

NATIONAL — LOCAL

Several weeks ago there was printed in this column a section devoted to the Groveland, Fla., incident, in which it was reported that Sheriff McCall of Groveland had wantonly killed and seriously wounded two Negro prisoners whom he was escorting to court for ~~the trial of their case.~~ It was also stated in this column that the incident was a tragic miscarriage of justice. Many readers may have disregarded the incident as being simply another 'isolated' instance of southern racialism. Let it be here and now charged by this columnist that the Groveland incident was not an 'isolated' event; but rather that it was part of a planned pattern of terrorism similar to former nazi tactics in Germany, whereby minority racial and religious and progressive groups are persecuted under the banner of advancing the cause of 'white supremacy', whatever that may be.

In recent weeks an unprecedented wave of vandalism in Florida has been aimed at Jewish, Catholic, and Negro religious establishments and residences; and just recently aimed also at outspoken Negroes themselves. Harry Moore was one of these persons. As secretary of the Florida State Conference of the N. A. A. C. P., Moore was active in the campaign to indict the perpetrators of the 'Groveland Case'. On Christmas night of 1951, a bomb was planted in Moore's bedroom, and the resulting explosion killed Moore and seriously injured his wife.

Harry Moore was buried on New Year's day, but not in solitude, because hundreds of civic minded Americans from all over the country, both black and white, Jew and Gentile, were there to pay homage, and to demand that his murderers be brought to justice. What could possibly be running through the minds of Negro, Jewish, and Catholic servicemen abroad as they read and hear about incidents as are going on in GROVELAND, MIMS, and MIAMI, Florida?