



ROCKWELL STORMS, RANTS AND DEFAMES WITH PROFIT IN MIND.

# A Vicious Method in Madness?

## VICTOR RIESEL: NEW YORK BEAT

For a while I thought of the American Nazi Party as sick, sick, sick. But now that I've managed to snare the first edition of its new magazine, *The Storm Trooper*, the words I prefer are slick, slick, slick.

There is a method in the madness of Party Commander, George Lincoln Rockwell. Out of the riots he professionally provokes, out of the brutal attacks on the Jewish faith and the Negroes, out of repeated speeches about "gassing" the Jews, out of public wearing of Swastika-laden SS uniforms, Rockwell looks for martyrdom.

From this he hopes to build a big business in the most loathsome kind of professional hate I've seen in 20 years of covering Nazis, Fascists and Communists.

Until this *Storm Trooper* thing was published he seemed mighty like a nut. But no more.

**WHAT IS DISTURBING** In addition to his reference to Jews already "tasting the gas," is a strange development on the campuses. Students are inviting Rockwell on one side as the anti-Communist voice to offset Gus Hall as the mouthpiece of the Communist Party.

Result has been a series of press interviews, TV broadcasts and long speeches.

*The Storm Trooper* chronicles a cross-country tour made by this warped man. His followers may be small in number, but at every airport there were small squads of storm troopers. At one field they ran a car onto the strip to greet him as a visiting dignitary.

In Chicago they have developed a Nazi compound. This Rockwell calls the "impressive Chicago Nazi headquarters at . . . North Damen St." It is in the hands of someone called "Captain" Mal Lambert and a "Lieutenant" Mat Koehl. They have converted a "large two-story square building into a book store, large meeting hall, garage and repair shop, with a smaller meeting hall, apartments and mess hall on the top floor." There it was that he called for the gas chambers.

He spent his birthday in Los Angeles. His squads actually found a baker who would prepare a cake with swastika decorations. I can, but I will not reprint his incredible references to Jewish leaders, or his use of anti-Negro jargon.

He tried to rent the Boston Arena for a rally. He was turned down by the management. Then a strange thing happened. And I write this with full understanding of the motivation and principles of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU). It entered the case.

When Rockwell brought action to force the rental of the auditorium, the ACLU swung into the case as an *Amicus Curiae*, friend of the court. The ACLU people argued that civil liberties are indivisible and there should be a single standard.

If this be civil liberties, the hell with it. Let reason prevail. There's something wrong with a principled position which argues for giving license to those who, in these days of 1962, shout for gas chambers, provoke riots, and mock six million souls who escaped damnable torture only when gas jets filled the chambers at the Dachaus of Hitler's Germany.

And if this be treason to the star-gazing civil libertarians, let them make the most of it.

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