

Battle intensifies over masonic statue

by Marianna Wertz

With the publication of the latest issue (fourth quarter 1992) of *Phylaxis*, a magazine of the (African-American) Prince Hall Masons, the battle launched by the political movement of Lyndon LaRouche and this news service to remove the statue of Confederate Gen. Albert Pike, the founder of the Ku Klux Klan and a leading Scottish Rite Freemason, from Judiciary Square in Washington, D.C. has greatly escalated. Devoted virtually entirely to this one issue, *Phylaxis* makes a fierce attack on the federally maintained Pike statue and, by implication, on those who are trying to keep it up.

In his preface to the issue, Editor Joseph Walkes, Jr., who is also president of the Phylaxis Society, describes his research into the links between white freemasonry and the KKK. "Caucasian Masonic friends . . . told [me] that during its heyday . . . almost everyone had joined the Klan and that I should not take it as a big deal. Perhaps it wasn't a big deal to Whites, but to African-Americans who were on the receiving end of their hostilities, it was indeed a big deal! . . .

'None have been more hostile'

"None has been more hostile to us than the White Supreme Council of the Southern Jurisdiction located in Washington, D.C. and calls itself the Mother Supreme Council of the World, they were indeed a great evil. We will never forget or forgive the things they printed about us in the *New Age* [Scottish Rite] magazine. For instance, in their May, 1949 issue, page 266, saying that our blood was not human blood but animal blood. Nor the other antagonistic comments in . . . 1947 . . . 1948 . . . 1949 . . . 1950. . . .

"At the end of my research I published my paper, 'The Ku Klux Klan and Regular Freemasonry,' in the third quarter 1982 issue of the *Phylaxis*. I republished it in the *News Quarterly* in its Spring 1992 edition . . . where it was discovered by supporters of Lyndon LaRouche, who demanded that the statue of Pike in Washington, D.C. be removed. . . .

"I have reproduced [here] my original article and have permission from historian Anton Chaitkin to reproduce his article, all for the information of our readers which will allow you to judge the merit of the debate and also stimulate a more educated discussion within the Masonic community of White

and African America."

The magazine, distributed to black Masons throughout the country, is published by the Phylaxis Society, "A Society for Prince Hall Freemasons," though neither the society nor its magazine are official spokesmen for Prince Hall Freemasonry.

The pressure on the black Masons not to join this fight is made clear in a formal disclaimer by Walkes also in this *Phylaxis* issue: "I just received a call from a very dear and trusted friend from Virginia, who felt that Freemasonry would be harmed if the statue is removed. He asked that I make a statement that he could publish. I did not; as I needed to pray on the matter. . . . [However, if] the removal of the statue would in any way harm Freemasonry, then I say let it stay in place."

But the polemical style of Walkes's preface, and the fact that he also included in the issue extended coverage of the statue fight and of Pike's history taken from this news service and the *Capital Spotlight* speak mountains about where they really stand.

Park historian is chief of 'Aryan' society

Another important development in the battle over the Pike statue is the finding, made public on May 3 by Chaitkin, that Gary Scott, the National Park Service's principal historian for the Washington, D.C. area, who was responsible for researching the Pike statue for the U.S. Congress in response to pressure to remove it, is a key coordinator for the campus-based affiliate of the Ku Klux Klan, the "Kappa Alpha Order."

Scott's reports to the Congress and to the public on Pike have whitewashed Pike's KKK career, stating, despite solid, well-known evidence to the contrary, that the "evidence is inconclusive."

Scott had been subpoenaed to testify at the trial of Rev. James Bevel and Anton Chaitkin for the "crime" of "statue climbing" (see *EIR* April 30, 1993, p. 58), but his subpoena was quashed by federal Judge Royce Lamberth, himself a former member of the "Albert Pike" chapter of the Scottish Rite's youth group in Texas.

As Chaitkin revealed in early May, the Kappa Alpha Order, founded in southern universities during the late 1860s and still active nationwide today, is devoted to the perpetuation of white supremacy. Their catalogue states, "Aryan in blood, we exclude the African from membership. . . . The 'prescripts,' 'creed' and 'oaths' of the Klan were remarkably similar to the principles and obligation of the K.A.—so much so that our brother, Thomas Dixon, author of *The Clansman*, claims a participation of K.A.'s in organizing the Klan."

Gary Scott is the current Kappa Alpha Chief Alumnus, responsible for the activities of thousands of men nationwide in this white brotherhood. Little wonder that he wanted to hide the truth about Albert Pike from Congress!