



Federal Bureau of Investigation  
**Intelligence**  
ASSESSMENT

## **(U) White Supremacist Infiltration of Law Enforcement**

17 October 2006

*(U) Handling Notice: Recipients are reminded that FBI Intelligence Assessments contain sensitive terrorism and counterterrorism information meant for use primarily within the law enforcement community. Such assessments are not to be released either in written or oral form to the media, the general public, or other personnel who do not have a valid need-to-know without prior approval from an authorized FBI official.*

Prepared by

FBI  
Counterterrorism  
Division

**UNCLASSIFIED//LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE**

**(U//LES) White Supremacist Infiltration of Law Enforcement**

**(U) Scope Note**

(U//LES) This intelligence assessment provides an overview of white supremacist infiltration of law enforcement and derives its information from FBI investigations and open sources available as of August 2006. This assessment addresses

b2  
b7E

UNCLASSIFIED//LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE

(U) Key Judgments

- (U//LES) Although white supremacist groups have historically engaged in strategic efforts to infiltrate and recruit from law enforcement communities



- (U//LES) The primary threat from infiltration or recruitment arises from the areas of intelligence collection and exploitation, which can lead to investigative breaches and can jeopardize the safety of law enforcement sources and personnel.

- (U//LES) White supremacist presence among law enforcement personnel is a concern due to the access they may possess to restricted areas vulnerable to sabotage and to elected officials or protected persons, whom they could see as potential targets for violence.



- (U//LES) The intelligence acquired through the successful infiltration of law enforcement by one white supremacist group can benefit other groups due to the multiple allegiances white supremacists typically hold.

b2  
b7E

**(U) Introduction: Consequences of Compromised Intelligence**

(U//LES) This assessment examines white supremacist infiltration of law enforcement from perspectives of both strategic infiltration by organized groups and self-initiated infiltration by law enforcement personnel sympathetic to white supremacist causes. The primary threat from infiltration or recruitment arises from the areas of intelligence collection and exploitation, which can lead to investigative breaches and can jeopardize the safety of law enforcement sources or personnel.<sup>1</sup>

- [Redacted]

b2  
b7E

(U//LES) White supremacist presence among law enforcement personnel is also of concern due to the access they may possess to restricted areas vulnerable to sabotage and to elected officials or protected persons, whom they could see as potential targets for violence [Redacted]

[Redacted]

**(U) Organized Intent to Infiltrate Law Enforcement**

(U//LES) [Redacted]

b2  
b7E

(U//LES) The apparent sporadic reporting on white supremacist infiltration of law enforcement could be [Redacted]

[Redacted]

b2  
b7E

**(U) Strategic Infiltration and Recruitment Campaigns**

(U//LES) White supremacist leaders and groups have historically shown an interest in infiltrating law enforcement communities or recruiting law enforcement personnel.

UNCLASSIFIED//LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE

UNCLASSIFIED

Most information about systematic attempts by white supremacist groups to infiltrate law enforcement involve: [redacted]



(U) William Pierce

[redacted]

b2  
b7E

(U//LES) [redacted]  
[redacted]

(U//LES) [redacted]  
[redacted]

[redacted]

**(U) Tradecraft**  
(U//LES) Since coming to law enforcement attention in late 2004, the term "ghost skins" has gained currency among white supremacists to describe those who avoid overt displays of their beliefs to blend into society and covertly advance white supremacist causes. One internet posting described this effort as a form of role-playing, in which "to create the character, you must get inside the mind of the person you are trying to duplicate." Such role-playing has application to ad-hoc and organized law enforcement infiltration. At least one white supremacist group has reportedly encouraged ghost skins to seek positions in law enforcement for the capability of alerting skinhead crews of pending investigative action against them.  
  
(U//LES) Leaders in the white supremacist movement have advocated confronting suspected infiltrators and to instruct them to provide their FBI handlers with low level information that will minimally impact the group's activities. Another as yet undocumented infiltration strategy, is for members to "walk in" to law enforcement agencies and offer information to determine an agency's interest in the organization.  
  
(U) <http://www.nukeisrael.com/ghost%20skin.htm>

b2  
b7E

(U//LES) [redacted]  
[redacted]

b2  
b7E

[redacted]

- [Redacted]

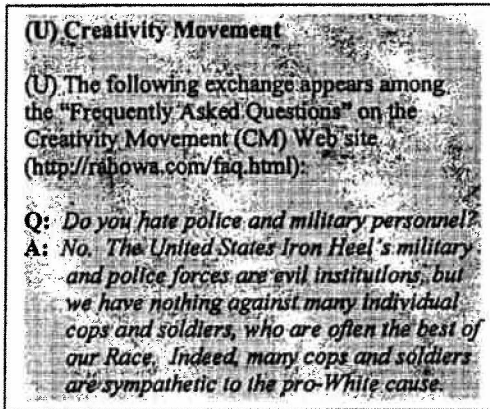
b2  
b7E

In addition to its historical interest, white supremacist leadership has also engaged in recent rhetoric that encourages followers to infiltrate law enforcement communities.

- (U) [Redacted]

**(U) White Supremacist Sympathizers**

(U//LES) The Ku Klux Klan (KKK) is notable among white supremacist groups for historically having found support in many communities, which often translated into ties to local law enforcement. Although the First Amendment's freedom of association provision protects an individual's right to join white supremacist groups for purposes of lawful activity, the government can limit the employment opportunities of group members who hold sensitive public sector jobs, including jobs within law enforcement, when their memberships would interfere with their duties.<sup>10</sup> Recent examples of law enforcement personnel whose activities in support of white supremacist beliefs have come under scrutiny include:



- [Redacted]

b2  
b7E

- [Redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED//LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE

**Endnotes**

---

- <sup>1</sup> (U//LES) FBI case information (UNCLASSIFIED).
- <sup>2</sup> (U//LES) FBI case information (UNCLASSIFIED).
- <sup>3</sup> (U//LES) FBI case information (UNCLASSIFIED).
- <sup>4</sup> (U//LES) FBI case information (UNCLASSIFIED).
- <sup>5</sup> (U//LES) FBI case information (UNCLASSIFIED).
- <sup>6</sup> (U//LES) FBI case information (UNCLASSIFIED).
- <sup>7</sup> (U//LES) FBI case information (UNCLASSIFIED).
- <sup>8</sup> (U//LES) FBI case information (UNCLASSIFIED).
- <sup>9</sup> (U) <http://www.phoenixnewtimes.com/issues/2004...m1/1/index.html>, 19 February 2004 (UNCLASSIFIED).
- <sup>10</sup> (U) Brian Levin, "Addressing Hate Groups" (UNCLASSIFIED).
- <sup>11</sup> (U) Washington Times; 18 July 2006 (UNCLASSIFIED).
- <sup>12</sup> (U) AP article, "Ex-California Prison Guard Sentenced for Aiding White Supremacist Gang," 26 June 2006 (UNCLASSIFIED); FBI case information (UNCLASSIFIED).