



COLLECTION SUPPORT BRIEF: ICONOGRAPHY ASSOCIATED WITH DOMESTIC TERRORISM MOVEMENTS

31 JULY 2020

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ICONOGRAPHY ALONE IS NOT INDICATIVE OF TERRORISM

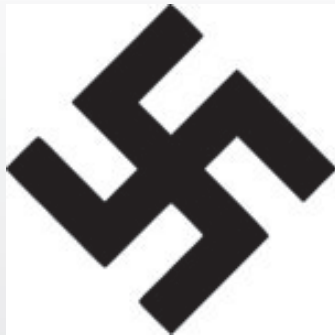
~~(U//FOUO)~~ Icons included in this document are not themselves indicators of domestic terrorism or other violent activity. Some icons included in this document have multiple meanings beyond their use by violent extremists. Some are historical or cultural symbols co-opted by terrorists. Many are used by a larger, overarching political movement and are not exclusive to a violent extremist subset of the larger political movement. When observed in conjunction with additional facts indicative of violent activity, these icons may support a reasonable suspicion of violent extremism. Use or presence of these icons should not be reported without these additional facts. Icons should only be reported when observed in connection with violent activity that meets DHS reporting thresholds. Iconography observed amidst protest activity in particular should not be considered evidence of violent extremism absent additional facts about the individual(s) displaying or using the iconography as well as the violent activity in which they engaged.

~~(U//FOUO)~~ This document focuses on the most prominent icons associated with domestic terrorism activity, but is not exhaustive of all icons that may be associated with domestic terrorism movements.

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WHITE SUPREMACIST EXTREMISM



Swastika

The swastika is a geometric figure and ancient religious icon used in many cultures that was coopted by the Nazi Party. This symbol and other Nazi iconography may be used by white supremacist extremists who support or idolize Nazi Germany. The Nazi swastika has right-facing "arms." Left-facing arms may indicate a lack of familiarity with white supremacist iconography.



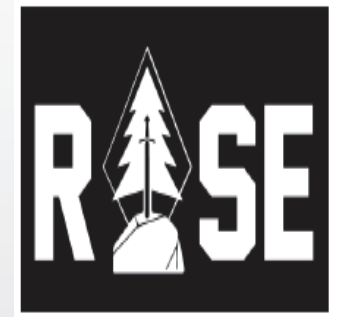
"The Base"^{USPER} Flag

The Base, a white supremacist extremist group, uses this black flag with three white Runic Eihwaz symbols. Nazis adopted the Eihwaz rune in 1923. White supremacist extremists may also use other runic symbols.



Atomwaffen Division^{USPER} Logo

Atomwaffen Division, a white supremacist extremist group, uses this logo. Other white supremacist and white supremacist extremist groups also use components, such as the shield with a missing corner, in their own iconography.



Rise Above Movement^{USPER} Logo

Rise Above Movement, a white supremacist extremist group, uses this logo.

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WHITE SUPREMACIST EXTREMISM



Vanguard America^{USPER}
Vanguard America, a white supremacist group, uses this logo. Other groups, including those formed from former Vanguard America members, also use a variant of the fasces in their iconography.

The white supremacist extremist responsible for the 12 August 2017 Charlottesville, VA rally was photographed with a shield with Vanguard America iconography, however, DHS has not attributed that WSE's violence to the group.



Sonnenrad/Sun Wheel
The sonnenrad is a traditional northern European cultural and religious emblem co-opted by Nazis. Some white supremacists and white supremacist extremist groups and individuals also use this iconography, including as part of violent extremist messaging.



Hammerskin^{USPER} Logo
Hammerskins, a collection of local and regional white supremacist groups, use this this logo, which incorporates colors of the Nazi flag.



Blood Drop Cross
The Blood Drop Cross is a primary icon for Ku Klux Klan^{USPER} groups. This icon is sometimes referred to as the Mystic Insignia of a Klansman (MIOAK). There is no national Klan organization.

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ANARCHIST EXTREMISM



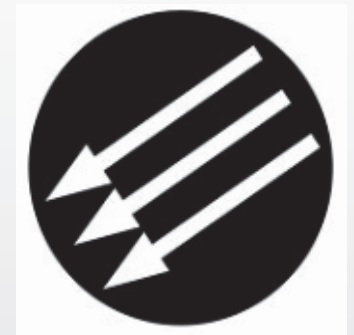
Circle-A

The circle-A, and variants, is a symbol used widely by those in the larger, non-violent anarchist movement, and references the idea that "anarchy is order." It may also be used by anarchist extremists as a symbol of their ideology.



Anti-Fascist Flag Symbol

This icon, and variants, is used broadly within the anti-fascist movement. Some anarchist extremists self-identify as "Antifa," (a portmanteau for anti-fascist) and may co-opt this icon, or variants. It is also used broadly within the larger, nonviolent antifascist movement. There is no national "Antifa" organization.



Downward Arrow Symbol

This icon, and variants, is also used in the anti-fascist movement. The arrows have varied meanings. Similar to the flag icon, some anarchist extremists may use this icon, in addition to its broad use throughout the larger, nonviolent anti-fascist movement.

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OTHER ICONOGRAPHY



Animal Liberation Front Icon

This logo stands for "Animal Liberation Front," a leaderless resistance movement supporting animal rights. Individuals who engage in certain activities that support animal rights sometimes use this symbol to attribute that activity to this movement. Some animal rights extremists engage in this activity, while other activity may be lawful or may otherwise not meet the DHS reporting threshold.



Boogaloo Flag

Supporters of the boogaloo movement, including the violent extremist subset, may use this icon and others incorporating igloos and Hawaiian clothing or iconography. This icon may appear with "Big Igloo" or "Big Luau." There is no single boogaloo group or ideology. Nonviolent boogaloo adherents also use these symbols.



Three Percenter Icon

Used by both non-violent anti-government ideologies and some militia extremists and anti-government extremists. The symbol references the Three Percenter movement, a variant of anti-government ideology. The movement is based on a myth that 3% of American colonists fought the British during the American Revolution. There is no national "Three Percenter" organization

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