

which would make us a wealthier country, and lower the incentives for capital to leave. But none of this will be possible if Nafta passes, which is why real free traders oppose it. ■

Behind Waco

by M.N.R.

These days, when the Respectable Media form a virtual monolith, rehashing government press releases and confining the Respectable Spectrum of opinion to the tiny distance from left-center to right-center, truth can often be found only at the "extremes" whether left or right, where anti-Establishment people dare to stray beyond these prescribed limits. So we have to thank leftist Alexander Cockburn, in his column in *The Nation* (Oct. 18), for straying into Forbidden Ground in reporting on the story behind the terrible Waco massacre.

Cockburn cites the report of Nancy Ammerman, of the Candler School of Theology at Emory University, who was recruited by the Justice and Treasury Departments to review internal documents on the Waco case, in preparation for their own whitewash report on Waco. Professor Ammerman found that the BATF and FBI ignored sound cautionary advice from religion experts and from the FBI's own Behavioral Science Services Unit. Instead, the BATF and FBI relied heavily on the sinister Cult Awareness Network [CAN], which kept goading the federal authorities to use maximal force against

the Branch Davidians. Thus, in April, before the Waco holocaust, CAN president Patricia Ryan was quoted in the *Houston Chronicle* as calling for the arrest of David Koresh, using lethal force if necessary.

Particularly ominous is the crucial role played at Waco by a leading "deprogrammer"; "deprogrammers" are professional brainwashers who kidnap "cult" adherents, and then use brainwashing techniques to "deprogram" them, thereby allegedly setting them mentally free. Since deprogrammers are felons who are often convicted and sent to jail, CAN has to have an arms'-length relationship with them, but even so their joint connections to Waco are disturbingly intertwined. Thus, the man whom the BATF and FBI relied on most heavily for advice on the Branch Davidians was Rick Ross, whom Professor Ammerman says "clearly had the most extensive access to both agencies of any person on the 'cult expert' list and he was apparently listened to more attentively." Ross, who boasts of performing many "deprogrammings," was frequently quoted by the media during the Waco siege, and he was featured in the *Waco Tribune-Herald* series on the Branch Davidians that began at the end

of February. Ross, a convicted jewel thief known as such to the federal authorities, is now facing charges of unlawful imprisonment arising from one of his deprogrammings in Washington State.

Rick Ross, who admits to hatred of all religious cults and whose aim is to destroy cults, was hailed by Cynthia Kissner, executive director of CAN's national office, as "among the half dozen best deprogrammers in the country." Ross got much of his information on the Branch Davidians from a deprogramming session held at the Los Angeles home of Priscilla Coates, head of the Southern California

CAN. Someone, either Ross or a colleague, "deprogrammed" a former Branch Davidian member, David Block, at these sessions, and information from the brainwashed Block was featured heavily in the initial BATF search warrant presented to a Waco judge.

Professor Ammerman concludes that major sponsors of the first bloody and unjustified assault

on the Branch Davidians included people such as Rick Ross and CAN, who "have a direct ideological (and financial) interest in arousing suspicion and antagonism against what they call 'cults.'"

It is horrifying that the acolytes

Information from the brainwashed Block was featured heavily in the initial BATF search warrant.

of the "therapeutic state" are increasingly turning to coercive brainwashing techniques, ranging from "sensitivity training sessions" to kidnapping and "deprogramming" for stamping out the Politically Incorrect. Our "soft" totalitarian liberals are increasingly taking on "harder" and rougher trappings. This trend must be combatted and uprooted, and one important step would be a deep investigation of the Cult Awareness Network. Who are these people? And how did they acquire their power? ■

P.C. Watch

by L.H.R., Jr.

Work, Obey, and Eat

During the 1930s, New Deal historians compiled a 19-volume oral history of slavery. It consisted entirely of interviews with former slaves, and given the interest in the subject, one would think the collection, still in print (Greenwood Press), would be much in use today. But an extract, *Before Freedom*, edited by Belinda Hermence (Mentor [Penguin], 1990), shows why the oral history is so seldom used. Fewer than 4% of the ex-slaves expressed even the slightest hostility to slavery, former masters, or whites in general.

From Patsy Michner, age 84: "Before two years had passed after the surrender, there was two out of every three slaves who wished they was back with their masters. . . . There was a lot of love between master

and slave, and there is few of us that don't love the white folks today. . . . Slavery was better for us then things is now in some cases. Niggers then didn't have no responsibility; just work, obey, and eat."

Adeline Johnson, age 93: "That was a happy time, with happy days. . . . I'll be satisfied to see my Savior that my old master worshipped and my husband preach about. I wants to be in Heaven with all my white folks, just to wait on them and love them, and serve them, sorta like I did in slavery times. That will be enough Heaven for Adeline."

Mary Anderson, age 86: "I think slavery was a mighty good thing for Mother, Father, me, and the other members of my family, and I cannot say anything but good for my old master and missus, but I can only speak for those whose conditions I have known during slavery and since. For myself and for them, I will say again, slavery was a mighty good thing."

Sylvia Cannon, age 85: "Things sure better long time ago then they be now. I know it. Colored people never had no debt to pay in slavery time. Never hear tell about no colored people been put in jail before freedom. Had more to eat and more to wear then, and had good clothes all the time 'cause white folks furnish everything, everything. Had plenty peas, rice, hog meat, rabbit, fish, and such as that." (*American Renaissance*, 9-10/93)

No Al Jolson

When black playwright Leroi Jones puts black actors in white-

face, it's legitimate social commentary. But blackface is out of bounds for whites, even leftists, as Ted Danson recently discovered. At a New York Friars Club roast for his girlfriend, Whoopi Goldberg, Danson came out looking like a minstrel complete with top hat. He made jokes about his and Goldberg's sex life and used the word "nigger." Friars' roasts are renowned for being no-holds-barred, but even though Goldberg responded in kind, black Mayor David Dinkins walked out in protest and so did black talk-show host Montel Williams. Jokes "about racially mixed kids," when "everyone knows my wife is white and just gave birth to our child," are "not funny," he said (*Montgomery Advertiser*, 10/9/93).

Hep

Black novelist Toni Morrison—famous for her anti-white and anti-male books—has won the \$825,000 Nobel Prize in literature. To show why, the *Wall Street Journal* (10/8/93) quoted from *Jazz*, her latest book: "Daylight slants like a razor cutting the buildings in half. In the top half I see looking faces and it's not easy to tell which are people, which the work of stone-masons. Below is shadow where any blase thing may take place: clarinets and lovemaking, fists and the voices of sorrowful women. A city like this makes me dream tall and feel in on things. Hep."

Moving to the Back of the Restaurant

It was Rosa Parks all over again, said columnist William