

cultural and social ties between these aspiring ethnics and urban American Jews of European descent, folk memories keep Jews from regarding people mostly like themselves as favorably as they do blacks.

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Semitism. Nor are they associated with a white culture from which Jews feel excluded. Such thinking, as Stanley Rothman notes in *The Roots of Radicalism*, has played a part in the sides that American Jews have taken in recent political battles, and it accounts for the choices made by Jewish organizations, like the National Council of Jewish Women, in support of affirmative action, gay rights, and open borders and against any sign of friendship with self-identified Christians.

The issue here is not simply secularism vs. religion, as stressed by two Jewish conservatives who are Orthodox Rabbis, Meyer Schiller and Daniel Lapin. What is being expressed is the deep-seated revulsion of American Jewish civic and ethnic leaders for a white Eurocentric society, which is believed to conceal a still virulent stream of anti-Semitism.

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This last point needs to be stressed, for it explains the bizarre behavior, based on fictitious folk memory, which the *Wall Street Journal* sees fit to praise. It also puts into context the remarks made by a conservative activist, writing in the newsletter of a Republican Jewish organization, *Toward Tradition*, about being called a Nazi sympathizer by Jewish civic leaders because of his opposition to an initiative to extend civil rights protection in the workplace to gays. The author, Yarden Weidenfeld, reacted with incomprehension to the comparison by his fellow-Jews of "legitimate opposition to a behavior Judaism forbids to Jew-hating Nazism."

But the real point is that for many (and perhaps the vast majority) of self-identified American Jews, supporting the European Christian core culture once typical of Americans is a hate crime directed against Jews. It is expressing support for a body of belief that supposedly produced anti-

Semitism and contributed to the Holocaust. That is the reason that the outraged activist was identified by Jewish leaders in his area as a Nazi fellow-traveler, for failing to endorse the gay "outsiders" against the old gentile American society.

If the association seems grotesque, it does make sense to those who accept the underlying premises. And for those who do, the favors Jewish corporate millionaires shower on blacks but not whites are equally understandable.

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POLITICAL GAMES

ERIC MARGOLIS

Few noticed a very important event amid Moscow's recent political uproar. President Yeltsin ordered secret documents about Stalin handed over to a presidential commission investigating victims of Soviet terror. While some Soviet-era archives have been opened to scholars, many key documents remain sealed as "state secrets."

It's high time for "new" Russia to face up to Stalin's crimes. Germany fully confessed to Hitler's crimes. Japan grudgingly concedes "regret" for some wartime crimes. But the greatest crimes of all—Stalin's Red Terror—have never been adequately investigated or denounced by Russia. Yeltsin is doing his people and the world a favor by

shining light into Russia's darkest night of horror and shame.

We have been thoroughly conditioned by wartime propaganda and subsequent relentless rehashing on TV of Nazi themes (including, even, Space Nazis!) to believe

The U.S. government is forever blighted by its alliance with Stalin.

Hitler and his gang were the century's worst criminals. This is one of the biggest lies of our time.

Hitler killed about 12 million people, half of them Jews. According to the lowest current estimates by reputable Russian historians, Stalin was directly responsible for murdering 20 million of his own people, including eight million Ukrainians in the 1930s. Other Russian and foreign scholars, like the noted Robert Conquest, assert the true number of Stalin's victims was 30 million, or even 40! These figures do not include Russia's 18 million war dead.

Opening secret Soviet archives will, I believe, point to the 30 million figure. The full story of the Ukrainian Holocaust and NKVD savagery in the Baltic states is murky, even today. Stalin's exile of entire Muslim peoples, such as the Chechen, Ingush, Cherkass, Dagestanis, and Tatars, remains

almost unknown. Three million Muslims may have died in Stalin's Arctic camps where extreme cold proved an even cheaper and more efficient mass killer than poison gas.

While Hitler's worst crimes occurred from 1942 onward, and were masked by world war, Stalin's mass murder of eight million Ukrainians happened in the 1930s, before the world's gaze. Hitler did not start World War II alone: he began it jointly with his ally Stalin, when Germany and the USSR invaded and carved up Poland—after Russia invaded Finland.

As we watch world Jewish groups lambaste Switzerland for aiding Nazi Germany, we should ask: what about the U.S. and Britain allying themselves with Stalin's USSR, a far bloodier, more dangerous tyranny than Nazi Germany? President Roosevelt shamefully called Stalin, who had recently murdered tens of millions, "our Uncle Joe." President Clinton should have added the U.S. alliance with Stalin to his orgy of historical contrition during his African trip.

Hitler was inflated as a villain, and Stalin downplayed, by the victorious Americans and British, who, of course, did not want to be seen cynically using a greater monster to defeat a lesser one—or "liberating" Europe from the Nazis by handing half of it to communism.

The Stalinists and fellow travelers who infested Hollywood from 1930-1950 hid Stalin's crimes while trumpeting Hitler's.

Their liberal heirs today continue this love affair with the left, as well as trying to ensure that the terrible suffering of Hitler's victims is not diluted by revelations of the equally terrible sufferings of other peoples.

Russia has hidden the full story of Stalin's crimes out of national shame and amnesia induced by national agony. European and American socialists/leftists don't want to be reminded that their roots are entwined with Stalin's and Lenin's tyranny.

This conspiracy of silence must end. Congratulations to Yeltsin for opening Soviet archives. Crafty Boris knows the facts will badly damage Russia's Communist Party.

The left wants to keep hiding the truth that Stalin was history's single greatest murderer, and that communist regimes killed more people—close to 100 million—this century, than all its wars combined. **[RRR]**

Mr. Margolis writes on foreign affairs for *The Toronto Sun*.

PEARL HARBOR CRIME

JOHN V. DENSON

The Mises Institute's book, *The Costs of War*, argues that the three wars prior to the New Deal constitute the turning point away from the ideas of our Founding Fathers.