The Holocaust deniers and anti-Semites: they are very much alive, alike and at work. One could think they are only a bunch of Extremists lost in our big democracies but they are not. They are many, everywhere and well organized in spite of all the persecutions and trials they have been submitted to since the last 20 years. Here is a quick way to know who they are, what they stand for and who support them.

It seems that all started a few years after WW2 with a Frenchman called Paul Rassinier (picture to the right). Rassinier who was a "pacifist resistant" was deported by the Nazis to Buchenwald. After his return he was honored with the highest French decorations and was elected to the National Assembly as a Socialist (SFIO).

But he was a liar and lied about his resistance, his role and even about the duration of his captivity. In the late 40s, he suddenly disagreed with the official reports about the conditions of life in the concentration camps and the Holocaust and started publishing books that pretended to set the records straight. His most important writings — La Passage de la ligne (1949), Le Mensonge d’Ulysse (1950), Ulysse trahi par les siens, and Le Drame des Juifs européens, were published in English under the name "The Holocaust Story and The Lies of Ulysses."

Rassinier became increasingly skeptical with the reports of systematic killings of Jews in gas chambers. Eventually he sustained that the number of Jews who perished in Europe during the war years could not have been more than about 1.6 million. A lot of people were impressed by Rassinier's views for whatever reasons: among them the American Holocaust denier historian 1) Harry Elmer Barnes who arranged for the translation of four of his books, 2) the French scholar Robert Faurisson (left) who took over the lead after Rassinier's death in 1967 and 3) Princeton historian Arno J. Mayer who does not question either gas chambers or a Nazi extermination policy, but still warns that "sources for the study of the gas chambers are at once rare and unreliable." Rassinier can rightly be regarded as the "father of the Holocaust revisionism."

In her book "Denying the Holocaust", American scholar Deborah Lipstadt attacked Rassinier for "fabricated data, misquoted, and used quotations out of context." It is for the same reasons that Revisionist David Irving lost some years later his trial against Mrs Lipstadt in a British Court. After reading the works of fellow Frenchmen Paul Rassinier and Maurice Bardèche, Robert Faurisson began to question the Holocaust. Over the years Faurisson claims to have studied the Holocaust extensively, and in the late 1970s he said that he came to the conclusion that it was a hoax. He has been very active during the 70s and the 80s and was eventually removed from his University chair for "Holocaust denial" under the terms of a French law adopted in the 90s. Today although quite old (age : 78) he stills fights for his views and does not hesitate to take the stand in international debates denying the Holocaust. He recently took part in the Tehran International Conference to Review the Global Vision of the Holocaust in December 2006 that was sponsored by the government of Iran. He repeated his theories about gas chambers and said that in the past 32 years he had been waiting for someone to show him one of those chambers.

Unfortunately Mr Faurisson has often been violently attacked for his views, sometimes physically by Extreme Right Zionist Movements, which should not happen. His influence seems however to be
wanning as his writings have been criticized and attacked by most serious international historians, except by American scholar Noam Chomsky who recently again took his defence. However being defended by Chomsky is in my opinion the best way to attend prematurely the burial of his own ideas insofar as Chomsky is, as Berkeley economist Brad DeLong wrote on his own weblog a couple of years ago, "an intellectual totalitarian" who does not convince anymore a lot of people. Mr. Faurisson does not hesitate to talk of the "imposture" of the "holocaust."

The idea of a hoax was taken back in the 70s by Arthur Butz (left), an American associate professor of electrical engineering who pauses as Professor, who published 20 years ago "The Hoax of the XXth Century", a very boring work that accumulates technical details and demonstrations which I read in 2003 without being convinced at all. Mr Butz who purports to be an historian seems to me to be more interested in denouncing Jews as liars than anything else. His main point is that perhaps as many as 6,000 Jews died in concentration camps, but they died as a result of typhus epidemics and not from intentional gassing in gas chambers which Butz says is mere fabrication without any basis or evidence to support it.

The most prominent critics of the claims of Holocaust revisionists, Deborah Lipstadt, Pierre Vidal-Naquet, and Michael Shermer, have publicly stated they oppose laws that criminalize revisionism. But still revisionists are prosecuted and persecuted, sometimes abusively. The most recent example was offered by the incarceration in Austria in 2006 of British Holocaust denier David Irving who was released unrepentant from jail a few days before Christmas. Irving denied that Hitler was aware or ordered the Holocaust and stated that the number of Jews killed by the Nazis was inflated. The common point to all those authors is their anti-Semitism which they denied vehemently. But under the veneer of history -or should it be called pseudo-history- one can detect easily the venomous trace of anti-Semitism. Every time I have read the Revisionist literature I fell into the abyss of Jewish bashing and its corollaries: hatred, lack of intelligence, indifference to witnesses' testimonial amalgamation of facts in the goal to distort the reality and detect easily the venomous trace of anti-Semitism. Every time I have read the Revisionist literature I fell into the abyss of Jewish bashing and its corollaries: hatred, lack of intelligence, indifference to witnesses' testimonial amalgamation of facts in the goal to distort the reality and detect easily the venomous trace of anti-Semitism.

Arthur Butz, as a chemistry graduate student, did a forensic analysis of the walls of the alleged gas chambers, didn't find the cyanide residues that ought to have been there and concluded they weren't gas chambers. Brilliant!!

Another advocate of the deniers, Ernst Zündel probably the most outspoken of Holocaust revisionism. He is also the author of UFO's: Nazi Secret Weapons?, a rather silly piece of literature which has sold out seven underground printings. The book argued that what are usually described as flying saucers from outer space are actually Nazi secret weapons, still being launched from a hole in the ice in Antarctica. The guy is no genius but he pauses as a "prisoner of conscience", a title claimed by his wife in the Website she maintains to his actions. It seems actually that the unconditional love of Zündel for his country put him on the track of "dedicating his life to clearing Germany of the blood libel of the Holocaust". Some of his supporters do not fear to compare him without any sense of ridicule to a "modern-day Galileo."(sic).

In 1977, Zündel founded a small press publishing house called Samisdat Publishers which issued such pamphlets as The Hitler We Loved and Why and Did Six Million Really Die?, both prominent documents of the Holocaust denial movement. For many years, his publishing house shipped to Germany thousands of brochures and samizdat whose contents were outrageously neo-nazi. Since then Zündel underwent several trials and arrests but was released until he was finally arrested by the US police in 2003 for violating that country's immigration rules, specifically visa waiver overstay. He was deported to Canada and after lengthy Court procedures he was eventually deported to Germany where he was incarcerated in 2005. German prosecutors charged Zündel on July 19, 2005, with fourteen counts of inciting racial hatred.

The indictment says Zündel denied the fate of destruction for the Jews planned by National Socialist leaders and justified this by saying that the mass destruction in Auschwitz and Treblinka, among others, were an invention of the Jews and served the repression and blackmail of the German people. Sic. His trial which has been interrupted several times resumed on June 9, 2006 and has been continuing, intermittently, since then. According to some rumors, Zündel would be part-jewish, one of his grandmothers being called Mayer. In an interview with an Israeli newspaper in 1997, he admitted in a hush voice that he was not sure not to be part-Jew. Hitler had exactly the same obsession. His second wife who divorced him in 1999, after 18 months of marriage, declare once that "by the end (of the marriage), I thought he was evil incarnate." He admires Hitler as a greatest statesman of the XXth century.

There are many other figures in the Holocaust denial galaxy but none as outspoken and active...
The Holocaust deniers

The would-be US expert Fred Leuchter had graduated from Boston University in 1964 with only a B.A. in history, and had never taken an engineering licensing test in Massachusetts. Film director Errol Morris made a documentary about him called "Mr. Death: Rise and Fall of Fred Leuchter". Read a review of the movie here.

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Leuchter was paid by the defense $30,000 to perform an analysis on samples from the chambers, which he obtained without the knowledge or consent of the Polish authorities. This was illegal and should not have been admitted in Court but it was hidden to the Judge. His report known as the Leuchter report made sensational headlines in the medias as it purported that there was no trace of Zyklon-B in the walls of the gas chambers at Auschwitz, Birkenau and Majdanek concentration camps. Then, it concluded, the extermination of the Jews by gas was a non-event. An analysis of the "Leuchter Report" by Professor George Wellers in Paris concluded Leuchter's "calculations to be an absurdity... "The Leuchter Report" is the sheerest hokum, as Leuchter did not bother to consult with anyone about the chemical properties of cyanide, which cannot penetrate more than 10 microns -one-tenth the width of a human hair- into brick. Any Zyklon-B traces that might have withstood the elements for 50 years would have been diluted thousands of times.

The Revisionists still stick to this bogus report as to a Bible. For Irving, it was a revelation. Another expert, the French pharmacist Jean Claude Pressac published in 1989 a report commissioned by the Beate Klarsfeld Foundation, that simply denied all the findings of Reuchter and ridiculed him. But in spite of its voluminous 564 pages, the report does not bring any evidence of mass murder by gas in the camps : at the most, Pressac talks of "criminal traces." And in 564 pages, that is as close as he gets. However Pressac himself said that his 210-page work provided "the definitive rebuttal of revisionist theories." The debate is not close to be over. And I do not personally think that one can prove or deny the existence of gas chambers by rummaging into some rooms that might have or might not have been used as gas chambers.

Nevertheless, in October 1990, the state of Massachusetts brought criminal charges against Leuchter for representing himself as an engineer without a license. Leuchter said he was a victim of selective prosecution, since only 10% of engineers are actually licensed. He is now totally discredited as he eventually appeared unaware of the T-4 Euthanasia Program and of the history or science behind small-scale gassings directed by Hitler's Reich Chancellery. Leuchter is the epitome of the bogus self-appointed expert who thinks he has a huge expertise because he self-trained himself into a particular domain or field of sciences.

The most disturbing fact about the Holocaust denial is the support that his promoters enjoy from all over the world and various organisms. On the American side, the most famous is the Institute for Historical Review founded in 1978 by an anti-semite called Willis A. Carto in California as "a public interest educational, research and publishing center dedicated to promoting greater public awareness of history, and especially socially-politically relevant aspects of twentieth century history." Nice words to hide the real nature of the body : revisionist history or pseudo-history. Carto remains perhaps the most influential professional anti-Semitic in the United States : he once said that "Hitler's defeat was the defeat of Europe. And of America. . . The blame . . . must be laid at the door of the international Jews." Carto's anti-Semitism was further manifested in the Institute for Historical Review, which he founded in 1978 to spearhead a movement to deny the reality of the Holocaust and to market Holocaust-denial propaganda. Carto once planned to halt what he termed the "inevitable niggerification of America" by covertly [sic] organizing a campaign to send all Blacks to Africa.

At the organization's first conference in 1979, calling the Holocaust "atrocity propaganda" and declaring Zionists to be "predators" who exploit the "guilt" of the West, Carto set the tone for these events and for the contents of its publications. However in 1993, the Institute's editorial staff and board of directors voted to terminate its association with its founder. On October 4, 1993, Carto received a letter announcing that he had been "fired." The most significant stake in the issuing controversy between the founders and the executives was control of as much as $7.5 million in stock certificates bequeathed to IHR's parent corporation, The Legion for the Survival of Freedom, by Jean Farrel, an heir of Thomas Edison (1).

On November 15, 1996, California Superior Court Judge Runston G. Maino ruled in favor of HRT, saying Carto owed the group and the Legion for the Survival of Freedom, $6.43

http://www.schikelgruber.net/holocaust3.html
The Holocaust deniers

Listen to Mark Weber: the man can barely speak English, can not hold a conference without reading every word from a sheet of paper and looks like a Sophomore student making his first speech in front of a rather cold-feet audience. And that sort of man pretends to bring us the truth: laughable.

Mark Weber's ultimate conference about the Holocaust.

On the European side of the Revisionists supporters, we have the French AARGH (L'Association des Anciens Amateurs de Récits de Guerres et d'Holocaustes) created in 1994 at the beginning of the explosion of the Internet. Its goal was to put on line the Revisionist library and to explain to the world what everybody knows since eternity: history is written by the victors or as would have said Napoleon "history is a bunch of lies agreed upon." The problem is that once more any serious historian is perfectly aware of this bias and does his best to debunk the lies with the means at his disposal.

It is not an easy processus as everybody knows. But our Revisionists know better: they have documents that mainstream historians do not possess, they have discovered facts that politicians and historians hide, they are to be believed, notably when it comes to the Holocaust, Hitler and WW2.

Behind a pretense of historical truth one can always detect the roots of anti-semitism, anti-communism and somehow anti-Christianism. Under the pretext to save the Western World and the White Man from the dangers of the Third World and the Coloured People, the Revisionists wage a war against our intellect. Their final goal is probably as vague as Hitler's final goal or at least as dangerous: because as American historian Richard Overy pointed out in "Hitler and Stalin: The Dictators", Hitler saw the key to survival in recognizing that history progressed through racial rather than class struggle.

So the histrionics of Revisonism are in fact racists under the disguise of Historians and of "combattants de la liberté." Of course AARGH denies any form of anti-semitism but complains about the extent of the Jewish power in the society at large...His founder Serge Thion, an ex-researcher at the French Conseil national de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS) wrote that "we are a cultural enterprise, which wants to contribute to understand our time." Very good, sir. Thion was linked to the left-wing publishing house La Vieille Taupe (The Old Mole) launched in 1965 by the Situationist movement which was set on a more left-wing turn in 1980 by Pierre Guillaumé. In 1986, the Vieille Taupe published "The Auschwitz Myth"
Strangely enough, the founders of the Vieille Taupe immediately claimed to lead a combat against all taboos, i.e. humanism, democracy, money, gas chambers, feminism, sexuality. In 1983, they published "L'horreur est humaine" (Horror is human) that established a link between sexuality, pedophilia and the extermination camps. One of the closest collaborators of the Vieille Taupe, Michel Caignet, a neo-nazi, appeared in 1997 before a Paris Court under the charge of organizing a pedophiles network called Toro Bravo. Caignet translated in 1976 the "Lies of Auschwitz" by the Danish author Thies Christoperensen.

AAARGH took its distances with La Vieille Taupe which is now a small bookshop with no serious existence or publications at its catalogue but the activities of AAARGH are growing thanks to the possibilities of the Internet and its mirror sites. Prosecuted and filtered in France, the Association and its site have found refuge in America, Germany and in other countries. It has also encouraged other Revisionist sites to flourish and proliferate on the Internet. Their list is long and goes from the Committee for Open Debate on the Holocaust of Bradley Smith, an ex Media director at the IHR who tells us that the "Jews want to destroy intellectual freedom", to The Occidental Quaterly through The Committee for Historical Truth to The Holocaust Historiography. All display anti-semitic or homosexual contents. The worst of all being probably Radio Islam made by the Moroccan dissident Ahmed Rami whose anti-semitic stance and biased approach can fool nobody.

The main goal of Radio Islam is to denounce the impossibility to criticize Israel which Ahmed Rami and Radio Islam do profusely without being prosecuted or even filtered. The contradiction as always for the people who complain of being persecuted does not jump to their eyes. Blindness is the particularity of the faithful. Denouncing the over-presence of the Jewish writers and authors, he blames the lack of interest for Palestinian authors. Nothing is more false. A simple search on Google with the keywords "Palestinian authors" show immediately the wide interest for this type of literature: even the university of London has a course on Palestinian literature with a bibliography including authors like Said K. Aburish, Mahmud Darwish, Emil Habibi, Salam Jayyusi, Ghassan Kanafani, Sahar Khalifa, Khalid Sulaiman and Abdallah K., Al-Udhari.

Rami abusively concludes from this alleged lack of interest that the Palestinian people is sentenced to death and he does not hesitate to talk of a Genocide. Nothing else. If historical truth goes through such intellectual depravities and totalitarian shortcut, we are not about to discover it any time soon. "Revisionists, boasts the site of the AAARGH, are people who want to know if what is being said is true." A very appealing motto: but once more slogans and proud statements do not confer any credibility to ventures which as historian Deborah Lipstadt has termed them- are nothing but an "assault on truth and memory."

In Italy at last we have a guy called Carlo Mattogno who boasts of a "very specialized education ranging from the classics to the military" but omits to mention any degree or diploma. It is a fact common to many Holocaust deniers, they are under graduated, generally self-trained like Adolf Hitler by the way and always keen on self promotion when it comes to their expertise of knowledge which is generally as vague as inflated. It looks like several of them are drop out from College who tried to attribute a Ph.D to themselves in the easy discipline called "Holocaust denial."

This Mattogno advertises his contribution to the Journal of Historical Review as a big feat of major importance whereas everybody knows that this...
The Holocaust deniers is becoming a huge and juicy business. The last trend about Revisionism is the growing support received from Muslim countries, notably Iran. We knew since long that Arab countries have been home to several war criminals since the end of WW2: Egypt hid for some time SS officers who trained the Egyptian army and Syria is still hiding the mass murderer Alois Brunner, Eichman’s deputy, a man probably more brutal and cynical than his masters who denounces the Holocaust as a sophistry.

The new element is the official support given by some countries. In December 2006, the Republic of Iran organized a 2-days Conference about the Holocaust under the theme “Review of the Holocaust: Global Vision”. Hundreds of participants attended the conference presided over by Dr. Manouchehr Mohammadi, Deputy Foreign Minister for Education & Research with the presence of President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

A large number of European and American Holocaust deniers felt obliged to be present to pay their lip services to the Ayatollahs. Even some ultra orthodox Jewish rabbis like Moshe Ayre Friedman from Austria (picture to the right) were present under the pretext that they oppose Zionism. Among the speakers from the West, one could notice people like the inevitable ageing Robert Faurisson who made the same speech for the 1000th time, Arnold Cohen from France, Swedish computer science teacher Jan Bernhoff from Sweden (2), Frederic Töben from the Adelaide Institute (3), David Duke, “Ph.D”, White Supremacist (see his site) and ex-leader of the KKK in the USA, now member of the MAUP University in Ukraine better known as the University of Hatred, Leonardo Clerici, chairmain of the Skriptura Institute in Belgium, Christian Lindner of Copenhagen University, Patrick McNally from the University of Chuo in Japan, A. Pungas from Greece and Bradley R. Smith from the Committee for Open Debate on the Holocaust, (CODOH). All those people manage a site whose contents is overtly revisionist or anti-semitic. The assault on truth and memory is continuing at a quick pace while the Holocaust denial is becoming a huge and juicy business.

In the end however, one can wonder whether the Revisionists who are so eager to get and find some support from the Muslim states are not being fooled and manipulated by people more clever than they are. On one hand one can effectively listen to the Iranian President declare that “Israel must be wiped off the map of the Middle East” to great applause from a lot of people and silent approbation from the Revisionists. None of them actually raised to protest against such an outrageous statement if it must be taken seriously and verbatim.

Because on another hand, Iranian TV was ironically broadcasting only two weeks after the end of the Conference on the Holocaust an interview of Kazem Jalali, spokesman for the Iranian Parliament's National Security and Foreign Policy Committee, in which he declared: “Even if we had a nuclear bomb, we would not drop it on Tel Aviv.” This interview can be watched here. So finally one can seriously think that the Revisionists are only silly little Western kids playing a dangerous game in a playing-field too big and too sophisticated for their racist, xenophobic and anti-semitic limited visions of this world.

In January 2007, 100 Iranian intellectuals, researchers, writers, scholars, journalists, living abroad, sent a letter to the New York Review of Books to denounce the holding of the Holocaust Denial Conference of December 2006. The text of their letter can be read here.

Nevertheless, the Revisionist clan (a list can be consulted here) and their Iranian supporters form a world view that creates conspiracies as a way of explaining the
NOTES:

(1) A descendant of inventor Thomas Edison who died in Switzerland in August 1985, Jean Farrel was for several years prior to her death, one of the IHR’s most generous supporters. At a meeting in March 1984, Mrs. Farrel explained to IHR Director Thomas Marcellus that she intended to leave her estate -- which included stock certificates, unset diamonds and gold coins -- to further the work of the IHR. Acting as agent for the Legion, Carto in Lausanne, Switzerland, on July 17, 1990, signed legal papers, including a “Distribution Agreement,” that specified that more than seven million dollars of the Farrel estate were to go to the Legion.

(2) Bernhoff was suspended from his post of teacher for attending the Tehran Conference. During the conference, he stated that only 300,000 Jews died from the Holocaust.

(3) In 1999, Töben was sentenced to 10 months imprisonment in Austria for publishing holocaust denial content on the Web. The Adelaide Institute is nothing but a site that purports to have the influence and the trappings of an Institute.