

5 WHITE SUPREMACISTS CHARGED IN ROBBERIES



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A group of white supremacists robbed Midwestern banks to bankroll their movement, which teaches that people of color are "mud races" and gays should be executed, federal prosecutors say.

The five men -- including Mark Thomas, a minister in the Christian Identity Movement and leader of the Aryan Nations in Pennsylvania -- were charged Thursday with conspiring to rob seven banks in 1994 and 1995.

The indictment names Thomas, 44; Michael W. Brescia, 24; Peter Langan, 38; Kevin McCarthy, 19; and Scott William Stedeford, 27. Three of the men were also charged last year with robbing 22 banks of \$250,000 as members of the self-proclaimed "Mid-Western Bank Bandits," also known as the Aryan Republican Army. Langan, described as the gang's alleged ringleader, is standing trial in that case in Columbus, Ohio.