allowing the stranger-Jews and others-to live amongst them. Christians are to prepare for the end-time battle against the anti-Christ-the Jews! ("Mohr, "Red Cloud Over America, no date, pg. 27). Other "Identity" preachers see the anti-Christ in the "Zionist Occupation Government" (ZOG). The establishment of the Kingdom will redeem the suffering of the Anglo-Saxon peoples. Only "Identity" members will survive to build a "New Israel" in America. (Zeskind, "The "Christian Identity" Movement", pp. 24-25).

THE ORGANIZATION OF GENERAL HATE GROUPS

The current hate movement began as a revival in the mid-70's sparked by the KKK's exploitation of such racial issues as busing and affirmative action. During the latter years of the 70's, several new "Identity"groups arose such as "Aryan Nations", " Christian Patriots Defense League", "The Covenant, the Sword, the Arm of the Lord", and some new Klan and neo-Nazi groups ("The Hate Movement Today: A Chronicle of Violence and Disarray", *Anti-Defamation League Special Report*, 1987, pg. 1).

From 1984-1987 Klan and neo-Nazi groups experienced a falling off of both hard-core members and sympathizers. Even some of the more para-militant "Identity" groups fell into disarray following federal indictments in April of 1984. (Ibid, pp. 1-2). But in spite of fragmentation the "Identity" movement has put aside doctrinal differences in order to organize the various factions into one movement. What links the "Identity" movement together is not their organizational structure but "their religion." (King, Wayne"Anti-Semitism Links Violent Groups", *NY Times,* [April 25, 1985] , no page).

In light of the abundance of the media exposure offered racist groups and the active attention by law enforcement authorities to the more violent groups, there is increased public awareness of the hate movement. Though the "Identity" movement represents a small fraction of the population of the United States, they are still troublesome due to their potential for violence, their use of Christianity to advance bigotry, and their distortion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus before the Jewish people. To understand the hate movement, we must divide its structure into four segments: Ku Klux Klan, Identity Churches, Hybrid Organizations and Neo-Nazi Groups.

KU KLUX KLAN

The Ku Klux Klan arose in aftermath of Civil War but received its major support after the release of D. W. Griffith's 1915 film, *Birth of a Nation.*" In the1920's membership the Klan peaked at nearly 5 million members. For the next fifty year the Klan stood for lynchings, murders, bombings as they attempted to influence the American political scene. By the 1960's and the 70's many members went underground. Splits and rivalries occurred among various Klan factions. According to the *Klanwatch Project* in Montgomery, Alabama, about 25 different Klan groups have been in operation from 1979 - 1984. As of 1984 Klanwatch estimates that the membership of all twenty-five groups amounts to less than 10,000. The ADL claims that Klan membership in 1987 totaled 4,500-5,500. (Becker, Verne, "The Counterfeit Christianity of the Ku Klux Klan, *Christianity Today*, [April 20, 1984] , pp. 30-31).

Among the racist goals of the Klan is the voluntary separation of races and the protection and preservation of the white race. Virtually all Klan groups state that theirs is a "Christian calling" to separate and/or eradicate all minority races to preserve the purity and protect the purity of the white (Aryan) race. (CT. pg. 31). Their beliefs are very much in harmony with basic "Identity" doctrine. "Pastor" Thomas Arthur Robb, 37, national "chaplain" of the "Knights of the KKK", asks recruits to his group to sign the following statement:

I, the undersigned desire to become a member of the Church of Jesus Christ. I am a WHITE CHRISTIAN of non-Jewish, non-Negro non-Oriental descent. I believe that Jesus Christ and His laws offer the only solution to the Jewish sickness and insanity affecting America and our whole racial nation.". ("The Identity Churches" : A Theology of Hate," *ADL Report* [Spring 1983], pp. 12)

THE "CHRISTIAN IDENTITY" MOVEMENT

The major appeal of the "Identity" movement to racists is that it offers "theological rationalization" for racial bigotry. The "Identity movement" has contributed a "theological anti-Semitism" to the hate movement. However, not all hate groups can come under the umbrella of the "Christian Identity" movement since not all of them appeal to the Bible for their beliefs. *Time* magazine says of the "Christian" Identity movement that it blends the "hatred of blacks and Jews with visions of an imminent apocalypse and advocating . . . armed violence to achieve its goals" (Ostling, Richard N, "A Sinister Search for Identity," *Time,* [October 29, 1986], pg. 74). To simplify the organizational structure of the "Identity" movement, we divide it into para-military groups and the "church" groups.

Identity Churches and Organizations

Aryan Nations

"Aryan Nations" is a racist and anti-Semitic organization based in Hayden Lake, Idaho. It founder, Rev. Richard G. Butler, made" Aryan Nations" the political wing of his congregation, "Church of Jesus Christ Christian". The ultimate aim of "Aryan Nations" is the establishment of a national racist "territorial sanctuary" in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana and Wyoming. The Pacific Northwest is the true Promised Land on which an "Aryan State" must be established. (King, Wayne, "Neo-Nazis' Dream of Racist States in Northwest Refuses to Die, *NY Times,* [7/5/86], no page).

Every July, representatives of white supremacist groups gather at Butler's Hayden Lake, Idaho compound to hear "Identity" preachers and to receive paramilitary training from militant extremists. Thus, "Aryan Nations" represents the forging of links with others standard-bearers of bigotry. At an *World Aryan Congress* held at Butler's church in 1982 at least 13 KKK,

neo-Nazi and other racist groups were represented. ("The 'Identity Churches':
A Theology of Hate, *ADL Report*, Spring 1983, pp. 12-13) The 1986 *World
Aryan Congress* attracted some 200 participants. At a Sunday morning
"service" during the 1986 Congress, a reporter from the *Minneapolis Star and
Tribune* describes what occurred,

> ... at the end of the service almost all of the attenders lined up the side
> of the church. At the altar they were handed a heavy, ornately decorated
> sword; they grabbed it with both hands, pointed it at a stained-glass panel of
> a swastika-like cross and affirmed, 'Before Yahweh, our father, I pledge my
> sacred honor.' The preachers touched the foreheads of the faithful with oil
> and said, 'I anoint thee as a soldier of Jesus the Christ.' ("Warriors in the
> Fight against Racial Equality, *Minneapolis Star and Tribune*, [July 22, 1986],
> pg. 9A)

In a *Time* magazine article "Rev." Butler claims, "the Identity groups
count from 2,000 to 5,000 members plus several times that many
sympathizers ." (Ostling, " A Sinister Search for 'Identity'", *Time*, [10/20/86],
pg. 74). But the ADL says there are no more 500 members of the "Aryan
Nations". (Egan, Timothy, "Idaho Soldiers of Hate Find No Homeland," *NY
Times*, [1/2/88] , pg. 6). However, Butler sees great potential for recruiting
more people because traditional churches are not offering solutions to social
problems such as decline in public education and integration of families.
"White Supremacists Take on Trappings of Religion," *Christianity Today*,
[8/8/86], pg. 30).

The handful of Identity churches that are meeting hold services in
traditional places of worship. But the larger network includes little-noticed
groups that meet in private homes, and individuals who regularly receive
"Identity messages" on audio cassettes and in publications in the mail. The
word also spreads through prison contacts, computer bulletin boards, "Bible"
conferences and TV programs on public access channels on TV cable systems

(Ostling, op. cit., pg. 74). Butler speculates that at least "two-three million have been exposed to Identity beliefs" (*CT*, op. cit, 8/ 8/86, pg. 30)

Christian Defense League and the New Christian Crusade Church

James K. Warner's "Christian Defense League" of Baton Rouge and Arabi, Louisiana is an extremist anti-Semitic group. It calls itself the "voice of true Christianity in America." Warner has been engaged in extremist, anti-Semitic activities since the early 1960's as an officer in the "American Nazi Party", and an active member in the "Knights of the KKK".

The ultimate aim of Warner's group is "to organize the White Christian majority and to forge them into a movement that can sweep the anti-Christ from our churches and those that support the anti-Christ Jews from any political positions they may hold." ("The 'Identity Churches': A Theology of Hate, *ADL Report*, [Spring 1983], pp.13)

The "Christian Defense League" is linked with an "Identity" church founded by Warner in 1971, called the "New Christian Crusade Church" in Metairie, Louisiana. His "Christian Defense League" is the "action arm" of the "New Christian Crusade Church". The creed of "New Christian Crusade Church" is that the Jews are not the 'chosen people' but rather the physical offspring of Cain, the satanic seedline. In 1982 Warner wrote," Let us pray for the day when the last Jew leaves our shores forever. Let us free America from JEWISH DOMINATION." ("The 'Identity Churches': A Theology of Hate, *ADL Report*, [Spring 1983], pp. 10)

America's Promise Broadcast

Sheldon Emry was "Pastor" of the "America's Promise" radio program and the "Lord's Covenant Church" in Phoenix Arizona. He was a long-time hatemonger who preached "Kingdom-Identity Christianity" on his radio program. "America's Promise" publishes a monthly "America's Promise

Newsletter" as well as a number of "Israel Identity" books and tracts. In his publications Emry charges that Jews are not Israelites and Gentiles are "the lost sheep of the house of Israel", and that the modern state of Israel does not fulfill Bible prophecy. ("The 'Identity Churches': A Theology of Hate, *ADL Report*, [Spring 1983], p.8).

On the more militant side of Emry, he was involved in the "Citizens Emergency Defense System"-a survivalist group associated with the "Christian Patriots Defense League." (Ibid). Emry is a prime example of an "Identity Christian" who combines theological beliefs with a para-military edge. Emry died in 1985 and was succeeded by associate "Pastor" Ben Williams who has established his own tape and newsletter ministry in Medford, Oregon. Williams changed the "church" name to "America's Covenant Church," which is being currently run by "Pastor" Ron Poch. His his "services' have begun to attract about 50 families.

Gordon Winrod

Winrod is the son of the late Gerald B. Winrod, the "Jayhawk Nazi." Gordon built an organization known as the "Defenders of the Christian Faith". Gordon was the pastor of Our Savior's Church in Gainesville, Missouri until his anti-Semitic monthly, "The Winrod Letter" hit the public, after which he was ousted from the Missouri Synod of the Lutheran Church in 1960.

Winrod served as National Chaplain of the racist, anti-Semitic "National States Rights Party" (NSRP) until 1962. Now he devotes himself full-time to tirades against Jews on his radio broadcast, "The Winrod Hour". He has advocated "killing all Jews." as the solution to America's social and economic problems. (ibid, pg. 9).

Dan Gayman and the The "Church of Israel"

Dan Gayman has been named the "bishop" within the "Identity" church movement. He organized his own "Church of Israel" situated near Schell City, Missouri with 40-60 followers. He propagates the racist, anti-Semitic theology of the Identity movement from his pulpit and during speaking tours across America. Gayman has appeared as a speaker at Butler's *World Aryan Congress.*

In his tract "For Fear of the Jews" Gayman states, "Today every word that is printed in America's newspapers, slick periodicals, and over radio and television is censored by the psychological fear of the Jews." He proposes that it is necessary to "penetrate, expose, unveil and bring to light the truth about the Jews, political Zionism, the racial origin of the Jew and the Satanic origin of the religious philosophy called Judaism."

Robert E. Miles and the Mountain Church of Jesus Christ the Savior

Robert Miles is an important "Aryan Nation" leader. Miles, one-time Grand Dragon, Realm of Michigan, for United Klans of America (1969-1971), served a prison sentence in the 1970's for bombing empty school buses as a protest against racial integration. Since 1986 Miles has been running the "Prison Ministry" for the Aryan nations. He sends a special publication to some 2000 prisoners around the countries and through regular contact with these inmates, he has recruited many into the hate movement. Miles has also been instrumental in bringing different Klan and neo-Nazi leaders together at various "Identity" movement conferences. (Zeskind, "The 'Christian Identity' Movement", op. cit., pg. 9).

Currently, Miles has been full-time "pastor" of his "Mountain Church of Jesus Christ the Savior" in Cohoctah, Michigan and hosts bi-annual gatherings at his Michigan farm which attracts up to 200 hate movement activists.

(ADL Report, 1987, pg. 10). His religion is amalgam of violence, white supremacy, anti-Semitism and racism. Miles espouses standard "Identity" doctrine: "Our nation is the nation of our race, under a white God, for a white people . .we are in a war for our race's survival." (ADL Report, 1983, pg. 11).

Jack Mohr and "Crusade for Christ and Country"

Col. Jack Mohr is the "traveling salesman" of the "Identity" movement. He takes his Mississippi-based "Crusade for Christ and Country" all over the US and Canada. In his literature he warns of Soviet invasion and criticizes Christian Fundamentalists for their inability to stand up to "anti-Christ Jewry". (Zeskind, op. cit., pg. 9). Mohr also heads the "Christian Patriots Defense League's" Citizen's Emergency Defense System. He lectures to his followers on the need for armed citizen groups for the "defense of the white Christian civilization." (ADL Report, 1987, pg. 12).

In addition to the above named "Identity groups", there are a number of localized "Identity" churches scattered around the country. Many of them are located in the Pacific Northwest, and are usually organized around a single "pastor" who conducts weekly services and often publishes a newsletter filled with racist theology.

Identity Para-Military Groups

Once we look at the paramilitary activity within the "Identity" movement, we witness the convergence of the impulse toward armed violence within the general hate movement and the impulse towards armed activity from within "Identity theology" itself.

Christian Patriots Defense League

The first prominent para-military project generated by the "Identity" movement was the "Christian Patriots Defense League "(CPDL). The CPDL, started by John R. Harrell, an Illinois millionaire, preaches a conspiracy

theory of history pointing to "an almost certain and inescapable collapse of the present structure" of America caused by Communism, which is only the surface of "the Pharisaical anti-Christ system" (ADL Report, 1987, pg. 15).

The purpose of the CPDL is to awaken and organize "patriots" who find themselves in the wilderness contending against humanism, modernism, communism, regionalism, Judaism, taxation, gun confiscation, and other atrocities perpetrated by evil men among whom are the "Christ-hating International Jewish Conspiracy." (ADL Report, pg. 15). On one hand, their militant stand against Zionism and Communism is fought through an active program of "Identity" racism and anti-Semitism (ADL Report, 1987, pg. 15). (Zeskind,. pg. 43). On the other hand, Harrell recommends that every family of his followers "have a 12-gauge shotgun, a .22 rifle and at least 500 rounds of ammunition." (Ostling, "A Sinister Search for 'Identity,' *Time*, [10/20/86] pg. 74).

The supporters of the CPFL hold regular "Freedom Festivals" each summer in southern Illinois to learn military skills and survivalist methods and to hear a variety of Klan, neo-Nazi and Identity speakers. At their Labor Day 1986 Festival, they attracted some 500 as compared with over a thousand at previous gatherings. Their goal is to provide a fighting force to "defend" the country in the event of a national or international crisis. (*ADL Report*, [1987], pg. 15). At one of the first meetings of the CPDL, a speech was given in which both the para-military nature of the CPDL and the "Identity" message was combined:

You have to know who you are, where you are going, how you are going to get there, and who your enemy is ... YOU MUST KNOW WHO YOU ARE: it is imperative that you know you are an Israelite ... YOU MUST KNOW WHERE YOU ARE GOING: ... You must know we will receive the Kingdom

through Jesus Christ. . . .YOU MUST KNOW HOW YOU ARE GOING TO GET THERE: . . . . The attaining of the kingdom is called a 'battle,' 'warfare,' we are told to 'oppose', and we are called 'God's battle ax and weapons of war' . . . . YOU MUST KNOW WHO YOUR ENEMIES ARE: .. .... those who are actively working against true Israel and against Christ's Kingdom ("What We Believe," The Covenant, The Sword and The Arm of the Lord, *CSA Journal* cited by Zeskind, pg. 44).

The Covenant, the Sword and the Arm of the Lord (CSA)

This is a para-military survivalist group which operated a 224 acre "Christian communal settlement" near Arkansas-Missouri border. This group, founded in 1976 by former San Antonio fundamentalist minister, Jim Ellison, is a purveyor of anti-Semitism, racism and para-military training. At one time the CSA encampment consisted of one hundred men, women or children who believed American society to be approaching economic collapse, famine, rioting and a coming war all of which they awaited by stockpiling arms, food, and wilderness survival gear and by training in the use of weapons. (ADL Report, Spring 1983, pg. 15).

The CSA church has declared "We believe the Scandinavian-Germanic-Teutonic-British-American people to be the lost sheep of the House of Israel which Jesus was sent for." They also hold that " . . . the Jews are not God's Chosen People, but are in fact, an anti-Christ race whose purpose is to destroy God's people and Christianity through its talmudic teachings, forced inter-racial dating and perversions. They are the seed of Satan, not the seed of God," says Bill Thomas, organizer of CSA seminars (ADL Report, Spring 1983, pg. 15).

In 1985 a force of 300 state and Federal officers took control of the "Covenant Camp" after a 4 day-standoff. When the CSA camp was overtaken by authorities, they also found four members of the Order, a para-military "Identity" group. For investigators this clued them to a definite

link between the Order and the CSA. (King, Wayne"Anti-Semitism Links Violent Groups", *NY Times,* April 25, 1985, no page).

Posse Comitatus

The Posse Comitatus, in existence since 1969, is an organization composed of loosely affiliated bands of armed vigilantes and survivalists. . The name "Posse Comitatus" is Latin for "power of the country." They believe all government power is rooted at the county level. They are depicted as violent tax-protesting vigilantes. Unauthorized, self seeking Posses seeking the return of vigilante justice have been organized on the county level in CA, Co, Del. ID, Ill, Kan, MI, Neb, ND, ORE, TX, Wash, Wisc. These groups are considered violent and dangerous by law enforcement officers. (ADL Report, Spring 1983, pg. 14).

Their membership is about 2-3 thousand. They attract Klan types and other anti-Semites. They combine their extremist views on law and order with belief in the power of the gun and what they describe as devotion to God. Posse Comitatus members have founded and are members of "Identity" churches of their own. Some are called "Life Science" or "Basic Bible Churches". They believe Jews are in control of the financial and political establishment and focus their attacks on the IRS and the Federal Reserve Banking System. (ADL Report, Spring 1983, pg. 14).

The Order

The "Order", or "Silent Brotherhood" or "White American Bastion" a neo-Nazi Identity group, was founded in 1982 by Robert Matthews. The core membership came from the ranks of the "Aryan Nations" and the CSA. They couldn't wait for the apocalyptic white revolution to begin and joined with like-minded comrades from the Klan, the Posse Comitatus and other neo-Nazi groups to form this clandestine organization as part of a revolution

against the U.S. government., which it refers to as "ZOG" (Zionist Occupation Government). (Lake, Peter, "An Exegesis of the Radical Right," *California Magazine,* April 1985, pg. 99).

Matthews had been inspired by William Pierce's 1978 racist fantasy novel, The Turner Dairies which chronicles a violent takeover of the U.S. Government by racial extremists who purge the country of non-Aryans. This book inspired the members of the Order to also try for a successful revolution through the path of terrorist tactics, assassinations, bombings and urban sabotage. (ADL Report, 1987, pg. 9). The Turner Dairies are summarized by Peter Lake:

Pierce's Turner is a white Aryan hero and martyr who leads a 'Great Revolution' in which millions of American Jews, blacks, Latinos, and 'race traitors' are exterminated on the climactic 'Day of the Rope'. It is a horribly bloodthirsty and apocalyptic scenario, justified by Pierce's belief that 'there is no way a society based on Aryan values can evolve peacefully from a society which has succumbed to Jewish spiritual corruption.' (Lake, Peter, "An Exegesis of the Radical Right," *California Magazine,* April 1985, pp. 97-98).

On November 25, 1984 Matthews penned what is called the Order's "Declaration of War":

We will resign ourselves no more to be ruled by a government based on mobacracy. ... We claim a territorial imperative which will consist of the entire North American continent north of Mexico ... We now close this Declaration with an open letter to Congress and our signatures confirming our intent to do battle. Let friend and foe alike be made aware. This is war! (Singular, Steven, Talked to Death. Berkley Books, 297, pp. 238-239).

Most of the 24 members of the Order are in prison for bombings, bank robberies, and murder in a plan to overthrow the government. Matthews was killed in a shootout with federal authorities in 1984. The

Order had failed to bring about the revolution so neatly laid out in <u>The Turner Diaries</u>. But their dream of a " White Sovereign National State in America lives on in the "Identity" movement.

HYBRID "IDENTITY" ORGANIZATIONS

White Aryan Resistance

Tom Metzger of Fallbrook, California was greatly influenced by National Socialism. Metzger's Organization WAR emphasizes a pseudo-populist appeal to the "white working class." Metzger's group is small with chapters in several California cities but his influence has become quite extended through his publication, *White Aryan Resistance* (Lake, op. cit., pg. 102). Also , he is frequently seen on television talk shows and has been seen on his own program "Race and Reason" on various cable stations. (ADL, 1987, pg. 16).

National States Rights Party

This group, based in Georgia, is a more established organization with a Hitlerian philosophy. The organization has been reduced through internal bickering but their publication *Thunderbolt* is still a popular hate sheet along Klansmen and other racial extremists.(ibid., pg. 16)

Two other hybrid racist organizations include the <u>National Democratic Front</u> (NDF) and <u>German American National Political Action Committee</u> (GANPAC). These groups call for white revolution and separate states along racial lines. (ibid., pg. 17)

NEO-NAZI FACTIONS

American Nazi Party

The American Neo Nazi movement was started in 1958 by George Lincoln Rockwell in Arlington, VA. Rockwell was assassinated by one of his followers in 1967. Two of Rockwell's lieutenants, Matt Koehl and William Pierce (author of <u>The Turner Diaries)</u> continued the neo-Nazi groups in Arlington.

Both have changed the name of their organizations and Koehl moved to Wisconsin and Pierce to West Virginia. Koehl has an active hard core cadre of 25 and about 100 members who pay dues. Koehl's group is known as the "New Order." (formerly National Socialist White People's Party). (ADL Report, 1987, pg. 13). William Pierce's organization was the "National Alliance" but it has been in decline. In addition, there are smaller neo-Nazi sects operating in California, Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, Oregon, and Wisconsin (Ibid. pg. 14)

Skinheads

Since 1987 a new phenomenon has occurred with a new neo-Nazi faction called the "Skinheads." A special 1988 report on the Skins by the ADL commences,

"Growing numbers of violence prone neo-Nazi gangs known as Skinheads are linking up and beginning to re-invigorate long-established hate groups , such as the Ku Klux Klan, and other white supremacist racist and anti-Semitic organizations." ("Young and Violent: The Growing Menace of America's Neo-Nazi Skinheads, 1988, pg. 1).

Their definition. The Skinheads are violence-prone neo-Nazi youth gangs. The movement originated in Great Britain where gangs of shaven headed and tattooed youths wearing combat boots began to be seen in the streets in the early 70's. Their style is meant to symbolize tough, patriotic, anti-immigrant, working class attitudes in contrast to the pacifist, liberal, middle class views of their opposites-long hairs.

One of their leaflets distributed in Cincinnati reads, "We would prefer to smash the present anti-white Zionist (Jew) puppet-run government with a healthy, new white man's order." Hardcore Skinhead doctrine is a mixture of xenophobia, racial and religious bigotry and affinity for Nazism. Their motto is "Our heads are shaved for battle"

Links with Other Groups. The main white supremacist group reaching out to Skinheads is the California based "White Aryan Resistance" (WAR), headed by Tom Metzger, former Grand Dragon of the California KKK. He views the Skinheads as "frontline warriors". In addition to their links with Metzger's group, Skinheads have been participating in joint activities with other hate groups, especially the KKK and "Aryan Nations" (ADL Report, 1988, pg. 1-2)

In light of this new support system for the Skins, an *LA Times* article concluded, "Evidence suggest that older, more established white-supremacy groups such as the KKK, and the Fallbrook, California based White Aryan Resistance may be deliberately influencing the young neo Nazis" (Jones, Tamara, "Violence by Skinheads Spreads Across Nation, *LA Times*, 12/19/88, pg. 21). In an article in the *Jewish Journal* from June 1988 (6/17-23/88). Leonard Zeskind of the Center for Democratic Renewal offered a warning, "The real question is whether they will break out of their subculture and affiliate with non-skinheads. If that happens, we are in for some serious trouble."(Bishop, Katherine, "Alarm Over Skinheads, *Jewish Journal*, 6/17-23/88, pg. 12). Later in the year, after Skinhead links were formed with the "old guard" racists, Zeskind admitted , "What you have here is not the last, dying remnants of an old problem. What we have here is just the embryo of a future problem." (*LA Times*, 12/ 19/88, pp. 21-22).

Their numbers. Skinheads are found in the urban centers of LA, Chicago, Dallas, and Atlanta but also in places like Grand Rapids, Mich, Vancouver, Washington, and Paramus, N. J. In fact, California has the largest and most violent concentration of Skinheads and is now emerging as the national recruiting center for dangerous young racists. The *LA Times* said the Skinheads are thought to have doubled their ranks since March 1988 to

claim an estimated 2000-3500 hard core members nationwide. (*LA Times,* pg. 21).

Their violence. Authorities and civil rights groups report that Skinheads are responsible for a growing amount of violence around the country. The rise in the number of Skinheads has been paralleled by an increase in the amount of violent crimes they have committed. They are linked to racial and religious crimes in 24 states compared to 12 last February 1988. (*LA Times,* pp. 20-21).

Their music. The element of youth cult and association with rock music is attractive to potential young recruits to the Skinheads. Their hard - driving rock music is called White power" music. The music originated in Great Britain. The leading Skinhead band from Britain is Skrewdriver led by Ian Stuart, a National Front organizer. Among the recordings by Skrewdriver are singles with titles: White Power, Nigger Nigger, Prisoner of Peace (Rudolph Hess). Other British bands include Brutal Attack; Skullhead; Prime Suspects; Sudden Impact; British Standard. The U.S. groups include White Pride, U.S. Chaos, and The Final Solution (*ADL Report,* 1987. pg. 3).

Because of the follwing reasons, Christians ought to be greatly concerned with the Skinhead movement: 1) the threat it brings of violence in our communities, 2) the growth of youthful neo-Nazism. 3) The rise of Skinhead gangs in the veteran white supremacist movement could bring a reversal in the steady decline among these groups over the past decade 4) the attraction of youth to a form of rock music promoting a "white power" message.

CONCLUSION

Initially we observed the Jewish man during WW II who read the Jewish newspapers and became discouraged after learning about all the persecutions against the Jews, but perked himself up by reading Nazi propaganda about "how the Jews control the world". Regardless of his two emotional states, the most significant issue is that he did nothing.

We must realize it will take more than emotions to do something about the "Christian Identity" movement. It would have been a sheer waste of time to have compiled this research on the "Identity" movement and not take some necessary Christian action! But let me warn the reader that for those Christian leaders who have already stood up for Israel and fought against anti-Semitism, those of the "Identity" ilk will stop at nothing to denounce believers who are friendly toward the Jewish people:

> The leaders of great Christian movements, such as Moral Majority, will stand in their pulpits and appear on national television, to thunder against the corruption in our government, or the liquor industry or abortion mills or pornographic literature, but these same men are afraid or refuse to mention it is the Jewish promoters who are behind these ills they are fighting (Mohr, "Exploding the 'Chosen People' Myth, pg. 2

The pastor who announces he loves the Jew will be tagged as a "male prostitute" for the International Zionists. Pastors who love Israel will be charged by these anti-Semites of selling America down the river into the hands of those Jews who will destroy Christianity and make all Christians slaves (Mohr," Woe Unto Ye Fundamentalists!", pg. 12). Consequently, the Christian must count the cost of supporting Israel in his theological, political, and practical endeavors. To do this we must consider the dangers created by the "Identity" movement:

The danger of negating the vision of Jewish outreach

The Identity people claim there is a curse on the Jews for rejecting Jesus. Jewish Missions, according to "Identity" preachers, are doomed to fail. Identity preachers claim that even " . . . . if a Jew accepts Jesus, the love of money is so deeply ingrained in him that they cannot overcome it. Soon these Christian Jews are not in the soul saving business but in the money saving business" (Mohr,"The Assault on Freedom," no date, pg. 17).

The danger of suspicion upon the Messianic Jew

According to "Christian" hate material, as early as 1489, the Jewish Council in Constantinople advised the rabbis to use the "Trojan Horse" method to destroy Christianity from within. By having Jews come into the church, they would be able to dilute the faith of countless Christians. These "hatemongers" claim that many counterfeit conversions on the part of Jewish people have proved to be but infiltrations by latent traitors with treasonable intentions. (Mohr, "From the Horses Mouth", no date, pg. 13).

The danger of the appeal to the "Religious Right"

The "Christian Identity" movement is competing for the same constituency as the Christian New Right. The "Identity" hawkers are appealing to Christians who are in agreement with "Identity's" desire to oppose abortion; denounce communists; restore prayer and Bible reading to public schools; and establish a Christian Republic. The "Identity" people, like most concerned Christians, want to make specific contributions in the area of church-state relations, citizenship, the nature of laws and the special role of the US in world history. So we can see that the "Identity" movement speaks same the language and expresses some of the same concerns as the large New Right Constituency despite the "Identity" language of political extremism. The "Identity" movement appeals to people who are frustrated

with the economy, the immorality, and spiritual degradation of our country. It is too easy to see the appeal that some factions of the "Religious Right" and the racist groups have to each other. Under certain duress what once sounded extreme can start to sound plausible to the desperate Christian looking for "biblical" reasons for the problems in our world. We can speculate that if the more extreme members of the "Religious Right" turn against Israel for political reasons and buy into "Christian Reconstructionism", with its negation of God's plan for Israel, this turning from Israel could open the door to the "Identity" Movement for some.

What can be done? For one thing, the answer to the "hate movement' is not to start another "hate movement" in response. If I had all resources available to me, I would do everything I could to involve all of Evangelical Christianity and not just Jewish Messianic ministries in this battle; I would use every media opportunity to expose this "Christian" movement of hate. I would impress Christians of the need for bringing the gospel to the Jewish people like never before. I would flood the Christian literature market with biblically sound books on Israelology and the evils of "Christian" anti-Semitism. I would gather prayer forces across the U.S. to pray this hideous movement to a place of impotency. But most of all, I desire in my heart to trust the Spirit of God to give those who truly name the name of Yeshua the love to win these people back into a place of truth where they could display the fruit of Spirit of God. But as I look at the leaders of the LCJE, I believe all the resources are right here. My brothers and sisters in Yeshua, let us not be silent while Satan flings his vile anti-Semitism in the Name of Jesus at the "apple of God's eye!

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