

The Rockies

Order trial was fair, defense lawyers say

Associated Press
SEATTLE — Guilty verdicts against 10 members of the Order who were accused of waging a militant, white supremacist crime wave should serve as a warning to others who might have similar ideas, says the lead prosecutor in the case.

Most defense lawyers, meanwhile, said they think their clients got a fair trial, and weren't surprised when federal jurors came down hard on the defendants Monday.

The jury returned 10 guilty decisions out of a total of 44 verdicts they had to reach among the 10 defendants. Five defendants were acquitted on a charge that they plotted a bank at a Seattle hotel the star, while one man, Gary Yearwood, was found innocent of

participating in a Seattle armored-car robbery.

But there were plenty of guilty verdicts to go around, with all 10 defendants facing at least 20 years in prison and \$50,000 in fines on racketeering and conspiracy counts alone.

"I think we got a fair trial," said Tony Savage, defense attorney for Andrew Marshall. "I just think we lost. I'm disappointed but not really surprised. I don't know any trial lawyer that likes to lose."

"I can't quarrel with any of it," Assistant U.S. Attorney Gene Wilson, who headed the government's six-lawyer prosecution team, said of the verdicts. He said the result "needs a message that (people) can't commit crimes of this sort."

"We hope it has a dampening effect on anybody, right or left, who wants to commit crimes for political reasons," he said. "The government is capable of dealing with people who want to do things like that."

One man the government would still like to get, he added, is Richard Sciarra, the Order's fugitive security chief.

"I think he's still a threat," Wilson said. "The others are not a problem now."

At least three attorneys — Neil Halperin for defendant Ardie McRae, David Chappell for Jean Craig, and Brian Phillips for David Lane — said they plan to appeal.



Assistant U.S. Attorney Gene Wilson, head of the government's prosecution team against members of The Order, said "I can't quarrel with any of it" after the guilty verdicts were announced.

Big purse is offered by lottery

Associated Press
DENVER — While reviews are ongoing in late early Wednesday, the Colorado Lottery will be holding its first "Million Dollar Sweepstakes" drawing — and giving away up to \$4 million to 11,000 winners.

Lottery spokeswoman Marlene Desmond said Monday close to 2 million tickets, each costing \$5, will have been sold by drawing time at 12:30 a.m. Wednesday. The tickets went on sale Nov. 18.

A Lottery-sponsored party will be held before the drawing at the downtown Denver Auditorium.

Desmond said four numbers will be used to select instant winners: a four-digit number for \$1,000 prizes with 1,000 possible winners; a five-digit number for up to 100 prizes of \$10,000 each; and a six-digit number for up to 10 prizes of \$100,000.

Lottery officials then will announce a fifth sequence of four numbers and one letter, a \$500 giveaway to 200 people who also will be eligible for entry into a drawing Jan. 26 for a \$1 million prize, said Desmond.

Winning tickets may be turned in at any Lottery claims center beginning Thursday, she said.

Steve Benson, the acting lottery director, said the Colorado Lottery's telephone lines have been jammed with inquiries about the drawing.

"This is something new for Colorado, so we were sure it would generate some excitement," Benson said.

DA may ask jurors about possible Berg murder trial

Associated Press
DENVER — Denver prosecutors will try to interview jurors in the just-completed neo-Nazi trial in Seattle to see how they weighed evidence and to determine whether three of the defendants can be tried here in the murder of radio talk-show host Alan Berg.

Denver District Attorney Norm Early said Monday he would decide whether there is enough evidence to win murder convictions against three of the 10 members of The Order, all of whom were convicted of racketeering charges Monday.

"We now have some individuals who have been through a trial with

Neo-Nazi asks for exile to 'any white nation'

Associated Press
SEATTLE — A member of the Nazi-like group The Order wants "exile to any white nation" for himself and others of the 10 white supremacists who were convicted of waging a bloody, racial revolution against the United States.

An all-white jury deliberated two weeks before convicting the defendants Monday of conducting a criminal conspiracy in 1983 and 1984 that encompassed two murders, bank and armored-car robberies totaling more than \$4 million, counterfeiting and arson.

David Lane, the only defendant whom we can talk, and get their assessment of the strength of the evidence we have and make a determination on the basis of the Seattle interviews,"

who returned calls late Monday from the Pierce County Jail in Tacoma, said the others did not have any comment.

"We will ask for exile to any white nation that will have us and let us live among our own kind," Lane said. "We will never darken the shores of this continent again."

If the three Berg murder suspects are brought to trial in Denver, Early may have to ask the City Council

for extra money because he fears the cost could exceed his \$6 million annual budget, he said. It is likely that "evidence on the three tends to vary."

Deputy District Attorney Jeff Bayless and Dave Heckenbach are scheduled to fly to Seattle in mid-January to ask U.S. District Court Judge Walter McGovern for permission to interview the jurors who returned the guilty verdict.

Berg, a Jew, had a radio talk show on Denver station KOA. He made enemies with heated, on-air debates.

Power firm wants to run line on writer's land

Associated Press
DURANGO — Colorado Electric Association wants to condemn 8 acres of land across a Thompson Park ranch owned by Western writer Louis D. L'Amour to build a 365,000-watt transmission line.

District Judge Al Haas has scheduled a condemnation hearing on Feb. 14.

The land sought by the power company is in a strip 150 feet wide.

Colorado Electric Association is authorized to obtain rights of way and easements for poles, wires, metal

towers and guys and to remove and trim trees and shrubs where its transmission lines will be placed.

"It is necessary and urgent for the public convenience," the petition said.

L'Amour has opposed the power line for the past 1 1/2 years, saying

he couldn't write looking at "these monsters. That's what these towers look like — monsters from Mars."

L'Amour also has argued that the high-voltage line could cause tumors and ulcers in humans, abnormal growth patterns in crops and malformation of fetuses in live-

stock.

The La Plata County Planning Commission and La Plata County commissioners approved the line in October 1984. La Plata County was the last of seven counties on the 275-mile, \$121 million project to issue a permit.

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