



Bundesministerium

des Innern [http://www.bmi.bund.de/publikationen/pdf/VSB1999_englisch.pdf]

Annual Report of the Office for Protection of the Constitution

1999

Overview of Acts of Violence and Other Criminal Offences with Proven or Suspected Right-Extremist Background ^{*)}

	1998	1999
Acts of violence:		
Homicide	0	1
Attempted homicide	16	13
Bodily injury	595	630
Arson	39	35
Causing a detonation by explosives ^{#)}	3	2
Breach of the public peace	55	65
total	708	746
Other criminal offences:		
Damage to property	516	373
Coercion/threat	276	220
Dissemination of propaganda material of anti-constitutional organizations, and use of insignia of anti-constitutional organizations	6,958	6,719
Other criminal offences, especially incitement to hatred and violence	2,591	1,979
total	10,341	9,291
Total number of criminal offences	11,049	10,037

^{*)} The figures are based on data provided by the *Bundeskriminalamt* (BKA - Federal Office of Criminal Police) (Situation as of: 31 January 2000)

This overview includes both committed and attempted criminal offences. Every offence was counted only once. For instance, if during a breach of the public peace, bodily injury offences were committed at the same time, only the breach of the public peace is shown as an offence in the statistics. If several criminal offences were committed, only the more serious offence was counted.

^{#)} technical term used in the German Penal Code (Section 311); colloquial term: "bomb attack" [Translator's Note]

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TRANSLATION OF GERMAN CRIME REPORT

**Report of the Bureau
for Protection of the Constitution
2000**
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Overview of Acts of Violence and Other Criminal Offences with Proven or Suspected Right-Extremist Background *)		
	1999	2000
Acts of violence**):		
Homicide	0	2***)
Attempted homicide	13	15
Bodily injury	630	874
Arson	35	41
Detonation of explosives	2	7
Disturbing the Peace	65	59
total	746	998
Other criminal offences:		
Damage to property	373	704
Coercion/threat	220	320
Dissemination of propaganda material of anti-constitutional organizations, and use of insignia of anti-constitutional organizations	6,719	10,435
Disturbing the repose of the dead and desecrations of Jewish cemeteries and memorials	47	56
Other criminal offences, especially incitement to hatred and violence	1,979	3,438
total	9,291	14,953
Total number of criminal offences	10,037	15,951

The figures are based on data provided by the Bundeskriminalamt (BKA –Federal Office of Criminal Police) (Situation as of: 31 January 2001)

This overview includes both committed and attempted criminal offences. Every offence was counted only once. For instance, if during a breach of the public peace, bodily injury offences were committed at the same time, only the breach of the public peace is shown as an offence in the statistics. If several criminal offences were committed, only the more serious offence was counted.

*) Since 1997, damage to property involving violence are no longer counted as acts of violence

)) A belatedly reported homicide of a homeless person dated Sept. 13th, 2000, in Schleswig-Holstein is not included in this table.

VII. Revisionism

Revisionism is one of the most important fields of agitation of right wing extremists. Contrary to the scholarly understanding of this term, which means the correction of certain opinions due to newly gained knowledge, for right wing extremist revisionism it is about a politically motivated reinterpretation of the past, especially regarding the time of National Socialism. The intention is to morally exonerate or even defend the Hitler regime. Not only neo-Nazis, but also other right wing extremists operate this way, because they see their basic political views discredited by the negative image of the Third Reich held by the public.

Methods of Manipulation

Methods of manipulation and deception used by revisionists are:

- statements of putting into perspective the crimes of the Nazi dictatorship by comparing them to other crimes; for example, the mass extermination of the Jews is put on the same level as the allied bombing campaign against Dresden,
- emphasizing “positive” aspects of National Socialism, for example the honoring of alleged social achievements or the construction of the Autobahn,
- the manipulative compilation of so-called expert reports, for example the allegedly scientific “Leuchter-Report“ which denies the Holocaust, or
- the one-sided selection or invention of documents to support statements which justify National Socialism.

As an independent field of agitation, revisionism decreased during the last year. Although revisionist statements can frequently be found within the agitation of right wing extremist parties and other organizations, less and less book publications appear in this context.

Right Wing Extremist Reinterpretation

However, the right wing extremist reinterpretation of topics discussed in public increased. One example for this are reports about the book “The Holocaust Industry” by the American political scientist Norman Finkelstein, which in the meantime appeared in German language.¹³¹

The author criticizes in a polemic and exaggerated way what he claims to be an instrumentalization of the memory of the Holocaust by Jewish lobby groups. The “National-Zeitung/Deutsche Wochenzeitung“ (NZ) [National Newspaper/German Weekly Newspaper] addressed this with the heading “Holocaust: Lie and Fraud? Jewish Scholar sets the record straight “. ¹³² This suggests falsely that Finkelstein had expressed doubts about the mass execution of Jews as a historical event. By distorting the real facts, this newspaper tried to inexpressively suggest to its reader that the facts about the extermination of the Jews during World War II had been fraudulently doctored.

“Auschwitz Lie”

The denial of the mass extermination of Jews in gas chambers of concentration camps during the Second World War is a specific variant of revisionism. Such statements, which are also called “Auschwitz Lie” or Holocaust denial – are outlawed in Germany (articles 130, 185, 189 German Penal code); as a result of this, right wing extremists have been sentenced over the last years, sometimes even receiving prison terms. This also explains, why propaganda denying the Holocaust was relocated during the last years from Germany into other countries. The right wing extremist organization “Vrij Historisch Onderzoek” (V.H.O.) [Free Historical Research], for example, which operates from Belgium, distributes the most important German language publications of the protagonists of Holocaust denial, which are confiscated or indexed in Germany. This organization also publishes the pseudo-scholarly journal “Vierteljahreshefte für freie Geschichtsforschung“ (VffG) [Quarterly for Free Historical Research].

The real head of V.H.O. is the German revisionist Germar SCHEERER, born RUDOLF, who operates from Great Britain. In 1995, he was sentenced for inciting the people and he fled abroad just before his prison term was to begin. Other writings of Holocaust deniers are published by “Castle Hill Publishers,“ in addition to VffG. For example, the last books distributed by SCHEERER were „Das Konzentrationslager Stutthof“ [The concentration Camp Stutthof] written by the Swiss revisionist Jürgen GRAF together with Carlo MATTOGNO, and „Riese auf tönernen Füßen“ [The Giant with Feet of Clay], which were published end of 1999. All in all, however, SCHEERER did not succeed in distributing his projects as comprehensively as planned. He apologized to his readers for the delay of the projects in a report announced in 1999.

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Holocaust Denier IRVING Loses Court Case

The entire international revisionist scene suffered a setback as a result of the trial of the worldwide known Holocaust denier and British writer David IRVING.¹³³ He had sued the American historian Deborah LIPSTADT for libel, who had called him “one of the most dangerous Holocaust deniers“. During the trial in London, numerous renowned historians testified about IRVING’s manipulative dealings with sources. In its verdict, the court stated that this writer [Irving] is a racist, anti-Semite, Holocaust denier and forger of historical facts. The revisionist periodical “National Journal”, which appears in Great Britain in German language, stated bitterly:

“As a historian, Irving is now ruined. Which publisher employs an author everybody may call a ‘forger’? This is mostly his own fault.“

(„National Journal“ no. 44/2000, p. 10)

Agitation via the Internet

Foreign right wing extremist Holocaust deniers also use the internet to distribute their agitation worldwide, and hence in Germany as well. This includes the circle of individuals around the German neo-Nazi Ernst ZÜNDEL, who lives in Canada, the

Belgian organization V. H. O., the French “Association des Anciens Amateurs de Récits de Guerre et d'Holocauste“ (AAARGH) [Association of Former Admirers of Accounts about the War and the Holocaust] and the two American organizations „Committee for Open Debate On The Holocaust“ (CODOH) and „Institute for Historical Review“ (IHR). End of may, the IHR held a conference in Orange County (California) with revisionist speakers from various countries, i. a., GRAF, IRVING, SCHEERER and ZÜNDEL. The IHR posted information about this conference as well as the individual papers presented on the internet.

**TRANSLATOR’S AFFIDAVIT:
I CERTIFY THAT I POSSESS EXPERT COMPREHENSION OF BOTH
THE ENGLISH AND GERMAN LANGUAGES AND THAT THE
ABOVE IS A TRUE AND ACCURATE TRANSLATION.**

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15 August 2001