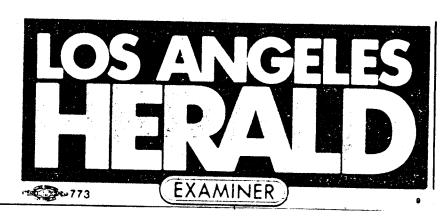
Tuesday January 28, 1986

Morning final 25 cents

Weather Cloudy, cooler/C-8

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Scientologist Hubbard dead at 74

Dianetics inventor suffered a stroke

Associated Press

L. Ron Hubbard, the science fiction writer who founded the controversial Church of Scientology three decades ago, has died of a stroke, the church announced last night in Los Angeles. He was 74. The reclusive Hubbard, who had

not been seen in public since 1980, did not control the church and its corporations during the past few years, said the Rev. Heber Jentzsch, president of the Church of Scientology International.

Hubbard died of a stroke Friday at his ranch near San Luis Obispo, Jentzsch said.

Although Jentzsch said the San Luis Obispo County coroner's office performed an autopsy, Earle Coo-ley, the church's chief counsel, said no autopsy was performed, in accordance with Hubbard's will. The coroner's office took blood samples and Hubbard's fingerprints, Cooley said.

Hubbard, whose ashes were scat-tered at sea, left most of his estate to Scientology, he said. "L. Ron Hubbard, after making

very generous provision for his surviving wife and certain of his children, has left the entire balance of his estate, which is very substantial, to Scientology," Cooley said. "He has, by this act, confirmed his faith in the future of Scientology and in its management, and the fruits of the labor of a lifetime have been conferred upon the religion that he founded and loved."



Ron Hubbard Ashes scattered at sea

Hubbard

Continued from page A-1

Cooley refused to comment on which of his children were in-cluded in the will and which were

Hubbard and his third and surviving wife, Mary Sue Hubbard, founded the church in 1954. He wrote the Scientology doctrine, "Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental Health," which has sold millions of copies.

The wealthy church, which has battled the Internal Revenue Service and fought lawsuits filed by former members, has claimed up to Amilian members worldwide since Friday Lap 24 1986."

the height of the movement in the 1970s. Ex-members, however, have put the number at closer to 2 million.

At its peak, the church reportedly earned \$100 million a year. Hubbard had been a "very heal-

thy man" during his final years. "Mr. Hubbard spent his last years on a spacious ranch in Central California," Jentzsch said. "While completing his research into the spirit of man, he was also involved in writing, composing music and pursuing his lifelong love of photography.

Jentzsch announced the death by saying, "L. Ron Hubbard, after 4 million members worldwide since Friday, Jan. 24, 1986.

L. Ron Hubbard Dies of Stroke; Founder of Church of Scientology

By ROBERT LINDSEY

SAN LUIS OBISPO, Calif. Jan. 28—
L. Ron Hubbard, the founder of the Church of Scientology, died here Friday, and mystery surrounds his death just as it cloaked the final years of his life. He was 74 years old.

The death of Mr. Hubbard, who was a multimillionare, was announced Mon-

multimillionare, was announced Mon-day night by officials of the organization, which he called a religion and was

often attacked as a lucrative business.
County officials said today that Mr.
Hubbard, a science fiction writer, was
cremated Sunday without an autopsy.
Mr. Hubbard had not been seen in
public since March 1980. He had appar-

public since march 1980. He had apparently lived for several years in a house on 80 fenced acres in a remote, rural part of San Luis Obispo County. The site, in the central California hamlet of Creston, is about 200 miles north of Los Angeles.

Death Reported Saturday

According to his death certificate, which was signed by Dr. Eugene Denk, a Scientologist who had been Mr. Hub-bard's personal physician for many years, he died there Friday of a stroke. years, he died there Friday of a stroke His death was reported to county au-thorities Saturday.

George S. Whiting, the county coroner, said in an interview today that he had no reason to suspect that Mr. Hubbard's death was a result of anything but natural causes. But he added that he regretted that he was forbidden from ordering an autopsy by a certifi-cate of religious preference, purport-edly signed by Mr. Hubbard, declaring

his objection to an autopsy.

Under a year-old California law, such declarations are binding, Mr.

Whiting said.

County officials' investigation of the death was limited to looking at Mr. Hubbard's body, photographing it and taking fingerprints, sheriff's deputies

Mr. Hubbard's ashes were "scat-tered at sea," a spokesman for the Scientology organization said in Los Angeles.

Mounting Legal Problems

Mr. Hubbard's death, which is expected to accelerate an already bitter battle for power within the wealthy or-

battle for power within the wealthy or-ganization, comes at a time of mount-ing legal problems for the group he founded in 1954.

A Federal grand jury is looking into allegations that Mr. Hubbard and his aides violated Federal tax laws and other statutes. The investigation led other statutes. The investigation, led by the Justice Department and the Internal Revenue Service, was initiated after The New York Times reported in July 1984 that several former church officials alleged that Mr. Hubbard had directed them to secretly divert more than \$100 million from church coffers into foreign bank accounts.

Organization officials have repeat-

edly denied any wrongdoing.
The Church of Scientology calls itself a "new religion," not based on the worship of a god. Its adherents say it helps them lead more rewarding lives.

Book Attracted Following

Mr. Hubbard was born in Tilden, Neb., and reared in Helena, Mont., and Bremerton, Wash. He had been a mod-erately successful author of pulp maga-zine science fiction articles when he wrote a book in 1950 called, "Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental The Modern Health."

Although many psychiatrists and other critics called the book "pseudoscience" and "quackery," it became a best seller, and Mr. Hubbard, portraying himself as a World War II hero and clear physicists, began to attract a

following.

In time the organization had hun-

In time the organization had hundreds of counseling centers worldwide. According to testimony in a Los Angeles suit involving the organization, it was taking in more than \$2 million a week by the 1970's.

Clients paid Scientology up to \$300 an hour for a one-on-one counseling process, known as auditing. To monitor a client's responses to questions, church staff members use an electrical instrument on the client's skin.

The goal of "auditing," which can go on for years and cost clients hundreds of thousands of dollars, is to increase control over thought processes in a portion of the mind where, Scientologists assert, emotional problems and psyassert, emotional problems and psy-chosomatic illnesses are born.

Accusations of Crime

As the organization's popularity grew, so did Mr. Hubbard's problems with law-enforcement officials in this country, Australia, Britain, West Ger-many and elsewhere who accused him

many and elsewhere who accused him of fraud and other crimes.

In the late 1960's, he decided to move his headquarters offshore to a large yacht, the Apollo. He also declared that Scientology was a religion.

But by 1975, facing increasing legal attacks abroad and denied admission to port after port, he returned to the

to port after port, he returned to the United States and established new headquarters in Clearwater, Fla., and in southern California.

In this period, according to court documents, the Church of Scientology began a project in which members of an elite group were assigned to infil-

an elite group were assigned to infil-trate government agencies in more than 30 countries and suppress investi-gations of the organization.

The documents allege that members used confidential data gleaned in the "auditing" sessions, often involving sexual and other sensitive subjects, to intimidate potential dissidents.

Thousands of documents seized in 1978 by agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in a raid at Scientology

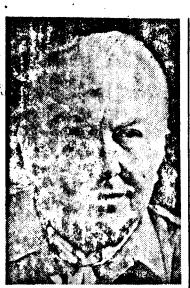
Investigation in a raid at Scientology offices here indicated that the church had conducted a far-ranging intellihad conducted a far-ranging intelli-gence operation against more than 100 government agencies in this country. The bureau said the organization had carried out burglaries, wiretapping and theft of Government documents. In 1979, Mary Sue Hubbard, Mr. Hub-

bard's wife, and 10 other Scientologists were convicted of burglarizing and wire-tapping government agencies that church leaders said had harassed the church for decades.

Seclusion in Rural Areas

As his legal problems grew, Mr. Hubbard withdrew more and more into seclusion. He lived in a succession of homes in rural parts of southern California under the care of Dr. Denk and

other Scientologists.
In 1984, Judge Paul G. Breckenridge Jr. of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, who presided over trial of the Los Angeles suit, said of Mr. Hubbard: "The evidence portrays a man who has been virtually a pathological liar when it comes to his history, background and achievements," and who seemed



gripped by "egoism, greed, avarice, lust for power, and vindictiveness and aggressiveness against persons per-ceived by him to be disloyal or hostile."

Church publicists say the organiza-tion now has six million followers, but

tion now has six million followers, but some dissident former members estimate the number at fewer than 700,000. In recent years, David Miscavige, who as a teen-ager acted as Mr. Hubbard's servant aboard the Apollo, has largely directed activities of the organization. Lately, former members say, Mr. Miscavige has been under growing pressure to share his power with others who were close to Mr. Hubbard.

Hubbard body fingerprints to be verified

SAN LUIS OBISPO (AP) - Coroner's investigators plan to verify the death of Church of Scientology founder L. Ron Hubbard by matching fingerprints taken from a body at a mortuary here.

But the delayed announcement of the reclusive science fiction writer's death combined with a series of court battles against the wealthy church he founded prompted at least one opponent to claim the death reports may be a hoax.

Church officials announced Monday night that Hubbard, 74, died of a stroke Friday at his San Luis Obispo

County ranch,

County Chief Deputy Coroner Don Hines said Tuesday he was notified of Hubbard's death at 7:30 a.m. Saturday, several hours after he reportedly died.

A death certificate signed by Hubbard's personal physician, Dr. Eugene Denk of Los Angeles, a will, and a certificate of religious belief from Hubbard asking that no autopsy be performed were turned over to the coroner's investigator who viewed the body, Hines said.

No autopsy was conducted, but investigators are trying to match fingerprints taken from the body at a local mortuary to identify it positively as that of Hubbard, Hines

The body was cremated Saturday and the ashes scattered at sea Sunday.

Boston attorney Michael Flynn, who has filed a series of lawsuits against the Church of Scientology, claimed the death reports may be a hoax to help Hubbard out of an investigation by the Internal Revenue Service in Los Angeles. Flynn alleged that "there were

going to be indictments announced against Hubbard in the next couple of days," but church general counsel John Peterson denied the IRS was conducting any investigation.

Robert Giannangeli, an IRS spokesman, said he could not comment.

In 1980 the IRS challenged the tax-exempt status of the church's California branch, claiming it owed \$1.4 million for the years 1970 through 1972.

The U.S. Tax Court ruled against the church in 1984, ordering payment of back taxes and penalties.

Hubbard left the church's Gilman Hot Springs compound in Riverside County, about 50 miles east of Los Angeles, in 1980 and had not been seen publicly since.

Confirmation of Hubbard's death sought

By IRA RIFKIN

Daily News Religion Writer

The San Luis Obispo County coroner attempted to independently confirm Tuesday that Church of Scientology founder L. Ron Hubbard has indeed died, while church critics voiced skepticism over the circumstances surrounding the death.

Sheriff-Coroner George S. Whiting said his office was trying to verify Hubbard's death by checking fingerprints taken from what church officials said was Hubbard's body shortly be-

fore it was cremated Saturday.

Whiting said he would take several days to match the prints with a copy known to be Hubbard's obtained from a non-church source. One possible source would be the U.S. Navy, in which Hubbard served during World War II.

Church officials announced Monday night that Hubbard had died in his sleep Friday at his San Luis Obispo ranch.

But a leading Scientology critic said the church founder may have committed suicide to escape mounting legal problems.

Michael Flynn, a Boston attorney who represents several former Scientologists who have sued the church, said in a telephone interview he believes Hubbard may have committed suicide to avoid federal criminal indictments said to be pending.

"It's just an incredible coincidence that the week indictments are expected Hubbard dies and there's no body," Flynn said in a telephone interview. "This guy was sought after by everyone.

"There are serious issues of millions of dollars that are missing. From where I sit, there are a lot of questions that need to be answered."

Flynn said he will launch a full-scale investigation into Hubbard's reported death on behalf of his client, Ronald DeWolf, Hubbard's estranged eldest son, who is contesting the will that church attorneys say is Hubbard's.

Scientology attorneys have said Hubbard's will leaves the bulk of his estate, valued at tens of millions of dollars, to the church.

In 1983, DeWolf claimed Hubbard was either dead or incapacitated. A Riverside County judge ruled otherwise, saying Hubbard was alive and well enough at the time to handle his own affairs.

Hubbard — who has not been seen in public since 1980 — had been under investigation by the Internal Revenue Service, as well as other federal and Canadian agencies, seeking to determine if millions of dollars in church funds were diverted to his personal use, according to sources outside the church.

One source said the indictments still may be handed down later this week because they involve other Scientologists as well as Hubbard.

A church attorney, John Peterson, denied any investigations or indictments were in the works. He dismissed Flynn's allegations as ridiculous.

An IRS spokesman in Los Angeles declined comment.

The sheriff-coroner said his deputy reported the body contained no bruises or other indications of unusual circumstances. Blood tests have also turned up nothing unusual so far.

Skeptics question Hubbard death

By LESLEY COLLINS Sun staff writer

CLEARWATER - A quick cremation, unconfirmed reports of pending federal indictments and a three-day gap between the death and public announcement of Church of Scientology founder L. Ron Hubbard's death have skeptical sect antagonists and local city officials raising their eyebrows.

eyebrows.

The passage of 74-year-old Hubbard into "total spiritual freedom" was announced at a late-night press conference in Los Angeles Monday, three days after the science fiction writer's purported death writer's purported death.

Hubbard, who had not been seen in public since 1980, allegedly died of a stroke Friday at his ranch near San Luis Obispo, some 150 miles northwest of

downtown Los Angeles.
The San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's office, charged with the double responsibility of coroner's reports, has been deluged with phone calls since late Monday from media nationwide and attorneys representing various family members, said sheriff's Lt. John Hastie, who supervises the department's team of coro-

ner investigators.
"I would anticipate that (the validity of Hubbard's death) is going to be questioned based on the interest shown this subject's

death," Hastie said.

A coroner investigator, there-fore, will be comparing finger-prints taken of the body with Hubbard's known fingerprints, he said. Blood specimens and photographs also were taken for identification purposes.

Hubbard's personal physician Dr. Eugene Denk, who signed the death certificate, and three attorneys identified the body as

Hubbard, he said.

"Is he (dead) or isn't he?" was the question posed Tuesday by Boston attorney Michael Flynn, who coordinated the May 1982 hearings on the sect's Clearwater activities. about to be indicted and all of a sudden they announce he is dead."

Flynn, the sect's longtime arch enemy, contends Hubbard and other Scientology officials have been the target of a twoyear criminal investigation by the Los Angeles division of the Internal Revenue Service. Federal indictments were expected to be released later this week,

Shirley Nakagawa, affairs specialists with the Los Angeles IRS division, said Tuesday disclosure provisions prevent the IRS from revealing pending indictments or information about active investigations.

"This is absolutely false," said John Peterson, the sect's chief general counsel, of both the indictment claims or a

staged death. "I've been in touch with the IRS representatives, and there were absolutely no indictments planned against Mr. Hubbard."

Peterson contends Flynn's remarks are "nothing but sour grapes."

Over the past few years and in a number of lawsuits, Flynn would name Hubbard as the sole defendant and would be granted default judgments when Hubbard did not materialize as a witness, Peterson said.

Local and former city officials agreed that the circumstances surrounding Hubbard's sudden

death appeared fishy.

"Have you seen a death cer-tificate?" asked former City Attorney Tom Bustin, the driving force behind the city's charitable solicitation ordinance, which is being challenged in court by the Church of Scientology. "It sounds funny."

"I also would like someone to verify that he's dead," City Commissioner Rita Garvey said. 'We haven't been able to depend on their word before, so why should be now?"

Asked how Hubbard's death might affect the sect's Flag Land Base headquarters in downtown Clearwater, Mrs. Garvey said, "My reaction is that he's not been involved in the management of the church for some time, so nothing's going to change."

Clearwater Sun

Founded in 1914

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Dennis D. Limbach Editorial Page Editor

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Terrence L. Wagner Circulation Director

Leonard Bouillez Production Manager

Editorials of the Sun

Has Hubbard made his spiritual journey?

You should speak only good of the dead. So maybe if L. Ron Hubbard's death is finally confirmed, editorial writers and commentators all over the world will say good things about him.

But right now we have little except the word of the Scientologists to convince us that Hubbard, the founder of the Scientology cult, is actually dead.

A spokesman for the group announced this week that Hubbard, 74, had taken the trip into "total spiritual freedom" last Friday or thereabouts. At last report, officials in San Luis Obispo County, Calif., where Hubbard's death is said to have taken place, were reported hard at work trying to confirm if Hubbard is dead — and when he died.

For editorial purposes, let's assume that Hubbard is actually gone. What will that mean for Scientology and for Clearwater, which for more than a decade has unwillingly served as one of the homes of the cult?

Taking the most dismal possibility, maybe nothing will change. Scientologists have claimed for years that Hubbard has had nothing to do with the actual operation of the cult. If

that is true, life after death (Hubbard's) may go on as before.

But if the aging, irascible science-fiction writer has had his hand firmly on the tiller, and in the till, all this time, death could leave a sizeable vacuum. Into this vacuum his minions may rush, in the hope of seizing or divvying up the power and the profits that Hubbard has enjoyed all these years. If this should happen, the resulting struggle might soon destroy the Church of Scientology.

Unfortunately, the world has never lacked a supply of clever scoundrels. If Hubbard is indeed gone, it defies the imagination to think that his administrative heirs have not been talking among themselves during recent years, anticipating the day when Hubbard would make his spiritual journey. Even as Hubbard's epitaph is being written, his erstwhile henchmen may be carving up Hubbard's empire. And, they may succeed in keeping Scientology alive for many years to come.

Obviously, time will tell whether Hubbard is really gone, and whether his organizational descendants will be able to keep his scheme going. Meanwhile, we can all hope for what is best for Clearwater.

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Will check of fingerprints verify dead man was L. Ron Hubbard?

By Betsy Bates Herald staff writer

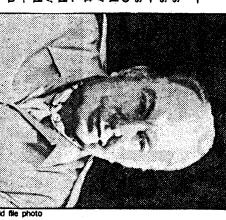
and controversial L. Ron Hubbard night was indeed the flamboyan quietly in a motor home Friday confirm that the man who died ner of San Luis Obisbo County is awaiting fingerprint records to ponder the death of the church's reclusive founder, the sheriff-coro-As millions of Scientologists

at an 80-acre ranch in the rolling oak-covered hills near San Luis ing the past six years in seclusion night to be told that Hubbard hac together in Los Angeles on Monday discarded his body," after spend Church members were called

an old pair of shoes. That being that was L. Ron Hubbard, still is," of the Church of Scientology of Los said the Rev. Ken Hoden, president Angeles, during an interview yes-"A body is a body, discarded like

Church officials said Hubbard's

body had been cremated. Meanwhile, officials in San Luis



"A body is a body." Ron Hubbard

that local authorities were not than 11 hours after it occurred. Obispo County revealed yesterday old science fiction writer and notified of the death of the 74-yearreligious philosopher until more standing that officials weren't noti-

Los Angeles, reported that Hub-Hubbard's doctor, Gene Denk of

fingerprints were taken for straightforward case." we looked into it. It seems like a case. Because of the delay, that's why cremation of Hubbard's body. identification purposes before the on the body. Photographs and were no signs of bruising or scarring doctor were clear of drugs, and there Blood samples provided by Hubbard's "Basically this was not a coroner's

San Luis Obispo sheriff-coroner George Whiting

bard died Friday night, several ranch before any arrangements charged that the church was a days after suffering a brain hemor- were made.

"Basically this was not a coro- Court testimony brought into cure rhage."

fied until 7:30 a.m. Saturday on sheriff-coroner George Whiting. Hoden said it was his under ner's case. Because of the delay, tion Hubbard's war record and that's why we looked into it," said personal biography. The federal

orders of Hubbard's lawyer, Earle ; Whiting said blood samples pro-

zation's tax-exempt status.

OK'd the cremation of Hubbard's prints were taken for identification the body. Photographs and fingerclear of drugs, and that there were no signs of bruising or scarring on body Saturday, he said. purposes before Whiting's office

case," Whiting said. "It seems like a straightforward

characterized Hubbard's life and Nonetheless, the mystique that

tology members in their suits who has represented former Scienlawyer Michael Flynn of Boston, longer around troubles me," said religion appeared to carry over to "The fact that his body is no

government challenged the organiagainst the church. eye. Former church members in 1954, Scientology has never been far from a highly critical public In the years since its founding man, Hoden said.

Saga of the Year 3000," Hubbard concentrated on religious writing, Earth" and the acclaimed science fiction novel "Battlefield Earth: A Since completing "Mission

rior Court Judge Paul J. Breckenagainst persons perceived by him to be disloyal or hostile." vindictiveness and aggressiveness greed, avarice, lust for power, and liar ... (who exhibited) egoism Hubbard as "a pathological ridge Jr. said evidence portrayed

officials in the church who talked ing music and taking photographs. of Hubbard's peaceful final years Hubbard is held by associates and spent researching, writing, compos-Precisely the opposite view of

subjects of Hubbard's studies when he was not working on his theories of the spiritual nature of roamed the hills, and Hubbard his home was being renovated, said motor home on his property while himself mingled with ranch hands Hoden. Llamas and buffaloes Hubbard had been living in a

gy three decades ago, has died of a stroke, the church anembattled Church of Scientolonounced Monday night. He was writer who founded the often-Hubbard, the science fiction from Sun reports
LOS ANGELES — L. Ron

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L RON HUBBARD ... Scientology founder

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(Please see * SECT, next page)



TUESDAY, January 28, 1986 ★

Volume 72, Number 274 25 cents

(from page 1A)

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DeWolf, sought to be appointed Hubbard's eldest son, Ronald

group presented a letter, pur-portedly written by Hubbard, saying he was in seclusion by choice.

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A judge ruled that Hubbard

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"'He has, by this act, confirmed his faith in the future of upon the religion that he found-

after completing his life's work to his full satisfaction, departed by saying, "L. Ron Hubbard, Jentzsch announced the death

his body on Friday, Jan.

No autopsy was performed, in accordance with Hubbard's will, said Cooley. The coroner's office took blood samples, he said. Court documents filed in

years ago and was among 90 planets ruled by Xemu, who spread his evil by thermonucivil case against the church revealed that the organization secretly dear bombs. teaches that Teegeeach 75 million Earth was

L. Ron Hubbard

THE MAN AND HIS WORK



Best-selling Author - Founder of Scientology - Friend to Millions March 13, 1911 - January 24, 1986

Los Angeles Times

,666 Sunday

Wednesday, January 30, 1985

F/C C†/ 92 pages/Copyrigh

Claiming that the Internal Revenue Service routinely investigates individuals and groups because of their religious and political affiliations, former Congressman George V. Hansen (R-Idaho) and the Church of Scientology announced in Los Angeles the formation of a coalition to uncover alleged corruption in the IRS. A longtime critic of the agency, Hansen said he supports the church's coalition because the IRS has changed from an agency of service to one of control of the public. Hansen said he hopes that the coalition will draw attention to IRS abuses, force legislation to regulate the agency and protect the civil and private rights of citizens. Hansen was convicted last April of failing to disclose \$334,000 in loans and profits received from 1978 to 1981. He lost his bid for reelection to an eighth term in Congress last November.