

White Separatists Indicted



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Five members of the Aryan Republican Army white separatist group were indicted by a federal grand jury on charges of conspiracy to rob banks to fund the group, prosecutors announced.

The five are accused of carrying out seven bank robberies in Ohio, Missouri, Iowa and Wisconsin in 1994 and 1995 and using the proceeds to buy weapons and fund recruiting efforts.

One of those named in the indictments, Michael William Brescia, has been named in a private wrongful death suit brought by a mother of two victims of the 1995 Oklahoma City federal building bombing. Through his attorney, Brescia has denied involvement in the bombing. Indicted with Brescia were Mark Thomas; Peter Kevin Langan, also known as "Commander Pedro," and Scott Anthony Stedeford, of Ardmore, Pa.; and Kevin William McCarthy of Philadelphia. Stedeford was recently convicted in Iowa of a bank robbery related to the case, and Langan is being tried on bank robbery charges in Columbus, Ohio. At Langan's trial yesterday, McCarthy testified that the group's aim was to "commit terrorist acts against the United States government."