American Nazi Party Recruiting Materials

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c.1966

Title Statement

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.2015.060

Unit Date

c.1966

Language

English .

Abstract

This collection includes materials from a membership recruiting packet for the American Nazi Party from c.1966.

Creator

American Nazi Party (1960-1967)

Creator

Patler, John, 1938-

Creator

Koehl, Matt, Jr. (Matthias), 1935-2014

Extent

0.1 Cubic Feet 1 folder

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Use Restrictions

Permission to publish material from American Nazi Party Recruiting Materials must be obtained from Special Collections, Virginia Tech.

Acquisition Information

The American Nazi Party Recruiting Materials were purchased by Special Collections in April 2015.

Processing Information

The processing, arrangement, and description of the American Nazi Party Recruiting Materials was completed in December 2015.

Preferred Citation

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Biographical/Historical note

The American Nazi Party was founded as the World Union of Free Enterprise National Socialists by George Lincoln Rockwell in 1959. The name was changed to the American Nazi Party in 1960, then to the National Socialist White People's Party in 1967, and finally to New Order in 1983. The party was founded on the political principles of National Socialism (Nazism). The party's political platform included deporting black people, sterilizing Jewish people and liquidating their assets, honoring Adolf Hitler's memory, and promoting racial purity for white people. The party was led by its founder, George Lincoln Rockwell, from 1959 until his assassination in 1967. One of his deputies, Matt Koehl, succeeded him and led the party from 1967 until his death in 2014. Another original member of the party, Rocky Suhayda founded his own organization using the American Nazi Party name. Suhayda's organization has been active since at least the 2008 presidential election and claims a connection to the American Nazi Pary from 1959 but is officially a separate entity.

George Lincoln Rockwell was born in Bloomington, Illinois on March 9, 1918 and was assassinated in Arlington, Virginia on August 26, 1967. Rockwell's parents were vaudeville comedians and actors. They divorced early in his life and he spent his childhood in both Maine and New Jersey as a result. Rockwell attended Hebron Academy in Maine and Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island before enlisting in the United States Navy in 1940. Following World War II, he worked in the advertising industry in Maine before returning to military service in 1950 for the Korean War. After his time in the Korean War, Rockwell began to read the writings of Adolf Hitler. In 1959, Rockwell founded the American Nazi Party based on the writings and philosophy of Adolf Hitler. He served as Commander of the party from 1959 until he was assassinated by John Patler in 1967.

Matt Koehl was born January 22, 1935 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and died in October 2014 in Wisconsin. Koehl studied Journalism at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and served in the United States Marine Corps before joining the American Nazi Party in 1960. Between 1960 and 1967, he served as the National Secretary and second-in-command of the party. Following the assassination of George Lincoln Rockwell in 1967, Koehl became the Commander of the American Nazi Party. He served as Commander until his death in 2014.

John Patler was born John Patsalos on January 6, 1938 in New York, New York. He served in the United States Marines from 1958 to 1960. In 1960, he received an honorable discharge after being arrested at a Nazi rally, changed his name from Patsalos to Patler, and joined the American Nazi Party. Patler served as a Captain in the American Nazi Party and worked primarily as an editor and cartoonist for the party's magazine, the *Stormtrooper*, and other publications. In April 1967, Patler was expelled from the party for "Bolshevick leanings." In August 1967, Patler assassinated American Nazi Party Commander George Lincoln Rockwell. He was convicted of first-degree murder in December 1967 and sentenced to 20 years in prison. In 1975, after serving eight years, he was paroled. He later served an additional six years following a violation of his parole.

Scope and Content

This collection includes materials from a membership recruiting packet for the American Nazi Party from c.1966. The materials are a letter signed by Matt Koehl, the National Secretary for the American Nazi Party, a biographical article about George Lincoln Rockwell, founder of the American Nazi Party, a copy of the

Program of the World Union of National Socialists describing the party platform, an order form for the party magazine, *The Rockwell Report*, an order form for political flyers called "'Back to Africa' tickets", and a copy of a short comic book called *Here Comes Whiteman*.

Keywords

Fascism
Ephemera
Socialist parties
Local/Regional History and Appalachian South
American Nazi Party (1960-1967)
Rockwell, George Lincoln, 1918-1967

Description of Subordinate Components

Recruiting materials,
Unit Date c.1966
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