Gang Intelligence
Tattoo Recognition
Instructor:
Deputy Leonel Barrera

- 4 years with the Lubbock County Detention Center
- 6 months as Detention Clerk
- 2 years Detention/Classification Officer
- 6 months as the B-Shift Team leader for the Gang Intelligence Unit
- Currently the Gang Intelligence Coordinator with the Lubbock County Detention Center.
- Members of Texas Gang Investigators Association
- Member of the Texas Violent Gang Task Force
Objectives

- The Student will be able to identify common tattoos of each of the listed Security Threat Groups and Street Gangs.

- The Student will know brief history and current trends of each of the listed Security Threat Groups and Street Gangs.
While shields like this are not prevalent anymore with younger ABT members, many who have been in the gang for years still have and show off these patches.
Many members of ABT will have a toe tag number, but others will not have their patch or toe tag number tattooed on them. This helps them deny membership and claim to be a “lone Aryan”, Peckerwood or a member of the “wood Pile.”
A saying used by ABT, “till the toe tag ties,” meaning till death.

“ACE” which is found in between the roman numeral two. The ACE stands for “A for Aryan.”

Roman numeral two is for the letter “B for Brotherhood.”

112% = 100% + 1-2 = one hundred percent Aryan Brotherhood

1=A=Aryan
2=B=Brotherhood
Roman numeral I (one) = A = Aryan

Roman numeral II (two) = B = Brotherhood

A = Aryan
B = Brotherhood

Aryan Brotherhood of Texas Patch

A = Aryan
B = Brotherhood

Aryan Brotherhood of Texas shield
Inmate throwing up his Ace (1=A) Deuce (2=B)

Head tattoos are becoming very common with all groups. The member can shave their head and “represent” when necessary but grow their hair out and hide if they need to.
“We must secure the existence of our people and a future for White Children.”

OR

“Because the beauty of the White Aryan woman must not perish from the earth.”

14 usually stands for the two above phrases. Each phrase has 14 words in it. The 88 signifies HH with h being the 8th letter of the alphabet. Most white supremacist groups use this to signify “Heil Hitler.”
Common Misconceptions about Aryan Brotherhood of Texas

- Aryan Brotherhood of California, Aryan Brotherhood of Texas and Aryan Brotherhood of Arizona are NOT the same thing. Do not associate these groups with each other.
- While the Aryan Brotherhood of California (the original group) and the ABT maintain seemingly good ties with each, the Aryan Brotherhood of Arizona and the ABT do not get along and should never be thought of as the same group.
- While the ABT is an Aryan gang, their main role is not as a racist organization, rather it is to further the white race. The ABT is known to have peace agreements with minority gangs such as the Mexican Mafia, or EME.
The Aryan Circle, founded in 1985, was an organized white supremacy group which was allegedly created within the Texas Department of Corrections prisons. This was a splinter group of the Texas Aryan Brotherhood, formed within the Correctional System to protect white prisoners.

The AC is often confused with the AB, the older, wider spread and vastly more infamous rival. Although the two gangs have similar names, there are substantial differences in their history, structure and ideology.
Notice in both tattoos the patch is in the shape of a diamond. This could be another identifier to use if you are trying to identify an Aryan Circle member. Also, in letters, at times, Aryan Circle members place their stamps in a diamond instead of putting the stamp correctly.

Notice also the “AC” is in a circle in the middle of the patch.
Alone this tattoo, you might have a good assumption the individual is a member of an Aryan Gang. However, there is not enough here to identify him to one particular group.

Now this picture is of the same individual and is good strong identifier for the gang Aryan Circle.

This symbol is used by Aryan Circle members. You can see the “Aryan Bolts” in a circle. This symbol is usually located on the left side of the abdomen near or just below the chest.
The diamond is commonly used by the Aryan Circle. In the diamond you also see the SS bolts in a circle, which is also used to help identify Aryan Circle members. Beside the circle in the diamond you see one line for A and three lines for C. AC for Aryan Circle.

The number 13 or 1 and 3 are commonly used by Aryan Circle. 1 for A and 3 for C. 13 is also used by other gangs so make sure you are correctly documenting your information.

A for Aryan

C for Circle
Aryan Circle Commonly uses diamonds in their tattoo designs. On this Aryan Circle patch we see a lot of identifiers used by this group.

Another example of Aryan Circle using a diamond design in their tattoos.
W.O.O.D.
Bloods
Piru is a set of the Bloods.
Tree Top is a set of Bloods

Piru a set of Bloods.
Blood Gang with a pit bull dog

Hand sign that is used. Hand sign stands for Blood and under it has for life.

Hand sign that stands for Crip Killer or Crip killing all day.
3 for C
11 for K
CK for Crip Killer

16 for P
4 for D
12 for L

PDL stands for Pasadena Denver Lane which is another Bloods set.
Hand sign signifying B for Bloods.

The photo below represents a “dog paw” and is typically made using the heated barrel of a handgun. The dog paws are very common on Bloods members and are often burned into the right shoulder or upper arm area.
Crips
R = Rolling
S = Sixty
C = Crip

Rolling 60’s is a set of Crips

On this tattoo you see a sucker with the symbol for no. Above the symbol is the work “Succa”, usually spelt “Sucka”, but to not show disrespect to the Crips. The “CK” is commonly used by Bloods for Crip Killer, so the Crips use “CC”

On this tattoo the B on “Boy” has an X in the B to show disrespect to the Bloods.
“60” is a common identifier used by the Rolling 60’s Crip. On the bottom picture in the tattoo you also see the female using a hand sign for “BK” for Blood Killer.
B(2) = Blood
K(11) = Killer

“60” common identifier for Rolling 60’s Crip

“Roll’n Sixty 60” commonly used by Rolling 60’s Crip

“Cuzz” a term commonly used by Crips
The 52 Hoovers are a set of Crips.
Mexican Mafia (Mexikanemi or La Eme or Merecidos)
Mexican Mafia Patch
Commonly used term for Mexican Mafia “Mexikanemi”

You will usually see Mexican spelt with a “K instead of C” to differentiate from the California Mexican Mafia, but not always

Interlaced and complete “M’s” around the sombrero brim for Mexican Mafia
The eagle with the serpent is a commonly used identifier, along with the connected M’s on the brim of the sombrero

M and M tattoo for Mexican Mafia and the number 13 for the 13th letter M.
EME is commonly used by the Mexican Mafia. EME translates to the letter M.

On this picture you see the “Mexicano” tattoo on the back. Also, in the brim of the sombrero you have continuous “M’s” and under the sombrero as well.
The double headed serpent is an identifier used to identify Mexican Mafia members. Aztlan is a common identifier used to identify Mexican Mafia members.
On both tattoos it has the word “Mexikano” on them. Usually the Texas Mexican Mafia will use this spelling, but sometimes spell it “Mexicano”

If spelt Mexikano that is a solid identifier the person is a Mexican Mafia member

If spelt Mexicano then look for more identifiers
Texas Syndicate
(Cuernos)
Always look for the hidden identifiers. In the bottom left picture it is plainly put TS for Texas Syndicate or also referred to as Cuerno’s.

Don’t always look for the easy identifier look at it deeper and find the clues or identifiers.
Horns that are complete and intact are common identifiers used to identify TS members.

However, look for other identifiers because not everyone with intact horns are TS members.

If you see the horn’s cracked or broken they are not TS members.

Commonly used figures are the Houston Texan logo or the Texas Longhorns logo. They will also put horns on anything else.
Tejano a term commonly used by Texas Syndicate members. Again, not a stand alone tattoo, but can be used as an identifier to help build a case to prove an individual is a TS member.