

Satanwatch by EIR Investigators

Wicca's underground railroad exposed

A high-tech computer network plays a role in international child abuse rings.

On May 13, 1989, in Tarrant County, Texas, constable's deputies visited the home of Fred "Tex" Burke, setting in motion a chain of events which would lead to the exposure of an international satanic underground railroad, supported by a computer network known as MagickNet. The deputies were there to serve an order on Burke to appear before Judge Lawrence Blais of the 325th District Court in Fort Worth, for a hearing on his fitness as a parent, set for May 15.

Among the reasons Burke's parental fitness was being questioned, was his membership in the satanic Wicca cult. Rather than face the court, Burke promptly fled, taking his daughter with him.

Before leaving, Burke threw out eleven bags of trash, containing such items as child pornography, an assortment of sexual devices, announcements of Wiccan meetings, which urged him to bring his daughter, a Ku Klux Klan "lifetime supporter" certificate, and a document entitled "sword blooding," which showed the preferred method for dissecting and skinning the human body. Burke is also suspected of murdering his wife, Agnes, who died under mysterious circumstances, according to a private investigator hired by her parents.

When Burke failed to appear for his hearing, and an immediate manhunt was launched for Burke and his daughter, seven-year-old Guinevere Garrett Burke, whose safety was uppermost in the minds of authorities.

"This worries me immensely," said Tarrant County Precinct 5 Constable

Jim Palmer. "The investigation has been almost full-time daily, seven days a week."

Burke's mother, Coylene Weaver, also a Wiccan, defended her son and accused the authorities of "religious persecution," claiming that Wiccans only practice "white magic." Weaver's home, which she shared with Fred and Guinevere, features a 10-foot diameter pentagram on the driveway.

Authorities tracked Burke to Oklahoma, where other practitioners of the occult, were attempting to get him to Canada. Burke succeeded in getting as far as the Lincoln, Nebraska area, where he was arrested July 13.

The Lincoln area has been described by law enforcement sources as being a "hotbed" of Wiccan activity.

Guinevere Burke was rescued unharmed, and is now under the protection of the authorities.

The fact that Wiccan circles were trying to smuggle the fugitive Fred Burke from Texas to Canada is highly significant, for it demonstrates the presence of a Wiccan underground railroad.

The existence of this railroad was also confirmed by a computer message posted July 13, the same day Burke was apprehended. The message, from a witch named Farrell McGovern of Toronto, Canada, said that "Anahita-Glua has been contacted by trustworthy pagan friends from Oklahoma, who are harboring a gentleman and his seven year old daughter who have been on the run. . . . The Father wants to come to Canada w/Daughter . . . Is there any-

one out there who might consider helping these two?"

Anahita-Glua is identified in the message as a Third Degree Gardnerian Wicca Priestess from Ottawa, Canada. The message goes on to note that "there is a warrant out for his arrest for kidnaping."

MagickNet, a self-described "electronic coven," is an international personal computer network which specializes in the occult and in providing counterintelligence about law enforcement and other groups investigating witchcraft.

It is run by Brad Hicks of St. Louis, Missouri, who runs in Wiccan circles and in circles linked to Lt. Col. Michael Aquino, also of St. Louis and head of the openly satanic Temple of Set. In addition to Hicks's "Weirdbase" bulletin board, key links include the Ordo Templi Orientis' "ThelemaNet" and "BaphoNet" bulletin boards in San Francisco and New York, respectively.

Other MagickNet outlets are located in southern California, Arizona, N.M., Texas, Oklahoma, Colorado, Minnesota, Florida, Virginia, District of Columbia, Maryland, N.J., Massachusetts, N.H., Hawaii, and Canada.

The Burke case is significant to those investigating satanic networks for two reasons.

First, it clearly shows that Wicca, despite its protestations about being opposed to child abuse and other illegal activity, has a functioning underground railroad to protect fugitive members, even kidnapers and those suspected of child abuse.

Second, it underscores the role played in this underground by satanic computer networks, such as MagickNet.

Both areas deserve further investigation.