

**NLWJC - Kagan**

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**Militias [2]**

1 Senator Specter. Our next witness is the distinguished  
2 Maricopa County Attorney from Phoenix, Arizona, the  
3 Honorable Richard Romley, and he is accompanied here today  
4 by his top deputy, Barnett Lotstein, who was top deputy for  
5 me when I was District Attorney of Philadelphia.

6 Before DA Romley testifies, we would like to call on  
7 Senator Kyl for an introduction.

8 Senator Kyl. Well, thank you very much, Mr. Chairman,  
9 for the opportunity to very briefly reintroduce Rick Romley.  
10 Rick Romley is the county attorney for more than half of the  
11 population of the State of Arizona--cities such as Phoenix,  
12 Scottsdale, Tempe, Mesa, Sun City, names familiar to many of  
13 us. He served our Nation in Vietnam and still bears the  
14 scars of that service.

15 He is known as a tough prosecutor, but an  
16 extraordinarily fine lawyer, with a wonderful staff, and I  
17 think he could be reelected as many times as he would seek  
18 reelection. He has approached this issue, Mr. Chairman, in  
19 the same way that you have and, frankly, the other members  
20 of the committee. This is not a very partisan issue on this  
21 committee, and though I am not on this particular  
22 subcommittee, I know that Senator Kohl and Senator Feinstein  
23 and you and most of the members of the Senate have  
24 approached this issue with the goal in mind of firmly  
25 protecting our citizens, and yet not overreacting so as to

1 create martyrs.

2 It is that balance which we have sought to achieve  
3 which I know that Rick Romley has also sought to achieve in  
4 his work, and so it really is an honor for me to reintroduce  
5 the Maricopa County Attorney, Rick Romley, and I look  
6 forward to his testimony, and just apologize to all of the  
7 members of the panel. Not serving on this subcommittee, I  
8 have other commitments this morning, but I will stay for all  
9 of the presentations, at least, by the members of this  
10 panel.

11 Again, I thank you, Mr. Chairman.

12 Senator Specter. Thank you very much, Senator Kyl.

13 Well, that is quite an introduction, Mr. Romley. You  
14 may proceed.

## 1 STATEMENT OF MR. ROMLEY

2 Mr. Romley. Well, thank you, Senator Kyl, Mr.  
3 Chairman, members of the subcommittee. Let me, first of  
4 all, thank you for giving me the opportunity to appear  
5 before you today and to discuss with you the growing concern  
6 about militia movements in the United States, and more  
7 specifically in my home State of Arizona.

8 As Senator Kyl has pointed out, I am the Maricopa  
9 County Attorney and I am the chief prosecutor in a county,  
10 whose population is approximately 2.5 million individuals.  
11 It encompasses 23 cities and towns, including the city of  
12 Phoenix. I am responsible for more than 250 prosecuting  
13 attorneys, whose primary role is to investigate and  
14 prosecute the more than 40,000 felony offenses reported to  
15 my office each year.

16 The horror of Oklahoma City has unfortunately thrust  
17 Arizona on to the front pages of our Nation's newspapers.  
18 As most of us know, the accused bomber, Timothy McVeigh, did  
19 live in Arizona. We also know that numerous associates of  
20 Mr. McVeigh also reside in Arizona, and it has been reported  
21 that they have connections with various military  
22 organizations.

23 Arizona, like other States, is experiencing a  
24 proliferation of militias. Thirteen groups have recently  
25 been identified in Arizona. Some leaders of these groups

1 spew messages of hate and conspiracy, messages rooted in  
2 anti-Semitism and racism, messages which create images of  
3 black helicopters and international military troops hiding  
4 in caves waiting for a signal to usurp our democracy.

5         However, these messages are so outrageous that they  
6 often fall on deaf ears, even among their own members.  
7 Therefore, we must be careful not to label all members of  
8 militias as supporters of the rantings of these extremists.  
9 Our focus must be on the fanatic fringe of the militia  
10 movement who maliciously seek to sow the seeds of violent  
11 discontent. It is this fanatical fringe claiming to be  
12 patriotic Americans who attack by intimidation and violence  
13 the very core of our democracy.

14         In my jurisdiction, we have had direct experience with  
15 some of these extremists. My office has prosecuted numerous  
16 individuals whose fanaticism was based on racial or  
17 religious prejudice and a desire to violently destroy  
18 confidence in our democratically-elected Government. Let me  
19 tell you about one case.

20         It involved a member of a white supremacist group  
21 called the Arizona White Battalion, and this is some of the  
22 literature. This is "white power death to race mixing."  
23 Those are some of their publications. But he was also  
24 associated with a group called the Freemen, a tax-  
25 protesting, anti-government organization. This person

1 conspired to place bombs at more than 37 locations. His  
2 targets included synagogues, day care centers, and  
3 government buildings. His plan was to detonate the bombs  
4 during peak occupation of these buildings. Fortunately, he  
5 was apprehended before he could carry out his plan. We  
6 worked with the FBI. They did a fine job in that  
7 investigation, and he is now serving a long prison sentence.

8 As horrible as his intentions were, they become even  
9 more troublesome when we consider that this potential mad  
10 bomber was only 16 years old when he first laid down his  
11 plan of destruction, 16 years old when the seeds of hate had  
12 already taken root.

13 These so-called patriots refuse to acknowledge that in  
14 a representative democracy, you do not challenge laws by  
15 insurrection; you bring your grievances to the ballot box or  
16 to the courts. In their quest for notoriety, power, and  
17 financial gain, these fanatical individuals shroud their  
18 insurrection in patriotism, and it is difficult to explain  
19 their underlying motives. They have literally declared war  
20 on the very system that guarantees them the freedoms that  
21 they demand. It is as if, in the absence of a real threat  
22 or enemy, they have turned inward against their own  
23 Government.

24 In the face of such attacks, it may be tempting to  
25 react quickly and harshly, and this is where I urge caution.

1 We must not be stampeded into quick but ill-conceived action  
2 because of the horror of immediate events. We must engage  
3 in calm and thoughtful deliberation before we choose our  
4 course of action. It must be consistent with our  
5 constitutionally-guaranteed freedoms, for we as Americans do  
6 have the right to question and criticize our Government.

7 If there is one common denominator among the extremists  
8 in these groups, it is that they all strive for the  
9 opportunity of martyrdom and we must be careful not to give  
10 them that opportunity. If our decisions are made in haste,  
11 we help create false martyrs around whom they could rally  
12 the disaffected and misguided.

13 Senator Specter. Mr. Romley, the red light is on.  
14 Could you summarize briefly? Your full statement will be in  
15 the record.

16 Mr. Romley. Thank you.

17 We must ensure that Government does not self-fulfill  
18 the prophecy of those who seek to destroy it. However, we  
19 in law enforcement must be vigilant, and when these  
20 extremists encourage change through violent means rather  
21 than just talk, we need to step up and say enough is enough.  
22 If an individual steps over the line of lawlessness, we must  
23 act swiftly, and as a prosecutor I have no patience with  
24 those who break the law or who encourage others to do so.

25 Let me conclude by stating that I support the anti-

1 terrorism legislation that has recently come out of the  
2 Senate. This legislation will help ensure that our citizens  
3 need not live in fear that horrors such as the World Trade  
4 Center bombing or the Federal courthouse bombing in Oklahoma  
5 will occur in their communities.

6 Protecting our right to be free of crime and terrorism  
7 is not a partisan issue, and I again applaud the Senate for  
8 its bipartisan support of the anti-terrorism measures and I  
9 would encourage the House of Representatives and the  
10 President to adopt this same bipartisan approach and send a  
11 clear message to those who would undermine the rule of law  
12 that we will protect ourselves and our democracy against  
13 their fanaticism.

14 Thank you once again for giving me this opportunity and  
15 I will be glad to answer any questions at the end. Thank  
16 you again.

17 Senator Specter. Thank you very much, Mr. Romley.

18 [The prepared statement of Mr. Romley follows:]

1           Senator Specter. We have been joined by Senator  
2 Abraham. Senator Abraham, would you care to make any  
3 opening comment at this time?

4           Senator Abraham. No. I will pass at this time.

5           Senator Specter. Okay, and we have been joined also by  
6 Senator Thompson. Senator Thompson, would you care to make  
7 an opening statement?

8           Senator Thompson. No opening statement, Mr. Chairman.

9           Senator Specter. Thank you very much.

10           Now, we turn to the distinguished County Attorney of  
11 Roundup, Montana, the Honorable John Bohlman. Mr. Bohlman,  
12 the floor is yours.

## 1 STATEMENT OF MR. BOHLMAN

2 Mr. Bohlman. Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of  
3 the subcommittee. I would like to say that I am probably  
4 the exact opposite of Mr. Romley. I serve two counties.  
5 One has a population of 4,400 people, with a total law  
6 enforcement of 5 officers, and one county has 900 people,  
7 with 2 officers, which gives us a rather different  
8 perspective on these activities.

9 We also are 500 miles from Noxon, Montana, which is the  
10 headquarters of the Militia of Montana, and about the same  
11 distance from Ravalli County where the North American  
12 Militia has been active. However, the last week of February  
13 of this year, we received through the sheriff--and I think  
14 he received a tip from the FBI; it was never clear to me--  
15 but we received a tip that members of the Freeman  
16 organization would be attempting to kidnap a judge in  
17 eastern Montana, probably a prosecutor, also. They would be  
18 trying that person, videotaping the trial, and would end the  
19 trial with a hanging.

20 We had extra people on guard, sheriff's reserve  
21 deputies, in our courthouse in case such an event occurred.  
22 The last day of the week, March 3rd, an arrest was made for  
23 a traffic violation on two men for no license plates. That  
24 arrest led to a charge of concealed weapons violations, and  
25 that led to a discovery of a large number of weapons. They

1 also had about \$50,000 to \$60,000 in gold and silver coins,  
2 a video camera, plastic flex cuffs, about everything that we  
3 thought would be necessary if you were going to commit a  
4 crime that we were warned was going to happen.

5 One of the men had in his pocket a map of Jordan,  
6 Montana. It was a hand-drawn map. Jordan, Montana, is the  
7 county seat of Garfield, Montana, which is where Nick  
8 Murnion, who was mentioned by Senator Baucus--Nick Murnion  
9 is the county attorney there. Nick Murnion's home was  
10 marked on the map, and also the sheriff's home, and both  
11 offices were marked on the map.

12 Because they had successfully prosecuted a Freeman and  
13 had him sentenced to 10 years in prison, I think that the  
14 attempt was probably going to be made in Garfield County.  
15 Because what I believe was an attempted crime was stopped  
16 before it occurred, there was no sufficient evidence. For  
17 whatever reason, the information that led us to be on alert  
18 could not be confirmed. I can't tell you why, and we were  
19 not able to put together any conspiracy and prosecute for  
20 what we thought was happening.

21 Shortly after the first 2 men were arrested, 5  
22 additional men came to the sheriff's department. Three  
23 entered the sheriff's office; one had a concealed weapon.  
24 This led to the arrest of the next 5 individuals, which  
25 turned out to include some militia men. One of the militia

1 members had on him an order form for 200 .50-caliber single-  
2 shot rifles with high quality scopes and 1,000 rounds of  
3 ammunition for each. This was to be paid for by a certified  
4 money order issued by one of the Freemen in my county.  
5 Those money orders, and also certified bankers checks issued  
6 by that man, have turned up in various States, including  
7 Minnesota and Arizona. I have recently been in contact with  
8 a county attorney in Arizona who is intending to prosecute  
9 for a check that was sent there for \$250,000 to attempt to  
10 bail out a man who was being held in jail.

11       The Freemen in my county live about 10 miles from town.  
12 There are at least 3 of them who all have felony warrants  
13 for their arrest. One of them has a Federal warrant for tax  
14 evasion. The property on which they live has been seized by  
15 the IRS. Over a year ago, it was put up for bids, but no  
16 one has ever been evicted from the property, so no one, of  
17 course, will buy the property. The men are living there.  
18 It is pretty strategically located. They out-gun local law  
19 enforcement.

20       The recent arrest of one of the members of this group  
21 has led to my receiving documents filed in what they call  
22 their own court. They have declared their own court system  
23 which goes all the way to their own supreme court. They are  
24 all located at the same address, however. In these  
25 documents, I have been told that the arrest of this

1 individual was an act of war. We have received other  
2 declarations that if we step on to the property of the  
3 Freemen that that will be a declaration of war.

4 I think that it is wrong for people to be able to  
5 violate the law and be immune from arrest because they  
6 threaten violence and display the capability of violence.  
7 These men out-gun the local sheriff's department and it is a  
8 dilemma as to at what point do we effectuate an arrest that  
9 will probably have a violent outcome when they have not  
10 committed at this point harm to any person.

11 Thank you.

12 Senator Specter. Thank you very much, Mr. Bohlman.

13 [The prepared statement of Mr. Bohlman follows:]

1           Senator Specter. We will now proceed to 5-minute  
2 rounds of questioning by all members of the panel.

3           Mr. Brown, permit me to begin with you on the statement  
4 which was made by Senator Levin on his comments on  
5 incendiary speech, and bearing in mind what Colonel Mills  
6 has had to say about the need to back up officers, which we  
7 all agree with.

8           Senator Levin made the comment that one of the members  
9 of the militia said, I found out where the ATF office is and  
10 I am going to find a way to take them out. Do you consider  
11 that a sufficient provocative cause for law enforcement  
12 action either by way of arrest or investigation?

13           Mr. Brown. That type of statement in itself certainly  
14 would probably not be a violation of the law, but there is a  
15 fine line when you start talking about murdering police  
16 officers or ATF agents because ATF has been the subject of  
17 numerous threats by alleged militia members. Certainly,  
18 when you look at the freedom of speech issue versus  
19 violations of law, that in itself would certainly probably  
20 not be a violation, but it would be taken very seriously by  
21 ATF if it were directed against our employees.

22           Senator Specter. Well, Mr. Bryant has testified about  
23 the standard for investigation by the FBI, reasonable  
24 indication of criminal activity. If that kind of a  
25 statement were brought to your attention--and I ask you this

1 question in terms of whether you need more authority--would  
2 you have existing authority?

3 I will give you my own view that if somebody is saying  
4 that he found the office and he is going to take them out, I  
5 think that warrants an inquiry, and I would be interested to  
6 know whether you think you have sufficient authority at the  
7 present time when that kind of a threat would be made to at  
8 least conduct a preliminary inquiry by ATF.

9 Mr. Brown. I think we certainly have the authority to  
10 conduct an inquiry, and we have and did in this particular  
11 situation and would continue to do that. We would certainly  
12 take any threat like that very seriously.

13 Senator Specter. Mr. Romley, you made a comment about  
14 anti-Semitism and racism as to what you have seen. I would  
15 be interested to know if you could be a little more specific  
16 about the exact comments which were made in an anti-Semitic  
17 way or in a racist way.

18 Mr. Romley. Mr. Chairman, Maricopa County, which  
19 includes Phoenix, has seen in the recent past a tremendous  
20 increase in white supremacist groups themselves that  
21 basically have racist comments, as well as anti-Semitic  
22 comments. What is probably the most troubling, and without  
23 getting into all the very specific comments, is that the  
24 comments are becoming more violent in nature with specific  
25 threats of doing bodily harm, as well as causing death, and

1 that is a major concern in my particular county and we are  
2 very focused into this area. I have a specific hate bias  
3 crime bureau with a primary responsibility toward touching  
4 all 23 law enforcement agencies.

5 If I could, my staff has just brought up to me--the  
6 individual that I referred to in my comments was sentenced  
7 to prison and was up for parole at one point in time, and we  
8 were objecting to that particular parole and we asked the  
9 Department of Corrections and Prisons to search his cell.  
10 He was basically stating that he had gone away with the  
11 white supremacist movement and he no longer existed, and I  
12 would like to read to you a letter that we found in his--it  
13 is not very long, Senator, if I could--in his cell, and it  
14 basically ended up in the denial of his parole.

15 This is from that individual. "I am a Nazi walking,  
16 psychopath talking Third Reich gangster, just a gangster  
17 stalking. Killing niggers and Jews is what I do. I like"--  
18 this is cut off Senator; I am sorry. "I like the ways, but  
19 don't think that they are cruel, so when I am rolling  
20 through your hood, you spooks better hide because you are no  
21 good, killing you off like a disease. You beg, cry, even  
22 say please, but no mercy is my middle name, killing you all  
23 because you are all the same. Ain't got no shame in my  
24 game. I kill sub-humans to get my fame. So now you know  
25 what I am about. I will always take niggers and Jews out.

1 I broke in a house and what did I see? Fine, bug-eyed  
2 bastards just staring at me. So I planted the bomb and  
3 started to run. The thing went off like a big gun. I ran  
4 down the street. Burning thoughts of Adolph Hitler were  
5 churning in my head; yet, white power I believe in is still  
6 running through my head. It is making me kill."

7 These are the types of letters that are--some of the  
8 extremist actions that we are beginning to see in the  
9 militia movement and we need to take strong action.

10 Senator Specter. Thank you very much, Mr. Romley. I  
11 have quite a few more questions, but the red light went off  
12 in the middle of your answer and I am going to turn now to  
13 the next member. We are going to have to maintain pretty  
14 tight control on the time because we do have a series of  
15 votes starting at 12:15 and we do have another panel to  
16 listen to.

17 So I would yield now to our distinguished ranking  
18 member, Senator Kohl. Before we do that, Senator Kohl,  
19 Senator Leahy has just arrived and might want to make a  
20 short opening statement.

21 Senator Leahy. Mr. Chairman, I will put it in the  
22 record, but I think that the presence here today of leaders  
23 of the militia movement in this country is a testament to  
24 the strength of our First Amendment. I understand that many  
25 of these people feel that their Government is corrupt and

1 that the Government is not here to serve the people of the  
2 country, but to do them harm.

3 I find their views abhorrent. They describe a view of  
4 our Government and law enforcement that most Americans do  
5 not share. I do not. As one who served for nearly 9 years  
6 in law enforcement, I have the highest respect for our  
7 people in law enforcement. I am disgusted by those who  
8 constantly want to tear down the people who run this country  
9 and help make this country operate, whether in law  
10 enforcement or public service or others.

11 We are the greatest, most powerful democracy on earth,  
12 and it is the men and women who serve our Government who  
13 keep it the greatest, the most powerful, and the most  
14 wonderful democracy in the history of the world. I am just  
15 disgusted at the attacks on law enforcement that I have  
16 heard.

17 I must say, Mr. Chairman, you deserve enormous praise  
18 for holding this hearing, you and Senator Kohl. I know that  
19 many of the things that you hear from these people must be  
20 as abhorrent to you as they are to me--racial attacks,  
21 ethnic attacks, religious attacks. These are abhorrent to  
22 all Americans, but I think the two of you have demonstrated  
23 that this country works the way the Constitution says, not  
24 the way that some of these self-styled militias say, but the  
25 way our Constitution has said for 200 years that we allow

1 diversity of views and that we have a democratic way to  
2 change any aspects of our Government we don't like, a  
3 democratic way, not a way by violence. So I commend you for  
4 doing that.

5 [The prepared statement of Senator Leahy follows:]

1           Senator Specter. Well, thank you, Senator Leahy. My  
2 own view is that if we air it in the Congress, we may cut it  
3 way down on what is going on on the street. If we hear  
4 about it here, it may have a profound effect on a lot of  
5 people in this country who will not have to take it out on  
6 other people on the street if we have a recognition here.

7           Senator Kohl, the time is yours.

8           Senator Kohl. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. In  
9 the interests of brevity, I would just like to ask a simple  
10 question. We have a very distinguished and experienced  
11 group of law enforcement officers who have had, apparently,  
12 considerable experience with militias.

13           I would like to ask each of you, if you would, to  
14 describe militias in one of the following four words. Would  
15 you describe them as useful, benign, disturbing, or  
16 dangerous? Mr. Bryant?

17           Mr. Bryant. I would describe them as disturbing and  
18 some parts of them very dangerous.

19           Senator Kohl. Mr. Brown?

20           Mr. Brown. Disturbing and dangerous as well.

21           Senator Kohl. Mr. Mills?

22           Mr. Mills. I would say the same thing. We are seeing  
23 them become more hateful and more violent than we ever have  
24 in the past, so they are dangerous.

25           Senator Kohl. Mr. Romley?

1 Mr. Romley. Disturbing and dangerous, with a fanatic  
2 fringe.

3 Senator Kohl. Mr. Bohlman?

4 Mr. Bohlman. Dangerous. They are too apt to interfere  
5 or ready to interfere with any law enforcement.

6 Senator Kohl. I thank you very much. I thank you, Mr.  
7 Chairman.

8 Senator Specter. Thank you very much, Senator Kohl.

9 We will proceed in order of arrival at the  
10 subcommittee. Senator Feinstein?

11 Senator Feinstein. Thank you very much. I appreciate  
12 that, Mr. Chairman, and I too thank you for holding these  
13 hearings. As one who comes from California where there are  
14 some 35 groups in about 18 of our 58 counties, what we read  
15 that is put out by them, the kinds of letters that are  
16 presented and writings that are published, really causes  
17 great concern.

18 I have been reading our Constitution. I see nothing in  
19 the Constitution which provides for these kinds of private  
20 armies, and "militia" is rather well defined in the  
21 Constitution, as I think we know. I have also been reading  
22 the code as it exists.

23 Mr. Bryant, I was interested in your statement in your  
24 written testimony, if I can find it here, that FBI domestic  
25 counter-terrorism investigations under the guidelines are

1 limited to occasions when there is a reasonable indication,  
2 and I quote, "that two or more persons are engaged in an  
3 enterprise for the purpose of furthering political or social  
4 goals wholly in part through activities that involve force  
5 or violence and a violation of the criminal laws of the  
6 United States." You go on on the next page to state that  
7 investigations take place when facts or circumstances  
8 reasonably indicate that a Federal crime has been, is  
9 being, or will be committed.

10 My question to each one of the Federal officials here  
11 is do you believe that present law and present guidelines  
12 under those laws are really adequate to give you the  
13 authority to investigate some of these organizations and  
14 take necessary actions.

15 Mr. Bryant, could we start with you?

16 Mr. Bryant. Senator, the Attorney General guidelines  
17 came about as a result of hearings from the Church and Pike  
18 committees and the FBI has operated under these guidelines  
19 for a number of years. We follow them scrupulously. There  
20 are certainly ongoing conversations between Director Freeh  
21 and the Department of Justice and there are conversations  
22 with Members of Congress about these guidelines.

23 Senator Feinstein. My question is a little different;  
24 it is their adequacy.

25 Mr. Bryant. To answer your question very directly, we

1 conduct investigations and we are conducting them and we  
2 find them to be adequate. We certainly would like some  
3 review, which is ongoing.

4 Senator Feinstein. Mr. Brown, would you care to  
5 comment?

6 Mr. Brown. I concur with Mr. Bryant's comments, as  
7 well as ATF's jurisdiction primarily, as you well know, is  
8 derived from our jurisdiction in the Federal firearms and  
9 explosives laws, and certainly those particular statutes  
10 that we enforce are adequate. The typical investigation  
11 that ATF conducts is on those individuals that either  
12 possess firearms illegally, prohibited persons, or possess  
13 illegal firearms, such as machine guns, sawed-off shotguns,  
14 silencers, bombs, and so forth. So the jurisdictions we  
15 have are adequate in the firearms and explosives area.

16 Senator Feinstein. We have had a law proposed by an  
17 organization that does a lot of investigative work in this  
18 area that would add to the Federal Code this wording:  
19 "Whoever assembles with one or more persons for the purposes  
20 of training with, practicing with, or being instructed in  
21 the use of any firearm, explosive, or incendiary device, or  
22 technique capable of causing injury or death to persons  
23 intending to employ unlawfully the same for use in or  
24 furtherance of a civil disorder."

25 Do you believe that would be helpful?

1 Mr. Bryant. Senator, Title 18, Section 231, is very  
2 similar to that statute and it has been used on an extremely  
3 limited basis for a variety of reasons, particularly the  
4 First Amendment issues.

5 Senator Feinstein. Well, I guess what I am trying to  
6 get at is I have a great deal of problem with the so-called  
7 paramilitary organizations who train for the purpose of  
8 insurrection or attack on law enforcement officials or  
9 assassination of individuals. What I am trying to get at is  
10 there is nothing in the Constitution that gives people the  
11 right to do that. Therefore, it would seem to me that as a  
12 Government we should try to prevent it from happening. What  
13 I am trying to aim at is are our laws adequate to give you  
14 that ability, and I am also told that this section only  
15 deals with teaching or demonstrating.

16 Mr. Bryant. To go back to your original question, are  
17 the laws adequate, what I am saying to you is if people are  
18 planning a conspiracy to murder or kill anybody, the FBI or  
19 the ATF--if people have the intent and the ability to  
20 violate any law, we are going to try to prevent it. That is  
21 our sworn obligation. If we have information along those  
22 lines, we go forward. If they are exercising protected  
23 rights, we are not going to get involved as far as if they  
24 are exercising their First Amendment rights, and it is a  
25 very fine line and we look at it on a case-by-case basis,

1 Senator.

2 Senator Feinstein. Thank you. My time is up. I thank  
3 the chairman.

4 Senator Specter. Thank you very much, Senator  
5 Feinstein.

6 Senator Abraham?

7 Senator Abraham. Thank you. I would like to ask Mr.  
8 Bryant whether you were satisfied with the terrorism bill as  
9 it emerged from the Senate.

10 Mr. Bryant. Yes.

11 Senator Abraham. Do you feel it was effective, Mr.  
12 Brown?

13 Mr. Brown. Yes, sir, I do.

14 Senator Abraham. How about the other panel members? I  
15 know that Mr. Romley commented on it. Would either of the  
16 others--

17 Mr. Romley. If I could just make a general comment,  
18 Senator, I understand the Lieberman amendment, for example,  
19 allows roving intercepts. Arizona has had that for a long  
20 time. I have found from a local perspective that sometimes  
21 law enforcement from the Federal level has come to me and my  
22 shop to be able to expedite investigations because of the  
23 inability in certain areas, and the roving intercept has  
24 been very valuable in certain areas and so I have supported  
25 that.

1 I know there is a separate bill, the habeas corpus. I  
2 know that is a bit controversial, but I have been a strong  
3 supporter of habeas corpus reform due to the fact that  
4 nobody questions the purpose behind habeas corpus reform and  
5 it is very valuable. However, I am afraid the system has  
6 begun to lose its perspective, and from my perspective it is  
7 being used as a technical tool to avoid accountability. So  
8 I am very happy with the Senate's movement.

9 Senator Abraham. Mr. Mills?

10 Mr. Mills. I just support what was said.

11 Senator Abraham. In light of that, I was wondering if  
12 there are any additional tools that you think your bureau or  
13 the law enforcement organizations in this country could also  
14 be provided that would in any effective way address problems  
15 like what happened in Oklahoma City.

16 Mr. Bryant. I think one of the suggestions that has  
17 been discussed is the domestic terrorism clearinghouse or  
18 intelligence-type information, and I think that has been  
19 discussed by the Attorney General and the administration  
20 where information would come to one location--it was  
21 suggested the FBI--regarding issues on domestic and  
22 international terrorism.

23 Senator Abraham. Mr. Brown?

24 Mr. Brown. Well, certainly, I agree with that, and in  
25 addition to Mr. Bryant's comment, resources are certainly

1 very limited with most of the Federal law enforcement  
2 agencies to address the increasing violent crime in this  
3 country, whether it involves militias or other violent  
4 crimes, so resources are a key component as well.

5 Senator Abraham. But no other tools besides dollars  
6 for more personnel, and so forth?

7 Mr. Brown. No, sir.

8 Senator Abraham. Does anybody else care to comment?

9 Mr. Romley. I am very happy, Senator, with the  
10 clearinghouse concept. I think if there is one thing that  
11 is perhaps the best that can come out of this, it is the  
12 sharing of information and the consolidation of it. We find  
13 it is just very fragmented, and that is critical. That is  
14 the most important part, in my view.

15 Mr. Bohlman. I continue to just receive fragmented  
16 information and anything that would help in that regard  
17 would be appreciated.

18 Senator Abraham. Mr. Mills?

19 Mr. Mills. Well, quite candidly, we have some Federal  
20 agencies that come to us and ask for intelligence  
21 information because they feel that they are hamstrung in the  
22 ability to do that. In Missouri, we have good laws covering  
23 civil disorder and they give us the investigative tools to  
24 work with.

25 Senator Abraham. I would like to just ask you two

1 gentlemen, there have been certainly proposals made about  
2 the possibility of combining some of the Federal agencies,  
3 including your agencies, with respect to trying to deal with  
4 the types of problems that we address in the terrorism area  
5 and others.

6 What are your thoughts on that, Mr. Bryant?

7 Mr. Bryant. Senator, the FBI has the lead on domestic  
8 terrorism by executive order and numerous agreements. I  
9 think the issue is the information comes to one place and  
10 authority and responsibility be placed in one position and  
11 they be tasked with making sure that people in the Missouri  
12 Highway Patrol, or whatever, have information they need.

13 The consolidation of agencies is really a little bit  
14 above my pay grade and I think--

15 Senator Abraham. Do you think it would help, though,  
16 to address the problems that you are--

17 Mr. Bryant. The critical issue is that information  
18 contained in the Federal, State, or local government  
19 regarding acts of violence comes to one place so that  
20 basically we can prevent acts of terrorism rather than  
21 investigate them after they happen. It has got to be the  
22 information comes.

23 Mr. Mills. I can tell you from Missouri we have the  
24 best working relationship with all Federal agencies. In my  
25 28 years in law enforcement, it is the best that it has ever

1 been.

2 Mr. Brown. Again, that is probably a question for the  
3 Director of ATF. I will say, though, that we do work very  
4 well with the FBI and other Federal agencies and share our  
5 resources and information, and I think we have a very good  
6 reputation with State and local law enforcement as well  
7 throughout the country.

8 Senator Abraham. Well, my time is up.

9 Senator Specter. Thank you very much, Senator Abraham.

10 Senator Thompson?

11 Senator Thompson. First of all, I appreciate your  
12 acknowledging what I think is the case, and that is that we  
13 probably have got the laws on the books to deal with the  
14 situation that we have got at hand. I think too often we  
15 have individual instances and groups, and so forth, that get  
16 our national attention and we try to fashion something  
17 particular for them when we don't need to.

18 I saw a draft of a statement by someone who was going  
19 to testify from the Justice Department when the Oklahoma  
20 bombing case first happened and it basically took the  
21 position that it pointed out that there were some instances  
22 where a person could do some things very locally where the  
23 FBI or the ATF wouldn't have jurisdiction and they needed to  
24 correct that. My response to that was so what? I mean,  
25 that is why we have local law enforcement. They backed off

1 from that and I think we are back where we ought to be.

2 Following up on Senator Feinstein's inquiry about that  
3 particular statute, I have prosecuted Federal criminal cases  
4 in another century and, as I recall, the conspiracy statute  
5 is pretty broad. I think Section 317 of Title 18, if I  
6 recall, basically says it is against the law for two or more  
7 people to conspire to violate any Federal law. That is a  
8 pretty broad authority and I think you have acknowledged  
9 that it would probably cover any of these activities that we  
10 are dealing with.

11 Is that correct, Mr. Bryant, generally?

12 Mr. Bryant. That is good as long as the court allows  
13 the prosecution the conspiracy count, but I think the  
14 terrorism bill that is being proposed is a good measure.

15 Senator Thompson. Yes. Well, that is a different  
16 kettle of fish, I think.

17 I didn't hear your opening statements, but I kind of  
18 get the feeling that you are pretty much rolling in the  
19 militias and the hate groups and the white supremacist  
20 groups and all of that kind of in together. Are you finding  
21 that these militia groups have subsumed these earlier groups  
22 that have been with us for a long time, that they all have  
23 these common characteristics? Is that an accurate  
24 characterization, or are we moving in that direction, or are  
25 there some militia groups out there that are clearly law-

1 abiding and have some legitimate concerns?

2 I will ask the gentlemen from the States, as we will  
3 put it. Mr. Mills?

4 Mr. Mills. We don't paint any group of people with a  
5 wide brush and say they are all the same, but I can tell you  
6 in our State what we are seeing in the militia groups is an  
7 influx of the white supremacy group, the KKK. They see  
8 these militia groups as a vehicle to expound their hatred  
9 and acts of violence. The groups we deal with, so many of  
10 them, see this as an opportunity or a vehicle to do what  
11 they want to do.

12 Senator Thompson. So they are carrying out their age-  
13 old agendas that we have seen for a long, long time.

14 Mr. Mills. Just under a different--

15 Senator Thompson. The new component is the militia  
16 component, I guess.

17 Mr. Mills. Just under a different guise.

18 Senator Thompson. Very briefly, from the militia  
19 standpoint, why do you think we have seen this occurrence,  
20 these groups springing up like that, from out in the field  
21 there? I mean, are you talking to them maybe after arrests,  
22 or their propaganda, or what not? Do you have any feel  
23 about what is going on in society out there that they are  
24 responding to? Does it have to do what is going on in the  
25 Nation or does it have to do with what is going on within

1 themselves as individuals?

2 I am not asking you to be psychiatrists or anything,  
3 but you deal with this out in the real world. What is your  
4 read on that?

5 Mr. Mills. I think it is probably a combination of  
6 things. We see a lot of concern out there, a lot of  
7 misinformation. We see a lot of individuals who are really  
8 and truly, I think, just simply misguided, and again they  
9 see this as an opportunity to come to the forefront and  
10 expound those hate philosophies and carry out their acts.  
11 They have found a vehicle to do what they haven't been able  
12 to do in the past and it is a kind of a fad now.

13 Mr. Romley. Senator, if I could make a quick comment,  
14 I agree that it would be a mistake to paint all militia  
15 members with a broad brush, but they are part of the  
16 fanatical groups that spew hate and their hatred toward the  
17 Government itself.

18 Perhaps sort of a little bit of the history of what  
19 happened in Arizona might help clarify things. We have had  
20 militias in Arizona, I know, back in 1971, and we have seen  
21 some dramatic changes in their basic philosophies and how  
22 they basically approach things. There has been sort of the  
23 white supremacist, the racist kind of attitude in existence  
24 with many of the militia members for a long period of time,  
25 but probably what has happened--and they use that in some

1 ways to recruit individuals, but what we have noticed  
2 recently is that they have changed sort of their tune and  
3 they have been looking at what they perceive to be the  
4 overreaching of Government, you might call it.

5 They have used the examples of Ruby Ridge and Waco and  
6 the Brady bill as examples of where Government is going  
7 beyond what it should be doing, and thus recruiting in  
8 perhaps more members. Now, the other members don't know the  
9 extremist views of the fanatics themselves, so I have seen  
10 sort of a transitioning from--you know, there are still the  
11 supremacist, the racist attitudes of some, and now they are  
12 using the Government as excuses themselves. I mean, the  
13 black helicopter examples--I mean, we hear that among the  
14 extremists on regular occasions.

15 Senator Thompson. Thank you. My time is up.

16 Senator Specter. Thank you very much, Senator  
17 Thompson.

18 Senator Leahy?

19 Senator Leahy. That is okay, Mr. Chairman. I know you  
20 are on a tight schedule and I will waive questions.

21 Senator Specter. Okay, thank you very much, Senator  
22 Leahy.

23 There are many other questions which I know the  
24 panelists would like to ask and we are not going to be able  
25 to do so at this time. It may be that we will have

1 additional hearings, but I would very much appreciate it if  
2 the members of the panel would respond in writing to a  
3 series of questions which I am going to state now, and we  
4 will provide these to you in writing.

5 It would be very helpful if you would respond to  
6 question one: does law enforcement need more authority to  
7 investigate the militia. Number two, in your opinion, do we  
8 need Federal legislation to regulate or limit the militia?  
9 Three, it would be very helpful if you would provide the  
10 specific instances that you know of of violence by militias  
11 against law enforcement officers or others.

12 Fourth, we would appreciate it if you would provide the  
13 specific instances which you have on anti-Semitic comments,  
14 racist comments, or comments of white supremacists. Fifth,  
15 in your opinion, did the incidents at Ruby Ridge and/or Waco  
16 stimulate the growth of militias? Mr. Romley has addressed  
17 that recently in response to Senator Thompson's question.

18 Sixth, in your opinion, did the failure of Congress to  
19 have oversight hearings on Ruby Ridge and/or Waco stimulate  
20 the growth of militias? And a question specifically to you,  
21 Mr. Bryant. It has recently been called to my attention  
22 that there is a distinction between the Ruby Ridge rules of  
23 engagement and the generalized FBI deadly force policy.

24 In conversations which I have had with people from the  
25 FBI, or persons from the FBI, "the rules of engagement" at

1 Ruby Ridge was the term used and I have now had the  
2 suggestion that the regular FBI deadly force policy is  
3 different, and I would appreciate your responding in writing  
4 on behalf of the Bureau to that, and also as to whether  
5 there were any different rules of engagement at Waco  
6 distinct from the FBI deadly force policy.

7 [The information referred to follows:]

8 / SUBCOMMITTEE INSERT

1           Senator Specter. Gentlemen, we thank you very, very  
2 much for your participation.

3           We would now like to call the next panel, Mr.  
4 Trochmann, Mr. Robert Fletcher, Mr. Ken Adams, Mr. James  
5 Johnson, and Mr. Norman Olson. We appreciate your joining  
6 us, gentlemen. As you heard on the last panel, we will have  
7 5-minute opening statements to leave us the maximum amount  
8 of time for questioning.

9           I would like to acknowledge the presence of Mr. John  
10 DeCamp, who is sitting with Mr. Trochmann and Mr. Fletcher  
11 as counsel. You are welcome, sir.

12           We will begin with the listing in the witness list as  
13 circulated with Mr. John Trochmann from Noxon, Montana. Mr.  
14 Trochmann, the floor is yours.

1 STATEMENTS OF A PANEL CONSISTING OF JOHN  
2 TROCHMANN, NOXON, MONTANA, ACCOMPANIED BY JOHN  
3 DeCAMP, COUNSEL; ROBERT FLETCHER, NOXON, MONTANA;  
4 KEN ADAMS, HARBOR SPRINGS, MICHIGAN; JAMES  
5 JOHNSON, COLUMBUS, OHIO; AND NORMAN OLSON,  
6 ALANSON, MICHIGAN

7 Mr. Trochmann. Greetings from Montana. It is sad that  
8 this opportunity to address the Senate has arisen out of the  
9 Oklahoma tragedy. We wholeheartedly denounce the deplorable  
10 act of violence. We have, and will continue to assist in  
11 any manner to apprehend all persons that may have planned  
12 and/or carried out that dastardly deed at whatever level  
13 they may hide.

14 At the present time, we view the militia movement as a  
15 giant neighborhood watch. The movement is made up of a  
16 cross-section of Americans from all walks of life with a  
17 singular mandate which is public and overt--the return to  
18 the Constitution of the United States and to your oath to  
19 defend that Constitution.

20 The Declaration of Independence gives excellent insight  
21 as to why people feel the need to group together and  
22 participate in militia/patriot organizations. This document  
23 speaks for itself once again as it did over 200 years ago  
24 when flagrant injustice continued out of control by  
25 oppressive public servants. We request that this document

1 be entered into the permanent record as a partial support  
2 document to our statements.

3 The following are just a few examples as to why  
4 Americans are becoming more and more involved in  
5 militia/patriot organizations. The high office of the  
6 presidency has been turned into a position of dictatorial  
7 oppression through the abusive use of executive orders and  
8 directives, thus leaving Congress stripped of its authority.  
9 When the President overrules Congress by executive order,  
10 representative government fails.

11 When Government defines human beings as a biological  
12 resource under the United Nations ecosystem management  
13 program, maintaining that State and local laws are barriers  
14 to the goals of federal government, and when the average  
15 citizen must work for half of each year just to pay their  
16 taxes while billions of our tax dollars are forcibly sent to  
17 bail out the banking elite while our fellow Americans are  
18 homeless, starving, and without jobs, Congress wonders why  
19 the constituents get upset.

20 When Government allows our military to be ordered and  
21 controlled by foreigners under presidential order, allowing  
22 foreign armies to train on our soil, allowing our military  
23 to label caring patriots as the enemy, and then turns their  
24 tanks loose on U.S. citizens to murder and destroy or  
25 directs a sniper to shoot a mother in the face while holding

1 her infant in her arms, you bet your constituents get upset.

2 When Government refuses to hold hearings on Government-  
3 sanctioned abuses and white-washes those hearings that are  
4 held and when Government tampers with or destroys evidence  
5 needed to solve crime and now considers the very idea of  
6 infringing upon the people's right of freedom of speech,  
7 assembly, and the right to redress after having destroyed  
8 the second and fourth articles, how can Senators and  
9 Representatives ever question the loyalty of concerned  
10 Americans without first cleaning their own house?

11 Quote, "The law perverted and the police powers of the  
12 state perverted along with it! The law not only turns from  
13 its proper purpose, but made to follow a totally contrary  
14 purpose, the law becomes the weapon of every kind of greed.  
15 Instead of checking crime, the law itself becomes guilty of  
16 the evils it is supposed to pursue," unquote. Frenchman  
17 Frederick Bastiat, 1884.

18 We the people have about had all we can stand of the  
19 twisted, slanted, biased media of America who take their  
20 signals from a few private covert special interest groups  
21 bent on destroying what is left of the American way. We  
22 respectfully request that you rely upon your own  
23 investigations, steering clear of the media and their rumor-  
24 gossip mills of misinformation.

25 Although most everyone in the movement has assembled

1 under the First Amendment "freedom of speech and the right  
2 to peaceably assemble," we have not forgotten what our  
3 Founding Fathers have stated about the Second. Former  
4 President James Madison: "A well-regulated militia, composed  
5 of the body of the people, trained to arms, is the best and  
6 most natural defense of a free country." Former Vice  
7 President Eldebridge Garry: "I ask what is the purpose of  
8 the militia? To offset the need of large standing armies,  
9 the bane of liberty."

10 Why would he call the armed forces the bane of liberty?  
11 Why is the Pentagon waging active campaigns to win over the  
12 populace, and why does Military Affairs Manual 41-10 seem to  
13 be so applicable in America today--paraphrasing, steps  
14 necessary for the overthrow of a nation?

15 May God be with America as he watches over the  
16 shoulders of you who write her laws. A nation can survive  
17 its fools and even the ambitious, but it cannot survive  
18 treason from within. America has nothing to fear from  
19 patriots maintaining vigilance. She should, however, fear  
20 those that would outlaw vigilance.

21 Thank you.

22 Senator Specter. Thank you very much, Mr. Trochmann.

23 [The prepared statement of Mr. Trochmann follows:]

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Senator Specter. Mr. Fletcher?

## 1 STATEMENT OF MR. FLETCHER

2 Mr. Fletcher. Well, I am going to just stand--in the  
3 interests of time so that we can get into some other more  
4 pressing concerns, I am not going to give any type of an  
5 introductory comment at this point in time other than to  
6 point out that what we must look at is the overriding  
7 important point, being what is the concern of the actually  
8 several million American citizens that are involved with  
9 patriot groups, and those concerns basically are an out-of-  
10 control Government, an overly oppressive Government, a  
11 Government that utilizes a secret, shadow means by which  
12 most of you or some of you that are not even involved with  
13 it have no idea what money is being spent for in our black,  
14 covert funding. So we will kind of get into that.

15 I want to skip and pass my time on.

16 Senator Specter. Well, Mr. Fletcher, perhaps your time  
17 might be used to specify some of the comments which you made  
18 this morning on "Good Morning America," ABC, if you would,  
19 about a second bomb being planted at Oklahoma City or  
20 evidence of a second assailant, a second conspirator.

21 Mr. Fletcher. Well, yes. Typically, what I might do  
22 so we can cover enough things that will also be important--  
23 this is a report that has been put together by a couple of  
24 people. One of them is a former FBI agent, formerly with a  
25 \$22 million budget and 700 people working under him. He had

1 been with the FBI for some probably 25 years. His  
2 determination, along with many experts, is that there was a  
3 minimum of at least one, if not two, more explosions  
4 simultaneously within the building.

5         Additionally, we have information that John Doe number  
6 2 has been located. He has a name. We know who he is,  
7 where he is, and that he is also of a foreign descent, and  
8 for some reason the FBI is steering away from this  
9 gentleman. That needs to be looked into more definitively,  
10 and I would offer this report which I will leave with you  
11 folks. This also covers the type of bomb that most likely  
12 was utilized inside the building.

13         The idea that it was a huge fertilizer bomb--there was  
14 no residue to speak of, no caustic fumes which automatically  
15 would come from that bomb if it was singularly placed.  
16 Additionally, the idea according to experts is the idea that  
17 that bomb directly destroying the building as it did is  
18 absolute baloney. So I would just leave this and then we  
19 can get into, again, the answers and questions relative to  
20 other events of Government corruption and being out of  
21 control. I do want to leave as much as we could on that,  
22 which includes the militarization of local police offices  
23 all over the United States, including the supplying of  
24 armored personnel vehicles all over America to smaller  
25 police stations, which is ridiculous.

1

I would like to pass my time.

2

Senator Specter. Thank you, Mr. Fletcher.

3

Mr. Adams?

## 1 STATEMENT OF MR. ADAMS

2 Mr. Adams. I would like to thank the body here today  
3 for inviting us. I think this is a very important time in  
4 history that this body has brought the militia to speak here  
5 today. I think it is important that we have the opportunity  
6 to talk to one another, to air our views, and to get to know  
7 one another, and I hope that the individual States of the  
8 militias across the country will also do the same thing with  
9 the leaders in their States.

10 As I sat here this morning and heard the testimony, and  
11 I certainly cannot address each piece individually, the  
12 things that I heard--at least a dozen different charges from  
13 across the Nation of lawlessness--are certainly disturbing  
14 not only to me, but to most militia members, and we are  
15 certainly totally against violence.

16 What I do want people to understand through these  
17 hearings today is what is the militia today and who are the  
18 people that are involved in the militia. I think what we  
19 heard today so far in testimony has been very, very, very  
20 extreme elements, and in most cases were individuals that  
21 were not directly associated with what we would call the  
22 mainstream militia movement today, and that is what I would  
23 like to address, is who that mainstream militia is.

24 It is a cross-section of Americans of every type of  
25 occupation that there is, everything from attorneys to

1 doctors to mechanics to nurses to businessmen of all types.  
2 They are everyday Americans that are very, very concerned  
3 with what is going on in their country, and we applaud that.  
4 We are excited that once again in this Nation people are  
5 getting involved in their Government. We are setting up  
6 programs right now to help people start registering to vote  
7 and going to the polls and getting involved in the  
8 legislation and the process that we all love.

9 The militia--many times it has been reported in the  
10 media that they hate their Government. This is not so. We  
11 think that our Government, that this body is the finest form  
12 of Government in the world and it could not be better. Are  
13 there problems in Government? Certainly, there are  
14 problems. You can hardly find an American that doesn't have  
15 something to complain about. Your body itself, whether you  
16 are Republican or Democrat, is complaining about the other  
17 side. That is America. That is good and that is healthy.

18 We believe in the freedom of speech. We do not believe  
19 in hatred. We do not believe in racism. If you will look  
20 over very, very carefully all the things that you have heard  
21 me say in the media and some of the others have said in the  
22 media, we have said nothing about hate. We have said  
23 nothing about racism. We have not been anti-Semitic.

24 I am not saying that there aren't fringe elements out  
25 there, and I am not saying that over the last 14 months when

1 this organization, this group that is growing across the  
2 country has started getting public attention because we have  
3 been out in the open--because we have been very public, we  
4 have gotten a lot of media. I am not going to say that  
5 others aren't going to try to attach themselves to our coat  
6 tails and take that ride and try to get their public  
7 attention, too, but it is wrong.

8 If they use hate, if they use violence, if they do not  
9 abide by the law, we will be the first to expose them. We  
10 will be the first, if they are breaking the law, to turn  
11 them over to the law enforcement agencies. In my State, if  
12 you will check the record you will find that we have stood  
13 behind our law enforcement fully. We have also initiated  
14 legislation in our State to support and empower our sheriffs  
15 and other law officials. We are law-abiding, God-fearing  
16 Americans, and we ask that this Congress will recognize that  
17 we represent literally millions of people in this country  
18 who are once again getting involved.

19 The one thing that they see--the one reason that this  
20 movement has grown so rapidly over the last 14 months is  
21 because the people do see a voice for them in the militia,  
22 and we are excited to be that voice and we want to be an  
23 honest voice and an open voice, and there are some fears out  
24 there in the country. You have heard about some of the  
25 fears this morning. Whether the fear has substance to it or

1 not, it is still a fear and it needs to be addressed. All  
2 fears need to be addressed, and expose those fears. If they  
3 are real, then let's work on them. If they are not real,  
4 then let's expose them for what they are.

5 Thank you.

6 Senator Specter. Thank you, Mr. Adams.

7 Mr. Johnson?

## 1 STATEMENT OF MR. JOHNSON

2 Mr. Johnson. Hi. How are you guys doing, Senators?  
3 One of the things I wanted to bring up--first, let me tell  
4 you who I am. My name is James Johnson. I am a cofounder  
5 of a group called E Pluribus Unum and one of the leaders and  
6 spokespersons for the Ohio Unorganized Militia. I have  
7 spoken to many groups around Ohio and in other States, and I  
8 have also helped start some groups.

9 Now, what I wanted to touch was what Mr. Thompson said.  
10 I think he focused on a key point, which was why these  
11 groups are forming; why is it growing like it is. Those are  
12 some of the topics that need to be addressed, and I think  
13 maybe you can talk to some people on the inside like you  
14 have here to answer those questions.

15 To put it to you bluntly, some of the legislation that  
16 has been coming out of Washington, some of the executive  
17 actions that are taking place--ladies and gentlemen, these  
18 things started a revolution 200 years ago and got this  
19 country started, and the people are seeing this. The  
20 national news media and the actions of this Government are  
21 some of the best recruitment we could have. We don't have  
22 to say much. All you have to do is talk to the average  
23 person out there to tell you how do you feel about your  
24 Government. The people you look at here--we are the calm  
25 ones. We are the ones that calm people down.

1 Now, I am speaking here as a representative for my  
2 State and other groups that I know of. The animosity that I  
3 see out there between the citizens, all of them, and the  
4 Government is frightening. What they did was after  
5 listening to all these abuses and Government atrocities that  
6 you are going to hear here today, and they saw that they  
7 were going to no avail, they decided to see what they could  
8 do to become part of the solution.

9 They looked into the law and, under Title 10, U.S.C.  
10 311, saw a phenomenon known as the unorganized militia that  
11 consists of all people, even the people taking these  
12 pictures right here, everyone, and they began to form  
13 themselves in units for their own self-defense and their  
14 self-preservation.

15 Now, the way we stand now--and it is good that we are  
16 getting these views aired out because 200 years ago the  
17 British didn't get the hint until they saw dead redcoats out  
18 there. This time, maybe we can get this out in the open and  
19 have things resolved because I feel, and it is concerning me  
20 and I am being sincerely honest, that with the increasing  
21 polarization between the tax-paying public out here and what  
22 goes on not only in here, but in certain State governments,  
23 the only thing standing between some of the current  
24 legislation being contemplated and armed conflict is time.  
25 It is one of the reasons I got in this movement, to help

1 prevent that.

2 Now, you can see from the last 2 years of sales from  
3 the firearms producers in this country that this Nation is  
4 probably one of the most heavily armed forces on earth, and  
5 I have heard more and more people say if one of these black-  
6 suited, armor-wearing, State-sponsored terrorists comes  
7 kicking down my door, I am going to blow somebody away.  
8 They don't call themselves militia; they don't even call  
9 themselves patriots. They call themselves American citizens  
10 who are getting tired of confiscatory tax rates,  
11 increasingly heavy regulations, which they believe are  
12 leading them down a path to involuntary servitude.

13 One of the slogans that has been going around,  
14 especially in Ohio, is what I have been telling people. For  
15 those who think that this is just primarily an angry white  
16 male movement, if our ancestors would have been armed they  
17 would not have been slaves. That is why people are getting  
18 armed, not so much with firepower. That is not the things  
19 that makes it dangerous. What makes it dangerous is they  
20 are being armed with knowledge.

21 What you are going to see is a growing number of  
22 citizens--and you are seeing that now; that is why we are  
23 here--move away from the authority that is here in the  
24 Beltway and begin to create their own kind constitutional  
25 authority. You are going to begin to see this in the

1 resurgence of the common law courts. You are going to begin  
2 to see this--and I am going to summarize here--in the  
3 formation of the militias. That is what came first to  
4 defend ourselves, but you are also going to see this on the  
5 legislative end. You are going to see our own candidates  
6 and our own elections, and hopefully we can become a system  
7 which will attract others into a more constitutional-based  
8 system.

9 Thank you very much.

10 Senator Specter. Thank you, Mr. Johnson.

11 Mr. Olson?

## 1 STATEMENT OF MR. OLSON

2 Mr. Olson. Thank you for the opportunity to testify  
3 today. The following statement will attempt to answer the  
4 question of the legitimacy and the need of the citizen  
5 militia.

6 Not only does the Constitution specifically allow the  
7 formation of a Federal army, it also recognizes the inherent  
8 right of the people to form militia. Further, it recognizes  
9 that the citizen and his personal armament are the  
10 foundation of the militia. The arming of the militia is not  
11 left to the state, but to the citizen. However, should the  
12 state choose to arm its citizen militia, it is free to do  
13 so, bearing in mind that the Constitution is not a document  
14 limiting the citizen, but rather limiting the power of  
15 Government. But should the state fail to arm its citizen  
16 militia, the right of the people to keep and bear arms  
17 becomes the source of the guarantee that the state will not  
18 be found defenseless in the presence of a threat to its  
19 security.

20 It makes no sense whatsoever to look to the  
21 Constitution of the United States or that of any state for  
22 permission to form a citizen militia, since logically the  
23 power to permit is also the power to deny. If brought to  
24 its logical conclusion in this case, Government may deny the  
25 citizen the right to form a militia. If this were to

1 happen, the state would assert itself as the principal of  
2 the contract, making the people the agents. Liberty then  
3 would depend on the state's grant of liberty. Such a  
4 concept is foreign to American thought.

5 While the Second Amendment to the United States  
6 Constitution recognizes the existence of the state militia  
7 and recognizes their necessity for securing a free state,  
8 and while it also recognizes that the right of the people to  
9 keep and bear arms shall not be infringed, the Second  
10 Amendment is not the source of the right to form a militia,  
11 nor to keep and bear arms. Those rights existed in the  
12 States prior to the formation of the Federal Union. In  
13 fact, the right to form militia and to keep and bear arms  
14 exists from antiquity. The enumeration of those rights in  
15 the Constitution only underscores their natural occurrence  
16 and importance.

17 According to the Tenth Amendment, ultimate power over  
18 the militia is not delegated to the Federal Government by  
19 the Constitution, nor to the States, but resides with the  
20 people. Consequently, the power of the militia remains in  
21 the hands of the people. Again, the fundamental function of  
22 the militia in society remains with the people. Therefore,  
23 the Second Amendment recognizes that the militia's existence  
24 and the security of the state rests ultimately in the people  
25 who volunteer their persons to constitute the militia and

1 their arms to supply its fire power. The primary defense of  
2 the state rests with the citizen militia bearing its own  
3 arms. Fundamentally, it is not the state that defends the  
4 people, but the people who defend the state.

5 The second line of defense of the state consists of a  
6 statutory organization known as the National Guard. Whereas  
7 the National Guard is solely the creation of statutory law,  
8 the militia derives its existence from the inherent  
9 inalienable rights which existed before the Constitution and  
10 whose importance is such that they merit specific  
11 recognition in that document.

12 While the National Guard came into existence as the  
13 result of legislative activity, the militia had existed  
14 before there was a nation or a constitutional form of  
15 government. The militia, consisting of people owning and  
16 bearing personal weapons, is the very authority out of which  
17 the United States Constitution grew. This point must be  
18 emphasized. Neither the citizen's militia nor the citizen's  
19 private arsenal can be an appropriate subject of Federal  
20 regulation. It was the armed militia of the American  
21 colonies whose own efforts ultimately led to the  
22 establishment of the United States of America.

23 While some may say that the right to keep and bear arms  
24 is granted to Americans by the Constitution, just the  
25 opposite is true. The Federal Government itself is the

1 child of the armed citizen. We the people are the parent of  
2 the child we call Government. You Senators are part of the  
3 child that we the people gave life to. The increasing  
4 amount of Federal encroachment into our lives indicates the  
5 need for parental corrective action. In short, the Federal  
6 Government needs a good spanking to make it behave.

7 One other important point needs to be made. Since the  
8 Constitution is the limiting document upon the Government,  
9 the Government cannot become greater than the granting  
10 power; that is, the servant cannot become greater than its  
11 master. Therefore, should the chief executive or other  
12 branch of Government or all branches together act to suspend  
13 the Constitution under a rule of martial law, all power  
14 granted to Government would be canceled and deferred back to  
15 the granting power; that is, the people. I will conclude  
16 with this statement. Martial law shall not be possible in  
17 this country as long as the people recognize the Bill of  
18 Rights as inalienable.

19 My statement is not complete. However, it has been  
20 made part of the record for those who would like to review  
21 it. Thank you very much.

22 [The prepared statement of Mr. Olson follows:]

1           Senator Specter. Thank you, Mr. Olson. Mr. Olson, I  
2 heard you say on national television that you could  
3 understand why someone would bomb the Oklahoma City Federal  
4 building. How can you say that? How can you understand why  
5 someone would bomb a building and kill so many innocent men,  
6 women, and children?

7           Mr. Olson. I don't believe that is the correct  
8 context, Senator Specter. I believe the context was when  
9 they were asking me about the dynamic that occurred  
10 following the bombing of the Oklahoma City Federal building,  
11 I was asked by Leslie Stahl and I responded that I  
12 understand what took place.

13           The Senator from Montana here earlier said that he  
14 understood why people hate their Government. I don't think  
15 it is uncommon for us to seek understanding because unless  
16 we understand a problem, we have no way of solving it. What  
17 I meant by that, and in the context--and you, Senator  
18 Specter, who sound-bited Leslie Stahl, and were wrong to do  
19 so, sir, should have--

20           Senator Specter. In what way?

21           Mr. Olson. Would you please allow me to finish my  
22 statement, sir?

23           You should have received the whole context and allowed  
24 me to explain it. What I said was that I understand the  
25 dynamic of retribution. Revenge and retribution are a

1 natural dynamic which occurs when justice is taken out of  
2 the equation.

3 Back in the Old Testament, there were cities of refuge.  
4 You who are students of the Old Testament know that those  
5 cities of refuge were placed in the promised land to allow a  
6 place for a person to run if someone's life were taken; that  
7 a relative would not avenge the life of that one awaiting  
8 justice. When justice is removed from the equation, then  
9 the dynamic of revenge, retribution, and retaliation will  
10 take place. I understand the dynamic, sir. That is what I  
11 meant.

12 Senator Specter. Well, all right, Mr. Olson, let's not  
13 deal in sound bites. Do you now understand why someone  
14 bombed the Oklahoma City Federal building?

15 Mr. Olson. If I understood why someone bombed the  
16 Oklahoma Federal building, I would give that information to  
17 the FBI. I understand the dynamic, sir. It is up to you to  
18 do the investigation, and I feel that the FBI, for some  
19 reason, has taken 7 to 8 weeks to find someone who is not  
20 guilty. I think it is about time that they started looking  
21 for the ones who are guilty.

22 Senator Specter. We will pursue parts of that later,  
23 but I am not asking you for evidence as to who bombed it,  
24 when you say you would tell the FBI. I want to know if you  
25 understand why somebody bombed the Oklahoma City Federal

1 building.

2 Mr. Olson. That has not been proven that somebody  
3 bombed the Oklahoma Federal building. The fact of the  
4 matter is that one person has been taken into custody.  
5 There have been allegations made. He is an alleged bomber.  
6 I believe that we in the United States of America have to  
7 wait until the justice system takes its course. We are  
8 innocent until proven guilty.

9 I don't know why somebody bombed. I am saying that if  
10 someone were to be held accountable for that, and if that  
11 was the act of retaliation, revenge, or retribution, I  
12 understand the dynamic, sir, of that because justice has  
13 been taken out of the equation, and when justice is taken  
14 out of the equation, revenge, retaliation, and retribution  
15 will take its course.

16 Senator Specter. Well, whether it is singular or  
17 plural, the Oklahoma City Federal building was bombed.

18 Mr. Olson. What are you looking for, Senator?

19 Senator Specter. What am I looking for? Well, I  
20 hadn't finished my question, but I will answer yours. What  
21 I am looking for is your statement about understanding why  
22 the building was bombed, whether it is singular or plural.  
23 You talk about vengeance and you talk about retribution and  
24 you talk about many factors, but what I want to understand  
25 from you is whether you understand, or, stated differently,

1 think there is any justification whatsoever--given your  
2 comments on vengeance and retribution, whether there is any  
3 justification whatsoever for the bombing of the Oklahoma  
4 City Federal building.

5 Mr. Olson. Well, you are clever attorney, sir, and I  
6 give you credit for trying to wrap my thoughts around your  
7 axle, but I am not going to allow you to do that. Sir, it  
8 has not been proven that that person did that, nor has it  
9 been proven that that was, in fact, an act of retaliation,  
10 retribution, or revenge. We still have to await the ongoing  
11 investigation.

12 It very well may be that there was a conspiracy at  
13 higher levels, people behind those people whom we have been  
14 fed by the press to accept or to believe that perhaps it was  
15 one angry individual. I say wait. Let's do the  
16 investigation. Let's wait.

17 Three days after John F. Kennedy was killed, everybody  
18 believed that Lee Harvey Oswald did it. Today, many of us  
19 doubt that he alone did it, and you are the single-bullet  
20 theorist and you believe that he alone did it. We don't  
21 necessarily hold to that opinion, sir.

22 Senator Specter. Well, if we can leave the single-  
23 bullet theory for another day--

24 [Laughter.]

25 Mr. Olson. That is your choice.

1           Senator Specter. No. I will stay and discuss the  
2 single-bullet theory with you when the hearings are  
3 concluded, and I will be glad to do that on the record and  
4 in public and I am not trying to put any words in your  
5 mouth. I am just asking a direct question and I am trying  
6 to understand what you understand.

7           I cannot understand how anybody could understand why  
8 someone would bomb the Oklahoma City Federal building as a  
9 matter of retribution.

10          Mr. Olson. Well, then, you don't understand the  
11 problem that we have had in Northern Ireland, you don't  
12 understand the problem that we have had in South Africa, you  
13 do not understand the hatred and the retaliation and the  
14 retribution and the revenge that has been going on around  
15 this globe since time immortal. Then you don't understand  
16 the dynamic, sir.

17          Senator Specter. Well, Mr. Olson, I may not  
18 understand, and that is why we have had these hearings so  
19 that you could have a full opportunity to express yourself.

20          Mr. Olson. May I make a correction for the record,  
21 too? Senator Kohl raised a poster a moment ago showing  
22 Hitler with his hand raised in the air. Sir, that is a  
23 copyrighted poster produced by Jews for the Preservation of  
24 Firearm Ownership. It is not the work of some militia  
25 organization, just to make that comment for the record.

1           Senator Specter. Well, we will pick up your comment  
2 about copyrights and about Jews in a few minutes.

3           Mr. Olson. No, sir. I believe you are trying to lay  
4 at the feet of the militia some culpability, responsibility.  
5 You are trying to make us out to be something that we are  
6 not, much as the press has tried to do over this last year.  
7 We are not what you think we are. We are not what the press  
8 wants to feed to the American people.

9           We are people who are opposed to racism and hatred. We  
10 are people who love our Government and love the  
11 Constitution. It has been the design and the blueprint for  
12 governments around this world and we are proud of the United  
13 States of America, but the thing that we stand against is  
14 corruption. We stand against oppression and tyranny in  
15 Government and we, many of us, are coming to the conclusion  
16 that you best represent that corruption and tyranny.

17           There are millions, 40 to 70 million Americans out  
18 there on the other side of the Alleghenys and there is  
19 intelligent life west of the Alleghenys, sir, and I believe  
20 that you have to talk to those people out there. You are  
21 wasting precious time.

22           Senator Specter. Well, I am not going to interrupt you  
23 in any of your responses--

24           Mr. Olson. And I am not going to go on preaching, sir.  
25 Go ahead.

1           Senator Specter. But I am going to note you are  
2 interrupting me when I started to say to you that we will  
3 get back to your statement about copyright and about Jews.  
4 We will get back to that.

5           What I want to come back to at this moment is your  
6 statement about retribution and violence and apparent  
7 justification for it and--

8           Mr. Olson. Yes. Let me--

9           Senator Specter. Now, wait a minute. I am not going  
10 to let you interrupt me again.

11           What I want to come to--and I want to have a full  
12 discussion with you, Mr. Olson, because I want your ideas  
13 fully exposed and the--

14           Mr. Olson. There are other people on this panel, sir.  
15 They need to share in this; they need to share.

16           Senator Specter. Well, I know, but I am the chairman  
17 and they will have a chance to speak, and I am not going to  
18 interrupt you at all whenever you start to reply. What I  
19 want to do is I want to hear all your ideas because I want  
20 your ideas compared to mine and I want to let the American  
21 public judge whether you are right or I am right.

22           When you talk about Ireland and you talk about South  
23 Africa and you talk about Oklahoma City, we are going to  
24 give you every opportunity to say everything you have in  
25 mind, and then I am going to say a few things and we are

1 going to let the public judge.

2 I don't take lightly your comment to me that I  
3 represent corruption. I don't take that lightly at all.

4 Mr. Olson. Well, let me say it again if you didn't  
5 understand what I said.

6 Senator Specter. And I want you to prove it if you are  
7 going to say that. Now, the floor is yours.

8 Mr. Olson. I appreciate that, and I would like to  
9 correct Carl Levin, also. He made some allegations and some  
10 statements that were absolutely fallacious. They are not  
11 true, and I believe that anyone who has the record of Carl  
12 Levin's statements earlier who would like to talk to us, we  
13 would like to correct those for the record.

14 Senator Specter. Proceed.

15 Mr. Olson. There are many statements concerning the  
16 Fowlerville people. The Fowlerville people were not part of  
17 the Michigan Militia Corps. Just about every fact that he  
18 brought forth--he did not name places or times or dates or  
19 the context of those investigations. He, together with many  
20 of these people seated, and also the press before us--these  
21 people and you have tried to paint us in a different light.

22 Following the Oklahoma city bombing, Louis Freeh, on  
23 the 27th of April, came out and said that the Michigan  
24 Militia Corps had nothing to do with the bombing in Oklahoma  
25 City. However, the press did not pick up on that. When you

1 talk about, or when the Senators talk about, or Carl Levin  
2 talks about how terrible it would be to even consider that  
3 the Federal Government had anything to do with killing  
4 Americans, I submit to you, sir, that the Central  
5 Intelligence Agency has been in the business of killing  
6 Americans and killing people in the United States and around  
7 the world since 1946.

8 I submit to you, sir, that the Central Intelligence  
9 Agency is probably the grandest conspirator behind all of  
10 this Government, and I submit to you, sir, that perhaps the  
11 puppeteer strings of the Central Intelligence Agency reach  
12 even into the Senators perhaps before us and perhaps also in  
13 the Senate of the United States of America.

14 Senator Specter. Well, as long as you say "perhaps,"  
15 Mr. Olson.

16 Senator Kohl?

17 Senator Kohl. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

18 I would just like to read to you, Mr. Olson, a fax that  
19 you sent out on April 28th to the American people, and it  
20 said this. "The wrath of the country has been directed  
21 toward the brave men and women of the Michigan militia.  
22 Now, here is the truth. On April 19, 1995, a day that will  
23 live in infamy, the government of Japan, in retaliation for  
24 the United States gas attack on the subway in Japan, blew up  
25 the Federal building in Oklahoma City." That is a fax from

1 you to the American people on April 28, 1995. Would you  
2 care to comment on it?

3 Mr. Olson. I have a 40-page document that I have  
4 prepared, a transcript of an audio tape, that is available  
5 to the press. We encourage the press to see me at the press  
6 conference this afternoon at 3:00 at the White Room on the  
7 13th floor of the National Press Club building, and I will  
8 be happy to provide you with 40 pages of transcript. Do  
9 your own investigation.

10 Senator Kohl. Well, are you standing by that fax?

11 Mr. Olson. I am saying that bits and pieces of  
12 information are conveyed and brought to the attention of the  
13 Michigan Militia Corps. We have established safe houses.  
14 We have established places of protection where people inside  
15 the agencies can come to us with information concerning  
16 corruption, and when they do, we take--

17 Senator Kohl. Mr. Olson--

18 Mr. Olson. Sir, let me finish.

19 Senator Kohl. You haven't said it yet.

20 Mr. Olson. I will be very brief. When they bring  
21 facts to us, we hand it over to the media to investigate.  
22 We do not have the resources or the wherewithal to  
23 investigate all of these facts.

24 Senator Kohl. You haven't responded. I said to you,  
25 will you respond to the fax that you sent out on April 28th.

1 It says, "On April 19th, a day that will live in infamy, the  
2 government of Japan, in retaliation for the United States  
3 gas attack on the subway in Japan, blew up the Federal  
4 building in Oklahoma City."

5 Mr. Olson. And I replied to you, sir, that if we wait  
6 and the investigation is done, I believe that we will find  
7 collusion between governments in the involvement in the  
8 Oklahoma City bombing if we will wait and allow the  
9 investigations to be conducted.

10 Senator Kohl. All right. Mr. Fletcher, as I mentioned  
11 in my statement, the Militia of Montana claims that there  
12 are, quote, "lesbians, sex perverts, child molester  
13 advocates, Christian haters, and the most doctrinaire of  
14 communists heading the FBI and the IRS."

15 Now, Mr. Fletcher, with respect to the IRS, I have no  
16 quarrel with you.

17 [Laughter.]

18 Mr. Fletcher. So be it, sir.

19 Senator Kohl. But my friend, Louis Freeh, is a  
20 different matter. So I would like to ask you, are you  
21 suggesting that he is a lesbian, a sex pervert, a child  
22 molester advocate, a Christian hater, or a communist?

23 Mr. Fletcher. Well, first off, that is not my quote.  
24 For the record, we clear that, and I think that comes out of  
25 a singular book that we carry the same as the library

1 carries, and that is the extent of that.

2 Now, those people that live inside the Beltway have to  
3 select their own friends and figure out what their sexual  
4 status is, and there is a huge variety at the highest levels  
5 of this Government in that direction. What I would like to  
6 point out, though, is that you bring up Mr. Freeh and an  
7 interesting thing has taken place, actually, almost a year  
8 ago, July 2.

9 Mr. Freeh was in Poland and he made a Nazi-related  
10 speech and it was a memorial to the Jewish camps and the  
11 holocaustic action that took place there, and he said an  
12 interesting statement. He said that what happened 50 years  
13 ago is not just history as much as it is a warning, and Mr.  
14 Freeh said that, in fact, at any time that any nation of the  
15 world starts to utilize local police with their Federal  
16 enforcement and starts to federally arm the police at a  
17 local level, as Adolph Hitler did as he slowly came in and  
18 did his outrageous acts back in 1940 and 1938--he said that  
19 any time we see this, it is an immediate red flag that that  
20 nation is probably moving into a dictatorship.

21 Well, within a single year, we start supplying local  
22 police agencies with armored personnel carriers. This, by  
23 the way, is just the sheriff's department. Those are not  
24 military. This is the sheriff's department in Everett,  
25 Washington. These armored personnel vehicles are being

1 supplied by Federal enforcing agents to a whole variety of  
2 local police agencies. This is exactly part of what Mr.  
3 Freeh was telling the folks in Poland and the rest of the  
4 world to be aware of as a sign of moving to a dictatorship.  
5 This is only one small part of that, sir.

6 This is what I would refer to as a terrorist. These  
7 are FBI enforcing agents dressed in their black outfits.  
8 This, sir, is an ATF agent in his black outfit. This used  
9 to be a terrorist. If an American saw this character going  
10 down the street, any American, 10 or 15 years ago, they  
11 would have shot this sucker because this is a picture of a  
12 terrorist. This is now the ATF agents.

13 We have questions, going beyond Mr. Freeh's point, of  
14 hundreds of flat cars of United Nations Russian equipment  
15 all over the United States. We have questions as to why the  
16 United States Army, with this document I have here, has put  
17 together the regulations to create civilian inmate labor  
18 prison camps inside military bases. Those are the  
19 questions. We have questions why, under executive orders,  
20 the President of the United States sends \$200 million to  
21 build Russian homes for Russian soldiers overseas.

22 Senator Kohl. Thank you. I would like to just get on,  
23 Mr. Fletcher. In an interview with the Los Angeles Times on  
24 April 21, you told that the Associated Press that the  
25 American Government has created weather-tampering techniques

1 so that the New World Order will be able to starve millions  
2 of Americans and control the rest.

3 Would you explain what you were trying to say?

4 Mr. Fletcher. Well, what I was trying to say is  
5 exactly what I said. There are weather-control techniques.  
6 We have a complete package on that which I did not bring,  
7 but I certainly will see to it that it is brought in for the  
8 record; number one, the entire patents on the equipment;  
9 number two, Senator Claiborne Pell's complete statement and  
10 story of his own that not only does it exist, but that we  
11 even utilized it as far back as the Vietnam War. You might  
12 want to touch base with Senator Pell.

13 Senator Kohl. That is all right, but I just want to  
14 repeat before I turn to--

15 Mr. Fletcher. So, yes, but we do have all that  
16 information.

17 Senator Kohl. You are saying that the Government has  
18 created weather-tampering techniques so that the, quote,  
19 "New World Order" will be able to starve millions of  
20 Americans--

21 Mr. Fletcher. Worldwide.

22 Senator Kohl. --and to control the rest?

23 Mr. Fletcher. Yes, sir, and that is my belief, as  
24 bizarre as that sounds. If somebody had told me that that  
25 equipment even existed 10 years ago, I would have thought

1 they were nuts, sir, and at this point in time we have all  
2 the documents to prove it. And if you think that 85  
3 tornadoes take place in the middle of our growing area by  
4 simultaneous accident, I am sorry. The equipment that is  
5 already set up internationally--and as bizarre as that is,  
6 it is proven and documented. We will supply you with those  
7 documents.

8 As bizarre as that is, I would say that weather wars--  
9 and this is quoting, actually, Senator Claiborne Pell  
10 himself, that they are the greatest weapon ever created in  
11 the world, and that is the Senator's own statement. So,  
12 yes, I do stand on that.

13 Senator Kohl. Thank you, Mr. Fletcher. Thank you, Mr.  
14 Chairman.

15 Senator Specter. Thank you very much, Senator Kohl.

16 Senator Thompson?

17 Senator Thompson. Mr. Johnson, whether or not one  
18 agrees with your statement, I think you gave a very  
19 thoughtful statement, thought-provoking, as to what you  
20 perceive to be going on in the country and the concerns.  
21 You mentioned the problems, as you see them, with our  
22 Government. You talk about the tax rates being too high.  
23 You talk about the Government being too big, too intrusive,  
24 and all those things, many of which many of us are also  
25 concerned about and are trying to do something about.

1           You talked about the British, our revolution, and other  
2 places around the world. But, you know, we couldn't vote  
3 King George out of office. The difference between us and  
4 other countries is that we do have a democratic society and  
5 one in which huge numbers of people don't even bother to  
6 vote, but we have an opportunity to change just about all of  
7 the things that you listed that are a problem.

8           I take it that you think that our system is broken  
9 down, our electoral process in some way has broken down;  
10 either is it not really free and open, or maybe we shouldn't  
11 go by democratic processes. What is your problem with  
12 working through the process to solve these problems?

13           Mr. Johnson. You know, there was an organization that  
14 I believe came out back in September and said that the  
15 militias' aim was clearly the democratic process itself, and  
16 my response to that was that our aim--our target was right  
17 on target right around November 8 when a whole new Congress  
18 came in here. Fine, granted.

19           Now, we advocate that more than everything, voting, but  
20 we seem to have a problem here during these campaigns when  
21 all of these wonderful politicians, God love them, say  
22 whatever they are going to say and they get inside the  
23 Beltway and everything is, how do we say, politics as usual.  
24 Now, what is going on?

25           As this trend continues--and you guys have to listen to

1 this--you are pushing people's backs against the wall out  
2 there. We have got people out there hungry, like I was  
3 talking about, people out there starving, and people tired  
4 of getting terrorized by law enforcement. I will support  
5 law enforcement whenever they support the law. I will just  
6 call them enforcement.

7 They are getting outright economically terrorized,  
8 socially terrorized. I mean, the political correctness is  
9 getting out of hand. What this militia is now is it is a  
10 mind set. It is the civil rights movement of the 1990's.  
11 It is people sitting there with "don't tread on me" stamped  
12 across their foreheads. There are people drawing a line in  
13 the sand. That is what it is.

14 Nobody is going to go out there and shoot things.  
15 Nobody is going to go out there and blow up things. We are  
16 not baby killers; we are baby-boomers. We are not  
17 terrorists; we are taxpayers. We are not extremists; we are  
18 just extremely ticked off at the way the Government is  
19 deviating away from what is going on around here.

20 When I say "we" as this militia, as this little covert  
21 group out there--no. It is everybody. Just because you say  
22 we are going to form ourselves a militia doesn't make you  
23 the militia. What we stand for here is the Constitution.  
24 That is it.

25 Senator Thompson. Let me follow up on that a little

1 bit.

2 Senator Specter. We will be disregarding the lights.  
3 Senator Thompson may proceed as he wishes.

4 Senator Thompson. Thank you.

5 I take it, then, basically you think the system doesn't  
6 work, that the problems are not being addressed, that  
7 politicians promise one thing and deliver another. You are  
8 not the first one to come up with that idea, I assure you.

9 Mr. Johnson. It is becoming a real general consensus  
10 around the country, sir.

11 Senator Thompson. And you basically believe that today  
12 that exists the way it always has?

13 Mr. Johnson. What exists?

14 Senator Thompson. That situation exists.

15 Mr. Johnson. I didn't say it always has, but today it  
16 is becoming more and more evident that it is existing.

17 Senator Thompson. I see. What do you see the role of  
18 the militia in addressing that problem?

19 Mr. Johnson. Right now, the militia--I look at it as a  
20 constitutional safety net. What you have are these groups  
21 who are organizing themselves in a manner that the  
22 Constitution will be preserved, no matter what kind of  
23 action this Government or any other government takes. That  
24 is the little friction point you are going to run into  
25 there.

1           Senator Thompson. Well, that gets into another  
2 question, I suppose. Bad laws are one thing, and high taxes  
3 and that sort of thing, but when you talk about a militia,  
4 you don't organize a militia to lower taxes, I assume. You  
5 organize a militia that at least has some military  
6 capability. Is there concern that the Government is  
7 forcefully and physically going to move against individuals  
8 who are trying to assert their constitutional rights?

9           Mr. Johnson. You bet.

10          Senator Thompson. Is that the basis of the militia  
11 movement?

12          Mr. Johnson. That is not the basis of the militia  
13 movement, but that is a concern right now.

14          Senator Thompson. Would you elaborate on that a  
15 little?

16          Mr. Johnson. Sure. One of the things that was  
17 mentioned here earlier--I think Senator Specter mentioned  
18 it. He said were the militias a threat to the Federal  
19 Government? I said, gee, you walk outside 495 and the  
20 question is the other way around. Is the Government a  
21 threat to the militia? The militia is everybody. It is  
22 just that people form themselves a group for their self-  
23 defense and for their security, okay? It is not to wage  
24 war, but if a war is waged, these groups plan on winning.

25          Let me tell you something else, speaking of this. You

1 are saying should this be looked into? It is a mind set. I  
2 was at a gun range earlier this year and they happened to be  
3 firing machine guns that they owned lawfully. We had  
4 people--I am talking law enforcement, I am talking military.  
5 We had a lot of sympathetic people in those branches who all  
6 were down there with their firearms and with the awesome  
7 display of fire power that I saw down there, and that was  
8 just one iota of it, okay?

9 I say this sincerely. I don't mean to direct this at  
10 anybody here, but a lot of people see what is coming down.  
11 They see some of the executive orders that are being thrown  
12 at them, some of the statements that are being made directed  
13 toward the American public.

14 Senator Thompson. What form do you think is most  
15 likely for this warfare to be launched against the people?

16 Mr. Johnson. In what form?

17 Senator Thompson. Yes. I mean, you mention instances,  
18 obviously, that you are very much concerned about, the Waco  
19 incident and things of that nature, but do you see something  
20 on a more organized basis or more pervasive basis in terms  
21 of what the Government might do to the citizens?

22 Mr. Johnson. Yes, right. It isn't just Waco and Ruby  
23 Ridge. There was a survey out in Twentynine Palms,  
24 California, in which military officers were asked, if  
25 necessary, would they shoot on Americans who refused to give

1 up their firearms. In any other country, that constitutes a  
2 serious threat. The military is not to be used with law  
3 enforcement, and there are certain inalienable rights people  
4 just aren't going to give up. This is the problem we face  
5 here.

6 Even if you say, hey, this is a real bad idea, these  
7 guys are a bad idea and we ought to just go stomp their  
8 heads in, you have got a problem because they are going to  
9 shoot back. I could tell when those other officers were up  
10 here it was a serious concern, even though, hey, we all want  
11 to preserve our constitutional rights, okay? If there are  
12 nuts out there, heck, we will probably find them before you  
13 do and turn them over to you.

14 But as far as the mainstream approach of this thing--  
15 and when we hear about some of the plans or ideas that they  
16 would like to see happen to us, okay, I have seen them take  
17 place. I am talking about Brunswick, Ohio. We had one  
18 gentleman who got his door knocked on and he said, no, go  
19 back and get a warrant. It is under the Constitution; get a  
20 warrant and get probable cause, okay? The result was he  
21 kicked his door in seven times, so this person with a  
22 legally-owned weapon shot him. He said he was a police  
23 officer. If a police officer kicks down my door with no  
24 warrant and no probable cause, what am I supposed to do?

25 Senator Thompson. Incidents like that have happened

1 throughout the course of history and will continue to  
2 happen. My question is do you perceive and are you  
3 concerned about a more organized, more pervasive effort by  
4 the Government against individuals or groups, or whoever,  
5 and what form it might take.

6 Could I ask Mr. Adams that question or maybe some of  
7 the others?

8 Mr. Adams. Yes. I would like to respond to a few of  
9 these things. I don't know that I necessarily perceive that  
10 the Government is planning some conspiracy, if you will, to  
11 attack the militias. I do have a question and would like a  
12 response. I know you might not be able to respond to me  
13 today. This goes back to March 25th of this year, and I  
14 know that some of you Senators are aware at least of the  
15 allegations, and that is what I would like to know, if they  
16 were allegations or if they were true, because this is the  
17 answer to your question.

18 There was an allegation that Attorney General Janet  
19 Reno was going to attack several militia leaders in this  
20 country on March 25th. There were several Senators that  
21 wrote to the Attorney General concerning this and asked her  
22 not to do this. My question is--I don't know if it was  
23 going to take place or not. If it was going to--

24 Senator Specter. Going to do what, Mr. Adams?

25 Mr. Adams. To attack several militia leaders.

1 Senator Specter. Attach? You mean arrest?

2 Mr. Fletcher. Attack.

3 Mr. Adams. "Attack" was the word--

4 Senator Specter. Attack?

5 Mr. Adams. Attack, yes, and I am not saying that this  
6 was going to take place. I am saying that I have seen the  
7 letters that the Senators have written to her. I have seen  
8 copies of them. They have been on television.

9 Senator Specter. Do you have those copies with you?

10 Mr. Adams. I do not, no.

11 Senator Specter. Would you provide them to us?

12 Mr. Adams. I will provide where you can get them. I  
13 do not personally have them, but I will do that.

14 Mr. Fletcher. We have those and we will supply--

15 Senator Specter. Do you have them with you?

16 Mr. Fletcher. No, no, sir, we don't.

17 Mr. Adams. So the question is I don't know if that was  
18 real or whether it was rumor or what, but I will say that it  
19 was a tremendous concern to a lot of people across the  
20 country.

21 Senator Specter. That they were going to be attacked?

22 Mr. Adams. That they were going to be attacked, right.

23 Now, I personally could not believe that it could be

24 possible in this country because we were violating no laws.

25 As I mentioned earlier, we operate within the law and we

1 believe in that. So if we were going to be attacked, it was  
2 certainly something very, very ominous to take place from  
3 our Government, but it was widespread enough that some  
4 Congress representatives did inquire of Ms. Reno about this.

5 Mr. Fletcher. She did not respond.

6 Mr. Adams. She did not respond. We would like a  
7 response. If it was real, then, of course, we would really  
8 like to know why such a thing was taking place. If it  
9 wasn't real, then just respond to it and that is the answer.  
10 That is one of the problems, I think, that we have today, is  
11 there are a lot of questions with few answers.

12 You have heard a lot of allegations from people here  
13 today. Maybe they are real, maybe they are not. If they  
14 are real, then let's expose them. If they are not, then  
15 let's expose them, and that is why I think this is a healthy  
16 forum that we have here today because we have started some  
17 communication.

18 Senator Specter. Well, Mr. Adams, I know of no such  
19 proposal by the Attorney General to attack anyone. It  
20 sounds far-fetched to me. If you have letters from  
21 Senators, I would like to see them.

22 Mr. Adams. Yes, and I do agree with you that it sounds  
23 far-fetched, but the letters do exist.

24 Senator Specter. Well, let's see them.

25 Let us turn now to Senator Feinstein.

1           Senator Feinstein. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is  
2 my first occasion to be able to talk with militia members,  
3 so I am a newcomer and I listened very carefully to what has  
4 been said here today. What I gather from it is that, as you  
5 put it, Mr. Johnson, people are ticked off, irritated,  
6 annoyed, upset, whatever you may say, about a variety of  
7 things having to do with, quote, "government," whether it is  
8 law enforcement or decisionmakers or anything else.

9           What I would like to have each one of you answer is,  
10 assuming this is correct, do you believe there are  
11 circumstances in which you can take the law into your own  
12 hands?

13           Mr. Trochmann, let's go down--

14           Mr. Trochmann. I am sorry. It is Trochmann, like the  
15 vehicle.

16           Senator Feinstein. I am sorry, Mr. Trochmann.

17           Mr. Trochmann. No, ma'am, I don't. Nobody should be  
18 an island unto himself, nor a law unto himself.

19           Senator Feinstein. So you believe there are no  
20 circumstances where individuals should take the law into  
21 their own hands?

22           Mr. Trochmann. There is one.

23           Senator Feinstein. What is that?

24           Mr. Trochmann. When someone comes to destroy my  
25 family, I won't have a choice. If that were ever to happen,

1 I would defend to the last drop of blood, and I would expect  
2 any other American to do the same thing. I am told that you  
3 have a concealed weapons permit, so I guess you probably  
4 feel the same way we do.

5 Senator Feinstein. Well, let me put that aside. I do  
6 not have a concealed weapon permit.

7 Mr. Trochmann. Well, you recently had one.

8 Senator Feinstein. No. I had one in the 1970's and I  
9 have not had one since then, after a terrorist incident that  
10 took place involving myself. That was the only time I had a  
11 concealed weapon permit, so I am happy to set that one  
12 straight.

13 Mr. Trochmann. Well, I apologize. I will have to go  
14 back to my California informers.

15 Senator Feinstein. I think you will.

16 Let me move on. Mr. Fletcher, do you believe there are  
17 any circumstances under which you or your followers can take  
18 the law into their own hands?

19 Mr. Fletcher. Commonly, absolutely not, and we do not  
20 at any time espouse that in any way, shape, or form.  
21 However, we are--and, again, it is totally as in the Militia  
22 of Montana. We are predominately educational in nature, and  
23 by that I mean that is what we do, mostly. You will not  
24 find us out in our camouflage and that type of thing very  
25 regularly at all. No, and at no time have we ever espoused

1 any such action.

2 We are, however, a defensive kind of a concept, if you  
3 will, and I suppose there could be some bizarre situation  
4 like the unconstitutional suspension of the Constitution  
5 that might therefore appear that people are going to take  
6 things into their own hands, yes.

7 Senator Feinstein. Mr. Adams?

8 Mr. Adams. There is no time for any people to go  
9 against the laws of their government and to take those laws  
10 into their own hands. That is totally unacceptable in any  
11 society, and we certainly fully agree with that.

12 One of the questions that was brought up about this  
13 particular meeting here today was, you know, how many people  
14 are involved with the militia, and I think in some earlier  
15 testimony that was kind of hard to put a finger on. I can  
16 personally tell you that from my office alone, we have  
17 helped establish over 1,000 lawful militia units throughout  
18 the country in all 50 States.

19 I know that all of these people that I have talked to  
20 and that I talked to throughout the Nation agree with the  
21 statements I am making right now that we must be law-  
22 abiding. The only exception to that, which I believe has  
23 already been stated, is for self-preservation and self-  
24 defense of our persons and family if an unlawful act were  
25 being perpetrated against us.

1 Senator Feinstein. Mr. Johnson?

2 Mr. Johnson. I would say there would only be two  
3 occasions. The first one is, once again, if you come into  
4 somebody's house shooting.

5 Senator Feinstein. Without a warrant and without  
6 reasonable cause?

7 Mr. Johnson. Yes, without a warrant and without  
8 reasonable cause, and it would be awfully nice--if they came  
9 in the house with the warrant, it would be nice if they  
10 would knock politely. But other than that, I don't see a  
11 reason for using any kind of force to justify your actions.  
12 Of course, once again, you suspend the Constitution. For  
13 that reason, I don't have to recognize anybody in Federal  
14 law enforcement. If we are invaded for some reason and our  
15 Government is overthrown by a foreign power, we are going to  
16 have to take the law into our own hands to save it.

17 Senator Feinstein. Mr. Olson?

18 Mr. Olson. I would agree completely with what James  
19 Johnson has said that there is no other reason to take law  
20 into one's own hands unless it is for the preservation of  
21 himself or the property, his family.

22 What we have done--and this is how I deal with the law,  
23 and I recognize the law and submit to the law. We have  
24 empowered and encouraged our sheriffs. We provide the  
25 evidence. This book that I would like to present to this

1 Senate subcommittee is about 6 pounds of evidence that will  
2 conclusively show this committee the corruption in  
3 Government, and I would like the committee to have this  
4 book. Now, you who represent this Government, you who have  
5 formed this Senate body, and you who are concerned about the  
6 laws--now, this is the way that I deal with it. Here is the  
7 evidence. You carry out your responsibility for the law.

8 Senator Feinstein. May I go on and ask another  
9 question?

10 Senator Specter. Yes, you may. Take whatever time you  
11 need, Senator Feinstein. Turn the lights off.

12 Senator Feinstein. Thank you.

13 Mr. Olson, you are wearing a uniform and that uniform  
14 says you are a commander. What is it that you command?

15 Mr. Olson. Ours is an organization of command  
16 communication. Serving in the military, we understand what  
17 is called command control communication because there is a  
18 control that must be exercised in the organized military.  
19 We in the militia have command communication in that we  
20 convey information down to the lowest level so that  
21 reasonable, intelligent human beings can make an informed  
22 decision.

23 Senator Feinstein. Do you command people?

24 Mr. Olson. No. I am a commander only in what is  
25 called a unity of command, so that a person reports to

1 another person all the way up and down the chain. That is  
2 called a simple line of communication or echelon  
3 communication. There is no command control, ma'am.

4 Senator Feinstein. And what do these people  
5 communicate about?

6 Mr. Olson. They communicate information, information.  
7 The information now available to the American public is  
8 extraordinary in that we are available now through  
9 alternative sources of news to convey truth to the American  
10 people. I believe that what you are seeing in America in  
11 the last 3 or 4 years is a phenomenon of informed Americans  
12 now waking up. A new conscience is building in America.

13 Senator Feinstein. I don't mean to stop you, but I  
14 have got so many questions I want to ask you about what it  
15 is--

16 Mr. Olson. Forgive me. I am a preacher.

17 Senator Feinstein. --practically, what it is you do.

18 Do the people in your organization stockpile weapons?

19 Mr. Olson. I wouldn't say stockpiling. No one should  
20 have more than they should need.

21 Senator Feinstein. How many weapons does an individual  
22 need?

23 Mr. Olson. It depends upon the threat that they  
24 perceive.

25 Senator Feinstein. So is it fair to say that there

1 could be unlimited numbers of weapons?

2 Mr. Olson. Possibly. The old adage in the military is  
3 that accuracy is everything.

4 Senator Feinstein. And what do you do with these  
5 weapons?

6 Mr. Olson. Prepare ourselves to defend ourselves,  
7 ma'am. We are not offensive. We are defensive, purely  
8 defensive.

9 Senator Feinstein. So everybody is trained in how to  
10 use these weapons?

11 Mr. Olson. No, ma'am. In the community that we call  
12 the militia, there are two parts of the militia, that which  
13 we call the patriot body, those people that are more  
14 concerned about information, seminars, videotapes,  
15 information, and then there is the militia who may be  
16 involved in the weekend maneuvers. That is what you see in  
17 the press, often.

18 What you don't see in this vast grouping of Americans  
19 concerned about the Constitution is the religious right, for  
20 example. They are very much concerned. The patriot  
21 community, the information community--they are very much  
22 concerned. What you do see is that small portion of people  
23 called the militia who exercise on the weekends.

24 Senator Feinstein. Under what circumstances would this  
25 command operation that you have sanction the use of these

1 weapons?

2 Mr. Olson. Excellent question, ma'am. We will defer  
3 to the lawful historic authority, which is the county  
4 sheriff. He indeed is the commander of the local militia,  
5 and when a situation erupts in which we would be deputized--

6 Senator Feinstein. Does he participate with you?

7 Mr. Olson. No, he cannot, because, of course, of his  
8 political nature. He cannot always, but he is normally in  
9 support of--knowing the historic role of our sheriffs, in  
10 the event that the county were to be endangered, he could  
11 deputize a ready posse and he could form the militia to  
12 defend the people. That is what the historic militia is all  
13 about.

14 Senator Feinstein. What would this county be afraid  
15 of?

16 Mr. Olson. The county could be afraid of--for example,  
17 there are 53 Federal agencies right now that employ deadly  
18 force that carry weapons and they can make arrests using  
19 deadly force.

20 Senator Feinstein. But supposing they had warrants?

21 Mr. Olson. That may not necessarily be what the  
22 county--the best interests of the people in the county. For  
23 example, our county sheriff does not know when Federal  
24 officials come into the county to search, seize or arrest  
25 until he sees it on the nightly news. We have a bill before

1 our house, and we are trying to seek support for it--perhaps  
2 you have heard of it, the no-more-Wacos bill, or the sheriff  
3 empowerment legislation, which would require Federal  
4 agencies to get permission from the local county sheriffs  
5 before they could come into the county; in other words,  
6 coordinate their activities with the county sheriff. There  
7 are, of course, some exceptions to that rule which would  
8 involve necessarily the investigation of the sheriff  
9 himself, for example.

10 Senator Feinstein. I believe my time is up, Mr.  
11 Chairman. I will wait for the next round.

12 Senator Specter. Senator Feinstein, I don't think we  
13 are going to have another round because the votes start in  
14 just a few minutes.

15 Senator Feinstein. Can I ask one other question?

16 Senator Specter. Yes.

17 Senator Feinstein. Do you believe there are any  
18 circumstances in which an individual has a right to blow up  
19 a building? Let's start with you, Mr. Trochmann.

20 Mr. Trochmann. Absolutely not, Mrs. Feinstein,  
21 absolutely not. We are, plain and simple, a neighborhood  
22 watch, watching out for problems. When we encounter what we  
23 perceive as threats to a peaceful society, we do something  
24 about it. We alert the proper officials.

25 Senator Feinstein. Well, let me ask you this. If you

1 are plain and simple, why do I read constantly these violent  
2 quotes, this hatred for other people, this anti-Semitic,  
3 anti-black--I mean, driving people to have this intense fear  
4 and antagonism?

5 Mr. Trochmann. Would you like my black friend to  
6 answer that for you?

7 Senator Feinstein. No, no, no. I asked you.

8 Mr. Trochmann. I am sick and tired of these questions  
9 constantly.

10 Senator Feinstein. I asked you why--

11 Mr. Trochmann. We have gone over it and over it and  
12 over it, and if you want to blame somebody about it, take a  
13 look at the press. We are telling them one thing. They are  
14 telling you something else. I already addressed that.

15 Senator Feinstein. So you are saying you don't say  
16 these things?

17 Mr. Trochmann. No, ma'am, I do not say that.

18 Senator Feinstein. Okay. That is all I wanted to  
19 know.

20 Mr. Trochmann. We are all in this together.

21 Senator Feinstein. So all those comments are wrong?

22 Mr. Trochmann. I am sorry, Mrs. Feinstein. What we  
23 are saying is we are all in this together. America had  
24 better put away its differences or we will cease to have a  
25 country. We shouldn't be your side and my side. We should

1 all be for the same, the betterment of our country and our  
2 fellow countrymen. That is all I am saying.

3 Senator Feinstein. Mr. Fletcher, the circumstances  
4 under which--

5 Mr. Fletcher. The same answer. No, absolutely not,  
6 and I don't mean that your question is ludicrous, but it is  
7 a little bit, and I don't mean that as an insult. I don't  
8 think anybody could perceive that point in time where that  
9 would make sense, particularly if we are talking the housing  
10 of infants and that type of thing.

11 The press which Mr. Trochmann refers to shows Mr.  
12 Trochmann's face and one of the other patriot leader's face  
13 and the blown-up babies, and then just leaves it hang there,  
14 and that is--unfortunately, we can't sue for that, and if we  
15 could, it would look like the national debt in terms of the  
16 legal action.

17 As far as the racial thing is concerned, that is  
18 garbage. Those folks in the extreme radical fringes of the  
19 patriot movement, which is a cross-section of Americana, the  
20 same as the police forces--10 percent of every police force  
21 is either racially motivated, racist persons; they are doing  
22 drugs, doing prostitution, or stealing on the side. It is  
23 probably the same in the militia movement because it is a  
24 cross-section of Americana.

25 We stand down from any hate kind of rhetoric

1 whatsoever, period, and my wife of 25 years who is Jewish  
2 and Italian--my business partners for 4 or 5 different years  
3 were blacks, and my granddaughter is half American Indian.  
4 So if I am racist, I am doing a lousy job of it.

5 Senator Feinstein. Okay, thank you.

6 Mr. Adams?

7 Mr. Adams. We certainly in no way would ever condone,  
8 as I said earlier, any type of violence and, of course, that  
9 would include a bombing. I would ask each of you that as  
10 you watch the media report upon us--and you have probably  
11 seen many of our faces many times--listen for those words of  
12 racism from our mouth. You have not heard it. You will not  
13 hear it.

14 If we hear of anyone in our organization speaking of  
15 hate or speaking of racism, they will be asked to leave and  
16 never return because we do not condone it. The press will  
17 go out and find some fringe element out there that may say  
18 something, but trust me and believe me. It is not part of  
19 our mainstream organization, and as I said earlier, there  
20 are going to be some people that will try to ride our coat  
21 tails because we are before the press.

22 My gosh, we are before you today and that is a lot of  
23 public knowledge, and they are going to try to grab some of  
24 that and we will try to eliminate it wherever we can. But  
25 you pay very close attention to what the media has to say.

1 Certainly, as politicians, you have been sound-bited and you  
2 know exactly what we are talking about. But you watch what  
3 we say out of our own mouth and that is what is true.

4 Senator Feinstein. Mr. Johnson.

5 Mr. Johnson. Yes. First, it is a question about  
6 blowing up a building?

7 Senator Feinstein. Are there any circumstances under  
8 which an individual is justified to blow up any building?

9 Mr. Johnson. After you have evacuated it and you  
10 wanted to cover up the evidence. Other than that, let me  
11 talk about the racist aspect now. It is getting old. I am  
12 getting real tired of being called a Klan member. I am  
13 getting tired of being called a member of the Aryan Nation  
14 group.

15 I spoke 2 weeks ago down at the Lincoln Memorial along  
16 with 2 other black people and the Jews for the Preservation  
17 of Firearms, and I believe there was somebody else Jewish  
18 who had helped organize it. The reports came out that a  
19 racist, anti-Semitic militia group held a rally at the  
20 Lincoln Memorial. Are these people blind or is there an  
21 agenda afoot here?

22 There are more black people showing up every day. A  
23 lot of the things that the people sit around in these  
24 meetings, these so-called right-wing wackos, and talk about  
25 happen daily in black communities, and black communities

1 know this. The first people concerned seriously about  
2 neighborhood house-to-house searches and seizures were over  
3 in Chicago. They were black. Good grief, almost half the  
4 people in Waco who got killed were black.

5 This movement isn't about guns and skin color. It is  
6 about liberty, it is about freedom. The same kind of  
7 legislation we are seeing down on everybody now came down on  
8 blacks just after the Civil War. That is why they are  
9 getting involved in this thing, and it is going to come  
10 eventually to somebody as you keep ignoring us and saying,  
11 well, these guys are just a bunch of angry white men.

12 Senator Specter. Pardon me for interrupting, but they  
13 have started the vote now, so we are going to have to  
14 conclude in just a few minutes.

15 Senator Feinstein. If I could, Mr. Olson, would you  
16 respond to that?

17 Mr. Olson. The answer is absolutely not, absolutely  
18 not. Our record stands for itself. The FBI will give you  
19 all the evidence concerning the Michigan Militia Corps on  
20 that question.

21 Senator Feinstein. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

22 Senator Specter. The vote has started, so we are going  
23 to have to conclude very shortly. There have been a lot of  
24 very serious charges made and we would like specifications  
25 to the extent that you gentlemen would like to make them.

1 I would ask you, Mr. Fletcher, when you talk about  
2 other explosions in the Federal building and another John  
3 Doe, to give us the specifics. You have given us some  
4 materials. We will take a look at them.

5 Mr. Olson, you have made a charge that what Senator  
6 Kohl pointed up about a picture of Adolph Hitler--"All in  
7 favor of gun control, raise your right hand"--being Jewish  
8 copyrighted.

9 Mr. Olson. That is from Jews for the Preservation of  
10 Gun Ownership out of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and that is a  
11 copyrighted document.

12 Senator Specter. And what is your authority that it is  
13 Jewish?

14 Mr. Olson. A letter that came out in JPFO's newsletter  
15 about a month ago, and I will be glad to give you a copy.

16 Senator Specter. From whom?

17 Mr. Olson. From the director of JPFO.

18 Senator Specter. Would you please submit a copy? We  
19 want to take a look at it.

20 Mr. Olson. You will have it on your desk within the  
21 week, sir.

22 Senator Specter. I would be glad to get into the issue  
23 you raised about the single-bullet theory. If you want to  
24 write to me, I will respond to you in detail. I am sorry we  
25 don't have the time, with the votes starting.

1 Mr. Adams, you have made a comment about the  
2 organization of militias in all 50 States, and I would ask  
3 this of you and of all the other members present if you  
4 would provide this committee in writing all the information  
5 you have about where the militias are, how many there are in  
6 each State, what their names are, what their membership is,  
7 what their purposes are, if there is anything in writing  
8 about them to give us some specification, to the extent you  
9 can, as to what weapons they have. I am not making any  
10 suggestion that there are any violations of law, but we  
11 would like to know as much specifically as we can about this  
12 question.

13 This hearing, I think, has been illuminating.

14 Mr. Olson. Perhaps you will allow Ken Adams to give  
15 you a response to that question, if he will provide you with  
16 that in-depth information.

17 Senator Specter. I certainly would be appreciative if  
18 Mr. Ken Adams would do that. My own view, as I suggested in  
19 a brief exchange with Mr. Olson, is let it all come out, let  
20 it all hang out. Let's see exactly--

21 Mr. Adams. Could I respond to your question, sir?

22 Senator Specter. If you can briefly, the votes have  
23 started.

24 Mr. Adams. It is going to be very brief. You have  
25 asked for lists of people and lists of memberships and

1 things of this information. I cannot provide that to you.

2 Senator Specter. No, I haven't asked for lists of  
3 membership or lists of people. I am not asking for that.

4 Mr. Adams. Okay.

5 Senator Specter. I am asking for total numbers. This  
6 committee would like to make an assessment as to what the  
7 militia strengths are.

8 Mr. Adams. I will provide everything that I possibly  
9 can to you that will not violate personal privacy.

10 Senator Specter. We are not asking you for any  
11 individual names that you don't want to provide. We are not  
12 asking you for violations of any personal privacy.

13 Mr. Adams. Okay. Thank you, sir.

14 Senator Specter. Mr. Trochmann, you had something you  
15 wanted to add?

16 Mr. Trochmann. Yes, sir. I can add that we will  
17 provide you with the numbers of the people that we work with  
18 and leadership across the country, concerned citizens, and  
19 it will stagger your imagination, I guarantee you. America  
20 is upset and we are avowed to help control them until we can  
21 find a way to solve this. Please be thankful that we are  
22 here. We love our country. We love our form of Government.  
23 There is no better on earth. We are here to support the  
24 righteous Government.

25 Senator Specter. I would like an answer from each of

1 you, too, in writing, if you would provide it. Mr. Johnson  
2 said that there is only time between now and armed conflict.  
3 You have all said that you respect the democratic process  
4 and the ballot box as a way of changing our institutions,  
5 and the only limitation, when asked about violence, was  
6 essentially a statement about self-defense. To the extent  
7 that you know of any others who disagree and do plan  
8 violence, to the extent you would provide that to this  
9 committee we would be interested to know that.

10 This is the first hearing that we have had on this  
11 subject and we will be pursuing the matter further.

12 Do you have something more you want to say, Mr.  
13 Trochmann?

14 Mr. Trochmann. Sir, we are already doing that with  
15 Federal agencies.

16 Mr. Olson. That is correct, yes.

17 Senator Specter. Providing them to Federal agencies is  
18 fine. If you provide them to this subcommittee, we are  
19 interested to know, too, because we are trying to make an  
20 assessment of the extent of the militias; how many people,  
21 not necessarily specific identity; what their fire power is;  
22 what their purposes are; whether they pose any threat; and  
23 whether there is any justification for further legislation  
24 on the subject either at the State, local, or at the Federal  
25 level.