

REVIEW

CALIFORNIA CONTENT
STANDARD 11.5.2*Attacks on Civil Liberties*

Specific Objective: Analyze the international and domestic events, interests, and philosophies that prompted attacks on civil liberties, including the Palmer Raids, Marcus Garvey's "back-to-Africa" movement, the Ku Klux Klan, and immigration quotas. Analyze the responses of organizations such as the American Civil Liberties Union, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and the Anti-Defamation League to those attacks.

Read the summary to answer the questions on the next page.

Civil Rights Under Attack

- **Labor unions**—During World War I, workers rights were suppressed. In the 1920s, steelworkers, police, and others went on strike for better pay and working conditions. Owners blamed strikes on "Reds," or communists, and used force to stop them. Many strikers were killed or injured.
- **Palmer raids**—Attorney General Palmer and others feared there was a conspiracy to overthrow the U.S. government. He ordered raids in which thousands of suspected communists, socialists, and anarchists were arrested. Many opposed the government but hadn't violated any laws. Many were deported without trial.
- **Immigration quotas**—There was a huge surge in immigration right after World War I. Nativist fears of job competition along with racist attitudes led to a quota system. Laws limited immigration from Europe and prohibited it from Japan.
- **Ku Klux Klan**—Originally formed during Reconstruction, the Ku Klux Klan was organized again in the wake of the Red Scare and anti-immigrant feelings. It attacked African Americans, Jews, immigrants, and Catholics.

Fighting for Civil Rights

- **ACLU**—The American Civil Liberties Union was founded in 1920 to defend constitutional rights. It fought against the Palmer raids and supplied lawyers in support of Sacco and Vanzetti. It supported the rights of labor unions and citizens who were critical of the government.
- **NAACP**—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was founded in 1910 to protest racial violence. It worked for the passage of anti-lynching laws.
- **Marcus Garvey**—A native of Jamaica, Garvey took a more radical approach than the NAACP, focused on black pride. He believed in a separate society for African Americans and encouraged his thousands of followers to return to Africa.
- **Anti-Defamation League**—This Jewish group began work in 1913 against religious and racial discrimination. Russian Jewish immigrants were often linked with communism and labor unrest. The league worked against the Ku Klux Klan in the 1920s and fought discrimination in employment and housing.