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September 19, 1977

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Honorable Gary Hart
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Hart:

Your communication of September 6th addressed to Special Agent Daly enclosing a letter from [redacted] has been received.

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Pursuant to Federal search warrants authorized by the appropriate United States Attorneys and issued by United States Magistrates, the FBI searched properties of the Church of Scientology in Washington, D. C., and the Los Angeles area in July, 1977. The search warrants were issued for the purpose of recovering stolen Government property and to obtain evidence of other violations of Federal law. This Department's investigation of alleged violations of criminal statutes is continuing.

On July 27, 1977, Chief United States District Judge William B. Bryant, United States District Court, Washington, D. C., ruled that the search warrant in question amounted to a "general warrant," and thus, violated the guarantee of the Fourth Amendment of the United States Constitution against unreasonable searches and seizures.

On August 22, 1977, the Solicitor General of the United States authorized the United States Attorney, Washington, D. C., to enter an appeal in the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. This appeal will be based in part on the recent decision of the United States Supreme Court in Andresen vs Maryland 427 U.S. 453.

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FBI

- Assoc. Dir. _____
- Dep. AD Adm. _____
- Dep. AD Inv. _____
- Aust. Dir. _____
- Adm. Serv. _____
- Crim. Inv. _____
- Fin. & Pers. _____
- Ident. _____
- Intell. _____
- Laboratory _____
- Legal Coun. _____
- Plan. & Insp. _____
- Rec. Mgnt. _____
- Spec. Inv. _____
- Tech. Servs. _____
- Training _____
- Public Affs. Off. _____
- Telephone Rm. _____
- Director's Sec'y _____

[redacted] (5)

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LETTER CONTINUED AND NOTE ON PAGE TWO

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Honorable Gary Hart

I am certain you appreciate that further comment on this matter would be inappropriate in view of our continuing investigation and the pendency of the search and seizure issue in the United States Court of Appeals.

As you requested, your enclosure is being returned.

Sincerely yours,

C M Kelley


Clarence M. Kelley
Director

Enclosure

- 1 - Denver - Enclosures (2)
- 1 - Office of Congressional Affairs - Enclosures (2)
- 1 - General Government and Crimes Unit - Enclosures (2)
- ① - 47-56689 (SITOL)

NOTE: Bufiles contain no identifiable information regarding

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APPROVED: 	Adm. Serv. _____	Legal Coun. _____
Director _____	Crim. Inv. _____	Plan. & Insp. _____
Asso. Dir. _____	Fin. & Pers. _____	Rec. Mgnt. _____
Dep. AD Adm. <i>MCB</i>	Ident. _____	Spec. Inv. _____
Dep. AD Inv. _____	Intell. _____	Tech. Servs. _____
	Laboratory _____	Training _____
		Public Affs. Off. _____

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