

Church of Scientology Announces It Is Investigating the Government

By Ron Shaffer

The Church of Scientology distributed a news release yesterday announcing that it has been investigating the government for years in an attempt to find "government illegalities and cover-ups" and make them public.

Others "call it spying... we call it reform action," church spokesman Arthur J. Maren, said in the news release. "This is a legitimate and traditional function of the Church."

Maren's remarks were distributed to the media yesterday following reports in The Washington Post last Friday and Saturday that the church had embarked on an extensive campaign to identify, attack and discredit enemies.

This campaign, according to a federal affidavit, includes alleged illegal break-ins, bugging and infiltration of government agencies in an attempt to obtain confidential information.

According to unnamed sources, Scientology files seized by the FBI show that the church staged a hit-and-run accident in Northwest Washington in an attempt to compromise a visiting mayor, forged a birth draft of a scandalous news story in a reporter's name to undermine his credibility, and framed the author of a book critical of Scientology with a fake bomb threat.

The Scientologists have denied all this and have criticized the Post for carrying the stories.

"One can easily get the idea that The Post is jumping at what they think is a stick of candy which is a promotion of the government's case," Maren told a Scientology rally in Los Angeles Saturday night. "I think it shows some shortsightedness. Perhaps in time The Post will realize it's been had." In the news release yesterday Maren asserted that when "corrupt" government officials "start using press such as The Washington Post for smear campaigns to try and invalidate the traditional reform role of the Church we decide that we have to go public."

Maren denied that the church regards anyone as enemies. "As a church which believes that man is basically good and devotes itself to helping others, we have no enemies," he said.

Maren announced the formation of a national "spy network of honest citizens" which is to "expose and publicize illegal government activities." It is being called the American Citizens for Honesty in Government (ACHG), and Maren called on "every honest government employee" to report improprieties to the "ACHG Ethics Committee."

Grey Layton, spokesman for the Founding Church of Scientology here in Washington, said yesterday that the new group is in the formation stages, and has as yet no structure other than Maren as leader. He said all citizens are invited to contribute. "Why keep this thing to ourselves?" Layton said. "We're asking everyone in the country to be involved."

Maren said the target of the FBI raid on Scientology files last summer was a program the church calls "Snow

White." This was a confidential endeavor to obtain material and turn it over to government agencies and congressional committees, Maren said. Apparently some of the dishonest bureaucrats found the Snow White program upsetting, he said.

Among the accomplishments of "Snow White," he said, was the filing of a \$750 million lawsuit against government agencies for "harassment conspiracy campaigns," pioneer efforts in the use of the Freedom of Information Act to gain information, and publication of 200 pages of Internal Revenue Service documents classified as "For Official Use Only."

Asked yesterday if any information was obtained illegally, as the government alleges, spokesman Layton said, "Not that I know of. The government has yet to prove any of its allegations."

FBI agents and federal prosecutors, following court rulings earlier this month, are sifting through church files and presenting evidence bit by bit to a grand jury.

The church, called a business by some and a philosophy by others, was founded by L. Ron Hubbard in the early 1950s. The church claims about 3 million members in the United States.

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- Telephone Rm. _____
- Director's Sec'y _____

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-5-80 BY SP2/TDS/...

- The Washington Post A-2
- Washington Star-News _____
- Daily News (New York) _____
- The New York Times _____
- The Wall Street Journal _____
- The National Observer _____
- The Los Angeles Times _____

Date 5-2-78

Airtel

5/3/78

TO: SACs, Los Angeles (47-12230)
WFO (47-10713)

1 - Mr. Moore
1 - [REDACTED]
1 - [REDACTED]
1 - [REDACTED]
1 - F. X. O'Brien
1 - [REDACTED]

FROM: Director, FBI (47-56689)

SITOL

Enclosed for Los Angeles and WFO is one copy each of three newspaper articles dated April 28, April 29, and May 2, 1978, by Washington Post Staff Writer Ron Shaffer.

These articles contain considerable factual information concerning the Sitol investigation which may be in violation of a court order by U. S. District Judge Malcolm Lucas, Los Angeles, California. Judge Lucas' order was directed to the U. S. Attorneys and any individuals examining the documents seized in the July, 1977, search of Church of Scientology offices in Los Angeles. It forbade the disclosure or dissemination of any information obtained from the seized documents until authorized by the court.

You should immediately review the enclosed newspaper articles to ascertain whether or not any of the information contained therein pertains to the seized documents. Is the information in these articles available through public source or any other source? Advise FBIHQ no later than COB, May 12, 1978.

Enclosures - 3

7- ENCLOSURE pc

EX-101

REC-46

47-56689-369

MAILED 19
MAY 03 1978
FBI

22 MAY 5 1978

- Assoc. Dir. _____
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- Director's Sec'y _____

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 4-5-81 BY SP7ALW

SEE NOTE PAGE 2

[REDACTED] (11)

MAIL ROOM

84 MAY 26 1978

Airtel to SACs, Los Angeles
WFO

RE: SITOL

b7c
NOTE: Assistant U. S. Attorney Raymond Banoun, U. S. Attorney's Office, Washington, D. C., telephonically advised SA [REDACTED] General Government Crimes Unit, CID, on 5/2/78, that he is to attend a hearing in Los Angeles on 5/3/78 before U. S. District Judge Malcolm Lucas, Los Angeles, regarding three articles by Washington Post Staff Writer Ron Shaffer, which contain information that may have come from documents seized during the search of the Church of Scientology offices in Los Angeles in July, 1977. These documents are presently being reviewed by FBI Agents at Washington, D. C. Banoun stated that he was not requesting a full-scale investigation; however, he did want to be in a position to advise Judge Lucas that the FBI was making an internal inquiry to determine how Shaffer may have obtained his information. He requested that the inquiry be limited to the Los Angeles and Washington Field Offices.

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

- Teletype
- Facsimile
- Airtel

PRECEDENCE:

- Immediate
- Priority
- Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

- TOP SECRET
- SECRET
- CONFIDENTIAL
- E F T O
- CLEAR

Date 5/23/78

NA

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (47-56689) (47-56698)

FROM: SAC, WFO (47-10713) (P)

SITOL

For information of the Bureau, Judge LUCAS, United States District Court (USDC), Los Angeles, California, has set a hearing for 6/6/78, regarding documents to be admitted to the Grand Jury seized during the searches conducted on 7/8/77. At this time, Judge LUCAS will determine which documents seized fall under the scope of the search warrant.

Judge BRYANT, USDC, Washington, D. C. (WDC), has at this time set no hearing date for argument regarding admissibility of documents seized in WDC during the search of 7/8/77.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-5-82 BY SP2MP/66

EX-124

REC-84

47-56689-370

20 MAY 24 1978

- 2 - Bureau
- 1 - WFO

over 54 JUN 16 1978

Transmitted _____ (Number) _____ (Time)

Per _____

all to WFO 6-12-78

13-1

ok p.u.

1-7-5518

(3)

memorandum

DATE: 4/24/78
REPLY TO ATTN OF: SAC, LOS ANGELES (47-12230)

SUBJECT: SITOL
OO: Los Angeles

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (47-56689)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 4-5-8 BY SP2TAK

Re Bu telcall, 4/21/78.

Enclosed for the Bureau is Check #15025 dated 4/20/78 in the amount of \$8,459.20 drawn on the Special Account, Church of Scientology of California. Also enclosed is one copy of a receipt for transfer and billing for documents provided.

The Church of Scientology (COS) was provided a second copy of all documents seized during the execution of Federal Search Warrants at Hollywood, California during July 1977 on 4/20/78. This transfer was mandated by Judge MALCOLM M. LUCAS, Federal Court, Los Angeles, on 4/2/78 and was in response to the COS argument that the documents were needed for preparation of motions for future court appearances. Judge LUCAS did order however that the Scientologists were to compensate the Government for the expense incurred in preparing this copy.

The Los Angeles Division confiscated over 23,000 documents during the execution of search warrants in this matter. These documents were reproduced commercially through agreement with Xerox Corporation which provided the machinery and supplies required. Agent personnel working during the period 7/18-28/77 accomplished the actual xeroxing.

EX-115 REC-5 47-56689-371

14 APR 28 1978

(2 - Bureau (Enc. 2) 4/24/78
2 - Los Angeles

[Redacted]

(4)

Check for \$8459.20 detached and sent to the Federal Reserve Bank, Richmond, VA. See Certificate of Deposit and Schedule of Collection # 425, dated 5/18/78.



Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan
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148-61 99-47

RECEIPT

Date 4/20/78

The 38 boxes of documents provided constitute a complete copy of all documents seized during the execution of Federal Search Warrants at Scientology locations in Hollywood, California on July 8 - 9, 1977. Those documents determined to fall within the return restrictions of the court have been deleted.

The cost of \$8,459.20 is being charged for the copy of documents provided. This figure was derived by computing the following: One fifth the cost incurred for material and rental of equipment in reproducing all documents seized (\$23,000) plus the average hourly rate for an Agent assigned to Los Angeles, all grades, during 1977 (\$16.08) times three Agents working three shifts daily for ten days.

Joseph J. Varley
FBI Representative

Rev. David P. Dale
Scientology Representative

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 4-5-82 BY SP7PFL/ML

Dep. AD Adm.	
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FM LOS ANGELES (47-12230) (10) (P)

RECEIVED
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OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

TO DIRECTOR (47-56689) ROUTINE

WFO (47-12713) ROUTINE (WFO VIA FBIHQ)

BT

UNCLAS

b7c [REDACTED]

SITON

RE BUREAU AIRTEL DATED MAY 3, 1978.

INFORMATION CONTAINED IN NEWSPAPER ARTICLES WRITTEN BY WASHINGTON POST STAFF WRITER RON SHAFFER ON APRIL 28, 1978, APRIL 29, 1978 AND MAY 2, 1978, FACTUALLY PERTAIN TO INCIDENTS REPORTED IN THESE DOCUMENTS. THE INFORMATION IS NOT AVAILABLE THROUGH PUBLIC SOURCES AND THE ONLY INDIVIDUALS PRIVY TO ALL THE FACTS DETAILED ARE THE SPECIFIC VICTIMS, THE PERPETRATORS, AND THAT SECTOR OF THE CHURCH OF SCIENTOLOGY WHICH ORDERED EACH SPECIFIC CAMPAIGN.

BT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-5-82 BY SP2/AR/ELC

SI-125

REC-5

47-56689-371X

20 JUN 10 1978

b7c [REDACTED]

TELETYPED TO:

79 JUL 14 1978

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

- Teletype
- Facsimile
- Airtel

4/25

PRECEDENCE:

- Immediate
- Priority
- Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

- TOP SECRET
- SECRET
- CONFIDENTIAL
- E F T O
- CLEAR

Date 5/12/78

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (47-56689)

FROM: SAC, WFO (62-11123)

Airtel

UNSUB;
 ALLEGED LEAK OF INFORMATION
 REGARDING THE INVESTIGATION OF
 THE CHURCH OF SCIENTOLOGY CONCERNING
 NEWSPAPER ARTICLE BY WASHINGTON
 POST STAFF WRITER RON SHAFER
 APPEARING IN WASHINGTON POST ON
 4/28/78;
 ADMINISTRATIVE INQUIRY (A)
 (OO:WFO)

ReBuairtel to WFO, 5/3/78.

A review of "Washington Post" newspaper articles enclosed with referenced airtel indicates information contained therein deals with documents seized by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), in the July, 1977, search of Church of Scientology offices in Los Angeles.

A discussion with WFO case Agent in this matter determined that only "public source" information available would be that set forth in FBI affidavit for search warrant and information provided by Church of Scientology themselves.

REC-5

47-56689-311

WFO has obtained 24 affidavits from those WFO Agents who participated in reviewing documents seized during the execution of two search warrants on 7/8/77, on the premises of the Guardian's Office of the Church of Scientology of California.

- ②-Bureau
- 2-Los Angeles (47-12230)
- 2-WFO
- (1- 47-10713)

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**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED**

2 MAY 12 1978

DATE *4/21/88*

BY *[Signature]*

b7c

Approved: *NPS/af*

Transmitted _____ (Number) _____ (Time)

Per _____ FBI/DOJ

79 JUL 14 1978

WFO 62-11123

Affidavit states that Agents named disclosed no information to unauthorized persons regarding Church of Scientology investigation.

USA's office, Washington, D. C. (WDC), is aware of WFO affidavits and has taken affidavits from AUSA's assigned to this investigation.

Affidavits will remain at WFO unless called for by United States District Court Judge MALCOLM LEWIS, Los Angeles.

UACB no further investigation being conducted regarding unauthorized disclosure of seized Church of Scientology documents.

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FM MADRID (163-168) (P)
TO DIRECTOR PRIORITY 102-10

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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

BT

UNCLAS E F TO

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REBUTELS 5/9, 10/78.

1. LEGAT, MADRID, HAS ONE FILE 163-168 CAPTIONED L. RON HUBBARD, FOUNDER OF SCIENTOLOGY --- FPC. *(S)*
2. THIS FILE CONTAINS A TOTAL OF 45 SERIALS.
3. SERIALS SINCE 2/1/75 -- 9 CONSISTING OF BUREAU INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION RELATIVE TO THIS CASE. *EX-136*

BT

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WHERE SHOWN
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REC 32 47-56689-3711Y

AUG 8 1978

Class. & Ext. By *SLD/kuc*
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
Date of Review *5-11-94*

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