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May 17, 1955

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

RECORDED - 72

Honorable Carl Hayden
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

My dear Senators:

Your letter dated May 11, 1955, has been received. Your courtesy and interest in referring this matter to my attention are indeed appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance in connection with the request directed to you by a member of the Arizona State Legislature, I can only inform him that information contained in the files of this Bureau is maintained as confidential in accordance with a Departmental regulation. I am sure he will understand my position as well as the necessity for this regulation, and no inference will be drawn because of my inability to be of assistance that we do or do not have in our files the information he has requested.

As of possible assistance to you and for your confidential information only, no investigation has been conducted by this Bureau concerning the Church of Scientology.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

COMM - FBI
MAY 18 1955
MAILED 28

cc - Phoenix

SAC, PHOENIX:

Senator Hayden's letter states:

I have received a request from a member of the Arizona State Legislature for information about the background of the organization known as the Church of Scientology.

(See page 2)

- Tolson
- Boardman
- Nichols
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Parsons
- Rosen
- Tracy
- W.C. Sullivan
- Tele. Room
- Holloman

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MAY 31 1955

JUN 20 1968
MAY 25 1955

RECEIVED PHOENIX
MAY 18 12 45 PM '55

RECEIVED PHOENIX
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of Scientology, whose local address is listed as East Roosevelt Street, Phoenix, Arizona.

"I am further informed that an organization with the above name was said to be listed in the local Phoenix, Arizona, newspaper as being connected with communism. I would be obliged to have whatever information your office may have about this organization and its activities."

Bufiles reflect that the Church of Scientology is mentioned in your letter dated 3-28-55 entitled [REDACTED]

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Afore-mentioned Phoenix letter reports that the Church of Scientology has a business office located at 616 North Third Street, Phoenix, and a meeting place at 403 East Roosevelt Road, Phoenix. Furthermore, the Hubbard Association of Scientologists, International, whose headquarters are at 616 North Third Street, has a school located at 403 East Roosevelt Road. Literature of the Church of Scientology claims that it is completely independent of the Hubbard Association of Scientologists. An official of the latter organization stated that the organization has for its purpose the instilling of self-confidence and removal of mental problems in individuals. Another official reported that the foundation is anti-Communist and has been criticized in Communist publications.

The files reflect that Senator Carl Hayden, Chairman of Senate Appropriations Committee, regards the Bureau highly. In April, 1955, he asked [REDACTED] to remind the Director of the assistance that Senator Hayden rendered in securing funds to start the Identification Division. Although review of Bufiles failed to substantiate this information, a cordial letter in that connection was sent to Senator Hayden.

(94-4-1227-24)

Salutation per Reading Room. It is noted that correspondence does not pertain to appropriations committee business. An original and copy of letter being sent to Senator Hayden in view of the note on his letter that original and copy be sent.