(U//FOUO) The Order of Nine Angles Playing Influential Role Among Some RMVEs

(U) Key Findings

(U//FOUO) We assess that some racially or ethnically motivated violent extremists (RMVEs) have been influenced by the Order of Nine Angles (O9A), a group embracing violent extremist interpretations of Satanism, which has reinforced these RMVEs’ violent tendencies while exacerbating ideological friction inside the RMVE movement. The majority of RMVEs recently expressing interest in O9A are associated with the Siege network, both of which share the goal of achieving societal collapse through systemic violence.

- (U//FOUO) We assess that these RMVEs are drawn to O9A’s promotion of violence, praise for Nazi Germany, and demonization of Jews and other populations O9A views as foreign. O9A’s ideology indicates that this promotion of violence will contribute to a future collapse of Western society, which they view as corrupt and decadent.

- (U//FOUO) We assess that exposure to O9A’s doctrines may increase internal conflict and loss of members among already fractious RMVE groups. Many RMVEs believe that groups espousing Satanist beliefs are ideologically impure and that their pro-Satanism members seek to destabilize the group.

- (U//FOUO) In this context, the term “Siege network” refers to RMVE groups that are loosely connected and largely based online, including Rapewaffen Division (RWD), Rape Krieg, and to a lesser extent the now-rebranded Atomwaffen Division (AWD), Sonnenkrieg Division (SKD), and now-defunct Feuerkrieg Division. The groups are inspired by the publication Siege, which is written by an identified US person and advocates for violence to destabilize society and create a white ethnostate.

(U//FOUO) Raising bystanders’ awareness about O9A’s violent extremist symbology, terminology, and ideology might better position those bystanders to recognize warning signs that an individual may be supportive of the group’s violent extremist ideology. Sharing this information with collaborative US tech sector companies may help those companies to detect and remove online content they deem inconsistent with their terms of service.

- (U//FOUO) In addition, RMVEs who are disillusioned because of their group’s adoption of aspects of O9A’s ideology may be candidates for participation in disengagement programming.
(U) Scope Note

(U//FOUO) This SAR examines RMVEs' links to O9A, a largely decentralized group that advocates a violent extremist interpretation of Satanism. Satanism is a religion with multiple variants, most of which are not violent extremist.

(U//FOUO) DHS, FBI, and NCTC define racially or ethnically motivated violent extremism as encompassing threats involving the potentially unlawful use or threat of force or violence in furtherance of political and/or social agendas, which are deemed to derive from bias—often related to race or ethnicity—held by the actor against others, including a given population group.
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(U//FOUO) We assess that a small subset of RMVEs have been influenced by O9A—a decentralized international group espousing a violent extremist interpretation of Satanism that incorporates neo-Nazi elements into its ideology—to participate in or enable others to participate in ideologically motivated violence. Many of these RMVEs have sought to engage online with O9A adherents, studied O9A texts promoting violence, or promoted O9A on social media. A minority of the RMVEs in this subset, including a former leader of the recently rebranded AWD, have taken additional steps to encourage fellow RMVEs, mostly in the Siege network, to adopt O9A’s teachings.

- (U) US Army Private Ethan Melzer [USPER] was arrested in June 2020 and awaits trial for allegedly sharing sensitive military intelligence with violent extremist groups, including members of RWD claiming to be O9A adherents and an individual who he believed belonged to al-Qa'ida. Melzer, who previously consumed O9A materials and demonstrated a commitment to the group, allegedly passed updates on his Army unit’s overseas locations, movements, and security practices in an unsuccessful effort to enable violent extremists to attack his unit and the military installation it was guarding.

- (U) John Denton [USPER], a former leader of AWD who pled guilty in July 2020 for his role in a swatting campaign, encouraged AWD to embrace O9A. Swatting is a harassment tactic in which police and emergency services are unnecessarily dispatched to an unwitting person’s location, often to target individuals because of race, religious affiliation, or to promote general chaos. Under Denton’s leadership, AWD promoted O9A symbols online and encouraged its members and supporters to read O9A instructional guides.

- (U) Jacob Kaderli [USPER]—a member of the RMVE group The Base [USPER], a minority of whose members have discussed O9A’s violent extremist interpretation of Satanism in their online chats—as recently as October 2019 on the now-defunct website Fascist Forge, made posts using terms associated with O9A. US authorities arrested Kaderli and two other individuals in January 2020 for allegedly conspiring to murder a Georgia-based couple whom the subjects believed were part of the Antifa movement; Kaderli is awaiting trial.

(U) Overview of O9A

(U//FOUO) Founded in the UK in the 1970s by the union of three England-based pagan groups, O9A—sometimes called ONA—advocates for the destruction of civilization and urges adherents to undertake violent acts as a way to gain mystical insight. Drawing from writings of a probable former leader, David Myatt, O9A has a cosmological and historical narrative that emphasizes the role of a spiritual elite overcoming worldly trappings.

(U) O9A writings claim that the West—which most O9A adherents identify with—must be violently destroyed and has suffered under the corrupting, materialistic influence of Magian forces—very likely a reference to Judeo-
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Christianity and other influences perceived as foreign to adherents’ view of a traditional Western civilization. O9A writings also glorify Nazi Germany and feature ritualized admiration of Adolf Hitler in ceremonies that describe him as “sent by our gods.”

(U//FOUO) O9A claims to lack a formal hierarchy or membership and is organized around loosely connected cells called “nexions.” O9A encourages followers to commit violent crimes, including rape and murder, and to infiltrate other violent extremist groups to destabilize them. We lack reliable reporting on the number of O9A adherents, the extent of the group’s international presence, and whether it has a defined leadership structure.

(U//FOUO) O9A Teachings Complement RMVE and Other Violent Extremist Beliefs...

(U//FOUO) We assess that some RMVEs have embraced O9A’s violent extremist interpretation of Satanism because its literature promotes beliefs that overlap with RMVE ideology or advocates for behavior that advances aims commonly held by both RMVEs and O9A. Both O9A and many RMVE groups promote attacks as a way to destabilize Western societies viewed as decadent, lionize Adolph Hitler and Nazi Germany, and attribute the West’s problems to the influence of Jews and other groups perceived as foreign. Some O9A supporters have similarly affiliated themselves with RMVEs and their ideology.

- (U//FOUO) Probable former O9A leader and prominent Satanist writer David Myatt has been affiliated with multiple RMVE groups and created the UK-based National Socialist Movement.

- (U//FOUO) The RMVE group RWD, which promotes sexual violence on its Telegram channel, has referenced its support for O9A and its US-based chapter, Temple ov BloodUSPER (ToB).

(U//FOUO) Some RMVEs who have explored O9A’s ideology have also shown a willingness to praise or possibly work with non-RMVE extremists, such as al-Qa’ida members, probably because O9A literature places violence and societal destabilization at the center of its goals. O9A members have praised Usama Bin Ladin. Melzer tried to involve a person in his plot who claimed al-Qa’ida affiliation, and one of the individuals Melzer conversed with online described his plan as a “jihadi attack.”

(U//FOUO) ...However, RMVEs’ Embrace of O9A Often Leads to Internal Group Strife

(U//FOUO) We assess that RMVE groups that associate with O9A are likely to experience internal conflict and loss of members because O9A only appeals to a small subset of RMVEs and promotes infiltrating other violent extremist groups. In addition, we assess that RMVE groups influenced by O9A’s violent extremist interpretation of Satanism face a heightened risk of being ostracized by others in the broader RMVE movement, who often view these beliefs as a sign of a group being infiltrated or ideologically impure.
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- (U) Some AWD members’ embrace of O9A’s violent extremist interpretation of Satanism created friction in the group, which has led to multiple members leaving AWD since 2018. AWD’s promotion of Satanism also led some prominent RMVEs, such as the founder of the RMVE website The Daily Stormer, to criticize AWD for allegedly allowing “satanic doomsday cultists” to infiltrate the group.  

- (U//FOUO) The System Resistance Network (SRN)—a successor to the banned UK RMVE group National Action—splintered in part because some SRN members who were influenced by O9A, ToB, and AWD elected to form the RMVE group SKD. SKD’s media, in addition to touching on traditional RMVE narratives and encouraging attacks, have also embraced O9A’s promotion of pedophilia and rape.

(U//FOUO) Raising Awareness About RMVE Interest in O9A May Support Prevention Initiatives

(U//FOUO) US Government agencies and US-based NGOs involved in raising awareness about terrorism and radicalization could include content about O9A symbology, terminology, and ideology in their online and in-person campaigns to help potential bystanders recognize signs that an individual may support the group’s violent extremist ideology, which would follow the lead of some Western partners’ outreach efforts. Sharing information about the links between O9A and other violent extremists with US-based tech companies may improve these companies’ ability to detect and remove O9A-linked content if it violates their terms of service.

- (U//FOUO) The DHS Office of Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention is expanding its delivery of a Community Awareness Briefing (CAB) to educate stakeholders about domestic and international terrorism trends affecting the Homeland. Updating the CAB to include relevant content on O9A’s violent extremist interpretation of Satanism would position stakeholders to engage in early identification and give support to individuals exposed to such content and considering pursuing violence as a result.

- (U//FOUO) Obtaining examples of how foreign partners have integrated materials on O9A’s violent extremist interpretation of Satanism in their prevention programming, as well as their lessons learned, may inform future US initiatives to combat the influence of this violent extremist ideology. The UK Government uses online training to educate service providers affiliated with its Prevent counterradicalization program about violent extremism trends, including some RMVEs’ recent embrace of Satanism.

(U//FOUO) In addition, some RMVEs who have become disillusioned because of an RMVE group’s promotion of O9A’s violent extremist ideology may be candidates for interventions by non-law enforcement partners designed to facilitate their disengagement from terrorism-related activities.
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- (U//FOUO) RMVEs who are part of a group that has begun advocating O9A ideology and rituals may become disenchanted with the RMVE movement and cognitively open to exploring nonviolent alternatives to address their grievances and personal needs.

- (U//FOUO) An increasing number of state and local government organizations and NGOs in the Homeland are providing tailored intervention services on a voluntary basis to RMVEs and vulnerable individuals. We assess that the Federal Government can play a key role in sharing lessons learned from international and domestic interventions of RMVEs with these organizations and offer them unclassified briefings and products on RMVE trends.