



THE COMMUNITY SECURITY TRUST ANTISEMITIC INCIDENTS REPORT 2006





FRONT COVER: Antisemitic graffiti in North London, August 2006

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Hate mail sent in Manchester, February 2006

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Executive summary

- 594 antisemitic incidents were recorded by the Community Security Trust (CST) in 2006. This is the highest annual total since the CST began recording antisemitic incidents in 1984.
- The total of 594 incidents is a 31 per cent rise on the 2005 total of 455 incidents. It is 12 per cent higher than the previous record high of 532 incidents, recorded in 2004.
- 59 per cent of the 594 incidents occurred during the second half of the year. 134 antisemitic incidents took place during the 34 days of fighting in Lebanon between Israel and Hizbollah in July and August. 54 incidents during the year included specific reference to the fighting in Lebanon.
- There were 112 violent antisemitic assaults recorded in 2006, the highest ever recorded by the CST and a 37 per cent rise on the 82 violent antisemitic assaults in 2005. The 112 violent attacks included four that were classified as Extreme Violence, meaning that the attack potentially caused loss of life or Grievous Bodily Harm.
- There were a record number of incidents of Abusive Behaviour - 365, an increase of 34 per cent from the 273 incidents of Abusive Behaviour recorded in 2005. This category is an indicator of the amount of background, low-level antisemitism in society.
- Incidents of Damage & Desecration to Jewish property rose by 46 per cent, from 48 incidents in 2005 to 70 incidents in 2006.
- The months of July, August and September had the third, fourth and fifth highest monthly totals on record respectively.
- Thirteen people were convicted of offences relating to antisemitic incidents from 2005 and 2006. Other cases from 2006 are awaiting trial.
- In 227 incidents the victims were individual Jewish people going about their lives in public. In 121 of these, the victims were visibly identifiable as Jewish.
- 82 incidents targeted synagogues, including 27 involving damage to synagogue buildings. A further 50 incidents targeted congregants on their way to or from prayer.
- 59 incidents targeted Jewish schools or schoolchildren, of which 25 were against Jewish schoolchildren on their journeys to or from school.
- There were nine desecrations of Jewish cemeteries in 2006.
- 79 incidents targeted Jewish communal organisations and their events, including representative bodies, youth movements, welfare and cultural organisations.
- Physical descriptions of incident perpetrators (using the 'IC1-6' system) were provided in 205 of the 594 incidents reported to the CST. Of these, 96 were White (47 per cent), 4 East European (two per cent), 28 Black (14 per cent), 60 Asian (29 per cent), 1 Far Eastern (one per cent) and 16 Arab (8 per cent).

Introduction

The Community Security Trust

The Community Security Trust (CST) advises and represents the Jewish Community on matters of antisemitism, terrorism, policing and security. The CST received charitable status in 1994 and is recognised by Government and Police as a model of a minority community security organisation.

The CST provides security advice and training for Jewish schools, synagogues and communal organisations and gives assistance to those bodies that are affected by antisemitism. The CST also assists and supports individual members of the Jewish Community who have been affected by antisemitism and antisemitic incidents. All this work is provided at no charge.

An essential part of the CST's work involves representing the Jewish Community to police, legislative and policy-making bodies and providing people inside and outside the Jewish Community with information to combat antisemitism.

The CST has recorded antisemitic incidents in the United Kingdom since 1984.

Reporting of incidents

The CST classifies as an antisemitic incident any malicious act aimed at Jewish people, organisations or property, where there is evidence that the act has antisemitic motivation or content, or that the victim was targeted because they are (or are believed to be) Jewish. Incidents can take several forms, including physical attacks on people or property, verbal or written abuse, threats or antisemitic leaflets and posters. The CST does not include the general activities of antisemitic organisations in its statistics; nor does it include antisemitic material that is permanently hosted on internet websites.

Antisemitic incidents are reported to the CST in a number of ways, most commonly by telephone, e-mail or by post. Incidents can be reported by the victim or by someone acting on their behalf. In 2001 the CST was accorded third-party reporting status by the Police, which allows the CST to report antisemitic incidents to the Police and to act as a go-between for victims who are unable or unwilling to report to the Police directly. The CST works closely with Police services and specialist units in monitoring and investigating antisemitic incidents.

Not all antisemitic incidents will be reported to the CST and therefore the true figures will be higher than those recorded. No adjustments have been made to the figures to account for this. It is likely that this non-reporting also varies from category to category: for instance, while most antisemitic assaults are probably reported to the CST, it is likely that the vast majority of cases of verbal abuse are not. All reports of incidents are investigated thoroughly before being included in the CST's incident statistics. If there is no evidence that an incident is antisemitic then it is not included: in 2006 the CST received 306 reports of potential incidents that were rejected for this reason, and are not included in the total number of antisemitic incidents. These represent 29 per cent of the potential incidents reported to the CST and mostly involved criminal damage to Jewish property, or criminal assaults on Jewish people, where there was no evidence of antisemitism.

The CST takes the wishes of victims, both individuals and the heads of Jewish organisations or communal buildings, very seriously. In particular, the CST treats the issue of victim confidentiality as a top priority. If the victim chooses to remain anonymous, or wishes there to be no publicity about an incident, the CST will observe their wish whenever possible.

Antisemitic incidents in the UK in 2006

The CST recorded 594 antisemitic incidents in the UK in 2006. This is the highest annual total since the CST began recording antisemitic incidents in 1984, and is a 31 per cent rise from the 2005 figure of 455 incidents. It is 12 per cent higher than the previous record figure of 532 incidents, which was recorded in 2004. This rise maintains a long-term trend of rising incident levels since 1997, when there were 219 antisemitic incidents recorded by the CST. In addition, the monthly totals for July, August and September were, respectively, the third, fourth and fifth highest monthly totals on record.

The CST classifies antisemitic incidents by six distinct categories: Extreme Violence; Assault; Damage and Desecration of Property; Threats; Abusive Behaviour; Antisemitic Literature. The definitions of these categories, and examples of the incidents that fall into each one, are given below. In addition, and not included in the antisemitic incident figures, the CST collects and analyses incidents of potential reconnaissance against the Jewish Community by hostile groups and individuals and criminal activity at Jewish locations.

Extreme Violence

Incidents of Extreme Violence include any attack potentially causing loss of life or Grievous Bodily Harm (GBH). There were four such incidents in 2006, compared with two in 2005.

The four incidents of Extreme Violence in 2006 were:

- A visibly Jewish man in London was stabbed during an unprovoked attack in the street.
- Two visibly Jewish men in Manchester were attacked by a gang shouting antisemitic abuse. One of the men was struck several times over the head with a metal bar.

- Two Jewish students at a nightclub were assaulted by two Asian men shouting antisemitic abuse. One of the Jewish students was struck over the head with a bottle, leaving him semi-conscious.
- A Jewish man was walking to synagogue with his two young sons when he was attacked by a white man shouting "You fucking Jew". He was punched and kicked to the floor, suffering a broken leg.

Assault

Incidents of Assault include any physical attack against a person or people, which does not pose a threat to their life and is not GBH.

The CST recorded 108 incidents of Assault in 2006, the highest number of assaults ever recorded by the CST in a single year and the first time that the figure has risen above 100. By combining this with the number of incidents of Extreme Violence - four - we can see the full spectrum of physical attacks on Jews. This gives a total of 112 antisemitic assaults, a rise of 37 per cent from the 82 incidents of Assault and Extreme Violence recorded in 2005. Physical assaults also make up an increasing proportion of the overall number of incidents. In 2000, 2001 and 2002, incidents of Assault and Extreme Violence made up 13 per cent of the overall total. This figure has risen steadily since then and in 2006 physical attacks against Jews were 19 per cent of the overall figure of 594 incidents. This suggests that antisemitic incidents are becoming more violent as well as more numerous, a trend that is confirmed by the fact that, while the overall number of incidents has risen by 171 per cent since the low point of 219 incidents in 1997, physical attacks have increased by 387 per cent during the same period.

The majority of assaults were random, opportunistic attacks on Jewish people in

public, often those who are visibly Jewish due to their religious or traditional clothing. 16 attacks were on congregants on their way to or from synagogue, while ten were on Jewish schoolchildren. Particular targets for this kind of incident are the Strictly Orthodox communities in Salford and Bury in North Manchester and Golders Green, Hendon and Stamford Hill in North London. There were 52 incidents of Assault and Extreme Violence in Manchester in 2006, making up 46 per cent of the antisemitic physical attacks recorded by the CST nationally. This is a disproportionately high figure, given that, overall, 24 per cent of the national incident total occurred in Manchester.

Incidents in the category of Assault in 2006 included:

- A Strictly Orthodox Jewish man was at a London Underground station when an Arab man punched him in the face and tried to push him off the platform, while shouting "Get back to Stamford Hill, I want to kill you all, I want to kill all Jews and my name is Hitler."
- A visibly Jewish teenager was attacked by a gang of fifteen black youths who shouted antisemitic abuse and knocked him to the floor, breaking his collarbone.
- A visibly Jewish teenager was assaulted by four youths who pulled his hat off his head and threatened to stab him.
- An orthodox Jew was attacked by two white men dressed as football fans, immediately after England had been knocked out of the World Cup. They threw stones at him, punched him in the face and threw away his hat and yarmulke [skullcap].
- A visibly Jewish schoolboy was walking home in Glasgow when he was attacked by two separate groups of boys, who shouted "fucking Jew" at him, repeatedly kicked him and stole his yarmulke.



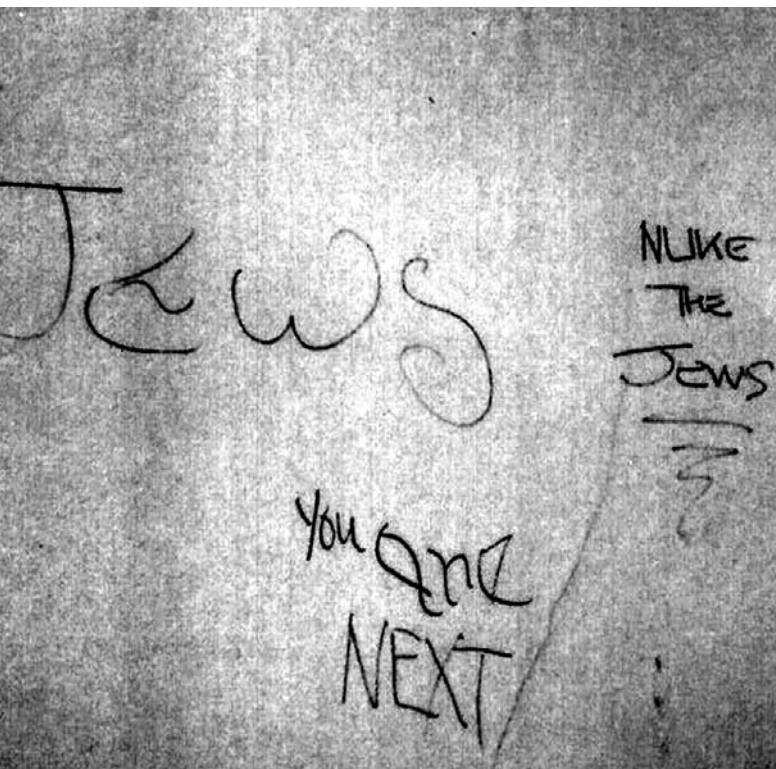
Victim of an antisemitic assault, London, August 2006

- A group of Asian men in Manchester drove past some Jewish men and spat at them while shouting antisemitic abuse. They then attacked a second group of visibly Jewish boys, giving one a broken nose and shouting "What have you got on your heads."

Damage and Desecration of Property

This category includes any physical attack directed against Jewish property, which is not life-threatening. This would include the daubing of antisemitic slogans or symbols (such as swastikas), including stickers and posters, on Jewish property, or damage caused to Jewish property, where it appears that the property has been specifically targeted because of its Jewish connection.

There were 70 incidents of Damage & Desecration in 2006, a rise of 46 per cent from the 2005 figure of 48 incidents. This is the first time for three years that the number of Damage & Desecration incidents has risen, although it is still lower than the 90 incidents of this type in 2001, which was the highest number of Damage & Desecration incidents recorded by the CST in a single year. Of the 70 incidents, 17 were at people's homes, 27 involved the desecration of synagogues and there were nine desecrations of Jewish cemeteries.



- "Kill the Jews", "Jews you are next" and "Nuke the Jews" were daubed on a synagogue in Brighton & Hove.
- Swastikas were scratched into a Holocaust memorial plaque in Nottingham.
- A pro-Israel stall in a church in Brighton & Hove was destroyed, and a poster left behind reading "Fuck off you Christian Zionists and Bastard Jews".

Threats

This category includes only clear threats, whether verbal or written.

There were 27 antisemitic threats recorded in 2006, a rise of eight per cent from the 2005 total of 25 threats. The 27 threats included two bomb threats.

Incidents in the category of Threats in 2006 included:

- A note was left in a phone box in London, which read: "Not only should bloody Jew boy Israel to (sic) be wiped off the map but America too! Fucking dirty Jew boys and yanks - get out of our lands (& Britain is one of our lands) or British Islam will kick you out."
- A man phoned a synagogue in Newcastle and said: "Following your killing of the children of the Lebanon, be on warning that your children are now targets in Newcastle". The caller, Paul Jonathan Mahon, was subsequently convicted of malicious communication and fined £150.

Abusive Behaviour

This category includes verbal and written antisemitic abuse. The verbal abuse can be face-to-face or via telephone or answerphone messages. The category also includes antisemitic emails and text messages, as well as targeted antisemitic letters (that is, those aimed at and sent to a specific individual),

Graffiti , Brighton, August 2006

Incidents of Damage & Desecration in 2006 included:

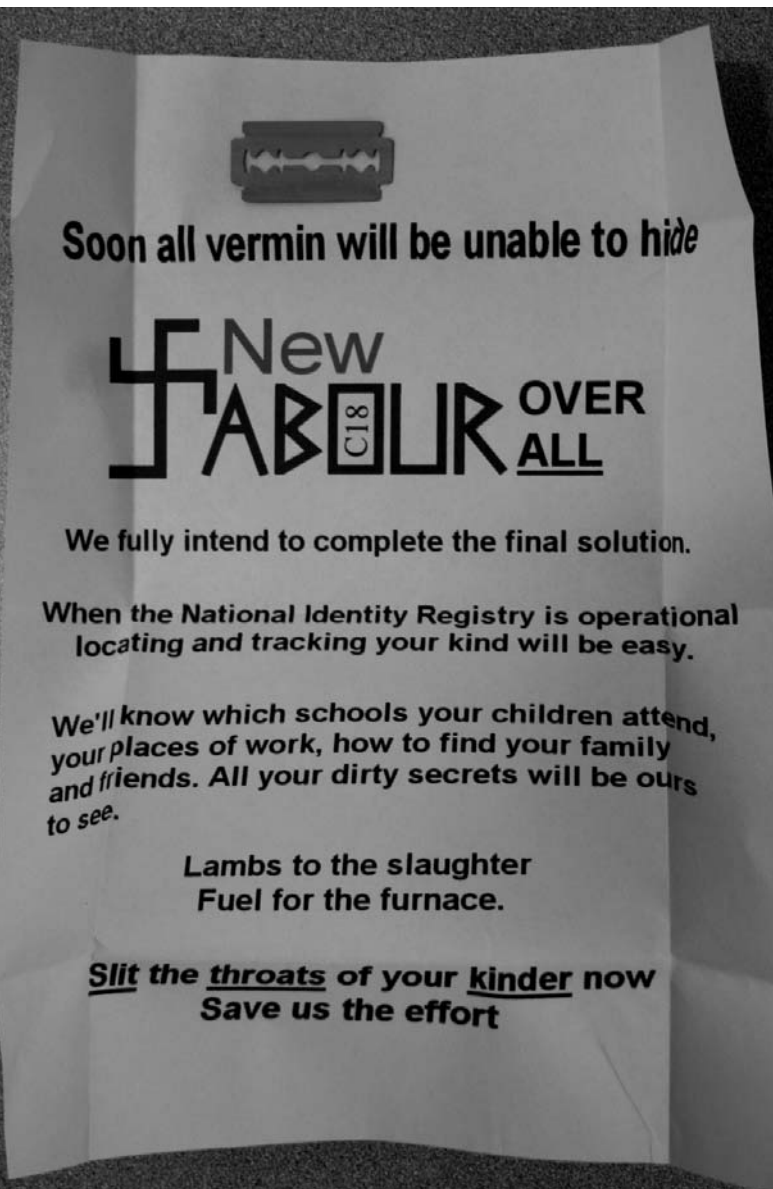
- 47 gravestones were damaged in two separate desecrations at a Jewish cemetery in Manchester.
- Swastikas, SS signs and the words "Juden Raus" were daubed on a synagogue in London.
- A poster saying "The Nazis are here again, get your tanks out of Palestine" was stuck to the door of a synagogue in Gloucestershire.
- The home and vehicle of a Jewish man in London were daubed with a swastika and the words "Kill all Jews" and "Allah".
- A Lubavitch "Happy Passover" stand at a supermarket in Manchester had posters put on it showing a suicide bomber with the words "Happy Passover from al-Qaida".

irrespective of whether or not the recipient is Jewish. This is different from a mass mailing of antisemitic leaflets or other publications, which is dealt with by the separate Literature category. Antisemitic graffiti on non-Jewish property is also included in this category.

There were 365 incidents of Abusive Behaviour reported to the CST in 2006, a rise of 34 per cent from the 273 incidents reported in 2005. This is the highest total recorded in this category since the CST began recording antisemitic incidents in 1984. This category, encompassing the full range of low-level, often spontaneous, antisemitic abuse, is taken as an indicator of the general level of antisemitism in society and usually makes up the majority of the incidents reported to the CST.

Incidents of Abusive Behaviour in 2006 included:

- A picture of Auschwitz with the words "Guantanamo Bay" and Israeli and American flags on it was sent to a synagogue in London.
- A Jewish man was walking to synagogue in London when a group of Asian men shouted "Jewish scumbag, go back to the camps" and did Nazi salutes at him.
- "The Jews are evil people" was daubed in large letters at a London Underground station.
- A Jewish charity in Manchester that supports Israel received a letter that read, "...Jews are still crying about the killing of innocent people from 65 years ago in Germany but are doing the same today in Beirut, like most people I feel sorry for the Arabs having Jews as a (sic) neighbours, Jews think they have a right to take over where ever they go and they don't they spread like a disease and breed contempt where ever they go...Without the backing of Americans they would be nothing and the reason for that is America is run by the Jews...there will never be world peace as long as there is a living Jew." The letter was signed "Born and bred English."
- A woman phoned a synagogue in Birmingham and said, "I would like to make a complaint about the way your people are treating Lebanese people. Have you forgotten the commandment 'thou shall not kill'? You Christ killers."
- A Jewish organisation in London received hate mail with a cartoon drawing of a rat wearing a yarmulke, and the text: "We have read your filthy anti-Christ, anti goy Talmud...You vermin really are the devils spawn, with your Star of David as the sign of Satan. We will tell the world what you sub-humans think of non Jews and maybe, help to hasten your extermination. You scheming lice will never get your New World Order."
- A Jewish organisation in London received an email that read, ""I never have any issues with your people but now I hate you fucking Jewish scum. If you think your murder and torture of the innocent will ever be forgotten remember me sometime in the next 40 years. I now hate you fuckers and if a Jew ever needs my help in the future I will make sure I apply your law of collective punishment and let them die. You are scum and I will make sure every young person I meet sees you for what you are, a threat to humanity."
- A Jewish Member of Parliament received an email that read, "6 million I don't think so, well not until the filthy scum are wiped out from the illegal entity called Israel."
- Antisemitic graffiti was daubed on desks in Leeds University Library on three separate occasions, including drawings of swastikas and Jews with long noses.



Hate mail containing a razor blade, Cambridge, June 2006

- A woman was buying a Jewish newspaper at a shop in Manchester when the woman behind her in the queue said, "you're a stinking Jew".
- Neo-Nazi symbols and the slogan "The Jews are our misfortune" were daubed on a war memorial and other buildings in Worthing.

Literature

This category covers the distribution of mass-produced antisemitic literature. The literature must be part of a mass mailing

rather than cases of individual hate-mail, which would come under the category of Abusive Behaviour or Threats (depending on content). The Literature category includes literature that is antisemitic in itself, irrespective of whether or not the recipient is Jewish, or cases where Jews are specifically targeted for malicious distribution, even if the material itself is not antisemitic. This would include, for instance, the mass mailing of British National Party literature to Jewish homes, even if the literature did not mention Jews. This category also includes emails that are sent to groups of recipients, but not material that is generally available on websites.

There were 20 Literature incidents in 2006, compared with 27 in 2005, a fall of 26 per cent. This was the second year in a row that the number of Literature incidents fell, after a large rise in 2004. Of the 20 incidents reported to the CST, five targeted Jewish schools. It should be noted that the statistics for the category of Literature give no indication of the extent of distribution. Mass mailings of antisemitic literature are only counted as one incident, although some antisemitic leaflets have been circulated to hundreds of Jewish and non-Jewish individuals and organisations. Thus the number of incidents reflects the number of perpetrators, rather than the number of victims.

Incidents of hate-mail - which fall into the categories of Literature, Abusive Behaviour and Threats, depending on their content - increasingly come in electronic form. In 2006 the CST recorded 66 cases of hate-mail in paper form, 65 by e-mail and two in the form of a text message. This was the first year that electronic hate-mail outnumbered those on paper.

Examples of Literature incidents in 2006 included:

- Leaflets reading "No Jew School in Heaton Park. Supporting the campaign to defend our English Park" and bearing the name and contact details of the far right British People's Party were pushed through doors in the Heaton Park area of Manchester.
- A copy of the Holocaust Denial pamphlet "The Truth at Last - Did Six Million Really Die?" was sent to a Jewish person in Hull as part of the packaging of a computer component they had bought over the internet.
- Organisations connected to Holocaust Memorial Day were sent an antisemitic email with cartoons showing Nazis murdering Jews for food. The cartoons bore writing in English and Arabic.
- Several people received a letter containing a razor blade and bearing the name of the far right group Combat 18. The letter read, "We fully intend to complete the final solution. When the National Identity Registry is operational locating and tracking your kind will be easy. We'll know which schools your children attend, your places of work, how to find your family and friends...Slit the throats of your kinder [children] now. Save us the effort".

Victims

The victims of antisemitic incidents come from the whole spectrum of the Jewish community, from Strictly Orthodox to Liberal, Reform and secular Jews; from the largest Jewish communities of London and Manchester to small, isolated communities all over the United Kingdom; and from Jewish schoolchildren to Members of Parliament.

In 2006, 82 incidents targeted synagogue property and staff, and a further 50 incidents targeted congregants on their way to or from prayers. 59 incidents targeted Jewish schools and schoolchildren, of which 25 were against Jewish schoolchildren on their journeys to

and from school. There were 18 incidents against Jewish students and academics. In 79 incidents the victims were Jewish communal organisations and their events, including representative bodies, youth movements, welfare and cultural organisations. There were 29 incidents that targeted communal leaders, politicians, journalists and other high-profile individuals. 58 incidents targeted people in their homes. In 227 incidents, the victims were ordinary Jewish people, male or female, attacked at random while going about their daily business in public. In 121 of these, the victim was visibly Jewish, usually due to their religious or traditional clothing, school uniform or items of jewellery.

Perpetrators and Motives

Classifying the motives and identities of the perpetrators of antisemitic incidents can be a difficult and imprecise activity. In cases involving physical or verbal abuse, it depends on the evidence of victims of, and witnesses to, antisemitic incidents. This is obviously an easier task in the case of, for instance, hate mail, where the content of an antisemitic letter often reveals the background and political motivation of the perpetrator. Many antisemitic incidents, though, involve public encounters where the antisemitic abuse may be generic, brief and sometimes non-verbal.

A physical description of the perpetrator was provided in 205 of the 594 incidents recorded by the CST. Of these, 96 were white; four were East European; 28 black; 60 Asian and 16 of Arab appearance. Therefore there were white perpetrators in 47 per cent - or just short of half - of incidents where a description was given, and the percentage breakdown overall is clearly not contiguous with the ethnic breakdown of the general population of the UK. Interestingly, the percentage of incidents reported to the CST that included a physical description of the perpetrator stood at 33 per cent of the overall number of incidents in 2004, 36 per cent in 2005

and 35 per cent in 2006. This suggests that the reporting of antisemitic incidents remains at a fairly constant level within the Jewish community, and therefore that variations in the number of incidents reflect actual changes in incident levels rather than just better or worse reporting to the CST. One interesting detail is that the percentage of perpetrators of antisemitic incidents who were identified as being of Asian appearance stood at 22 per cent in 2004, 18 per cent in 2005 and 29 per cent in 2006. This may reflect the fact that the trigger events for antisemitism in 2004 and 2006 were mostly related to the Middle East, whereas in 2005 there were fewer trigger events from that part of the world.

Analysing the content of incidents can also help to identify the sources of antisemitism and motivations of incident perpetrators. In 2006, 125 incidents involved the use of neo-Nazi imagery or references to the Nazi period, while 74 incidents had an obvious far right motivation and political content. 106 incidents included direct reference to Israel and the Middle East, of which 86 were overtly anti-Zionist as well as involving clear antisemitism. Of the incidents that mentioned the Middle East, 54 made specific reference to the fighting in Lebanon that took place in July and August of 2006. Other less powerful trigger events were the suspension of London mayor Ken Livingstone by the Standards Board for England, which was mentioned by the perpetrators of 11 antisemitic incidents, and the jailing of David Irving in Austria, which was mentioned in five incidents.

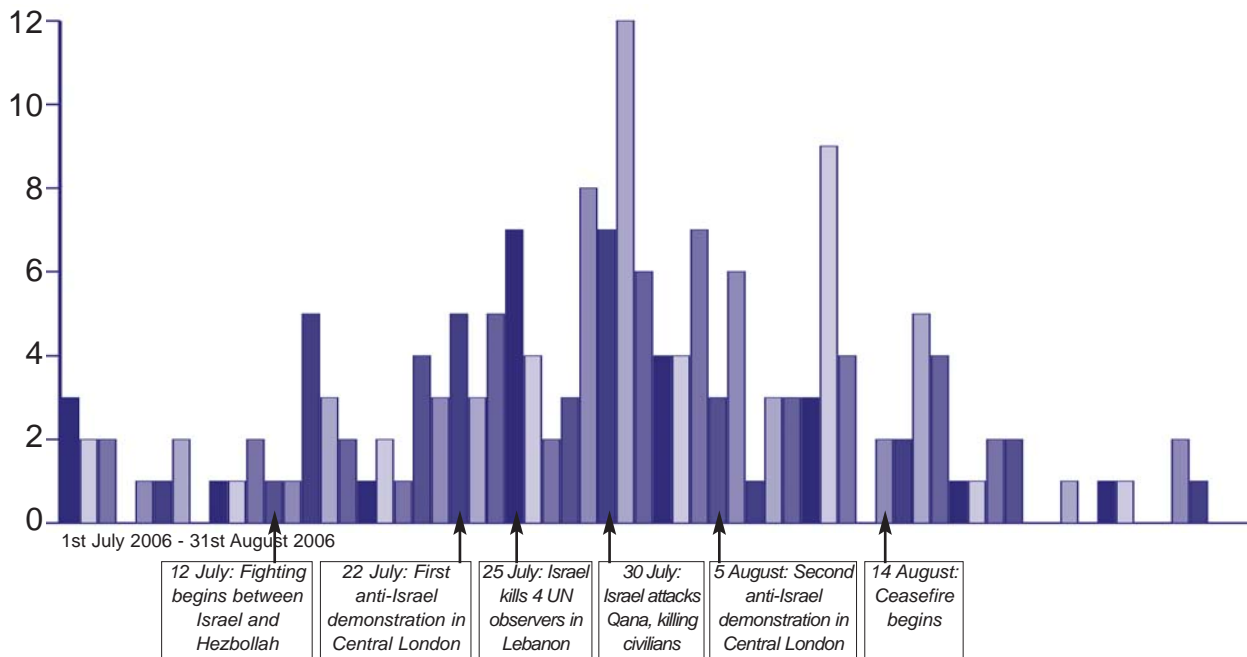
One of the changes in contemporary antisemitism is the fact that the use of far right references is no longer the preserve of neo-Nazis; nor is mention of Israel and the Middle East solely the favoured expression of Muslim or Arab perpetrators of incidents. It is more accurate to say that Israel and the Nazi period are both used by antisemites of all types as sources for material to use when abusing Jews.

War in Lebanon & antisemitism in the UK

The large rise in antisemitic incidents in the UK in 2006 is largely a consequence of the reaction to the war between Israel and Hizbollah in Lebanon that took place in July and August. During the first six months of 2006 the CST recorded 243 incidents, a reduction of ten per cent from the 270 incidents recorded during the same period in 2005. However, when war broke out in Lebanon on 12 July 2006 it was followed by a sharp rise in antisemitic incidents in Britain. This rise was sustained until the cessation of fighting in Lebanon on 14 August, and was then followed by a high number of incidents during September and October, so that in the second half of 2006 the CST recorded 351 incidents, compared to 188 during the same period in 2005. The monthly totals for July, August and September were, respectively, the third, fourth and fifth highest monthly totals on record. The close link between events in Lebanon and antisemitic activity in Britain is shown by the graph opposite, which shows the number of antisemitic incidents that were recorded by the CST on each day during July and August. Overall, during the 34 days of fighting, 134 incidents were reported to the CST. By comparison, the highest monthly total ever recorded by the CST was 105 incidents during the 31 days of October 2000. One tangential conclusion that can be drawn from the uneven distribution of incidents throughout 2006 is that the overall rise is not a result of better reporting of incidents or any improved reach of the CST, as this would have been reflected more evenly across the year.

Trigger events such as the war in Lebanon do not create antisemitic incidents out of a vacuum. They act as a spark for people whose capacity for perpetrating incidents already exists, or as an outline for their expressions of antisemitism, rather than as the original cause of that prejudice. Different trigger events influence different perpetrators,

Daily UK Antisemitic Incidents July - August 2006



so the person who is moved to abuse Jewish people because of events in Lebanon might be a different person from the one who is motivated to threaten their local synagogue because of the jailing of David Irving. The antisemitism in each, though, already exists, however latent, and is then energised by external events.

The type of antisemitic incident that took place during the period of the Lebanon war was significantly different from during the rest of the year. Of the 134 incidents reported during the war, 28 were against individual Jewish people in public places, 29 were against synagogues, 42 were against Jewish organisations and 12 targeted prominent public figures such as Members of Parliament, journalists or communal leaders. These proportions are in reverse to the overall picture for 2006, in which incidents against individual Jews in public far outnumbered those against synagogues or Jewish organisations. Remarkably, of the 79 incidents that targeted Jewish organisations during the year, over half, 42, took place during the 34 days of the Lebanon war. This suggests that those people motivated to express antisemitism during the fighting in

Lebanon chose to do so against the symbols of the Jewish community, be that their local synagogue or a national Jewish body, rather than going out on the streets to seek out Jewish people for attack. The ease of writing an email or picking up the phone and expressing spontaneous anger against an invisible target appears to play a significant role in this phenomenon. Of a total of 65 incidents of antisemitic abuse via email in 2006, 30 incidents, or 46 per cent, took place during the Lebanon war; 29 out of the year total of 66 incidents of hate-mail in paper form, or 44 per cent, also happened during the Lebanon war; as did 15 out of 36 incidents by telephone, or 42 per cent. This suggests that the incidents that took place during the Lebanon war were more likely to be deliberate, targeted and purposeful, whereas during the rest of the year incidents were more commonly spontaneous behaviour during random public interactions.

Antisemitism and criticism of Israel

The role that hatred of Israel plays in contemporary expressions of antisemitism often leads to discussion of the relationship between criticism of Israel and antisemitism, and when the former becomes the latter. Of course,

criticism of Israel is perfectly legitimate and many people who wish to express their unhappiness with events in the Middle East do so in a way that is not antisemitic. As explained in the introduction to this report, the CST rejects many reports of potential incidents because they are not considered to be antisemitic. By contrast, the antisemitic nature or content of the incidents recorded by the CST is usually blatant, even when they are predicated on anti-Israel feeling. Messages that start out as attacks on alleged Israeli policy or behaviour often conclude with abuse of, or threats to, all Jews, the wish that all Jews were dead, claims of Jewish conspiracy or the accusation that Jews killed Christ. The antisemitism is compounded if the incident is targeted at a Jewish person or institution - such as a synagogue - that is then held responsible for the alleged actions of the Israeli government. This charge of collective responsibility and collective guilt, whereby every Jew in the world is supposedly answerable for the behaviour of every other Jew, is one of the fundamental building blocks of all racism. Some examples of incidents where criticism of Israel led to general expressions of hatred against all Jews are given here:

- A woman phoned a synagogue in Newcastle and said, "You are murdering babies on the beaches in Gaza, you are worse than the Nazis, all Jews should burn in hell".
- An organisation in London closely associated with Israel received an email that read, "I am not antisemitic in anyway, I am a theatre producer and some of my best friends and work associates are Jews and I have a lot of time for your country. But the way, that those bastards in your government in Tel Aviv are working at the present time makes me think that it would have been better if the holocaust had succeeded".
- A Jewish man was walking down the road when two Asian men saw his Star of David necklace and chased him, screaming "you represent Israel you fucking Jew, we will kill you and chop your heads off, death to all Jews."

Geographical locations

As in previous years, the majority of incidents in 2006 took place in the large Jewish communities of London and Manchester. Of the 594 incidents recorded by the CST, 300 were in London, a rise of 41 per cent from the 213 incidents reported in London in 2005; but less than the 311 incidents reported in London in 2004. Within London, the majority of incidents took place in the boroughs of Barnet and Redbridge, where the Jewish community is concentrated in relatively large numbers, and also Camden and Westminster, due to the presence there of prominent Jewish organisations, synagogues and public figures.

Geographical Breakdown of Antisemitic Incidents in the UK, 2006

England

Greater London	300
Greater Manchester	144
Leeds	26
Liverpool	16
Glasgow	14
Brighton & Hove	7
Newcastle-upon-Tyne	6
Birmingham	4

In addition to cities:

South East	35
Midlands	12
North West	11
South West	6
North East	3
Wales	3
Scotland	2
Northern Ireland	1
Internet	2
Unknown	2

There were 144 incidents recorded by the CST in Manchester in 2006, a rise of 9 per cent from the 132 incidents recorded there in 2005. The 144 incidents were recorded exclusively in the boroughs of Salford, Bury, Manchester and Trafford. These 144 incidents constitute 24 per cent of the national total of 594 incidents, despite the fact that the Jewish community in Manchester makes up approximately ten per cent of the UK Jewish population.

The table opposite shows the full distribution of the 594 incidents reported nationally.

Arrests, prosecutions and incident response

The CST works in partnership with Police Services throughout the UK in the reporting, analysis and investigation of antisemitic incidents. The investigation of incidents can be very difficult, due to the fleeting nature of many cases. However, this should not deter victims from reporting incidents to the police, as arrests were made in over twenty cases during 2006, and charges brought for at least 11 incidents. Other cases, from incidents in previous years, also came to court during 2006. Most of the cases arising during 2006 were awaiting trial at the time of writing, but convictions were obtained in the following cases:

- Paul Jonathan Mahon was convicted of malicious communication and fined £150 for phoning a synagogue in Newcastle and saying: "Following your killing of the children of the Lebanon, be on warning that your children are now targets in Newcastle".
- Two teenage girls in London were convicted of robbery for attacking a 13-year-old Jewish girl on a bus in August 2006. They had asked her if she was Jewish or English before robbing her and stamping on her head, leaving her unconscious.
- A man was given a 12-month community service order for driving past a Jewish school in London, shouting "Yiddos, Yiddos"

and throwing objects at people stood outside the school in September 2006.

- A man was fined £225 for religiously aggravated public disorder for verbally abusing three Jewish men, including calling them "fucking Jews", in Manchester in May 2006.
- Mark Bulman, a British National Party supporter, was jailed for five years for daubing antisemitic and racist graffiti on a mosque in Swindon in August 2006, and trying to firebomb the building. Bulman wrote "Pakistanis and Jews go back to Auschwitz" on the wall of the mosque.
- Bamidele Omisore-Arayemi was convicted of racial harassment for racially abusing Jewish staff and customers in a restaurant in London in January 2005.
- Caroline Smith and her son Michael Smith received suspended jail sentences for assaulting a Jewish couple in Manchester in September 2005.
- William Galbraith was convicted of a racially aggravated offence for racially abusing and throwing stones at a Jewish family on a beach in Norfolk in August 2005.
- An 18-year old man received a formal caution for assault, and two teenage boys received reprimands for a public order offence, after a Jewish youth group travelling through Tadley, Hampshire, were attacked in August 2006 by a local gang who threw stones, glasses and bottles at them while shouting antisemitic abuse and doing Hitler salutes.

As well as recording and analysing antisemitic incidents, the CST also offers support and advice to victims, while helping Police and other authorities to investigate incidents. The CST is often the first point of contact for victims of antisemitic incidents,

who may be traumatised by their experience and worried about further attacks. With this in mind, the CST provides immediate reassurance, support and security advice to victims of all types. The CST also works closely with other Jewish organisations that can provide professional counselling to victims, as a complement to the CST's security advice.

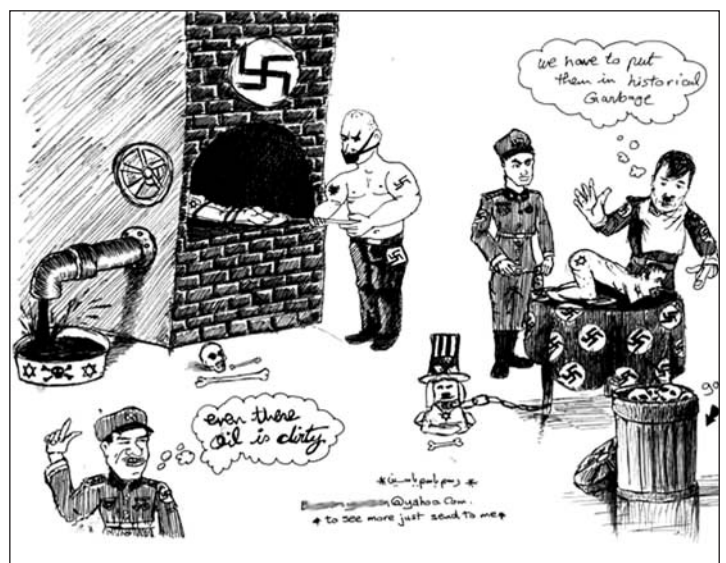
Information Collection & Suspicious Behaviour

One of the most important jobs the CST does is to record and analyse incidents of Information Collection and Suspicious Behaviour around Jewish locations. It is well known that terrorist groups often collect information about their targets before launching an attack. Preventing the gathering of this kind of information is an integral part of the CST's work in protecting the community from the danger of terrorism. Jewish communities have long been the target of terrorists of different and varied political and religious motivations. Between 1968 and 2003 there were 413 terrorist attacks, attempted attacks and foiled terrorist plots against Jewish communities and Israeli targets around the world. Most recently, Jewish communities in Turkey, Morocco and Tunisia have all been attacked by al-Qaeda and its supporters, while in 2005

four Islamist terrorists were imprisoned in Germany for plotting to attack Jewish targets in Berlin and Düsseldorf.

Cases of Information Collection and Suspicious Behaviour are not included in the antisemitic incident statistics, as the motivation for many of them is not possible to determine. The vague and uncertain nature of many of these incidents means that they are easier to analyse if the two categories are combined, rather than treated separately. Taken together, there were 168 such incidents reported to the CST in 2006, almost identical to the 2005 total of 167 incidents.

Of the 168 incidents of Information Collection and Suspicious Behaviour reported to the CST, 38 involved the photography or videoing of Jewish buildings, while in 16 cases suspicious people tried to gain entry to Jewish premises. Although most of the 168 incidents will almost certainly have innocent explanations, neither the CST nor the Police underestimate the threat posed to Jewish communities by al-Qaeda and other terrorist organisations. Preventing this kind of information gathering and surveillance of community buildings or other potential terrorist targets is an important part of reducing the possibility of future terrorist attacks.



Hate mail, London, February 2006

Annual Incidents Figures by Category 1997-2006

Category	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
1. Extreme Violence	4	0	0	2	1	5	0	4	2	4
2. Assault	19	17	33	51	40	42	54	79	80	108
3. Damage & Desecration	58	31	25	73	90	55	72	53	48	70
4. Threats	19	16	31	39	37	18	22	93	25	27
5. Abusive Behaviour	86	136	127	196	122	216	211	272	273	365
6. Literature	33	36	54	44	20	14	16	31	27	20
TOTAL	219	236	270	405	310	350	375	532	455	594

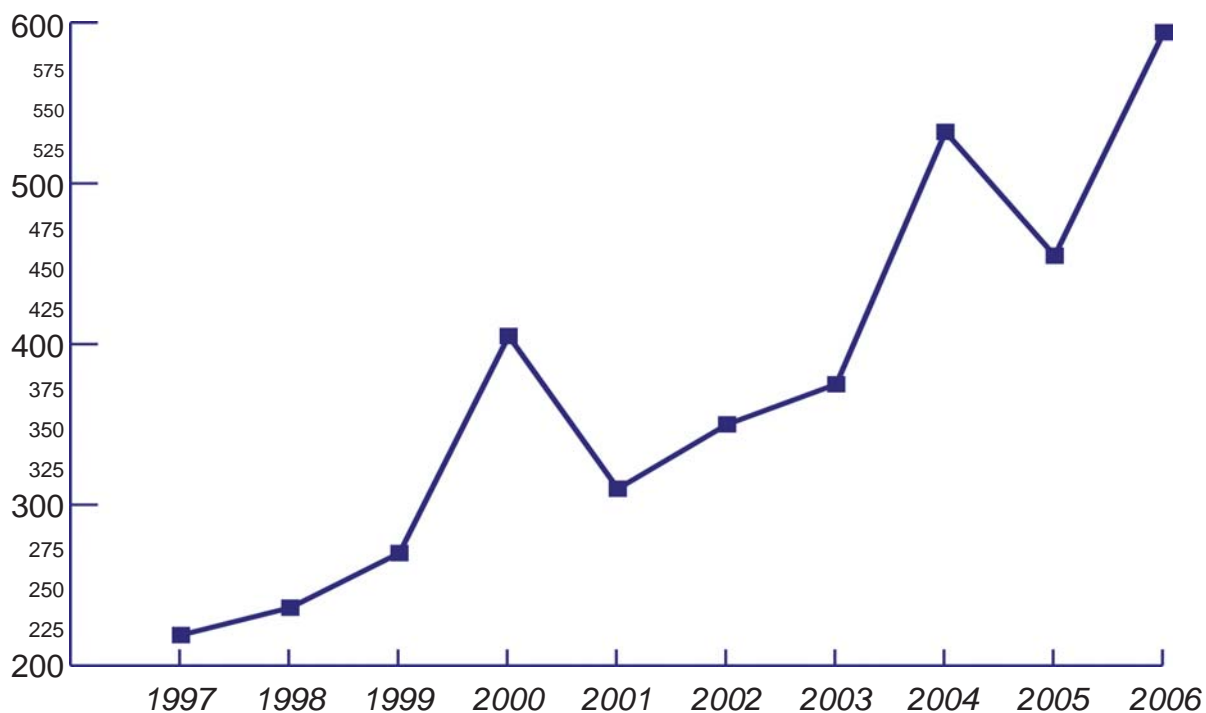
Annual Incidents Figures by Month 2006

Category	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Totals
1. Extreme Violence	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	4
2. Assault	6	7	9	10	15	8	11	4	10	3	8	7	108
3. Damage & Desecration	4	6	6	5	4	3	6	14	9	6	7	0	70
4. Threats	1	3	0	1	2	1	9	3	4	2	0	1	27
5. Abusive Behaviour	22	36	22	17	22	17	68	54	42	36	18	11	365
6. Literature	0	4	3	0	0	7	0	3	1	0	2	0	20
TOTAL	33	56	40	33	44	37	94	78	66	59	35	19	594




Graffiti , London, November 2006

Annual Incidents Figures since 1997



Monthly Incidents Figures January 1997 - December 2006

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
January	7	14	26	37	16	15	23	20	60	33
February	24	16	19	19	14	11	24	28	45	56
March	25	20	18	25	20	26	48	100	39	40
April	10	23	34	35	33	47	29	62	49	33
May	20	22	29	29	32	47	27	39	41	44
June	20	38	21	24	30	26	34	64	37	37
July	20	18	20	29	28	31	30	48	41	94
August	15	18	18	16	20	15	20	29	32	78
September	28	14	25	23	50	47	22	60	27	66
October	19	20	23	105	48	45	57	29	44	59
November	13	11	24	42	14	28	36	29	22	35
December	18	22	13	21	5	12	25	24	18	19
TOTAL	219	236	270	405	310	350	375	532	455	594



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