

## Hostile picture

Sir, - In your issue of December 17 you printed a letter from Mr Attack which is a summary of what he does not know about Scientology or Mr L. Ron Hubbard.

By mixing a little truth with a great deal of untruth and by the omission of any honourable data, Mr Attack would seek to paint a picture to inspire hostility in your readers.

You might ask why do some people want you to be annoyed with Scientology? People by far and large are quite happy with us. The opponents of Scientology number only a few who specialise in judging an activity by their own standards. They don't want you to know what Scientology is.

There is one undisputed fact. Scientology is expanding and continues to expand. Scientology improves lives, it saves marriages, brings families together.

Barbara Bradley  
Community Affairs Director,  
Church of Scientology  
East Grinstead.

● This correspondence is now closed - Editor.

many of us to make some kind of reservation, some frivolous and unlikely to last much beyond the weekend, and others more serious.

It's a tradition that is really a bit of a nonsense. But the start of an obviously new phase in the life span of any individual seems an appropriate time to take a look at what needs doing differently - or embrace fresh challenges.

People living in the Midhurst and Petworth areas no doubt have a list of resolutions they would like the authorities who govern so many aspects of their lives to adopt.

But unlike suburbia, where hustle and bustle exposes the campaigning spirit more readily, rural living spawns smaller close-knit communities where people tend to try and sort out difficulties with the least fuss.

People power is, however, a forceful weapon which can be wielded with equal effect in villages and cities. Parish and town councils are a forum for grievances and positive suggestions that too few residents exploit.

All would welcome a greater input from the public. And rather than grumbling at home, more should resolve in 1993 to take advantage of the opportunities they offer for the public voice to be raised.

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## DEALS / ALLAN SLOAN

## Warren Buffett Looks Like a Winner in a White Hat

Normally, no one in his right mind would mention Warren Buffett and Joe, Matt and Kurt Feshbach in the same sentence. That would be like linking St. Francis of Assisi with Attila the Hun.

Buffett, of course, is Saint Warren of Omaha, the billionaire chairman of Salomon Brothers, the most visible long-term investor in America, the whitest of white shoes. Corporate America not only kisses Buffett's feet, it slobbers all over them. The Feshbach brothers, by contrast, are America's most visible short-sellers. Shorts, you know, sell borrowed shares of a company, hoping to replace them cheaper when their price has fallen.

The Feshbachs search for companies' hidden flaws just as Buffett hunts for hidden values. In the process, the Feshbachs, based in Palo Alto, Calif., have become Corporate America's most loathed investors.

So what do the Beauty and the Beasts have in common? Answer: the problem of having too much money to invest. The difference: Buffett has handled the problem much better.

Last year, investors lost more than 50% on their investment in the Feshbachs' funds, according to Joe Feshbach. Those losses, combined with investors withdrawing their money, have reduced the money the Feshbachs manage to about \$250 million from \$900 million at the start of last year, he says. That's one way to solve an excess-money problem, but obviously not the way the Feshbachs had in mind.

Last year, investors in the stock of Berkshire Hathaway, Buffett's company, made a 36% profit. The stock, traded on the New York Stock Exchange, rose despite the fact that to invest all Berkshire's money, Buffett has taken a huge, un-Buffett-like exposure to the cyclical airlines and forest products businesses. In addition, Buffett, who didn't return my calls seeking comment, has a \$700-million investment in Salomon Brothers and \$290 million in Wells Fargo & Co., the big San Francisco bank, both of which turned out to have hidden horrors in their balance sheets.

Buffett also had Berkshire buy \$300 million of American Express preferred stock on terms that seem much less favorable than those that Buffett customarily extracts.

When Buffett was a small, relatively unknown investor, he could shoot fish in a barrel by dealing in thinly traded stocks. Now, with Berkshire owning more than \$7 billion of securities, Buffett's gun is bigger than that whole barrel. Buffett, as many of us financial voyeurs know, has warned Berkshire's owners for years about this problem.

Then there are the Feshbachs. According to Joe Feshbach, the brothers started managing \$3 million in 1985, and by the end of 1990 had earned an average of 40% a year for investors and had about \$400 million to manage at the end of 1990.

Joe Feshbach stoutly denies that having too much money was a problem. "People have always said we had too much money," he insists.

The Feshbachs, who earned their fat returns by unearthing accounting gimmicks and financial fraud, obviously began playing a different game last year, Joe Feshbach's protestations notwithstanding.

Rather than patiently culling \$900 million of good short opportunities from a \$5-trillion securities market, the Feshbachs departed from their customary practice of stomping smallish corporate cripples and went after game—that could shoot back.

For instance, in December, 1990, the Feshbachs publicly predicted that by year-end 1991, the stock of ITEL Corp., a junk bond-financed conglomerate run by the redoubtable Sam Zell, would be selling for \$1 a share or less. Oops. The actual year-end 1991 price: \$18.875. "When they were a \$50-million fund sleuthing for accounting and financial fraud, they were great," Zell says.

Please see DEALS, D6

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**The Feshbachs search for companies' hidden flaws just as [Warren] Buffett hunts for hidden values.**

**In the process, the Feshbachs, based in Palo Alto, have become Corporate America's most loathed investors.**

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## DEALS: Scoring Beauty and the Beasts

Continued from D5

"But when they were a billion-dollar fund, they had to become economists and short their beliefs."

When the stock market took off for the moon in the spring, defying logic, the Feshbachs got squeezed. Previously, their carefully selected targets fell regardless of the market as a whole. Now the Feshbachs were vulnerable to market trends. Then they switched to over-the-counter stocks and got killed as those soared to record levels.

Even when they were right—such as their belief that Wells Fargo's loan portfolio was worse than Wells let on—they lost money. Wells took big loan losses last year, slashed its dividend, and saw its stock fall 40% from its high. But the Feshbachs apparently lost about \$50 million on Wells anyway because they had to repurchase shorted shares at high prices.

Buffett, whose analysis was

wrong on Wells, nevertheless has lost little or nothing. As of Sept. 30, Berkshire owned 5 million shares of Wells at an average cost of \$57.88 a share, about today's market price.

Buffett could hang in at Wells because he had staying power. Because of the way short-sellers borrow money and because investors could take their money back, the Feshbachs didn't have staying power and lost money on Wells even though their analysis was right.

Buffett, though, isn't without problems. His \$358-million investment in ailing USAir is in big trouble, and his \$300-million investments in Champion International and American Express don't look great. But even if Buffett has to eat one or more of those investments, Berkshire Hathaway won't be endangered.

Buffett may have to eat USAir,

or maybe even take a hit on Wells Fargo, both of which are on the Feshbachs' list of overvalued stocks. But Buffett will still be standing. So far, the score stands at Saint Warren 1, Attila 0.

*ALLAN SLOAN is a financial columnist for Newsday in New York.*

## New Antidepressants Emerge to Challenge Popular Prozac

■ **Drugs:** Pfizer offers Eli Lilly competition in a lucrative market.

By DONNA K. H. WALTERS  
TIMES STAFF WRITER

Eli Lilly's widely prescribed antidepressant, Prozac, faces yet another challenge. This time, analysts say, the challenge will be competitive.

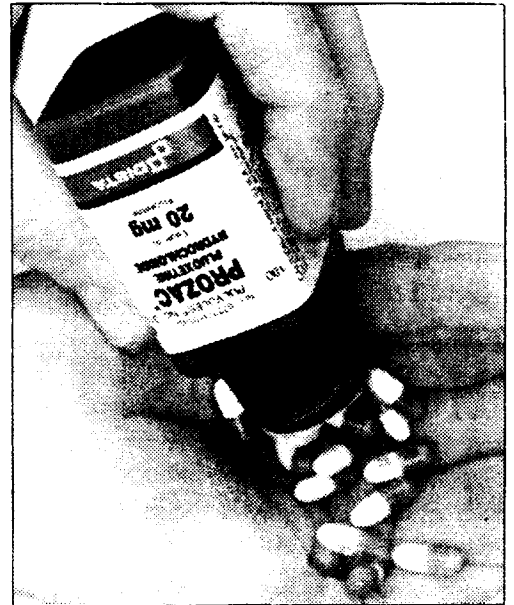
The Food and Drug Administration recently gave Pfizer Inc. the green light to sell its antidepressant drug, Zoloft. And many experts say that before the year is out, another similar medication, SmithKline Beecham's Paxil, could be approved and enter the lucrative market for this new generation of psychiatric drugs.

So far, Prozac owns the market for these easier-to-prescribe antidepressants, a market opened with Prozac's introduction in late 1987. Its sales have grown each year, and in 1991, sales of nearly \$1 billion made Prozac Lilly's second-biggest-selling drug.

Nearly 3.5 million patients now take Prozac, and medical and business experts say the market is still growing. Pfizer cites statistics from the National Institutes of Health that estimate 9.4 million people in the United States suffer from depression.

Zoloft—if released within the next couple of months as planned—could quickly capture \$200 million to \$300 million in sales this year, said Craig P. Baskin, a pharmaceutical securities analyst with Duff & Phelps in Chicago. Most experts predict that Zoloft will not directly eat into sales of Prozac, but rather absorb the growth in the market that had been expected to belong to Lilly.

And yet these drugs will not simply be squaring off against one another in the free marketplace. Prozac has been dogged for more than a year by a controversy that, despite strong refutation, just won't go away: claims that the drug is linked to acts of suicide, homicide and other violence.



KEN HIVELEY / Los Angeles Times

Eli Lilly's Prozac, above, may get some competition from a new drug by Pfizer.

Whether Pfizer and SmithKline will benefit from consumers' nagging fears about Prozac is unclear. **Please see DRUGS, D3**

## DRUGS: New Antidepressants on the Way

Continued from D2

Prozac is hard to predict, analysts say.

The campaign against Prozac has been spearheaded by the Citizens Commission on Human Rights. The commission is an arm of the Church of Scientology, a quasi-religious organization that generally distrusts psychiatric medicine and offers its own methods and program for depression.

"Sales of Prozac would be substantially higher" were it not for the Scientologists' campaign, said Steven Gerber, securities analyst with Bateman Eichler in Los Angeles. That means, he said, there's a "large opportunity for competing products if they can escape the negative publicity. . . . Because consumers have been confused, the public mind is receptive to alternative drugs" to treat depression.

Sanford M. Block, executive director of the Citizens Commission, said, "We are not waiting in the wings" to launch a similar campaign against Zoloft, but added that the group doesn't see any major differences between the Pfizer drug and Prozac.

"We had no preconceived plan" taking aim at Prozac and have

formulated no strategy to oppose Zoloft, Block said, adding: "We are aware of the drug and will be monitoring it."

Although a special panel of the FDA, after extensive testimony from Lilly, medical experts and scientists, officially rejected its claims, the group persistently blames Prozac for a variety of violent acts, including suicides and mass killings, committed by patients or former patients. The campaign, which included involvement in dozens of criminal and civil suits, has nonetheless been surprisingly successful, alarming both potential patients and their doctors and contributing to the halt in growth of the drug's sales last year.

Prozac had quickly gained acceptance in the medical community because, unlike the earlier generation of antidepressants, dosage of Prozac is fairly easily established and it has fewer side effects.

Analysts predict that Pfizer will position Zoloft against these earlier drugs—such as Elavil—rather than directly take on Prozac and evoke the specter of the Scientologists' charges. Pfizer claims that Zoloft is an improvement over Prozac because it lingers in the body for

fewer days once the patient has stopped taking it.

Paxil, which is now being sold in Europe but has not yet been approved by the FDA for sale in the United States, could represent an even larger challenge to Prozac, analysts said, if it proves to be more effective and have fewer side effects.

Prozac is well-enough established, said Gerber, that few doctors and their patients are expected to switch. But those wary of Prozac might take to the new products, he said. "The real question is how much that product will grow its sales. . . . [It] has withstood this nasty controversy this [past] year, but is now facing a different set of challenges, and they are primarily competitive in nature," Gerber said.

Analysts measure their words carefully these days when discussing Prozac and the Scientologists' campaign. The group has sued or threatened to sue numerous media outlets over stories about it and has even sued a PaineWebber analyst for comments he made about the anti-Prozac campaign in an electronic message to the firm's brokers and clients.

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02/04 (DJ) Eli Lilly, Suit-2-: Suit Says Lilly Exec 'Maligned' Church  
 Story 1972 (LLY, I/DRG)

ALEXANDRIA, Va. -DJ- The Church of Scientology said it filed a \$20 million suit against Mitchell Daniels, a senior executive of Eli Lilly & Co., manufacturer of the controversial anti-depressant drug Prozac.

In a press release, the Church of Scientology said the suit, filed in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, charges that Daniels, "as part of Lilly's attempt to shore up crashing sales of Prozac in the face of national adverse publicity about the dangers and negative side effects of the drug, set out to attack the church as a source of the criticism."

The Church of Scientology said that during the course of a meeting with editorial staff of USA Today in June 1991, "Daniels attempted to discredit and malign the church as a source of the protest against Prozac by making false and defamatory statements about the religious nature and standing of the church. The statement was subsequently published in USA Today in June of last year."

In the suit, the church said "Daniels knew or reasonably should have known, and indeed intended, that his defamatory comments would be published

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02/04 (DJ) Eli Lilly, Suit-2-: Suit Says Lilly Exec 'Maligned' Church  
 by USA Today."

"Daniels couldn't defend Prozac on its merits," said Rev. Heber C. Jentsch, president of the Church of Scientology International. "Instead, he sought to assault the religious nature of the church as a way of trying to eliminate the most effective and well-known critic of Prozac."

The Church of Scientology said it and the Church-sponsored Citizens Commission on Human Rights group have been conducting a public education campaign concerning the dangers of Prozac.

An Eli Lilly spokesman wasn't immediately available to comment on the lawsuit.

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02/04 (DJ) Eli Lilly, Suit -3-: Firm Calls Suit 'Attempt To Muzzle'  
 Story 2318 (LLY, I/DRG)

Edward West, director of corporate communications for Eli Lilly, said "suing or threatening to sue is one of Scientology's most frequently used methods of intimidation. The list of individuals who have experienced this type of harassment is long and includes many people who have spoken publicly against this cult.

"In our view, this is just one more attempt by the Church of Scientology to muzzle anyone who criticizes their operations," West said.

West also said "there is no medical controversy" surrounding Prozac, which was described by the Church of Scientology as controversial.

3:03 PM

# St. Petersburg Times

Florida's Best Newspaper



UNITING TAMPA BAY

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1992

CLEARWATER EDITION— St. Pe



EDITOR'S NOTE

**BOB  
HENDERSON**

## Words are weapons in 'cult' battle

Remember the good old days when the only "cult" in Clearwater was a hard-core band of Clearwater Bombers fans who never missed a home game of their national-champion fast-pitch softball team?

Times have changed. Now there's an organization in town called the Church of Scientology, which refers to itself as a religion while critics describe it as a cult.

A grim battle of words was waged in Clearwater this week. Unlike a Bombers game, it wasn't fun to watch at all.

On one side was the Cult Awareness Network (CAN), an international group based in Chicago, which says its only mission is "alerting the world to the dangers of destructive cults" through education.

On the other side were the Scientologists, who consider CAN a major threat to religious freedom in the world.

Here's how the battle was played out, mostly in Clearwater but with side skirmishes in Tampa and Pasco County.

It started Monday when Richard Haworth, Scientology's chief spokesman here, brought to the *Clearwater Times* building Dr. George Robertson, head of something called Friends of Freedom. He identified himself as a Baptist minister who is one of the founders and currently a teacher at Maryland Bible College in Baltimore.

But he apparently spends considerable time traveling around the country attacking CAN, which points out that Robertson previously has been involved with controversial groups known as The Bible Speaks and Greater Grace World Outreach.

Friends of Freedom literature says the group is "monitoring organizations and individuals who undermine our basic freedoms of worship and personal choice. . . ." Robertson, when asked, said his group is a low-budget operation that is not affiliated with Scientology but supported primarily by Christian ministers like himself.

The material he dropped off included an article from a publication called *The Christian Cause* headlined "Anti-Cult Groups — Now They're After Christians."

Visiting my office Thursday were Cynthia Kissler, executive director of CAN; Bill Rehling, a Chicago lawyer who serves as first vice president on the CAN board; and Judy Safransky of Clearwater, president of the Tampa Bay CAN affiliate.

Rehling had flown in Wednesday night and stayed at a Holiday Inn in Tampa. As far as he knew, only three or four people were aware of his location. Wrong. Picketing in front of the motel Thursday morning were Scientologists, including Haworth, who said "Somebody told me" when asked how he knew about Rehling's whereabouts.

Kissler told how her father, a retiree living in Pasco County, had been visited by someone identifying himself as a reporter for *Freedom Magazine*, a Scientology publication. The reporter, according to Kissler, said he was working on a story about prisoners of war and wanted to interview her dad, who was a POW in Korea.

Her father, she said with a laugh, didn't realize he was talking with a Scientologist and told the person, "If you want to learn about brainwashing, you should talk to my daughter. She knows all about that!"

While the CAN delegation was in my office, Haworth paced back and forth in our lobby, angry that he could not join the group. He had called earlier to invite himself to the meeting; I responded that I had met with him and Robertson in private and would do the same with the CAN group.

When I escorted the CAN people to the front doors, Haworth glared at them and then demanded to know what we had talked about. He was livid — and that's not too strong a word — that those people had come down from Chicago into "my community trying to make trouble for my church."

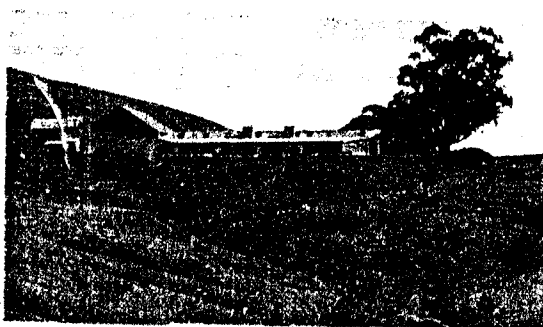
Safransky finds Scientology's apparent obsession with CAN curious, saying that it is only one of CAN's many concerns. To illustrate, she said she received, as the local CAN representative, 68 new inquiries during the last four months of 1991. Only five concerned Scientology.

She said the calls came from parents and spouses of people in certain groups and from clergy, the media and others.

Isn't it all strange and a little scary, regardless of which side you might be on?

Santa Rosa, California, Sunday, February 9, 1992

## Millennial mission



Scientists paid more than \$6 million for the 3,600 acres of land the complex sits upon.



A sign warns the curious not to venture near the Scientology complex near Petrolia.

CHAD SURMICK/PRESS DEMOCRAT

### Underground vault holds Scientology teachings

By CHRIS SMITH  
Staff Writer

**P**ETROLIA, Humboldt County — The people who have been allowed to see the colossal tube that's buried in a velvety green hill just up the road from Petrolia say it's the strangest thing they've ever laid eyes on.

And the most mysterious. The huge, pipe-shaped vault is as wide and high as the cabin of a Boeing 747. It is more than 140 feet longer than one of the jumbo jets.

Disciples of the late L. Ron Hubbard, founder of what has been called the world's most ruthless cult — the Church of Scientology — have sunk the herculean cylinder into the ground like a bomb shelter.

Well out of view, it is embedded in a cattle-ranch hill high above the coast. People who have seen it say all that's visible is one exposed end and a ventilation tower poking above the ground like a periscope on a submarine.

Constructed of concrete-clad steel and buried under 14 feet of earth, the nearly completed vault is designed to last 1,000 years and withstand any destructive act of man or God short of a direct hit by a nuclear bomb.

In fact, Greg Bish, a Humboldt

County planning commissioner who has seen the thing three times, said he thinks the Scientologists chose this remote, sparsely populated area precisely because it's so non-strategic.

"There's no reason to drop a nuclear bomb on Petrolia," he said.

So there is no question the vault is virtually impregnable and will be around for a very long time.

The question in Petrolia is: Why is it here?

"I can see where it is from my house. It's five or six miles away," said 67-year-old Petrolia resident Hardy Hogan, a retired lumberman.

"But what it's for, I have no more idea than nothin'."

The Scientologists paid in excess of \$6 million to buy more than 3,600 acres of grazing land to build and then bury the vault.

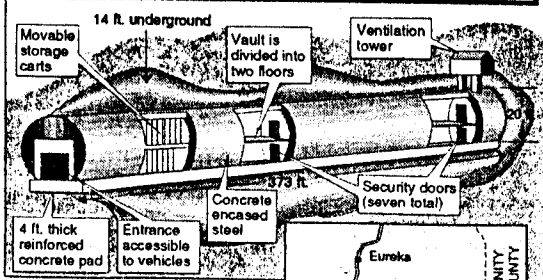
The construction of the thing, which began in 1987, was the grandest undertaking that people in Petrolia have ever seen. The spectacle gave rise to all sorts of rumors about why the Scientologists would go to all that trouble and expense.

"In the beginning," said Elizabeth Poston McHarry, publisher of the weekly Ferndale Enterprise newspaper, people "thought they were going to store refrigerated bodies."

The talk was that the Scientologists would cryogenically preserve corpses of church members, perhaps even the corpse of Hubbard himself, until they are re-entered by eternal souls — Scientology calls them "thetans."

### What's buried in the hillside

Followers of Scientology founder L. Ron Hubbard say the enormous vault near Petrolia will preserve his writings and talks for the enlightenment of future man. Members of the Scientology-affiliated group responsible for the curious project have told county officials the crypt will withstand the destructive forces of man and nature for 1,000 years.

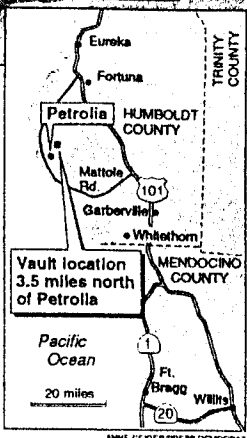


The people responsible for the vault have said such talk is ridiculous and, anyway, Hubbard's body was cremated following his death. Beyond those denials, literature on Scientology says "thetans" are believed to inhabit the bodies of newborn babies, not of dead bodies.

And at the county seat in Eureka, Humboldt County officials said they are fully satisfied the vault will be used exactly as the owners have told them it will be used.

The Scientologists' explanation: the massive capsule will be used to preserve, through the most durable and dazzlingly high-tech

See Vault, Page B2



ANNE GEORGE/PRESS DEMOCRAT

# Vault

Continued from Page B1

archival technology available, the multitudinous words and writings of the man they value above all others: Lafayette Ronald Hubbard.

He was the science fiction writer who founded the Church of Scientology and called it mankind's most important spiritual discovery. But some defectors and investigators hold a decisively different view.

"Scientology is quite likely the most ruthless, most classically terrorist, most litigious and the most lucrative cult the country has ever seen," said Cynthia Kisser, executive director of the Chicago-based Cult Awareness Network.

## Reverence and suspicion

At the time of his death in 1986 at the age of 74, Hubbard was a recluse accused by some high-ranking defectors of pocketing about \$200 million of church revenues. But he's so revered by some Scientologists they use their own system for counting years in which A.D. stands for After Dianetics.

Dianetics, which gave rise to the creation of Scientology in 1954, is Hubbard's theory the painful parts of a person's life can be erased like unwanted noise on a recording tape, leaving the person enlightened or "clear." Scientology holds that the erasing process requires a person work with a trained "auditor," a service that costs thousands of dollars.

"In reality," said a Time magazine cover story from last May, "the church is a hugely profitable global racket that survives by intimidating members and critics in a Mafia-like manner."

The organization that bought the rural ranch land near Petrolia is the Los Angeles-based Church of Spiritual Technology, a business affiliate of Scientology. In papers filed with Humboldt County, the organization states it was founded in 1982 to ensure Hubbard's collected writings and talks "do not fall prey to the ravages of time and will still be in existence in the centuries and millenia to come." The property at Petrolia is off-limits to the media, and numerous phone calls The Press Democrat made to Scientologists involved in the project were not returned.

## Nuclear war

Bish, the past chairman of the Humboldt County Planning Commission, said it appears to him the people who built the vault believe eventually "we're all going to be nuked and gone, and that man is going to start over."

So if modern man's successors begin a new civilization and come upon the exotic archives inside in the vault, he said, "they'll have L. Ron Hubbard." Even if members of the future race don't find the Petrolia cylinder, they might stumble upon one of at least two others near San Bernardino and in New Mexico.

Before Petrolia was discovered by Hubbard's followers it was a contentedly unknown logging and ranching town 30 miles south of the famed Victorian village of Ferndale.

Petrolia's previous claim to fame came in the early 1860s, when California's first oil well was drilled there. The coastal settlement had been named Mattolia, for the close-by Mattole River, but was renamed Petrolia in anticipation of an oil rush that never quite happened.

"Scientology is quite likely the most ruthless . . . cult the country has ever seen."

CYNTHIA KISSER,  
CULT AWARENESS NETWORK

Word spread fast among the approximately 500 residents of Mattole Valley when, in 1984, some uncommunicative strangers began buying up ranches and homesteads in the gorgeous, sea-view hills near Petrolia.

And people really started buzzing when they heard the newcomers had acquired more than 3,600 acres of land and were going to sink into the fertile soil an armored cylinder 20 feet in diameter — that's wide enough to drive a big-rig truck through — and 373 feet long.

The Church of Spiritual Technology people are secretive with locals and the media, but county officials said the spiritual technologists have been forthright with them.

"They've been totally open," said Stan Dixon, the county supervisor whose district includes Petrolia. In fact, Dixon said, now that work on the vault is virtually done, he and other county officials have been invited by Spiritual Technology to come for a tour later this month.

## Mammoth dimensions

In essence, the vast project involved scraping away the top of a remote hill. A ponderous concrete base, about 4 feet thick, 20 feet wide and 373 feet long, was laid in a trench.

Then the cylindrical vault was assembled from great, interlocking steel panels. A second floor was installed down the center of the great tube.

Once the vault was fully assembled, it was encased in several inches of concrete, then covered over with 14 feet of gravel and dirt. All that's visible is the one exposed end and the ventilation building equipped with fans that push air down into the crypt.

Todd Sobolik, Humboldt County's chief building inspector, remarked, "It's very impressive."

The Church of Spiritual Technology used local labor for the vast excavation and for construction of the concrete foundation, of miles of paved roads and of a stately, 8,000-square-foot staff house located some miles from the vault. The property owners have assured Humboldt County only "four to six" church members will live in the house.

## 'Good for business'

Locals said money seems to be no object with the Scientologists and that the project pumped a windfall of cash into a remote, rural area in need of work and income.

"It's been good for business," said a publicity-shy worker at Petrolia's Hideaway restaurant. "They've put a lot of people to work."

The project is profitable for the county, too. The Church of Spiritual Technology will pay \$64,500 in property taxes this year — a kingly

sum in southwestern Humboldt.

By this time, suspicions the vault might store frozen corpses have pretty much died out.

Because Scientology members so revere Hubbard, said Kisser, of the Cult Awareness Network, "it's quite possible" the only intended use is to preserve his writings and lectures. A Los Angeles Times series in mid-1990 said Scientology has spent \$15 million to carry Hubbard's word far into the future.

## Right to inspection

Should the vault's Petrolia neighbors ever come to suspect the thing is being used for something other than the stated, archival purpose, county Supervisor Dixon said Humboldt officials could insist on an inspection.

"Certainly we have the right to see that people are doing with the property what they said would," he said.

In documents filed with Humboldt County, the Church of Spiritual Technology says most conventional methods of preserving written and spoken words are subject to deterioration — paper yellows and recording tapes decay. The documents say the organization was created "with the purpose of researching methods and ways to counteract these factors."

Archives have not yet been moved into the vault, but the documents in Eureka say the high-cost, high-tech methods of preserving Hubbard's spoken and written words, as well as other materials from the Bible and other religious sources, may include:

- Audio discs made of gold.
- Writing that is chemically etched into stainless steel.
- Long-playing records that are made of steel and, in the absence of electricity, can be played on a hand-crank phonograph.
- Archival paper that looks new for centuries.
- Gas-filled titanium time capsules in which records are preserved for "a minimum of 1,000 years."

If all goes according to the Church of Spiritual Technology's ostensible plan, a successor of modern man might find the Petrolia vault a millenium from now, even if all else on Earth has been lost.

But, because they would not talk to The Press Democrat, officials of the organization could not be asked how that future being might get at the wisdom of Hubbard — that is, how the being will open the impregnable vault.

"That's a good point," said Bish, the county's planning commissioner who has toured the great underground cylinder with Scientologists.

"They never explained that to us."



# Unification News

The Newspaper of the Unification Community

Volume 11, No. 3

March 1992

## Religious News & Comment

By Dr. Tyler Hendricks

These are two items that recently caught my attention while reading the national press.

### Cult Awareness Network Controversy, Former UC member's allegations

The Los Angeles Times reports that former UC member Gary Scharff alleges that the Cult Awareness Network (CAN) paid him to lie and deceive on their behalf.

CAN director Cynthia Kisser responds that Scharff is now lying and deceiving on behalf of his new employer, the Church of Scientology. What a tangled web we weave....

A man who called a news conference Monday in Los Angeles on the 13th anniversary of the Jonestown massacre, told reporters that he had falsely claimed to be a survivor of the Guyana tragedy in order to raise "hundreds of thousands of dollars" for the Cult Awareness Network in Chicago.

Gary Scharff said that network personnel encouraged him to tell untrue stories about surviving the blood bath that claimed 914 lives in order to finance their cult deprogramming work.

Cynthia Kisser, executive director of the network, denied Scharff's claims, saying in a telephone interview that when she and her associates began to doubt his increasingly "wild" stories about being at Jonestown, he complained bitterly and left the organization.

Kisser said that Scharff is currently being supported by the Church of Scientology, a group that has been the target of ongoing investigations by the Cult Awareness Network. Scharff said he is not affiliated with Scientology.

Los Angeles Times, B2, Nov. 19, 1991

Mr. Scharff, a UC member who was deprogrammed in the late 1970s, has profited over the years by attacking the Unification Church and Reverend Moon. He married Barbara Underwood, another member who was kidnapped and deprogram-

med. The Cult Awareness Network assuaged their consciences by helping them shift responsibility from themselves to the church they abandoned. One hopes that such exploitation in the name of "protecting" society from new religions will cease before more such lives are ruined.

### President Bush and Family Ethics

We are delighted to hear of our President's God-centered view of America....

The President commended the broadcasters for their support of the war to drive Iraq from Kuwait. "I want I to thank you for helping America, as Christ ordained, to be a light unto the world," said Mr. Bush.

The President renewed his call for a Constitutional amendment allowing organized prayer in public schools, calling prayer "the ultimate value that sustains America."

In Sunday school, children learn that God is everywhere, but in public school they find that He's absent from class,' said Mr. Bush....

In today's speech, Mr. Bush spoke at length about what he said was a threat to American family values from crime, drugs and racism.

"We need a nation closer to the Waltons than the Simpsons," Mr. Bush said, "an America that rejects the tide of incivility, and the tide of intolerance."

The New York Times, A12, Jan. 28, 1992

We hope that his kind and gentle words are not just politically motivated. The President must realize that when one stands for God one will be attacked. The quest for a God-centered America, in which the exaltation of the family is the paramount concern of government, transcends political strategy and partisanship.

Speak your family ideals to the National Organization of Women, Mr. President. The secular media may mock you, but God and the American people will support you.