

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI (62-94080)

DATE: 8/12/68

FROM : Legat, London (163-2106)

SUBJECT: LAFAYETTE RONALD HUBBARD, aka
FPC

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 Grinstead, 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.

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

A142

SCIENTOLOGY 'A HIGH-PRICE RACKET'

By ALEX FAULKNER

NEW YORK, Wednesday.

A CRITICAL account of scientology appears today 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 quite 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 subway 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 instant happiness for \$5 (£2 1s 8d), or a six-month course in understanding for \$1,500 (£625).

"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 unholy smile.

"Its services are conducted on Sundays at 2 p.m. in Central Park behind the Metropolitan Museum of Art with flower children, hippies, 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 membership reportedly has increased more than 500 per cent. in two years.

"At the Martinique Hotel on 32nd street, headquarters of one of its thriving branches, followers of founder Hubbard include mini-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

A172
108

62-94000-108

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (62-94080)

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

SUBJECT: LAFAYETTE RONALD HUBBARD, aka
FPC

DATE: 9/13/68

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.

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15 SEP 1968

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277 Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

A 144

WORLD'S WEST JOURNAL

THE RETAILER'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

NEW YORK, N. Y., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7, 1968

TEN CENTS

Scientology...

Land-Lease Racket

NEW YORK — A new, and quite apparently phony "religion," called Scientology is beginning to emerge from the lower depths.

For many weeks it has been a frontpage story in Great Britain where the government has been moved to act against the new cult.

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 for \$5, or a six-months' course in understanding for \$1,500.

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

See SCIENTOLOGY, p. 14, This Sec.

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ENCLOSURE



WELL ORGANIZED: Church of Scientology's founder L. Ron Hubbard, center, controls a cult that is attracting increasing numbers from its base of organization chart, left. Attractive Hermann Nichols is behind stacks of books and pamphlets on sale at cult's headquarters in New York City's Hotel Martinique.

Scientology—Racket Spreads To U.S. From British Isles

Continued from Page 2, 1st Sec.
founder, L. Ron Hubbard a sort of Western guru with an unholy smile.

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

ITS SERVICES are conducted Sundays at 2 p.m. in Central Park behind the Metropolitan Museum of Art with flower children, hippies, high school dropouts and disillusioned adults.

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

For the last few weeks Scientology has dominated the pages of British newspapers, including the *Times* of London, citing the Home Secretary, and the Minister of Health's declarations that the cult is "socially harmful."

Debates have raged in the House of Commons over whether the British government bans on entry of persons connected with Scientology are really attacks on freedom of religion.

The debates boil down to the

issue 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 at an astounding rate here in the 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 5-1 Street, headquarters of one of its thriving branches, followers of founder Hubbard include mini-skirted girls, bearded youths, part-time students and "ministers." There are also the curiosity seekers pondering whether to take the initial step called "processing" . . . at a cost of \$15.

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

ANOTHER UPSTATE New York youth said money for the courses presented no problem because the cult schools you can now to obtain the fees for the curriculum.

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

According to Eric Barnes, one of its so-called seminarian ministers, the cult has a "policy" of almost

all races and creeds except Negroes.

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

THE RECEPTION room of the Hotel Martinique is filled with only a smattering of founder Hubbard's writings which include pocket books, paperbacks technical manuals, major texts and reference works. The prices range from 50 cents to \$7. A life-size poster of Hubbard sells for \$5.

According to Barnes, teaching is done on three floors of the premises. And it is through Hubbard's books that the "thetans," or converts, are taught. And taught they are.

It's almost a bargain basement sale, one follower said.

No one under 13 years of age is admitted simply because they don't have money.

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

Discounts are also provided. And if a "thetan" doesn't like a course, he can get his money back. So far, no one has asked for it.

162-4400-109
ENCLOSURE

A-111

REC-64 62-94080-110

December 17, 1968

[REDACTED]

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b7D

Dear [REDACTED]

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,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

SEA
9/26
T.H.H.

MAILED 211
DEC 17 1968
COMM-FBI

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 instills self-confidence and assists in 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.

- Tolson _____
- DeLoach _____
- Mohr _____
- Bishop _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
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- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

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A 145



12-9-68

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I'm writing this letter in regards to the recent publicity about Scientology; Time, Aug. 23, 1968 page 40 - Newsweek, Aug. 26, 1968 page 8 - Life, Nov. 15, 1968 page 99.

I was wondering if your department had looked into this dangerous cult

*ack me
12/12/68
CPE*

CORRESPONDENCE

A145

My husband is a member
of this organization, and
has been very active in it
within the last 3 years.
I have looked into
Scientology because of my
husband's interest in it
and have found it to be
a fraud. Scientology
does a great job of indoctrina-
tion. What a pity it is
for children to have this
forced on them. I am
glad that I was able
to see through this

A 145



organization, for the
sake of my children
but as a result,
I have lost a husband.
My husband has been
completely alienated from
us because we won't concern
with their ideas. There
must be some law to
stop this cult from destroying
minds and hurting families

I would be very
happy to discuss my

A145

findings concerning this
evil cult with any
of your people.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

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