

Hate and Slander for Profit

Dissecting the Southern Poverty Law Center Report

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DAN AMATO has been covering the issue of immigration for over half a decade on a daily basis. His writings and research have been discussed in college courses and he has also delivered numerous speeches on the topic. Amato has also been heavily involved in the grassroots movement throughout this country in educating the public on immigration and its impacts on society and also in pushing initiatives at the local and state and federal levels for enforcement of immigration laws and to keep v iolent criminals out of communities once serving their sentence.

MEDIA AND GENERAL INQUIRIES Dan Amato

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Introduction

BY DAN AMATO

In August, 2009 the Southern Poverty Law Center released a "Special Report" entitled "The Second Wave: Return of the Militias". In this completely fabricated conspiracy theory of a report, Mark Potok, Larry Keller and David Holthouse continue to point their fingers at legitimate American Citizens of this country - who have real concerns - and call them racists and hatemongers.

In this "Special Report" of my own entitled "Hate and Slander for Profit: Dissecting the Southern Poverty Law Center Report" I intend to set the record straight on this piece of race -card playing, pile of lies that the SPLC continues to perpetuate in order to justify their existence.

If you have a second-grader handy, you could probably write a similar report as the SPLC has done and peddle it around as real journalism to all of the mainstream media outlets. They scarf this race dividing and hateful garbage up - and hey - they love a good conspiracy theory. They might even get some gullible, useful idiots to donate money to you thinking you're doing something good for this country and its people.

Dan Amato

August 13, 2009

Analysis of Mark Potok's Introduction

Mark Potok opens the report with his introduction. In it he starts off on the "Patriot" movement of the 1990's wherein he has the fantasy that there was a mass uprising of militias that called themselves "Patriots" and resorted to terrorist attacks on the United States. Included in these are Ruby Ridge, Waco and the bombing of the Oklahoma Federal Building by Timothy McVeigh.

Anyone with any rational thought though - apparently this excludes those at the SPLC - would see these acts for what they were, isolated acts on the edge.

Mentioning Waco as a militia terrorist attack is ridiculous on its face. The Murrah building was the act of a couple of individuals, not a concerted effort by any organized militia. Those who believe otherwise have no proof or evidence and are therefore creating their own conspiracy theory. The Ruby Ridge incident is up for debate. Some see it as government overreacting, some see the Weavers as in the wrong.

However I would like to point out that organizations like the SPLC stoke the fires of government officials and law enforcement that there is more of a threat than there truly is when it comes to militias. Some government agencies even ignorantly use the SPLC "Hate Groups List" and their bogus "reports" as legitimate. This causes law enforcement both at the local, state and federal level to overreact.

But these lists and reports are no more than a few people calling others that they disagree with racists time and time again.

Case in point, there was no report from the SPLC on the Black Panthers and their intimidation tactics of white voters in Philadelphia at a polling place in 2008. Yet at the same time the SPLC was putting out

warnings about US Citizens who were conservative, citizens speaking out against Obama Administration policies that they disagreed with, being lawful gun owners or watching and listening to news that they chose to.

In describing the Oklahoma City Bombing, Potok states: "... an attack, the deadliest ever by domestic U.S. terrorists, carried out by men steeped in the rhetoric and conspiracy theories of the militias."

I would say that Potok and his ilk are the ones spewing hateful rhetoric and conspiracy theories. As you'll see below, conspiracy theories abound throughout this report and throughout the race card playing "business of hate". Yes, it is a business; they are fighting for donations and power. Most of their rhetoric and theories could come straight out of a comic book and are laughable. I can't believe that anyone would take them seriously.

Potok continues: "Authorities around the country are reporting a worrying uptick in Patriot activities and propaganda. 'This is the most significant growth we've seen in 10 to 12 years,' **says one**. 'All it's lacking is a spark. I think it's only a matter of time before you see threats and violence"

Potok automatically associates any American who identifies themselves as a "Patriot" as a potential terrorist militia member. Any information these self-declared patriots send out, whether it be forwarding an email about your disagreement with a piece of legislation or your outrage at some action by a member of congress, is propaganda in the SPLC's eyes and not of a legitimate concern.

It's also quite telling that Potok does not identify who the sources of the information and statements are from. He notes "authorities" and "says one". According to section two of the report - which I address below - they didn't want to be identified. How convenient. The real reason is that the SPLC is "cherry picking" who they listen to. They will quote only those whom they agree with and those who use their reports and information as in "Anonymous sources"

Potok goes on to say that the cause of all of this is an increase in non-white immigration and the decline of whites in the country. He not mention illegal immigration specifically as a cause of "non-white" immigration, nor does he mention that many people are very concerned about the illegal immigration issue, while at the same time having no problems with legal immigrants. He almost outright calls politicians opposed to illegal immigration racists, saying that all of this hate - from whites only - that he sees, is being spread by "ostensibly mainstream politicians".

He also blames this supposed "uptick in militias" on media pundits. I'm assuming the pundits he means only appear on the channel they hate the most, FOX News. He also targets Lou Dobbs on CNN, as the SPLC has called for his head, because of his opposition to illegal immigration.

It is quite obvious that Potok sees only the potential for racism, "hate" or terrorism to come from whites. Nowhere in his introduction to this "report" - or should I say "race-card wet dream propaganda" - does he mention militias and hate groups of color. Potok is a racist of the highest order as is the SPLC as a whole. It only takes a cursory look at the SPLC "Hate Group List" to realize that

almost the entirety of the list is made up of white groups.

There are a few groups in there that can't be ignored by the SPLC, like the Jewish Defense League who actually committed terrorist attacks in the 80's. Groups like The Nation of Islam and the Black Panthers - both of which have committed violent terrorist acts and also target groups like the Jews in addition to Whites in general and outright call for a Black only state - are also on the list.

However, a lot of the groups on their list are not racist at all, but only stand for a political view that differs from the SPLC. There are Christian organizations and those who call for immigration enforcement on "The List", many whom have mixed-racial membership and have never committed a crime, a violent act or called for violence to be used. As an example Save Our State (SOS) and the **Federation** for American Immigration Reform (FAIR) are both on their list, but neither has committed a hate crime of any order.

Meanwhile, conspicuously absent, are the widespread organized gangs in this country like Hispanic gangs in LA that have perpetrated ethnic cleansing, through violence, of Blacks from their community. The Mexican Mafia, who have openly called for the killing of all Blacks in LA.

Groups like MeCHA (El Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlán (the Chicano Student Movement)) whose motto is "Por la Raza todo. Fuera de La Raza Nada," - "For the race, everything. Outside of the race, nothing.", who have called for the removal of "the gringo" from "The Bronze Continent" (the US southwest, or to them, Aztlan). Potok dismisses this in his introduction as "nativist theories about secret Mexican plans to 'reconquer' the American Southwest".

Yes, he declares it a "nativist theory", made up by the militias, when that is the actual MeCHA stance in it's founding documents and widely disseminated! In 1995,

Voz Fronteriza, the official Mecha Publication, called for the death of federal immigration agents stating "all the migra [a pejorative term for the INS] pigs should be killed, every single one." (DiscoverTheNetworks).

Yet MeCHA doesn't show up on the SPLC "Hate Group List".

Don't get me started on the National Council of La Raza. Hello, it means, the National Council of **The Race**!

The NAACP doesn't show up either, though they are calling for rights and privileges only for Blacks and not for other races. That is the epitome of race hate!

But I'm getting a bit off track here.

Potok includes in this new "wave of militias" those who question Obama's citizenship, known by those opposed to them derogatorily as "birthers". While I am not sold on the idea of their claims, I do believe they have the right to question if they feel enough evidence has not been put forth that Obama is a US natural born citizen. And they have a right to do so without being called a hateful racist by some organization that pretends to be legitimate. Maybe Obama isn't, but Potok

doesn't care about that, he labels them as hateful people who are joining militias or intend to do violence to people of this country. I told you there are comic book conspiracies throughout this report.

Potok continues, saying that the SPLC warned former Attorney General Janet Reno about extremists in the militia movement "that the 'mixture of armed groups and those who hate' was 'a recipe for disaster.' Just six months later, Oklahoma City's federal building was bombed."

And after that happened Potok...?

... nothing!

There were no widespread militia attacks on the United States that killed hundreds and thousands as you so vehemently insinuated was imminent. And as you so vehemently are now stating is imminent. You were wrong!

Potok and the SPLC are fear mongering in order to justify their existence and that is what this whole report is about - slandering American Citizens for donations and power.

Analysis of 'The Second Wave'

Part two of the report is actually entertaining as you watch Larry Keller try to tie so many unattached and disparate sections of the so called "Radical Right" into a mass militia movement.

He starts off by talking of Ted Gunderson, a conspiracy theorist who pushes the idea of there being federal internment camps throughout the country, government guillotines in storage and the government having a half-million caskets on hand. Funny Keller should start off with Gunderson because his own conclusions throughout are just as far flung conspiracy theories as Gunderson's.

And right off the bat comes the race-card playing.

"One big difference from the militia movement of the 1990s is that **the face of the federal government** - the enemy that almost all parts of the extreme right see as the primary threat to freedom - **is now Black**." says Keller.

There ya go. You are not allowed to criticize the federal government as long as a black man is in charge according to the SPLC.

Keller goes on to imply that current "militias" are actually now racists, not just people concerned with the constitution or the government. In Keller and the SPLC's world, concern about government interference makes you a militia member. He says this supposed "Second Wave" of militia is more motivated by race hate.

Then he tosses in illegal immigration just to satiate his racist theory and to try to tie the militias to those who want immigration enforced. (I told you he was reaching...) "Contributing to the racial animus have been **fears on the <u>far right</u> about the consequences of Latino immigration**." Keller says.

Note how he compares those concerned with illegal immigration to not only militia members, but dubs all of them "far right" and puts a little dash of racism on top?

The fact is that he omitted the truth that the mass of "Latino immigration" currently hitting the country is via illegal immigration. The fact is also that nearly 90% of Americans want immigration laws enforced and it has nothing to do with race, but with law and order. Those numbers alone fly in the face of Keller's assertion that those in favor of immigration enforcement are "far right". Unless of course you believe that 90% of the country is "far right".

"Sales of guns and ammunition have skyrocketed amid fears of new gun control laws..." Keller says.

That seems like a quite obvious reaction by any citizen. Many can remember early 2008 when there was a run on rice as there were fears that rice was in short supply. And year after year flu vaccines run out. It's not a sign of militias skyrocketing because gun sales are up. Another Keller/SPLC conspiracy theory.

Reports put out by the Department of Homeland Security and law enforcement organizations have been influenced and/or reference the Southern Poverty Law Center as the source of their information. Two that are mentioned in this report are one from February, 2009 in Missouri and one in April, 2009 from DHS.

On page 5 of the report Keller tries to play a game. In this game he sites a report which had information supplied to it by the SPLC. In other words he is trying to trick you by using the law enforcement agency's name, but it is really their info that they had supplied to that agency. They are referencing their own statements.

Keller states: "In the words of a February report from law enforcement officials in Missouri, a variety of factors have combined recently to create 'a lush environment for militia activity."

The report he is referring to is the Missouri Information Analysis Center (MIAC) report entitled "The Modern Militia Movement" and it was later retracted by the MIAC. Yet that retraction hasn't stopped Keller from citing it as fact.

The report caused outrage because it specifically targeted supporters of presidential candidates Ron Paul, Chuck Baldwin, and Bob Barr as "militia" influenced terrorists and to watch out for citizens with bumper stickers regarding the Constitution, Campaign for Liberty and Libertarian parties.

The most amazing thing is that even after the retraction by the MIAC, Keller's portion of this current militia report reads almost verbatim what "The Modern Militia Movement" report said. The MIAC report cites the SPLC as the source for a good portion of the report.

"Swearing at the Government"

Several times throughout this part of the report Keller mentions the **Oath Keepers**. He even has a whole section entitled "Swearing at the Government". If you haven't heard of the Oath Keepers, they are a group of ex-military and law enforcement that are reaffirming their oath to uphold the

Constitution of the United States. Keller sees someone as believing in the Constitution as a bad thing. He sees it as swearing at the government.

He notes that they held an oath event on April 19, 2009 - the anniversary of the Battle of Lexington Green that started the Revolutionary War. However Keller doesn't see it for what it was, he believes that they did so because it was also the day that Timothy McVeigh bombed the Murrah Federal building in Oklahoma City. It also happens to be the day that Waco occurred as that is why McVeigh chose that date. He ties the two together. Therefore Keller concludes that the Oath Keepers are a militia organization bent on terrorism.

I'm surprised that Keller didn't make the connection that the day after April 19 was April 20! That happens to be Hitler's birthday and there are a slew of wacko things that have occurred on April 20. How do I know this? They mention it in every document ary on the Columbine shootings. Could the fact that the Oath Keepers held their event the day before April 20 actually be telling as to their future? I don't want to give Keller any help, but it's quite obviously the case isn't it? It's no different than the connections he made above.

The Oath Keepers swear "Our oath is to the Constitution, not to the politicians, and we will not obey unconstitutional (and thus illegal) and immoral orders,"

To this Keller once again uses the "referencing the SPLC work in another document" trick, this time with an April, 2009 DHS report they contributed to.

"That same pugnacious attitude was on display after conservatives attacked an April report from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) that suggested a resurgence of radical right-wing activity was under way." Says Keller.

The April DHS report pushes the same SPLC theme. They have managed to get SPLC

sympathizers into our Department of Homeland Security in order to have the government do their dirty work for them by putting out reports.

In the <u>Washington Times</u> on April 14, 2009, in an article entitled *Federal Agency Warns of Radicals on Right*, Mark Potok confirmed that indeed the April, 2009 report from the DHS had information in it coming from the SPLC.

" [Mark] Potok ... was generally pleased with the report.

'Basically, the report tracks fairly closely with what we have been saying for some time now. They mention us a couple of times, though not by name,' he said."

"The 'report' was one of the most embarrassingly shoddy pieces of propaganda I'd ever read out of DHS. I couldn't believe it was real." said Michelle Malkin at the time.

"Rightwing extremism ... is primarily hateoriented ... and those that are mainly antigovernment ... It may include groups and individuals that are dedicated to a single issue, such as opposition to abortion or immigration." said the DHS report.

Amazingly the SPLC uses the same exact definitions in this militia report as those used by the DHS back in April, which used SPLC-supplied information.

Keller tries hard to turn the Oath Keepers into a militia. He does so by pulling out quotes he found online by people claiming to be members of the Oath Keepers. In other words Keller just believes that they are members and hasn't actually done any research for this "report". After all he found them on YouTube, so they must be true.

He pulls these two out: "We will not fear our government; they will fear us," and "I would rather die than be a slave to my government." Either of these statements could have been made by Thomas Jefferson or Patrick Henry. As a matter of fact, they were:

"When the people fear their government, there is tyranny; when the government fears the people, there is liberty. - Thomas Jefferson"

Keller takes exception with Oath Keeper's founder Stewart Rhodes who had this to say: "We know that if the day should come where a full-blown dictatorship would come, or tyranny - it can only happen if those men, our brothers in arms, go along and comply with unconstitutional, unlawful orders,"

I find absolutely nothing wrong with that statement by Stewart Rhodes and neither would most Americans. Indeed in order for a full blown dictatorship to occur then members of the military would have to unlawfully infringe on the rights of citizens.

Keller suggests that there is a wider conspiracy among the Oath Keepers though. Citing the leak of the two reports mentioned (the MIAC report and the DHS report) above he implies that it is because of "militia" (his definition including "Patriots") infiltration into law enforcement organizations.

"... the leak of the DHS report, along with those of a couple of similar law enforcement reports, was likely the work of a sworn officer" Keller says.

Keller almost seems offended that the reports were leaked. That their secret at the SPLC of managing to sneak their opinions on who is a racist or militia member into official law enforcement and DHS documents was exposed. That it must have been a conspiracy!

The reality is that any law enforcement person, on the right or the left could see that both of these reports were asinine in their content. There was no conspiracy against the government in their release by some secret militia agents. There was simply outrage that Americans would be attacked for their political choices and speech.

Shots, Plots and "Sovereigns"

In this section Keller addresses recent lone wacko incidents and tries to tie them into some sort of militia cabal.

By now though, you should realize that this Larry Keller is a real whack job himself and sees a conspiracy behind every bush. According to him there is no possibility that these people arrived at their own decisions to commit these atrocious acts.

Not surprisingly all of the acts mentioned in the section of the report were committed by white people.

There is no mention in this report on the Black Muslim man who shot up a recruiting station killing one soldier and wounding another. There is no mention of the DC snipers, both who were black and influenced by information they had. No mention of the Black Panthers intimidating voters in Philadelphia in 2008. Those acts are no less tragic than the ones they do mention.

Nope, just good old fashioned "bash the white guy" style tactics. Oh yeah and most of these were "at least partially prompted by Obama's election" according to Keller.

Keller states: "In recent months, men with anti-government, racist, anti-Semitic or promilitia views have allegedly committed a series of high-profile murders - including the killings of six law enforcement officers since April."

He notes several individual actions that he hopes will legitimize his positions.

- Several individuals who planned to assassinate President Obama.
- A guy someone claims was interested in joining a militia getting in a fight with cops and killing two in Florida.
- The whack job in Pittsburgh that shot cops thinking they'd take his guns (he had a long prior rap sheet).

- James Von Brunn, who shot at the holocaust museum in DC killing one guard.
- Some white, racist guy in Boston who shot two African immigrants.
- The killer of George Tiller, the abortion doctor in Kansas.
- Some lone white supremacist in Maine who tried to build a "dirty bomb" because they claimed he was upset with the election.

Yes, and everyone who read "The Catcher in the Rye" went to shoot Reagan like Mark David Chapman.

Keller tries to tie all these whack jobs into one movement called the "Sovereign Citizens" movement. Anyone can see that these are isolated wackos doing what wackos do. Of course not to Keller and the SPLC, there must be some tie!

"... evidence suggest that sovereign citizens - who, along with tax protesters and militia members, form the larger Patriot movement" Keller says.

By "larger Patriot movement" Keller means right wing extremists.

Yes, these groups all hang out together. James Von Brunn sits right next to Mary Stayathome Mom - who is opposed to high taxes, who sits right next to a guy who likes to be prepared by training his gun skills in the woods and likes his rights under the Constitution. To the SPLC they are all one and the same and a danger to society as a whole.

Why The Return?

Yes, Keller continues. In this section he continues his conspiracy theories and little fantasy of a large right wing militia just out there waiting to get him (and you too if you don't watch out)!

He tries to tell us why "militias and the larger Patriot movement" are making a comeback.

He goes over Ruby Ridge, Waco, the New World Order conspiracies and the Oklahoma City Bombing as reasons the militias had some sort of actual impact on the 90's. While memorable events, to most people these things did not show a huge militia waiting out there in the darkness. And indeed there wasn't, but don't tell Keller that. For he must stoke the fear!

Actually, <u>more people died from lightning strikes</u> in the 90's than from what Keller deems "militia" influenced events like Oklahoma City.

Keller says that militia activity died off at the end of the 90's, the last gasp being when Y2K predicted a national breakdown of the system and it didn't happen. All of this sounds awfully familiar in this "new" report. Oh yeah, that's because it was all put into the MIAC "The Modern Militia Movement" report I mentioned above put out in February 2009 in Missouri. There is nothing new in this section of the report.

Are you ready for the reason of the rise? Here it comes...

"In the largest sense, it is again a response to real societal stresses and strains, from the seemingly inevitable rise of multiculturalism to the faltering economy to another liberal administration, this one headed by a black man." says Keller.

... race card baby!

Everyone hates the black president so they join a militia!

I take exception to his statement that multiculturalism is inevitable though. There are enough people in this country who are proud of western culture and don't want the multiculturalism of introducing African female circumcision or Sharia beheadings or South America's penchant for coup d'etat into our system as an accepted practice. It has nothing to do with being a radical and everything to do

with our Constitution and law and order. We are indeed our own country.

Keller plays the referencing trick again for the third time - this time referencing a previous SPLC report.

"factors have driven the number of racebased hate groups, as distinct from Patriot groups, from 602 in 2000 to 926 in 2008, according to research by the Southern Poverty Law Center." states Keller.

I contend that the SPLC just found that it needed to point more fingers at people and call them racists and "Hate Groups" over the years in order to show a growing trend to support their own beliefs. That way in future

More people died from lightning strikes in the 90's ... than from "militia" influenced events.

reports they could point to **their own previous reports** as proof of what they are saying.

Keller goes on to say that the "antiimmigrant" movement (yes, being for immigration enforcement is being portrayed as anti-immigrant, big surprise) is taking on forms of a militia. Especially the Minutemen whom Keller says are "adopting core militia ideas and fears". He just touches on immigration here as there's a whole section on immigration enforcement next.

"... they have contributed their own conspiracy theories - about the secret Mexican 'Plan de Aztlan' to reconquer the American Southwest, and another involving the secretly arranged merger of the United States, Mexico and Canada into a 'North American Union'" says Keller.

Keller goes on to bash the sneeringly dubbed "Birthers" who question Obama's citizenship.

On these he says "These spurious claims first gained traction when **prominent extremists** like writer **Jerome Corsi**, politician **Alan Keyes** and **Watergate felon and radio show host G. Gordon Liddy** questioned the validity of the president's birth certificate."

You gotta love how Keller slipped those little jabs in there. He's such the sneaky, unbiased bastard isn't he?

For good measure Keller also throws the "truthers" - who believe 9/11 was an inside job - into the militia mix.

Going Mainstream

In this section Keller tries to tie in those calling for state's rights with Joseph McCarthy, Glenn Beck, Lou Dobbs, Pat Buchanan, Dick Morris, the NRA, Gun Shows, the tea parties and Obama/Hitler signs as some big mainstream cabal of militia movement. And no, I'm not kidding.

He starts by addressing the movement of asserting the 10th amendment (that powers not granted to the federal government remain with the states) as somehow being antigovernment. Keller seems to think that this country was founded on only a Federal government and that the rest of the Constitution is just a bunch of words. He insinuates that talk of state's rights incites people into joining radical groups.

Then Keller pulls out Glenn Beck saying that he "called Obama a fascist, a Nazi and a Marxist, even re-floated militia conspiracy theories of the 1990s alleging a secret network of government-run concentration camps. ... Beck is just one of the well-known cable TV news personalities to air fictitious conspiracies and other unlikely Patriot ideas."

This is almost a complete falsehood. Beck addressed this statement by the SPLC in this report on his show August 12, 2009. He admitted that he had indeed called Obama a Marxist, but never a fascist or a Nazi. And Beck pointed out that he actually did a show

on "government-run concentration camps" because he was **debunking the theory** not endorsing it. Keller outright lies about Glenn Beck in this report and even if you have accepted any of this report as true, this should throw that into question.

Keller then takes on Lou Dobbs, someone that the SPLC absolutely hates.

"CNN's Lou Dobbs has treated the socalled Aztlan conspiracy as a bona fide concern and questioned the validity of Obama's birth certificate despite his own network's definitive debunking of that claim" Keller states.

The fact is that nobody has done a "definitive debunking" of Obama's birth certificate - and I'm no "birther". The point of groups like the SPLC is to shut down debate and Keller states that quite clearly. Dobbs should shut up because his Network and the SPLC say so.

I will not cover all the rest of the individuals other than to say his analysis is ridiculous.

He attacks gun shows, as if they haven't been around for a long, long time. Keller is obviously afraid of people with guns. He quotes several people who attended gun shows as if their statements are extreme. You be the judge.

"If Obama tries to get rid of our guns, it's just a step away from trying to take away everything else." said one. Another said he was just "preparing for the worst.". Maybe the inclusion of Obama in the first statement could be construed as something, but any government taking your guns is a warning that they can also take away other things that are your rights under the Constitution. That is not a far right wing militia sentiment, it is a common sense one.

Keller claims that "Patriot ideology" read extremist militia influence - has infiltrated the "Tea Party" movement. Those Americans speaking their minds under the First Amendment were "staged by Conservatives" he says. His proof is that some called for state's rights, an end to the Federal Reserve and also an end to socialism tactics in Washington.

He mentions a survival guide being sold called the "Social Chaos Survival Guide", by Lee Bellinger, as an example of the push towards an extremist nature. Funny, I've never heard of Lee Bellinger before, I thought there was a concerted effort going on? The truth is that these survival guides have always existed and they have nothing to do with any increase in militias.

He finishes up pointing back to the April, 2009 DHS report. He does so in a calculated way. The statement regards ease of access to organize and find information on the Internet, but the real reason Keller picked this quote is easy to see.

The report states: "... the Internet ... has given **domestic extremists** greater access to information related to bomb-making, weapons training and tactics, as well as targeting of individuals, organizations and facilities..."

Don't think that Keller put that quote in there using the words "domestic extremists" for no reason. He wants to tie the above people mentioned in this section - Beck, Dobbs, et alinto your head in a way that makes you associate what you just read with terrorism and bomb-making. The fact is that the statement above by the DHS could apply to any person on this planet, left wing, right wing, curious teens, terrorists, or even Larry Keller himself.

Whither the Militia Movement

Keller points out three incidents which he thinks further reinforce his point.

Keller notes a wacko in Washington that was arrested and had a ton of weapons, including grenades. Then he points out the man had a bumper sticker on his car that said "End The Fed".

Keller notes Allison Klanecky, who was found with grenades and materials to make 93 more. Then he points out that she was in an end of the world group known as "The Prophecy Club" which sells books on conspiracy theories about 9/11 and other incidents.

Keller notes the outrage at the National Guard using the small town of Arcadia, Iowa for training purposes in looking for a wanted suspect. Many saw this as potential training for domestic actions in the future as it was a military force and not law enforcement.

To all three of these supposed proofs of growing "organized" extremism that Keller presents above, I say **So?**

The first two are hardly proof that either of these stories are tied to militias. Come on, a bumper sticker? A woman in a weird group? That's your lame proof?

As for the National Guard exercises they were completely idiotic. How any military commander could do that in a live neighborhood and not have some in the neighborhood angry or upset is beyond me. That incident sounds like total incompetence and they should have been - and were -rightly chastised and lampooned for their actions.

In closing, if you haven't figured it out by now after reading all this stuff from Keller, he's a racist just like Potok and severely against American Citizen's Rights.

Analysis of Nativists To "Patriots"

If anything you can expect consistency from the SPLC. In this portion of the report David Holthouse attempts to defame the Minutemen and link them to militia groups and an off -her-rocker woman named Shawna Forde.

If you are not familiar with Shawna Forde, she was an outcast from the Minutemen who once claimed to represent the Federation for American Immigration Reform (FAIR) and also claimed to be a leader of a Minuteman group. In all cases, she lied. Then a bizarre set of incidents occurred around this now quite obviously insane woman.

First, her estranged husband was shot in his home.

Second, a week after the shooting of her husband, she claimed she was beaten and raped and had the words MS-13 burned into her face in a home invasion.

Third, Shawna was found in an alley where witnesses said they heard a blood curdling scream in an alley and a shot. Forde was found there with a bullet wound in her arm claiming she was attacked.

Those in the Minuteman movement and across the immigration enforcement movement had their doubts about Forde from the get go. They debunked the photos of the MS-13 burned into her face. Nobody in the movement associated with Forde.

In the end, Forde decided to go and attack an alleged drug dealer in his home and killed two people. She was arrested for murder. However, that is not the story you hear from the SPLC and Holthouse. They insist that Shawna Forde was your typical Minuteman and that she was the national leader of a Minuteman organization. They also say that she was accepted by others in the immigration enforcement movement.

I'd just like to say for the record that the Minutemen do not represent everyone in this country who wants immigration enforcement. That is all you will hear about from Holthouse is that the enforcement movement is only the Minutemen. He doesn't mention any other groups in this report, which is telling. The SPLC and Holthouse have an agenda against the Minutemen and that's why there is such focus on them.

Holthouse tries hard to make the Minutemen as hateful looking as possible, but it simply doesn't wash. Anyone can see clearly through his ways of trying to attach the group to ideas that are way out there.

Starting with his opening paragraph he describes their "Camp Vigilance" as a "sizable Minuteman border **vigilante** compound". This wordage of vigilante has been used to denounce the group since it's inception as outlaws.

He continues describing the Minutemen with the following statements "a gated and well-guarded **security perimeter**." and "a dozen or so Minutemen are **checking their weapons**, testing batteries in their **nightvision goggles** and **thermal-vision scopes**, donning **body armor** and making other preparations for sundown-to-sunup **reconnaissance patrols**"

Clearly, by his wordage, he is trying to make a group that walks along the Mexican border - where violence has been skyrocketing and where cartels have no issue with shooting and beheading people - out to be some sort of armed militia. I'd like to see Mr. Holthouse patrol the southern border night after night without proper gear to defend himself. Somehow I doubt he'd go for it, he's a little too soft.

He portrays the group as anti-government rather than concerned citizens and says that the group is no longer concerned with border security or "undocumented immigration" (pfft it's illegal immigration, not undocumented immigration), but is more into "conspiracy theories and right-wing antigovernment militancy." He refers to their beliefs as a "nativist vigilante subculture" and says that "Minuteman organizations appear to be morphing into a new paramilitary wing of the resurgent anti-government Patriot' movement."

If you can believe it, Holthouse tries to pretend that he was actually not concerned with the Minutemen initially but that they have become radical "since its early days of media-friendly publicity stunts involving retirees sitting in lawn chairs armed only with binoculars".

Don't let this pro-illegal alien schmuck fool you though. People like Holthouse tried to depict the Minuteman as "paramilitary" and hateful vigilante racists from the very start.

Now that Jim Gilchrist - one of the original founders of the Minutemen - has been working more and more with pro illegal alien groups because of a falling out - and disgrace - from the rest of the immigration enforcement movement, all of a sudden the SPLC has yearnings for "the good old days".

Holthouse continues trying to denigrate the group by making them into a hardcore militia that believes in such far out theories "involv[ing] a cult devoted to the Egyptian god of the afterlife, Osiris, operating within the NASA space agency and perhaps arranging with extraterrestrials for a hostile takeover of Earth." WTF?

Maybe someone was talking about something like that because it's "out there" and "weird", but Holthouse is attributing it to the whole of the Minuteman movement as a theory they believe in.

He mentions talk of Aztlan, Reconquista, and the North American Union within the Minutemen.

I would just like to point out that Aztlan is stated in the founding documents of MeCHA as their goal, the reconquest of the Southwest. However Holthouse tries to portray that the fact the Minutemen talk of it as a real idea presented by the racists at MeCHA, that somehow they all believe it is Mexican government backed. In other words he is trying to obscure in order to discredit it.

He also tries to attach so called "birthers" to the Minutemen. Did you know that Minutemen believe the banking system is controlled by the "Illuminati"? That's what Holthouse says, so it must be true.

A few Minutemen have mentioned "sovereign citizens", this is proof that they

are domestic terrorists, or so Holthouse implies.

Holthouse states: "Minuteman factions have begun promoting the ideology of so-called "sovereign citizens," ... The most notorious advocates of sovereign citizens' ideology include Oklahoma City bombing conspirator Terry Nichols and members of the now defunct Montana Freemen, a violent militia outfit."

That's like saying that because Mickey Mouse and Shrek were both animated that they have the same dances. It's asinine and just more reaching to discredit.

He says that the Forde incident shows that there is "contemplated violence" now in the Minuteman movement.

Holthouse pulls out the new argument which is intent on trying to quash the whole immigration enforcement movement, which is that illegal aliens are leaving the United States.

I don't buy it. I see the videos of lines and lines of illegal aliens coming across our border every day. You can go watch for yourself at <u>Border Invasion Pics</u>. Don't take this guy Holthouse's word for it.

It is amazing how coordinated those in favor of illegal aliens are. They all use each other's reports and talking points. They grasp at the statement by DHS that apprehensions along the border are down, as if that is a good thing.

The truth is that DHS simply isn't catching those that are coming across because the Border Patrol has been hamstrung and there is no completed border fence to slow illegal aliens and smugglers down. All reports on illegal immigration decreasing are bogus and just a ploy for them to bring up the fact we should give amnesty to all the illegal aliens already here, since the problem is "solved".

You know how you can tell it is a lie? LaRaza, Maldef and every other pro-illegal alien two-bit group in this country is repeating the exact same line.

This report is no different. Holthouse continues:

"...by all indications, the number of Latino immigrants attempting to cross the U.S. border has dropped to record lows ... According to a June report by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the number of U.S. Border Patrol apprehensions fell to 724,000 last year. That marked the lowest level since 1973 and a decline of more than 50% from 2000, when apprehensions peaked at 1.67 million." says Holthouse.

Anyone who believes that the time most illegal aliens were crossing the border was in the year 2000 - and not just a few years ago when amnesty was the talk of the town - is a fool. Apprehensions mean nothing to the actual number that succeeds in crossing the border.

Holthouse and the SPLC seem to have something against San Diego Minutemen founder Jeff Schwilk in particular. In the report they set him up to be the de facto leader of all the Minutemen groups in the report then call him a "hothead". Isolate and destroy - that is the plan.

They also point out that the Minutemen have been working with other groups in the area in what is called the "Patriot Coalition". The coalition includes groups for tax reform and gun rights. That's not unusual for groups to work together, after all the SPLC works with a number of radical left-wing groups who are not focused on calling people racist hate-mongers for their livelihood.

Holthouse and all of the people at the SPLC just can't resist making reference to their own reports. They note that two of the

groups in the Patriot Coalition are on their "Hate Group List", which if by now you haven't figured out is about as important as my grocery list. I say my grocery list because it's something I made up without any input from others and it's just as worthless as the paper it's written on to anyone else who may end up with my list.

Oh, and Holthouse is a terribly untalented writer by the way. I had a hard time reading his drivel. He repeats a lot of the same tired words over and over. And he repeats stuff that has already been presented in the report. I can't believe they actually pay this guy for copying and pasting from Potock and Keller. Ick.

Analysis of "Terror From The Right"

This section in the SPLC report is subtitled: 75 plots, conspiracies and racist rampages since Oklahoma City.

In this section there is a list of small column style reports on terrorist acts in the country that have occurred since April 19, 1995, the bombing of the Murrah Building in Oklahoma City.

As you peruse them you will notice that the large majority of these so-called plots were broken up. Also a large majority of them are individuals or individuals and their significant others. The implication that there is widespread militia action in this report that the SPLC has produced fails to materialize when looking at the actual incidents in the same report.

There have not been any orchestrated, group-wide activities in decades in this country. Unless of course you include the riots that inner city people seem to throw every time their team wins a championship or some criminal puts people's lives at risk and police get a little rough with that criminal while apprehending them.

What is most telling of their bias is the Shawna Forde story. They have that listed as one of the 75 incidents. Shawna Forde was a lunatic. Her associations with any groups were irrelevant to what she did. She was apparently looking for attention, the cause didn't matter.

This report as a whole is pure fear-mongering with no basis of proof of any potential

group violence in the near future. Almost all of the groups mentioned throughout this whole report are looking for public discourse and attention to their cause through verbal means, not physical.

People who have armed themselves for defense are doing the appropriate thing. They are being prepared. It's not necessarily for an anti-government reason or a militia reason, but for a self-defense reason.

A simple and actual examination of the contents of this report show that it is full of fabricated conspiracies by a few dim bulbs in Alabama that go by the names of Potock, Keller and Holthouse. It is chock full of the most unimaginative conspiracy theories theories that find there is some kind of underground society exchanging ideas to overthrow the government when, in actuality, the only evidence they have is of lone wackos acting independently.

The report could have been written and put together by any idiot with 10 hours of time, a full bias against another group's stances on issues and - most importantly - the willingness to lie for money.

For the SPLC to have the right to call people racists with no proof or backing **is idiotic**.

For the mainstream media to broadcast it just because they have the same biases as the SPLC **is criminal**.

For government agencies to use any data from the SPLC is traitorous!

