

World and Nation

SHOE



by Jeff MacNelly

Assassination orders unveiled in testimonial

Associated Press

SEATTLE — Members of The Order were assigned to assassinate Henry Kissinger, David Rockefeller and other prominent people as part of their oath to rid America of Jewish influence, a former member of the white supremacist group testified Friday.

The members went as far as to plan a suicide bombing at the Olympic Hotel in Seattle in November 1983, when a member of France's wealthy Rothschild family supposedly was to visit.

The testimony came from Denver Daw Parmenter II, one of 23 people indicted for racketeering in what the government says was a crime wave by the group that included murder, armored-car robberies and counterfeiting.

Parmenter, 33, pleaded guilty in January to racketeering in exchange for a 20-year term in a medium-security prison.

Ten other indictees pleaded guilty earlier, and one defendant pleaded guilty Friday.

Thomas Bentley, one of 11 defendants on trial, changed his plea after the trial adjourned for the day. Bentley, 57, of Hayden Lake, Idaho, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to racketeer.

Sentencing was set for Jan. 24 and details of the plea agreement were sealed at the government's request.

Ten defendants remain on trial.

In a 21-count federal indictment, Bentley was accused of helping kill Walter West, an Order member said to have been slain by his fellow members.

Parmenter was the second government witness in the case before U.S. District Judge Walter McGovern.

The government alleges the defendants ran a national crime campaign to support their white supremacist views with the ultimate goal of overthrowing the U.S. government.

Parmenter testified that at a September 1983 meeting at which the Order was formed, the nine people attending were each assigned an assassination target.

Those targets, he said, included Henry Kissinger, David Rockefeller and the heads of the three American television networks.

Parmenter's target, he said, was Fred Silverman, then head of NBC.

The networks were targeted because "it was felt that the news media was one of the (vehicles) responsible for indoctrinating our race, poisoning the people," he said.

Texas senators state opinions on complex U.S. trade issue

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Texans Lloyd Bentsen and Phil Gramm are considered by their colleagues to be among the most knowledgeable members of the Senate when it comes to the complex and often partisan issue of trade.

In separate interviews, Gramm, a freshman Republican, and Bentsen, a four-term Democrat, voiced very different ideas about the U.S. trade imbalance, its effect on jobs and on what should be done.

"I am opposed to protectionism," Gramm, who has a Ph.D. in economics, said. "The Democrats are trying to cast this as a jobs issue. In reality, the issue is fair trade."

Bentsen is a ranking minority member on the Senate Finance subcommittee on international trade. "I've been a free-trader all my life... but there's been a change," he said.

Bentsen is the Senate sponsor of a bill that would impose a 25 percent tariff on goods from countries whose exports exceed imports by 55 percent.

Gramm opposes tariffs and favors negotiation and stricter enforcement of current laws against "dumping" — the selling of foreign goods in the United States at below-market prices.

Gramm said trade restrictions in the United States will only result in restriction of overseas purchases of U.S. goods.

"If you listen to the Democrats, it's as if people sell things here and then take the dollars and eat them," Gramm said. "Nobody wants dollars to eat. They don't eat good. So they take the dollars and invest them, they take the dollars and they lend them, they

take the dollars and they buy.

"What we have got to do is not stop world trade and produce another depression as we did in the 1930s. What we've got to do is work to try to make the system fairer."

Bentsen said the foreign competition in many cases has an unfair advantage due to government subsidies and cheap labor. Their unfair trade practices, he says, are costing American jobs.

"We're charged sometimes with shoddiness in merchandise and for some of our merchandise that's true," Bentsen said. "Or with management mistakes, and sometimes that's true. All those things have to be corrected, but in the meantime, you've got to buy time. Otherwise you lose your world market share of the business, and when you lose it, it's hell to ever get it back."

"You have one of these international companies move a half-billion dollar plant abroad, that's not going to come back in this century."

Gramm said, "If you listen to the Democrats, America is losing millions of jobs. But yet, in the last three years, we have created 8 million net new jobs, more than Japan and Europe put together. More than Europe has created in the last 20 years. More than we have ever created in any three years in the 20th century."

Bentsen adds, "For us to go to a debtor nation for the first time since 1914, and to see that escalating where by 1990 we'll owe over a trillion dollars in debt because of our trade deficit — to foreign countries we'll owe it — we can say to Brazil and Mexico and Poland, 'move aside, you're pikers.'"

Gramm states, "The truth is

that nations owe us tremendous amounts of money and the only way they can pay their debt is to run a surplus. You can pass all the laws you want to and you can't change that."

If the Bentsen bill is passed, Bentsen said, "I think that we'd never have to put on a tariff. The Japanese are not going to run off their number one customer. They're too smart for that. They would cut their surplus by 5 percent and avoid the tariff. It's a lot better than trying to tell them what to ship to us or what not to ship."

Gramm said, "Any tariff, whether it's the 25 percent tariff that's been proposed by some, or whatever, is paid by the consumer, not by the foreigners. Most studies show that tariffs and quotas cost about \$50,000 to the consumer for every job in the protected industry that they save, and yet a job is lost somewhere else because something is not being bought, money is not being invested."

Bentsen said, "The Japanese don't expect to have to change. They are tremendous, tough, able competitors. But what you've got to look at is the bottom line, the net effect, never mind all the rhetoric."

Gramm, who opposes protectionism, said, "The problem with raw protectionism is it will bring more protectionism against American goods and it can bring on a depression."

Bentsen said, "I think it's time we have a healthy dose of pragmatism and I don't think we ought to be apologizing for self-interest."

Henley gets top honor at video awards

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Don Henley, whose video "Boys of Summer" won the top honor at the MTV Video Music Awards, says he did little more during the making of the piece than stand in the rear of a pickup truck that was driven around Los Angeles.

"Boys of Summer" took the prize for best video and three other awards Friday, while the video for "We Are the World," the star-studded benefit recording that raised millions of dollars in aid for African famine victims, captured best group video and viewers' choice awards.

Two of the participants in the USA for Africa project, Bruce Springsteen and Tina Turner, won for best male and best female videos at the second annual awards. Hen-

ley's former bandmate, Glenn Frey, won best concept for a clip that became the basis for an episode in the "Miami Vice" television series.

"This is an award for best group, so we have to thank all 45 artists who participated," said Ken Kragen, who helped arrange the "We Are the World" recording session and accepted the best group award at Radio City Music Hall.

"And certainly we have to thank Michael Jackson and Lionel Richie, who wrote what has become an anthem for our time," Kragen added.

"Boys of Summer" was honored for best cinematography, best art direction and best direction, as well as best video at the awards ceremony in Radio City Music Hall with comedian Eddie Murphy as host.

"I have to admit, I had very little to do with this video," Henley said.

"They just put me on the back of a pickup truck and I drove through Los Angeles."

Springsteen, whose "Born in the U.S.A." is in its second year on the charts after six hit singles, was cited for best male video ("I'm On Fire") and best stage performance ("Dancing in the Dark").

Frey, the former Eagles guitarist, won best concept for his "Smuggler's Blues" video.

"I'd like to thank all the drug smugglers and drug users who made this such an in-vogue topic," Frey quipped.

The Alice in Wonderland parody "Don't Come Around Here No More" from Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers, captured the award for best special effects. Art of Noise, whose "Close to the Edit" clip fea-

tured band members using a chain saw, wrenches and a belt sander on a piano, also won twice — for most experimental and best editing.

The award for best new artist went to the Boston-based band 'til Tuesday, which scored a hit with its first single, "Voices Carry."

Former Earth Wind & Fire vocalist Phillip Bailey and Phil Collins of Genesis won the award for best overall performance in the video "Easy Lover."

Elton John's clip "Sad Songs (Say So Much)" scored a surprising triumph for best choreography, besting videos from Madonna, Prince and Tina Turner.

The winners were selected from videos first screened on MTV between May 2, 1984, and May 1, 1985.

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