

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, NEWARK

SUBJECT: HUBBARD DIANETIC RESEARCH FOUNDATION, INCORPORATED  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

DATE: March 21, 1951

Reference is made to Washington Field letter to the Bureau under above caption dated March 7, 1951.

A review of the files of this office reflect the following information concerning captioned organization.

On November 3, 1950, this office received a letter from C. PARKER MORGAN, Secretary and General Counsel of the Hubbard Dianetic Research Foundation, Incorporated, 275 Morris Avenue, Elizabeth, New Jersey, requesting an interview with a Special Agent for the purpose of giving some information on Communist activities designed to obtain the national mailing list of the foundation. In this letter, MORGAN advised that he was a former Special Agent of the Bureau. MORGAN was subsequently interviewed and furnished the following information:

The Foundation was set up about May, 1950, to further the work of L. RON HUBBARD, author, whose book entitled "Dianetics" had been published about two years previously and had been very well received by the public. Many branch offices of the Foundation had also been established to assist the many clubs and study groups which had been formed to reach a better understanding of "Dianetics".

According to MORGAN "Dianetics" is a new approach to the treatment of many physical and mental illnesses without the use of drugs or medicine.

As Secretary and General Counsel of the Foundation, MORGAN had in his possession, a mailing list containing about sixteen thousand names of persons who are interested in "Dianetics" and who have previously subscribed to material from the Foundation. In his opinion, this list would be quite valuable to anyone interested in circularizing Communist Party literature.

One ARTHUR R. CEPPOS, President, Hermitage House Publishing Company, New York City, New York and formerly Executive Vice President of the Foundation, had tried to obtain this mailing list from the Foundation. MORGAN stated he had received information that CEPPOS was in sympathy with the Communist Party; however, he was unable to elaborate on this. CEPPOS allegedly resigned from the Foundation because of a dispute over policy.

cc: Washington Field  
Enc. (1) Bureau  
TEK:TL  
NK 105-636

RECORDED - 66

INDEXED - 66

EX - 45

62-14080-11  
9-10  
Dougherty  
PARS. FILES

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3-1-81 BY SP3 BJS/TJK

3/7/63 7/8/96

Article Clipped and  
Incorporated - Magazine - destroyed  
3-28-61 Parsons

ENCLOSURE  
COPIES DESTROYED

169

5 SEP 11 1951

Letter to the Director

March 21, 1951

NK 105-636

MORGAN also stated that ALAISTAIR <sup>V</sup>KYLE, Director, New York Dianetic Association, 13 East 83rd Street, New York City, New York, which organization is in no way associated with the Foundation, is alleged to be a Communist sympathizer, but MORGAN could not elaborate on this.

KYLE allegedly tried to organize a National Convention of Dianetic Associations for the purpose of having himself elected as the National President and thereby gain information concerning the organizations already set up, throughout the United States and its possessions. According to MORGAN, many clubs have been formed, and he believes they would be a futile source for Communist infiltration on a national scale, inasmuch as they have already been set up on an organizational plan.

MORGAN stated that the Foundation is anti-Communist in its work and had been criticized in Communist Party publications.

The above information was furnished to the New York Office.

MORGAN also advised that DONALD H. <sup>V</sup>ROGERS, Director of Research and Assistant Treasurer of the Foundation, is also a former Special Agent of this Bureau. DIANETICS

It is further noted that information from the Atlanta Office, captioned REUBEN ARCHER <sup>V</sup>TORREY, III, was SECURITY MATTER - C, who is now associated with the Foundation, has been furnished to the Bureau. DIANETICS

Enclosed is a copy of the "Look" magazine, published December 5, 1950, containing an article on page 79 entitled "Dianetics, Science or Hoax." This article refers to the book written by L. RON HUBBARD and the work of the Foundation, and it is believed this article may be of interest to the Bureau.

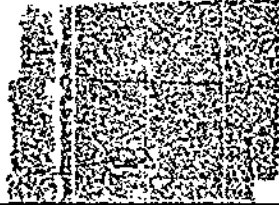
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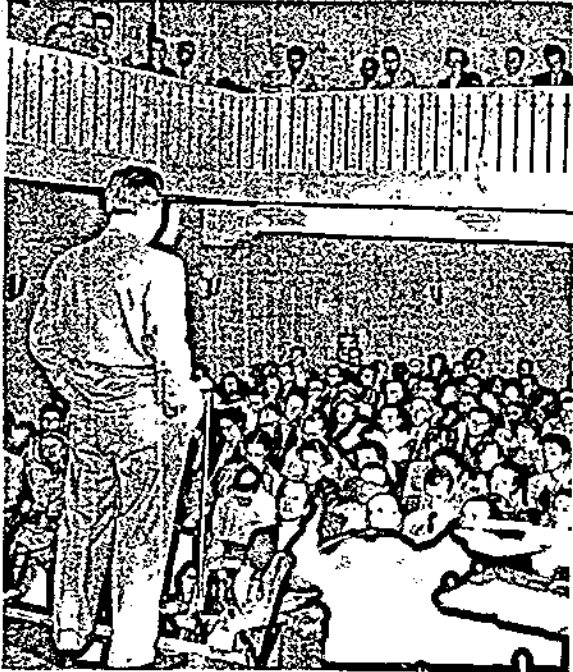
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for the tummy

**DIANETICS** continued



Unencumbered by false modesty, Hubbard assures followers his new science can cure colds, ulcers and other ills he calls psychosomatic.

researches of the last fifty years. They object to the extreme claims of dianetics, to Hubbard's constant repetition of his assertion that dianetics "cures" "invariably," "instantly," and "without cost," and "cures the most amazing list of mental and psychosomatic ills.

**M.D.s Reject "Science"**

They are outraged and indignant at Hubbard's insistence that he has developed a "science." They charge that his "evidence" is merely the endlessly repeated assertion that cures have been achieved in "270 cases" — unsupported by documentation that these individuals were ever really sick in the first place or ever achieved cure under dianetic processing.

Although these faults appear overwhelming to men who have spent their lives in the scientific disciplines, they carry little weight with Hubbard's growing legions. For dianetics apparently brings them something that conventional psychiatry has failed to offer them.

Condemn it as obscure, verbose, unscientific; the fact remains that some individuals find in dianetics a way to bring onto a conscious level some of the troubles and fears and idiosyncracies most of us hold deeply buried within ourselves. Some persons, whether they are cured of anything at all or not, find satisfaction and a feeling of better adjustment to the world through this confessional process.

Also, though dianetics is certainly far from the conventional psychiatry, it has great commercial advantages over the real thing.

In place of the psychiatrist, with his many years of training

and his medical degree, Hubbard offers a professional auditor, supercharged for processing these months of high-pressure training of even an amateur.

In place of scores, and sometimes hundreds, of sessions on the psychiatric couch, Hubbard offers a few intensive hours — but still the comfort of a couch.

In place of a whole host of complex Freudian causes for neuroses — Oedipus complexes, father images and what not — Hubbard offers a neat package of engrams. When he gets down to explaining them in detail, they turn out to smack rather strangely of Freud. But dressed up in English words (instead of Greek or Latin), they seem easier to understand.

**Dianetics Reaches All**

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.

In a country with only 6,000 professional psychiatrists, whose usual consultation fees start at \$15 an hour, Hubbard has introduced mass-production methods. Whether such methods can actually help you if you're sick is a moot point.

But moot or not, half a million people are having a lot of morbid fun, getting a lot of excitement and going through a whirl of mental gymnastics while red-headed Ron builds his chain-store Foundation.

To Father Divine's "Peace, it's wonderful," the dianetician might add, "Become a 'clear' — it's basic-basic, wonderful-wonderful."

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FOR TONIGHT

**PHOTOGRAPHER'S SCIENCE**

57 See page 118

Gobb held Terry Kalle. For Gobb noted (photo 3) that Armstrong used a left-handed club. This proved Terry was lying. A left-handed golfer couldn't possibly have driven the ball down the fairway from the position in which it was teed.

Confronted with this oversight, Terry confessed. He had been stealing funds from the business; his partner suspected something and that morning had said he was going to have the books checked. Enraged, Terry whipped out a gun and shot him. Then he arranged the death scene and made up the story about the speeding car. However, he placed Armstrong's body on the wrong side of the teed ball, in the position in which a right-handed golfer would fall if he had been going to drive in the direction indicated by the tee marker. Kane serves a life sentence.

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END

DIANETICS continued

## Dianetics centers draw many serious, sincere people

Most important of all is the engram that Hubbard calls "basic-basic"—the one impinged upon your protoplasmic cells almost as soon as you were conceived. All too often, according to Hubbard, these prenatal engrams stem particularly from abortion attempts on the part of the mother.

### Abortion Attacked

Unlike many religious groups, the proponents of dianetics have nothing against birth control. But the greatest of all crimes and the root of most evils, as they see it, is the attempt—or even just the verbal wish—to cause the abortion of a child already conceived. They object here, not so much on moral grounds, as because such attempts—or such wishes and thoughts—load down the time track with the basic-basic demon engram.

But all is not lost. Dianetics can transform you into a "clear"—a person whose every engram has been resolved. Then, and then only, according to Hubbard, will you be free of your ills and experience a tremendous surge of new energy, creative dynamism, and freedom.

### Cultists Have a Try

Some are the usual lunatic-fringe types—frustrated maiden ladies who have already worked their way through all the available cults, young men whose homosexual engrams are all too obvious. But most are serious people, deeply believing and sincerely wanting to believe.

A defender of dianetics is Frederick L. Schuman, Woodrow Wilson Professor of Government at Williams College. He is but one of those men of high achievement in their chosen professions, so convinced of the importance of dianetics that they willingly write long letters protesting antagonistic comments, and enthusiastic articles singing the praises of the new "science."

National headquarters of the Dianetic Research Foundation is an unprepossessing, backstreet office building in Elizabeth, N. J. There are five other centers of dianetic teaching and instruction, in Washington, New York, Chicago, Los Angeles and Honolulu.

Of all the dianetic centers, Los Angeles is the most exuberantly expansive and enthusiastic. There the Hubbard Foundation moved into a suite of modest offices late last July. In August, it took over a two-story building housing a lecture theater and 20 "processing" rooms. A few weeks later, it had to expand again—this time into a 110-

room building, where swarms of student auditors raptly attend Hubbard's lectures and practice processing one another.

Still more recently, there have been instituted a series of weekend sessions at the swank Country Club Hotel in Hollywood. Here, taking over 20 or 30 rooms, a band of student auditors and pre-clears meet under the guidance of professional auditors for "intensive auditing with chemical assist."

Hubbard and his associates insist that this use of drugs has nothing to do with narcosynthesis. They claim that "chemical assistants," purchasable in California at any drugstore, aid in helping resistant pre-clears to achieve dianetic reverie and to dredge up their basic-basic engrams.

### Medical Men Protest

This treatment by laymen of deep-seated psychological and psychiatric problems is one of the chief causes of the violent criticism from medical men—and particularly psychologists and psychiatrists.

Under the laws of almost every state, the practice of the healing arts is restricted to medical professionals and individuals who have been sworn into the profession after passing stringent, state-administered licensing examinations.

But the proponents of dianetics are not worried about these restrictions, despite the fact that most of the professional auditors, trained in one-month courses, could never qualify for the practice of medicine or any of the related healing arts.

"Pre-clears," Hubbard explains, "get dianetic processing... neither therapy nor medicine." Then he adds, with a disarming grin, "It just happens that what we release is the cause of their psychosomatic illnesses."

### Temporary Aid Likely

Leading psychiatrists, however, are not so sanguine about either the effectiveness or the innocuousness of Hubbard's poor man's psychiatry. Dr. Jack A. Dunagin, of the Menninger Foundation, for example, concedes that some sufferers from mental malaise may find temporary relief under dianetic hocus-pocus, just as they sometimes do under hypnosis, Couéism or voodoo.

"But," he declares, "the greatest harm to a person would come, not because of the vicious nature of dianetic therapy, but because... it will lead them away from treatment which they may badly need."

Other psychiatrists point out that Hubbard has borrowed from (and in the process, distorted) most of the psychiatric

(Continued on next page) Psychology-109



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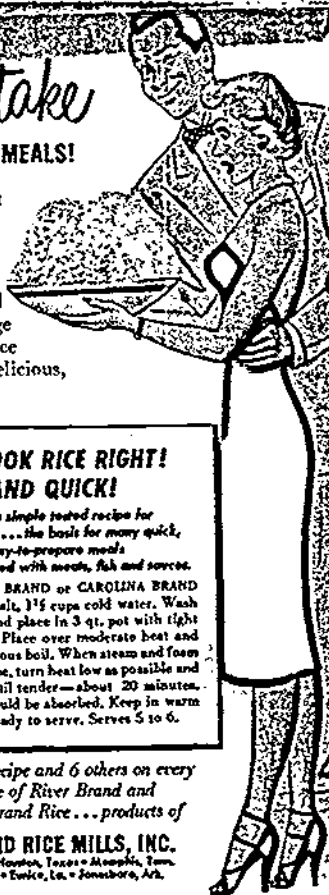
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DIANETICS continued

## Scientists say dianetics can often do real harm

ordinate and very exaggerated claims in his results." Dr. Frederick J. Hacker, a Los Angeles psychiatrist, adds: "If it were not for sympathy for mental suffering of disturbed people, the so-called science of dianetics could be dismissed for what it is... a clever scheme to dip into the pockets of the gullible with impunity. The dianetic auditor is but another name for the witch doctor, exploiting a real need with phony methods."

### Hubbard Recalls Birth

The man who touched off all this frenzy was born on a busy March morning in 1911 at Tilden, Nehr. Like most newborn babies, L. Ron Hubbard did not seem at the time to be paying much attention to the proceedings. But with the aid of his new science, he has recently recalled all the details of his own birth and sent them to his aunt, who, he says, agrees that they check most accurately.

In his youth Hubbard traipsed around the world with his father, a lieutenant commander in the Navy, and spent

Naval Reserve lieutenant, Hubbard served on escort vessels until he was sent to the Oak Knoll Naval Hospital near Oakland, Calif., where he stayed for the best part of a year, suffering, he now recalls, from "ulcers, conjunctivitis, deteriorating eyesight, bursitis and something wrong with my feet."

But his sufferings were not entirely in vain. For, the hospital had an excellent medical library, and Hubbard, with dianetics boiling up within him, wanted to avail himself of this facility.

### "Doctor" in the Library

The library, unfortunately, was not for patients but rather for the use of staff medical officers. But the young scientist got around that easily enough. "I just had a friend in the Marines refer to me as Doctor," he says, "several times, within earshot of the librarian. After that I had free run of the joint."

By 1947, Hubbard discharged from the Navy and granted a disability pension, had pretty well unraveled the mysteries of the curium and was venturing into the field of dianetics.

publishers, Hermitage House, Inc., identify him as "a mathematician and theoretical philosopher." Hubbard himself finds this somewhat embarrassing because, as he is quick to tell interviewers, "I never took my degree."

### Exploring the Pulpit

He also deprecates the inaccuracy of his Who's Who biography, which lists him as "explorer since 1934." Actually, as Hubbard now recalls the details, he led the Caribbean Motion Picture Expedition, conducting a group of college students from island to island. "It was a two-bit expedition and a financial bust," he says, "and I quit the ship at Puerto Rico in 1933."

Hubbard really got going a few years later, however, when he took to writing for the pulp magazines. He moved into the science-fiction field under such six-shooter pseudonyms as Winchester Remington Colt. A dynamic (though not yet dianetic) writer, he says he used to hat out as many as 120,000 words between Friday and Monday.

But after a time, despite such success, he just couldn't put his heart to science fiction any more. For he had begun to fathom the innermost regions of the mind, and life took on a new meaning and purpose.

The war interrupted the development of dianetics. As a

which to announce and expound dianetics.

This problem was resolved in May, 1950, when John W. Campbell, Jr. convinced Hubbard that Astounding Science Fiction, which Campbell edits, was the ideal medium. A month after that, the definitive issue of Dianetics, 452 pages for four bucks, appeared between hard covers under the imprimatur of Hermitage House. It carried an introduction by J. A. Winter, M.D., an appendix on The Philosophic Method by Will Durant (reprinted from The Story of Philosophy, 1925), and two other appendices by Campbell and Donald H. Rogers.

### Birth of a Best Seller

Since then, history has been in the making. Although virtually unadvertised, the volume has been disappearing from bookstore shelves at an astounding rate. Virtually boycotted by book reviewers for many months, and later panned by them, it nonetheless climbed onto the best-seller lists and has remained at the top.

The Hubbard Dianetic Research Foundation shortly was set up as a nonprofit New Jersey corporation, with Hubbard as president, Arthur R. Ceppos (of Hermitage House) as executive vice president, John W. Campbell, Jr. (of Astounding Science Fiction), as treasurer and Mrs. (Continued on next page)

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**PHOTOQUIZ ANSWERS**

(Page 24) 1—(a) Marilyn Monroe, 2—(c) trillium, 3—(b) mud dauber, 4—(a) truck, 5—(d) Nash, 6—(c) submarines, 7—(c) iguana, 8—(a) lei, 9—(b) ways, 10—(c) The Great Gatsby, 11—(d) road roller, 12—(c) Philip Sousa, 13—(c) haystack, 14—(c) cat, 15—(b) cowboy

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# DIANETICS SCIENCE OR HOAX?

Look May 12-5-50  
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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5/12/88 BY 88243/afp

62-9486-11

Half a million laymen have swallowed this poor man's psychiatry. Now they're set to try it on others

L. Ron Hubbard, originator of dianetics, demonstrates his new "science" with a woman student.

By ALBERT Q. MAISEL

A YEAR AGO, L. Ron Hubbard was an obscure writer of pseudoscientific pulp fiction. Today, he has:  
... Half a million devout followers.  
... A foundation with a chain of bustling branches stretching from Elizabeth, N. J., to far-off Honolulu.  
... The best-selling nonfiction book since Dale Carnegie discovered the secret of success.  
... A swarm of pop-eyed students, who are in line for the privilege of plunking down their money to become "professional auditors," complete with couch and capable of outpsyching any ordinary psychiatrist.  
... Even larger and faster-growing tribes who pay \$200 each for the 15-lecture short course—or \$25 an hour to have their "cases opened" by 500 professional auditors.  
... And a small army of associate members, at a mere 15 smackers each, who gratefully keep up with the whirlwind developments of Hubbard's new "science" of dianetics through the *Dianetics Auditors Bulletin*.

### Dianetics and the Discovery of Fire

Hubbard, you might gather from the foregoing, has discovered the key to success and demonstrated once again that Barnum underestimated the sucker birth rate.  
But that, by Hubbard's own admission, is probably the least of his discoveries.  
Unencumbered by the modesty that hoggies ordinary mortals, Hubbard starts his book—*THE BOOK*, his followers call it—with the calm assertion 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."  
A few lines beyond, one learns that, with dianetics, "the intelligent layman can successfully and invariably treat all psychosomatic ills and inorganic aberrations."  
Farther on, one discovers that these psychosomatic ills, "uniformly cured by dianotic therapy," include such varied maladies as eye trouble, bursitis, ulcers, some heart difficulties, migraine headaches and the common cold.  
But you ain't heard nothing yet. For Hubbard's auditors (anyone with four dollars to buy *The Book* and the stamina to read through it can "audit" without further license) achieve these miracles by the simple process of re-

(Continued on page 81)

