

A PHOTO ESSAY BY **AL CRESPO** WORDS BY **JOE BAGEANT**



SMIRKING ALLIES

NAZI BROWN AND KEVLAR BLACK

GoldType



BOLD FACE: A member of the National Socialist Movement stands by as Bill White speaks to the media.

A NATION ADDICTED TO THE SPECTACLE OF VIOLENCE



TAKE ME TO YOUR LEADER: Bill White, of the Roanoke VA unit of the National Socialist Movement speaks to reporters before the beginning of the march explaining why the group had decided to march in Orlando

Americans are addicted to spectacle, especially when it involving absurdity, violence and the icons of violence. Which makes America's tiny pseudo military fringe element of "Nazi Party members" a magnet for TV cameras anywhere it shows up in public. We like our bad guys so blatantly labeled a four-year-old can identify them.

The formal name of the Nazi organization that marched in Orlando, Florida, in Febru-

ary last year is The American National Socialist Workers Party (ANSWP). Of course having the word "socialist" in its name plays so neatly into the hands of the corporate government of America, so that one sometimes wonders just who is funding ANSWP's glossy magazine, or National Commander Bill White's dozens of radio broadcasts and appearances around the country.

Then too, ANSWP marchers carrying signs reading "What Would Hitler Do?" almost too conveniently fit the bill in a nation



WHICH WAY IS UP?: Members of the National Socialist Movement unfurl a Nazi flag before their march in Orlando.

where anti-hate lobbying is very big business. According to the famous Morris Dees, who pulls in some \$50 million a year from the hate crime industry, my home state of Virginia has 31 organized hate groups.

Now as much as I have criticized Virginia in print as one of the stupidest and cruelest damned places in America, and though the ANSWP commander in the following photos lives here in Virginia, even I don't believe there are anywhere near 31 organized hate groups here, and certainly none that are beating people in some unseen alley. Hell, ANSWP by its own count, only has 227 members nationwide.

But when it comes to beating people up, this country has nearly a million people legally authorized to beat, kidnap at gunpoint (arrest) and kill if deemed necessary. And a large portion of them exercise the first two of these rights thousands of times daily. At last count America had 14,254 law enforcement agencies employing 675,734 sworn officers and 294,854 civilians. With the "war on terror," heaven only knows how many have been added since.

Public protest usually provides a glimpse into this force, and every year we see more smuggled videotapes that somehow, seldom make the prime time news. Jumpy



THE ENEMY WITHIN?: An anti-Nazi protester is dragged away by police before the beginning of the march. Police said 17 people were arrested for offenses including wearing masks, and fighting with police and other protesters.



PROVOCATIVE: A Nazi supporter displays a sign disparaging Martin Luther King.

footage of ordinary folks beaten with wooden clubs, shocked with Taser guns, and shot at with rubber bullets, even while on their knees praying. Elderly people maced in the face and dragged across the ground in handcuffs and female protesters forced to strip before male cops. People who bother to find and watch these videos on the Internet keep saying the same thing over and over again: "This is not America."

Unfortunately, it is. ●



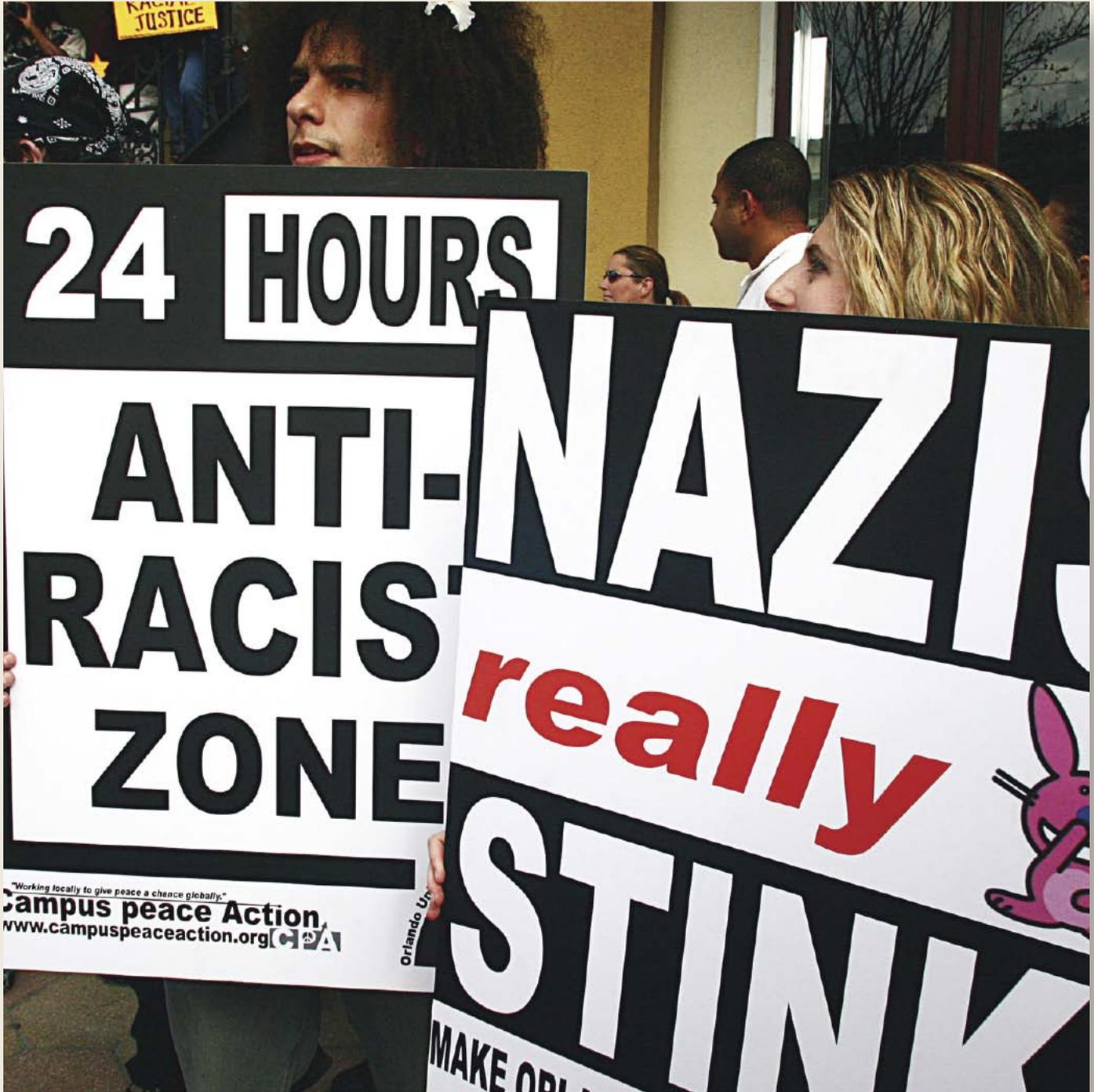
frightening sight: A small group of Nazis march while protected by Orlando police from a jeering crowd of protesters.





BIG GUNS: Several of police departments were called upon to provide security during the march and rally. Many of the cops wore high-tech riot gear, and carried the latest weapons.





NEARLY RIGHT: Anti-Nazi protesters carry signs, at least one of which had an incorrectly-inked Nazi logo, and jeer the Nazis. 17 of the protesters were arrested by the cops.





SKINHEADS SAY NO:
Local skinheads join
students in protest
against the Nazis.



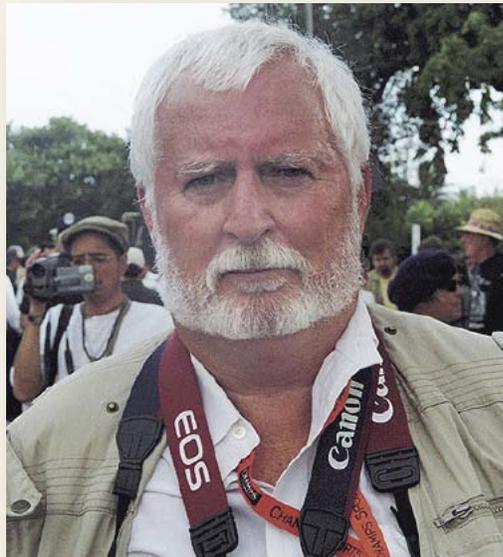


Youth is
the first
Victim of
HATE!!!





MOUTHING OFF: A blow-up sex doll provided the strongest message of the day.



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