

ADL pushes race war, targets nationalism

by Joseph Brewda

"Educated blacks are the worst anti-Semitic group in the U.S.," the speaker claimed, "and blacks overall have been the most anti-Semitic group since slavery." The speaker, Prof. Leonard Dinnerstein, was addressing an international conference convened by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. The conference, held Nov. 3-4 in Montreal, Canada, was devoted to combatting "worldwide anti-Semitism," which the group claimed was resurgent and deadly.

U.S. blacks and the newly emerging nations of eastern Europe were the identified targets.

Dinnerstein's thesis, which was supported by others on the podium and in the audience, was that American blacks learned their anti-Semitism from their slave masters, much as Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said that Poles imbibe their anti-Semitism "with their mother's milk." The founders of the NAACP were anti-Semitic, Dinnerstein claimed, as were such black leaders as Booker T. Washington, Ralph Bunche, and W.E.B. Du Bois.

The upshot of the provocative remarks, as elaborated by other speakers, was that the black-Jewish alliance which has been so important to many Democratic party urban machines, especially in the northeast, was no longer either possible or even desirable. Much attention was paid to Brooklyn, where race riot operatives on both sides provoked the stabbing of a Jew after another Jew had driven over a black boy last summer. The campuses are infested with anti-Semitism, it was said, especially among students from ethnic communities which typically vote Democratic.

Imprisoned Democratic presidential contender Lyndon LaRouche was also denounced from the podium. "I can think of no better reason for the existence of the ADL than stopping LaRouche," ADL vice chairman Joel Sprayreger said.

Doing it for George

Ever since the ADL split with the rest of the American Jewish community in 1982 to absurdly claim that the Nicaraguan Sandinistas were anti-Semitic—at a time when the Reagan-Bush administration was lobbying for increased Nicaraguan Contra funding—questions began to be raised about the nature of the ADL's relationship to the White House. This curiosity increased when several ADL officers began hooking up with the administration's "Project Democracy"—its propaganda and dirty tricks arm. In 1988, ADL

national chairman Abe Foxman reported that the ADL and Bush were "going steady."

"Abe and the rest of the leadership insist on supporting Bush," one incensed ADL activist confided to this writer, "they think he's another Franklin Roosevelt." Minutes earlier, Foxman had leapt to the podium to defend Bush, after Bush was denounced from the floor for his October complaints about the power of the U.S. Zionist lobby. "Anyone can make a mistake," Foxman said, while some in the audience grumbled.

Although both the U.S. establishment and Israeli press claim that there is an increasing conflict, even a showdown, between the Zionist lobby and the Bush administration, such was not in evidence here, and the ADL is unquestionably the most powerful nominally Jewish organization in the United States.

Eastern Europe is the enemy

The other big bugbear for the ADL was the global threat of nationalism, particularly in eastern Europe.

According to speaker after speaker, eastern European nationalism is inherently anti-Semitic. The death of communism means the rise of anti-Semitism, it was claimed. This line goes back to at least 1989, when ADL-linked propagandists began claiming that the Lithuanian nationalists led by President Vytautas Landsbergis, who recently won their independence, are pro-Nazi. The "Nazi-hunting" Office of Special Investigations of the Reagan and Bush Justice departments has also insisted that anti-communism among eastern Europeans is evidence of fascism.

"Fascists are in the rise in Romania," Romanian Chief Rabbi Moshe Rosen told the audience. "Anti-Semitism is obvious and visible throughout the Soviet Union," said Moscow-based professor Mikhail Chlenov. Chlenov's VAAD—the Confederation of Jewish Communities in the U.S.S.R.—signed an agreement with the ADL to combat anti-Semitism in eastern Europe last year. Rosen has worked with the ADL for decades. For both men (and for Bush and Shamir) the solution is *aliyah*—Jewish emigration to Israel.

The anti-nationalist theme had been central to Bush's September address to the United Nations where the President proclaimed the advent of Pax Universalis—an imperial "peace" dependent on suppressing nation-states.

In order to combat this growing dire threat, the ADL has been opening up chapters throughout eastern Europe, Daniel Mariachin reports. Mariachin oversees ADL eastern European operations. Just last week, the ADL opened up an office in strongly Catholic Bratislava, Slovakia—the "belly of the beast"—he said. The problem, Mariachin said, is that the new eastern European governments are not "proactive"—Washington jargon for "preemptive" in dealing with the threat. What's more, he claimed, eastern Europeans have no tradition of democracy. He learned all this, he said, from "my old boss, [Reagan-Bush Secretary of State] Al Haig."