(U//FOUO) SUMMARY

The following symbols are sometimes used by racially or ethnically motivated violent extremist (RMVE) adherents of ideologies such as neo-Nazism, white nationalism, neo-paganism, and others. RMVE symbols can be found in group logos, merchandise, propaganda, written materials, tattoos, etc. Symbols often have variations, and can be combined by RMVEs to create new imagery. Nazi Germany adopted symbols in the 1930s and 1940s from ancient cultures and alphabets to create an illusion of a pure Aryan culture. Current RMVEs continue to use such symbols to glorify Nazi Germany or illustrate a connection with ancient European cultures. Symbols can have legitimate, non-racist uses. The sole use of a symbol is not conclusive evidence of ideology or RMVE criminal activity. The FBI does not investigate, collect, or maintain information solely for the purpose of monitoring activities protected by the First Amendment.

(U) SYMBOLS

(U) Swastika: Symbol which became notorious due to its use by Adolf Hitler and Nazi Germany.

(U) Parteiadler/Nazi Eagle: Used to symbolize the Nazi party.

(U) SS Bolts: Symbol of the Nazi Schutzstaffel (SS), the elite soldiers of the regime which gathered police and military powers.

(U) Totenkopf/Death’s Head: Also associated with the Nazi SS.

(U) Triskele/Triskelion: Multiple variations, with three interlocking symbols appearing as sevens, legs, etc.

(U) Sturmabteilung (SA): Used by Hitler’s Brownshirts or Storm Troopers, which were paramilitary units used to violently intimidate opposition.

(U) Sonnenrad/Black Sun: Used by the Nazi SS, SA, and other related entities.

(U) Iron Cross: Traditionally used as a military medal, the Nazi party added a swastika to the center.

(U) Fasces Symbol: Imperial Roman symbol of state power and unity, used by the fascist movement in Italy, center.

(U) Wolf’s Hook/Wolfsangel: An ancient German symbol based on the appearance of a wolf trap, appropriated by several SS divisions during the Nazi regime.

(U) Life Rune/Algiz: Ancient runic symbol with several interpretations, signifying a tree or elk. Also incorporated into Nazi symbolism.

(U) “Othala Rune/Norse Rune/Othal/Odal: From a pre-Roman European alphabet, symbolizing the “o” sound. Appropriated by several SS divisions.

(U) Thor’s Hammer: Norse symbol adopted by racist practitioners of Asatru, Odinism, Wotanism and other RMVEs who believe it signifies the strength and purity of the white race.

(U) Odin’s Cross/Celtic Cross: Dates back to ancient Europe. Popularized by the Ku Klux Klan, the website Stormfront, and used to represent “white pride.”

(U) Valknot: Norse symbol associated with the afterlife, often associated with Odin.

(U) Blood Drop Cross: Typically associated with the KKK, the cross features a blood drop in the center representing blood shed for the white race.

(U) Phineas Priesthood: Used by some RMVEs, including Christian Identity adherents, who believe in a divine mandate to enforce God’s law through violence.

(U) For additional information, please contact the Counterterrorism Analysis Section of the FBI Counterterrorism Division via email at FBI_CTD_CTAS@fbi.gov.

(U) Sources: Previous FBI products, FBI information and open source information. This document derives from multiple sources of information collected by the FBI.

(U) RMVEs employ a number of tactics, some of which may be criminal and others of which may constitute exercise of rights guaranteed by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. The FBI may not base any investigative activity solely on the rights guaranteed by the First Amendment.

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(U/FOUO) COMMON NUMERICAL SYMBOLS and SIGNIFICANT DATES

- **14:** Signifies David Lane’s 14 Words slogan (“We must secure the existence of our people and a future for white children”)
- **88:** “Heil Hitler” (H is the 8th letter of the alphabet).
- **14/88, 1488:** Combination of two numeric symbols, signifies support of white power and Hitler.
- **18:** Signifies AH, meaning Adolf Hitler. A is the first letter of the alphabet, H is the 8th.
- **311:** Signifies the KKK (K is the 11th letter of the alphabet, 3 11s equal KKK)

(4/19): Last day of the Waco siege (1993) and date of the Oklahoma City Bombing (1995)
(4/20): Adolf Hitler’s birthday
(12/8): Death of The Order member Robert Jay Mathews during 1984 standoff with FBI (“Martyr’s Day”)

(U/FOUO) SYMBOLS USED BY ENDURING RMVE INFLUENCES


(U) *National Alliance (US):* A neo-Nazi group founded in the 1970s and led by William Pierce (deceased), the author of *The Turner Diaries.*

(U) *National Socialist Movement (US):* Centralized Neo-Nazi group founded in the 1990s.

(U) *Hammerskin Nation (International):* A loose collective of racist skinhead groups active since the 1980s in the US and other Western countries. Also use the skinhead “Boots and laces” symbol.

(U) *Nordic Resistance Movement (International):* Neo-Nazi group in Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden adhering to anti-Semitic, anti-gay, anti-immigrant, pro-white ideology.

(U) *Blood & Honour (International):* Founded in the United Kingdom in the late 1980s, with chapters active in some western countries. *Combat 18 (International)* was formed as the armed branch in the 1990s.

(U/FOUO) SIGNIFICANT/INFLUENTIAL RMVE ATTACKS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(U) Anders Breivik:</th>
<th>(U) 22 July 2011, attack in Norway targeting government offices and summer youth camp affiliated with the Norwegian Labour Party: killed 77, injured 319.</th>
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<tr>
<td>(U) Dylann Roof:</td>
<td>(U) 17 June 2015, attack in Charleston, SC targeting African Americans at a church, killed 9, injured 1.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(U) Brenton Tarrant:</td>
<td>(U) 15 March 2019, attack in Christchurch, New Zealand targeting Muslims at mosques, killed 51, injured 49.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(U) Patrick Crusius:</td>
<td>(U) 3 August 2019, attack in El Paso, TX targeting Hispanics at a retail store, killed 23, injured 23.</td>
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(U/FOUO) SYMBOLS USED BY OR ASSOCIATED WITH RMVE ATTACKERS

**Brenton Tarrant** – (Christchurch, NZ attacker.)

**Archangel Michael’s Cross/Triple Cross:** adopted by the Romanian fascist group Iron Guard, which assacred Jews.

Tarrant wrote the names of other RMVEs and Western historical figures who fought against Muslims, as well as the names of supposed victims of Muslim violence, on his weapons and equipment.

**Other symbols used:** Sonnenrad, Odin’s Cross, 14 Words

**Dylann Roof** – (Charleston, SC attacker.)

Roof had a distinctive “bowl cut” hair style some RMVEs allude to in screennames or chat group names and depict in propaganda.