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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

Counterterrorism Division

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(U) Ghost Skins: The Fascist Path of Stealth

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(U//LES) This intelligence bulletin addresses the Terrorism (TERR) topic of the NIPF and responds to intelligence requirement FBI DT-I.A.3.

(U) Overview

(U//LES) Since coming to law enforcement attention in late 2004, the term "Ghost Skins" has gained currency among white supremacists to describe those who avoid overt displays of their beliefs to blend into society and covertly advance white-supremacist causes. References to Ghost Skins appearing on white-supremacist Web sites describe the concept as a form of role-playing, in which "undercover white power warriors" maintain overt, "politically correct" personas in order to avoid law enforcement scrutiny.

• (U//LES) According to one white-supremacist Web site, "The life of a Ghost Skin is the fascist path of stealth.... Ghost Skins don't shave their heads, wear boots, braces, or anything else that can visually identify them as Nazis. We strive to blend into society to be unrecognizable to the Jewish enemy."

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^{1 (}U) http://www.nukeisrael.com/ghost%20skin.htm, et al.

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- (U//LES) Prospective Ghost Skins will reportedly be encouraged to join the military to seek out potential new members and receive training that could be passed along to members of white-supremacist groups.
- (U//LES) Prospective Ghost Skins will reportedly be encouraged to seek positions in law enforcement in order to alert white supremacists of pending investigative action against them.

(U//LES) The success of the Ghost Skin concept depends on the abilities of its practitioners to present a convincing false character that can be sustained over extended periods. Although Web sites advise potential Ghost Skins to study acting to minimize their risk of exposure, these false characters are subject to discovery during employment application and interview processes.

(U) Ghost Skins as a Diversion for Criminal Activity

(U//LES) A 2004 Internet posting by an Oregon-based skinhead group used the term "Ghost Skin" in the context of membership levels—including Skin Initiate, Ghost Skin Green Horn, Ghost Skin, Elite Ghost Skin, and Master Ghost Skin—attained through the successful, covert distribution of at least 1,000 white power flyers, participation in white power rallies, and other unspecified service. Although the posting advocated "no stronger action" than placing flyers on cars, it also states that "not everyone will take our advice," recognizing the potential for individuals to independently conduct criminal actions on behalf of white-supremacist causes.

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(U//LES) Recipients should immediately report information regarding attempts by white supremacists to infiltrate sensitive government positions or to conduct criminal activity to their local FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force. FBI regional phone numbers can be found online at http://www.fbi.gov/contact/fo/fo.htm.

(U) This intelligence bulletin was prepared by the Domestic Terrorism Analysis Unit (DTAU), Counterterrorism Division. Comments and queries may be addressed to the DTAU Unit Chief at

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