UNITED STATES DERNMENT

Memorandum

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Director, FBI (62-94080)

DATE: 8/12/68

# FROM

Legat, London (163-2106)

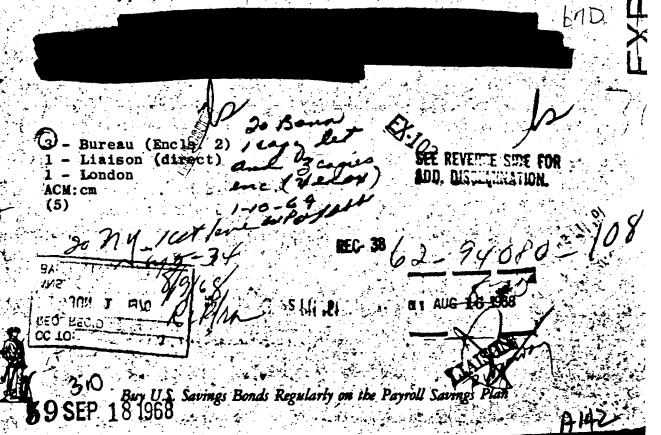
SUBJECT:

LAFAYETTE RONALD HUBBARD, aka

· ReBulet 2/16/68.

Subject's organization, Scientology International, has recently been under attack by the British government as being an organization "not conducive to the public good." The organization has its headquarters in East Grinsted, Sussex, England, and recently many U. S. and other alien "students" wishing to come to the headquarters have been denied entry into England.

As a result of the above, much press publicity has resulted. Enclosed are two copies of an article which appeared in the 8/8/68 edition of the London Daily Telegraph. The article reflects that "Women's Wear Daily" published in New York City carried an article concerning scientology on Wednesday, 8/7/68.



## SCIENTOLOGY 'A HIGH-PRICE RACKET'

By ALEX FAULKNER NEW YORK, Wednesday. A CRITICAL account of scientology day in the New York publication Women's Wear Daily, which is devoted essentially to fashions, but often explores other matters.

It says that "a new and quire apparently phony 'religion' called scientology is beginning to emerge from the lower depths.

"In the United States it is still basically unknown except to cultists and a few curiosity seekers. But in recent days sub-

seekers. But in recent days sub-way posters have appeared in New York urging everyone: 'Step into the world of the totally free'.

"Its bible is a compilation of mawkish platitudes offering in-stant happiness for \$5 (£2 ls 8d), or a six-month course in under-standing for \$1.500 (£625).
"Scientology is a racket, with

"Scientology is a racket with offices in key cities throughout the United States and England. Its main teaching is 'total freedom' and it worships no god but its founder, L. Ron Hubbard, a sort of Western guru with an unboly amile.

"Its services are conducted on Sundays at 2 p.m. in Central Park behind the Metropolitan Museum of Art with flower children, hip-pies, high school dropouts and disillusioned adults.

"And one of the principal dynamics or commandments for the cult's worshippers is the sex act itself, pure and simple."

## "Astounding growth"

The debates in the House of Commons, says this publication, really come down to the question of whether scientology is or is

not a religion.

"It isn't," it asserts. "It's a high-priced confidence game. However, as a movement, scientology continues to grow at an astounding rate here in the United States and abroad.

"In New York City its mem-bership reportedly has increased more than 500 per cent in two

"At the Martinique Hotel on 32nd street, headquarters of one of its thriving branches, followers of founder Hubbard include minimum." skirted girls, bearded youths, part-time advisers and ministers.

"There are also the curiosity seekers pondering whether to take the initial step called 'processing' at a cost of \$15 (£6 5s).

"One 'convert' who was processed told Women's Wear Daily that 'one thing led to another, and before I knew what happened I spent \$1,000."

London Daily Telegraph 8-8-68

INITED STATES GOARNMENT lemorandum

TO

DIRECTOR, FBI (62-94080)

DATE: 9/13/68

SAC, NEW YORK (163-2594) (RUC)

SUBJECT:

LAFAYETTE RONALD HUBBARD, aka

FPC

Enclosed herewith for transmittal to the Legat London are two copies of an article that appeared in "Womens Wear Daily" concerning scientology on Wednesday, 8/7/68.

REQ. REC'D JUN 1 1970

**ST-103** 

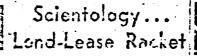
3-Bureau (Encs. 3) Bureau (Encs. 3) (RM) (1-Legat London) (163-2106) 1-New York

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27) Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan



NEW YOR — A new, and quite apparently phony "religior," called actentology is beginning to emerge from the lower depths

For mury weeks it has been a frontpage story in Great Britain where the government has been moved to mi against the new cuit.

In the United States, it is still basically unknown except to cultists and a few curiosity seekers. But in recent days, subway posters have appeared in New York urging everyone: "Step into the world of the totally free."

However, a WWD report by Denis Sheahan indicates there is nothing "totally free" about Scientology. His WWD report follows:

Its bible is a compilation of mawkish platitudes offering instant happiness 15: 05, or a six-months' course in understanding for \$1,506.

Scientology is a racket with offices in key cities throughout the United States and England. Its main teaching is "total freedom" and it worship, no god but its



While ChGANIPPD: Charol, of Scientificy's founder in Ren E board, center, controls a cult mat is an emity increasing in numbers from it, tame of ganization chart, left, Attrautive Herman Nichols is behind studies of books and pamphlets on sale at cult's neadquarters in New York City's

## Scientology-Racket Spreads To U.S. From British Isles

Continued from Page I, him Sec.

founder, L. Ron Howourd a soul of Western guru with an unholy smile.

It is a cult of smooth-talking "ministers" who don't know the difference between .. Ph.D. and Doctor of Divinity.

ITS SERVICES are con-ducted Sundays at 2 mm in Contral Park behind the Metropolitan Museum of Art with flower children. hippies, high dropouts and distillusioned advite.

And one of the principal "dyor commandments for the cult's worshippens is the sex act to: itself, pure and simple.

For the last few weeks Scientology has dominated the pages o. British newspapers, including the stale Times of Landon, citing the House Secretary and the Minister of Health's declara-Minister of Health's tions that the cult is "socially harmful"

Debates have raged in the House of Communs over whethce Dettish government bans on atry of persons connected with Scientology are really attacks on freedom of religion.

The febates boil down to the

Laur of whether Scientology is,

or is not a religion. It isn't.

IT's a high-priced confidence game.

However, as a movement, Scientology continues to grow an astounding rate here in th-United States and abroad. In New York City its membership reportedly has increased more than 500 per cent in two years.
At the Martinique Hotel, on

5\_4 Sireet, headquarters of one of its thirring branches, followers of founder Hubbard include mini-skirted giris, bearled youths, part-time advices and "ministers." There are also the curiosity seekers pondering whether to take the initial step seekers pondering called "processing" . . . at a cost cf \$15

One "convert" who was procexcui told WWD that "one thing led to another, and before knew what happened, I spent \$1,000."

ANOTHER UPSTATE NOW York youth said money for the courses presented no prepleta w to obtain the fees for the curriculum.

If money is a harrier," the youth said. "Scientology toaches you how to overcome it."

According to Rise Barnes, of its so-could seminarian mini-tiers the cult has province and of the and he above tollow of almost

of almost

and creeds except Negroes.

"we only have a few blacks," Barnes said.

THE RECEPTION room of the Hotel Martinique is filled with only a smathering of founder Hubbard; writings which include pocific books, paicunde: perbacks tecnnical manuals, ma-The prices range from 50 cents to 4. A life-size poter of Hub-

bard sells for 55.
According to Barnes, feaching is done on three floors of the premises. And it is through Hubbard's books that the "thetans." or converte, we taught. And taught they are.

It's almost a bargain basement

sale, one follower said.
No one under 13 years of see is sometred simply because the

con't have money.

Adults are permitted to work part-time to pay for the processing and training of

Discourt are also provided.

And if a "theran" doesn't like a course, he can get like moure

REG-64 62-94080-110 6110 670

December 17, 1968

Dear

Your letter of December 9th has been received.

In answer to your inquiry, information in our files must be maintained as confidential pursuant to regulations of the Department of Justice. I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have material in our files relating to the organization you mentioned. I regret I am unable to be of assistance.

Sincerely yours,

I Edger Hoover

John Edgar Hoover Director Str

MAILED 21)
DEC 1 7 1968
COMM-FBT

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. Lafayette Ron Hubbard, Founder of the Founding Church of Scientology has been known to the Bureau since 1951. Neither Hubbard nor the organization headed by him has been investigated by the Bureau. He was described as "hopelessly insane" by his wife in connection with divorce proceedings. His theory of "Scientology" is an alleged Science which instilbself-confidence and assistin removing mental problems. In August, 1966, the Department requested information concerning the Founding Church of Scientology, inasmuch as the Tax Division was involved in litigation as to whether or not the alleged Church of Scientology is exempted from Federal income taxation as a religious organization. Pertinent information contained in Bufiles has been provided the Department. This organization has also been investigated by the Food and Drug Administration, Internal Revenue Service, and the Army.

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12-9-68 Dear mr. Hoover I'm writing these letter in regards to the recent publicity about Scientology, Time, aug. 23, 1968 Jage 40 - Newsweek ang. 26, 1960 page 8. Life. Nov. 15, 1968 Jage 99. I was wondering if your department had looked correspondence correspondence

my husband is a number of this organization, and has been very active in il withen the last 3 years. I have looked into Scientology because of my husbando' interest in it and have found it to be a fraud. Leientology does a great jot of induction Thom. What a puty it is for children to Therethes forced on them. Jam glad that I was after to see through Aussia

organization, for the sake of my klildren but as a result I have lost a husband. my husband has been Rompletely abienated from us because we won't some with their ideas. There must be some law to stof this react from dealinging mends and furting familie I would be very happy to discuss my

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