

EX 101

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by letter 9-5-75
Re: FOIA Request August 21, 1968

Mr. Mitchell Rogovin
Assistant Attorney General
Director, FBI

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Kane Coeck
- 1 - C.F. Brown

"THE FOUNDING CHURCH OF SCIENTOLOGY v. UNITED STATES"

Reference is made to the letter from the Deputy Attorney General dated August 15, 1966, reference 154-226-61, captioned "The Founding Church of Scientology v. United States," requesting that any information be made available to the Tax Division.

The files of this Bureau contain considerable information concerning the above-captioned organization and its affiliates, as well as Lafayette Ron Hubbard, the founder of the organization. This Bureau, however, has not conducted any investigation concerning either Hubbard or the organization headed by him.

L. Ron Hubbard was the founder and president of the Hubbard Dianetic Research Foundation, Incorporated, which was incorporated in New Jersey during April, 1950. The December 1950, issue of "Look" magazine contained an article entitled "Dianetics - Science or Hoax?" which related that L. Ron Hubbard was an obscure writer of pseudo-scientific pulp fiction prior to the publishing of his book entitled "Dianetics." Hubbard's book asserts that "the creation of dianetics is a milestone for man, comparable to his discovery of fire and superior to his inventions of the wheel and the arch ... the intelligent layman can successfully and invariably treat all psychosomatic ills and inorganic aberrations," according to Hubbard. "These psychosomatic ills, uniformly cured by dianetic therapy, include such varied maladies as eye trouble, bursitis, ulcers, some heart difficulties, migraine headaches and the common cold." According to the article, Hubbard's book has "outraged scores of psychiatrists, biochemists, psychologists, physicians and just-plain-ordinary scientists, who look upon the astounding claims and the growing commercial success of this strange new phenomenon with awe, fear and a deep disgust ... Hubbard's greatest attraction to the troubled is that his ersatz psychiatry is available to all. It's cheap. It's accessible. It's a public festival to be played at clubs and parties."

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See NOTE, page 4.

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Mr. Mitchell Bogovin

During March, 1951, the Board of Medical Examiners, State of New Jersey, had a case against the Hubbard Dianetic Research Foundation (HDEF) scheduled for trial on the grounds that the organization was conducting a school, teaching a branch of medicine and surgery, without a license.

In 1951 the HDEF established national headquarters at Wichita, Kansas, and sponsored the Allied Scientists of the World, which organization had as its avowed purpose "to construct and stock a library ... in an atomic proof area where the culture and technology of the United States could be stored in a state of use by science and preserve it in case of attack."

The April 24, 1951, issue of the "Times Herald," Washington, D. C., revealed that Hubbard's wife charged in a divorce suit that "competent medical advisors recommended that Hubbard be committed to a private sanitarium for psychiatric observation and treatment of a mental ailment known as paranoid schizophrenia."

Allegedly, during 1952, Hubbard formed the Hubbard Association of Scientologists, an Arizona corporation, and reverted "dianetics" back to its original name, "scientology." Thereafter, offices were opened in New Jersey; London, England; and Australia.

During the early part of 1956, HDEF, Silver Spring, Maryland, was circulating a pamphlet entitled "Brain-Washing, A Synthesis of the Russian Textbook on Psychopolitics." According to the book, psychopolitics is the "art and science of asserting and maintaining dominion over the thoughts and loyalties of individuals, officers, bureaus, and masses, and the effecting of the conquest of enemy nations through mental health."

In the past Hubbard has corresponded with this Bureau and Department of Justice on several occasions for various reasons, including complaints about his wife and about alleged communists. In one lengthy letter in May, 1951, it is perhaps noteworthy that Hubbard stated that while he was in his apartment on February 23, 1951, about two or three o'clock in the morning, his apartment was entered. He was knocked out. A needle was thrust into his heart to produce a coronary thrombosis and he was given an electric shock. He said his recollection of this incident was now very blurred, that he had no witnesses and that the only other person who had a key to the apartment was his wife.

Mr. Mitchell Rogovin

Numerous inquiries have been received by this Bureau concerning Hubbard and the various organizations established by him.

On January 4, 1963, representatives of the Food and Drug Administration seized "E-meter" devices from the District of Columbia headquarters of Hubbard's organization. The meters were seized on the grounds that they were misbranded.

The "Saturday Evening Post" thereafter carried an article regarding this seizure and Hubbard, and described Hubbard as having become wealthy from the proceeds of his church and stating that he received ten per cent of all fees generated through examinations conducted by persons trained in use of his "E-meter" machines.

In November of 1965, a citizen provided a copy of a pamphlet entitled "What Everyone Should Know About Scientology." The citizen provided this pamphlet inasmuch as his granddaughter had become a member of the organization. Page four of this pamphlet has a caption "Scientology As A Religion," which states as follows:

"Philosophy dealing with the individual as a spirit is normally classed as a religion. The same type of material as Scientology was attempted about 2,500 years ago by one Gautama Siddhartha and became the world's oldest civilized religion, known as Buddhism. Laws of life, exteriorization and other materials of Buddhism are similar to Scientology. Scientology however, is able to achieve results even in early stages that Buddhism could not. This does not make Scientology Buddhism but it does place it firmly in the area of religion.

"Theosophy, organized as a body of knowledge similar in text to Scientology has been declared a religion by U.S. Federal Courts.

"Scientology is therefore a religion. The only question was whether or not its organizations should be formal churches and auditors ministers. Some Scientology Organizations have become Churches, some as in Australia have remained simply religious fellowships. There has never been any serious question of Scientology being a religion since by definition knowledge and study of man as a spiritual, rather than an animal, being is of course religious."

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In January of 1966, the Defense Communications Agency provided a copy of a memorandum submitted by [redacted] of the United States Air Force after he had unintentionally attended the Scientology Congress at the Washington Hilton Hotel on Saturday, January 1, 1966. [redacted] advised that he had sat in on a film show of the leader giving a lecture. He advised that they stated or implied that they were against police authority, did not believe in any religion and said, among other things, that the Government's sole responsibility was to kill people.

On September 12, 1963, [redacted]

[redacted] advised that on September 11, 1963, William S. Fisk, Seattle, Washington, head of a religious mystical church was shot to death before members of his group in the Seattle headquarters of the Church of Scientology of Washington State. Russell Edward Johnson surrendered to [redacted] He was charged with the premeditated killing and his apparent motive was his belief that his wife's estrangement from him resulted from the instructions given to this group by Fisk. Literature and correspondence in possession of the deceased was obtained by the [redacted] and indicated that the group was affiliated with the Founding Church of Scientology, also known as Scientology, L. Ron. Hubbard, Founder, Hubbard Association of Scientologists International. (62-94080)

No other pertinent identifiable information is available concerning the other individuals or organizations mentioned in referenced letter.

NOTE: The Deputy Attorney General advised that the Tax Division is involved in litigation with the Founding Church of Scientology as to whether or not the alleged church was exempt from Federal income taxation as a religious organization. He requested that information contained in Bureau files concerning the Founding Church of Scientology be made available.

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