

# Hate crimes follow opening of museum

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A week of appeals for tolerance in Washington didn't stop hate crimes based on politics and race, police said yesterday.

Jewish militants beat up a Palestinian supporter who protested the dedication of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, and two members of the Maryland Ku Klux Klan attacked a black man for associating with a white woman.

Both attacks came Thursday, the day about 9,000 people gathered to dedicate a museum for the 6 million Jews and millions of other civilians killed by the Nazis in World War II.

David R. Willcox, founder of American Friends of Palestine, was returning from the dedication yesterday when he was assaulted by three men he said are members of the militant Jewish Defense Organization.

The College Park man said in an interview he believes that the attackers picked him because he protested the memorial. Mr. Willcox said he wants the memorial dedicated to "victims of all holocausts, not just Jews."

The men, wearing black uniforms and skullcaps with the Jewish Star

of David, beat him with lead pipes as he waited with his fiancee to cross a street, Mr. Willcox said.

Michael Schneider, who called himself a coordinator for the Jewish Defense Organization, said members of the group assaulted Mr. Willcox and four or five others who protested the museum.

Mr. Willcox was treated for head injuries at George Washington University Hospital and released.

Meanwhile, Maryland State Police are calling an attack on a black man Thursday a hate crime.

State police have charged Chester J. Doles and Raymond E. Pierson with reckless endangerment, assault and battery. Mr. Doles also is charged with destruction of property.

State police said Mr. Doles and Mr. Pierson pulled alongside a pickup at the intersection of U.S. 40 and Elkton Road in Elkton. Charles G. Peters, 30, of North East, Md., and a white, teen-age girl were passengers in the truck. Another black man was driving.

Police said Mr. Doles and Mr. Pierson dragged Mr. Peters from the truck. Mr. Doles punched and kicked him, and Mr. Pierson hit him in the head with a baseball bat, police said.