

Michael Edwards/Herald photographer

ONE FOR THE BOOKS: An LAPD traffic officer, pipe in hand, ponders the mess on Fifth Street near Hope after a truck loaded with Scientology books by L. Ron Hubbard failed to make a turn and crashed through a wall before overturning yesterday. The driver of the truck managed to jump from the vehicle and escaped injury. No other vehicles were involved.

How Founder's Son Sees Church of Scientology

Carson City, Nev.

The former L. Ron Hubbard Jr. shed his father's name in a simple legal maneuver. Shedding the effects of his powerful church is another matter.

Left behind are bitter hatreds, fears for his safety only half-jokingly laughed off, charges of money-grubbing and wrongdoing and deep emotional scars. The Church of Scientology counters that the wayward son is merely fantasizing.

Ron DeWolf, 47, first born offspring of Lafayette Ronald Hubbard, the brilliant and controversial force behind the wealthy and influential Scientology organization, hasn't seen his father since he left the "Org" 23 years ago.

Today, living in a modest townhouse apartment in Carson City with his wife and youngest son, DeWolf is still caught up in a love-hate struggle with his father and obsessed by the turbulent chain of events he helped put in motion.

A mild-mannered man whose red hair is now streaked with gray, DeWolf was involved in the Dianetics-Scientology organization since before its incorporation as a church in 1953. With three grown sons in the military he now works as security chief at a Carson City hotel-casino. "It takes a con to know a con," DeWolf said.

One of the founding members of an early Church of Scientology in New Jersey, he walked out on his father in 1959. He continued to "audit" church members for cash until 1962, however, and admits to having accepted over \$3000 from his father and church officials in the 1960s.

"I walked out because of my children," he said in an interview. "My first and primary concern has been my family."

He also cited patriotism and a guilty conscience as factors in his break with his father's growing empire.

"I got tired of seeing people who would destitute themselves, sell their homes, empty their bank accounts, walk out on their families," he said. "That really got to me. I had such a screwed up childhood that family for me was incredibly important."

DeWolf said he waited for more than 20 years to tell his story in part because he feared prosecution for extortion, blackmail and other crimes. "You take all of the grade Z science fiction you've ever read and put it together and it spells Scientology," said DeWolf, who taught advanced Scientology courses in the United States and England between 1953 and 1959. Some of the lectures were given while he was stoned on drugs, he said.

"I used to give lectures on absolutely nothing. He (Hubbard) would come in and hand me a slip of paper and say, 'here's the new process,' and I'd just take right off. I'd hear the thing in the morning and I'd lecture on it for the rest of the week."

"Oh God," he laughed. "People are going to shoot me."

His life since breaking with his famous father hasn't been easy.

"When you believe you're a God, it's a little hard to go back to being a human being," he said. "The fall from Mount Olympus is very long and hard. Twenty years of guerrilla warfare has taken its toll on my health."

"The validity of the charges made by Ron DeWolf need only be weighed against the ethics of his actions," countered church spokesman August Murphy. "For years he has made these very same allegations and repeatedly has turned around and retracted them, labeling them as false, malicious and vindictive."

DeWolf admits signing at least one affidavit in 1969 praising Scientology and retracting his criticisms of the church and his father, but says he only signed after repeated threats against his life and his family.

He says other similar documents obtained by church officials were either signed under pressure or are forgeries.

To many of the 5 million to 6 million members of the Church of Scientology, DeWolf's father is nothing less than a god — or in church jargon, an "Operating Thetan." He hasn't been seen in public in years and reportedly resides at sea, aboard the ship "Apollo."

Biographies written about Hub-

bard vary in so many details they only thicken the aura of mystery that surrounds him. One of the few details of Hubbard's early life that no one disputes is that he was a very successful writer, specializing in travel, adventure, aviation and science fiction.

DeWolf contends his father never stopped writing science fiction. He said his father misrepresented his background and accomplishments on numerous occasions, a charge with which other authors and investigators concur.

"My father lied to his parents, to his three wives, his seven children, Scientology, its members and the public — probably around 95 to 99 percent of the time," DeWolf said.

"My father has an insatiable appetite for money, power and sex. He is technically a genius, but of course ... you can be brilliant and crazy as hell. He even thought he could make a pact with the devil and get away with it."

A check of Orange County, Calif., records shows DeWolf, who changed his name from L. Ron Hubbard Jr. in 1972, was born on May 7, 1934, in Encinitas, to Hubbard and his first wife, Margaret Louise Grubb.

Official biographies of Hubbard do not mention Margaret Grubb or Hubbard's second wife, Sara Northrup.

"My mother would have shot LRH or any Scientology type that came within a hundred miles of her," DeWolf said.

DeWolf's mother, who died in 1963, told him many years later her husband "used to stake her out on the floor with all kinds of pentagrams and what have you. He was trying to conceive a child through black magic."

The death of DeWolf's half-brother, Quentin, Hubbard's oldest son from his third marriage, has puzzled and concerned him, DeWolf said.

Quentin Geoffrey MacAuley Hubbard was found unconscious in a car in December 1976 near McCarran International Airport in Las Vegas. The car had been stripped of license plates and registration and the young man carried no identification.

United Press

Scientologists lose disclosure battle

By RICHARD LEIBY
Sun staff writer

The Church of Scientology must reveal extensive financial records to Pinellas County if it wants a property tax exemption, a Circuit Court judge ruled Thursday.

The order negated years of Scientology arguments that its exemption should be automatic as a religious organization.

Judge B. J. Driver's ruling came in lawsuits the church filed because Pinellas Property Appraiser Ron Schultz denied its applications for tax exemption on its Clearwater holdings.

Schultz, citing "inadequate financial disclosure," has maintained for five years that the local church must prove its non-profit status by disclosing records of its corporate parent, the Los Angeles-based Church of Scientology of California.

Driver agreed. He said that to limit Schultz' audit to the "documentation relating solely to the local operation . . . would be akin to trying to determine if General Motors was a profitable operation by checking the books of its local dealer."

The ruling does not force the church to reveal its books, Schultz noted. But if the church does

not, it has no right to seek exemptions, he said.

The church owns seven buildings assessed at \$10.5 million. Its current and back tax liability totals \$556,509, records show.

"There is no constitutional right to tax exemption by a church or other non-profit organization," Driver wrote. "The Legislature in granting the boon of tax exemption may impose any reasonable condition to the granting of the exemption."

He said state law "in effect requires that a claimant for exemption open its books to the world for reasonable examination."

Efforts to reach Tampa and Washington lawyers for the church were unsuccessful. Scientology spokeswoman Laura Wolfe said, "I cannot make a comment until we review with the attorneys what the significance of the ruling is. It's a bit vague."

In a Dec. 30 hearing, church attorneys argued that Schultz' demand for the California records was "unduly burdensome" and an unconstitutional "invasion" by the state into church matters. They said it would take 5,000 hours to compile the records sought by the property appraiser.

(* See SCIENTOLOGISTS, next page)

Friday
in the Sun
January 8, 1982

Clearwater Sun

(from page 1A)

Schultz wanted the church's 1977 records on disbursements, collections and operations—including canceled checks, bank statements, wage reports, legal fees and minutes of the church's California board of directors.

Driver acknowledged the church's constitutional religious privilege to withhold certain documents. He said he would view privately any documents the church wants to withhold and rule separately on their use as evidence.

But the judge wrote that "all other records in the possession of the officers and custodians of the Church of Scientology of California Inc. are relevant, not privileged, reasonably calculated to lead to discovery of admissible evidence, (and) while burdensome, not sought for the purpose of embarrassing, oppressing or annoying the plaintiff."

The ruling affects suits filed by the church in 1978, 1979 and 1980. The cases were consolidated in hopes of a definitive ruling on the financial disclosure issue.

Schultz has said his 1976-77 records indicate that "several million dollars" in Scientology revenue left Pinellas but could not be accounted for. He said he believes the money goes to the California headquarters.

Driver also left open for further argument the issue of whether Scientology is being treated unfairly. The church charged that Schultz is demanding more financial accounting from Scientology than he is of long-established churches.

Driver called that contention "premature," saying it should not be raised until the sect's suit comes to trial.

Curiously, the records Schultz wants date to a year for which the Scientologists have paid taxes. As a gesture of good will to the community in late 1979, the church paid \$127,000 in back taxes for 1976-77.

But Schultz said the payment did not settle the legal issue of the church's financial disclosure—for that year or any other.

A tight corner for the Scientologists

Judge B.J. Driver's decision last week on the Church of Scientology's tax exemption suit probably places the sect in one of the tightest corners it has been in during Scientology's six-year history in Clearwater.

The court decision said that if Scientology wants to gain tax exempt status, it must give Property Appraiser Ron Schultz the financial data he says he needs to determine whether or not the sect does indeed deserve exemption from paying local property taxes.

The Scientologists have steadfastly refused to give up the records of the parent organization, the Los Angeles-based Church of Scientology of California.

Judge Driver ruled that if the church wants to qualify for exemption, it must divulge information about the California operation as well as the Clearwater office.

The Scientologists' lawyers haven't said what they will do. However, several options suggest themselves.

The sect can try to appeal. However, on Friday Schultz said it is by no means certain the Second District Court of Appeal will agree to hear the case.

If an appeal fails, the Scientologists could decide to furnish Schultz the records he has asked for. Even though Schultz is legally bound to keep the records confidential and only for his own use, we'd bet that supplying the financial data is the last thing the Scientologists would choose to do.

The reason, we suspect, is pure and simple: The records would show that Scientology is just what many persons say it is—a profit-making venture that does not deserve to be free of property taxes.

If Schultz, on that basis, should therefore reject Scientology's request for tax exempt status, it would be a mighty blow against the sect. The damage would not be in the taxes the decision would cause to be paid, but in

the Scientologists' loss of credibility and prestige in the eyes of unbiased observers and possible converts.

If we were the Scientologists, we would simply pay the yearly taxes and shut up. After all, the Scientologists already have paid taxes for 1976 and 1977. What difference would further payments make, except to disarm those critics who object to the sect's presence solely because it doesn't cough up property taxes like the rest of us?

Quietly paying taxes would remove a source of headlines and negative publicity for the sect. Another smart move for Scientology would be to shut down Narconon, the Gerus Society and the other alleged good-will groups that Scientology has sent out into the community as part of a public relations smoke screen. Although these offshoot organizations probably help to obtain new recruits, they

also frighten and anger many persons in the Clearwater community.

If, in the autumn of 1975, the Scientologists had come to Clearwater and said, "We want to buy the Fort Harrison Hotel and several other properties; pay taxes; stay out of the public eye; pick no fights; not try to persuade people we're a religion; and make outrageous profits through teaching a variety of self-help courses," it is unlikely that the sect would have had a tenth of the troubles it has caused for itself.

Instead, the early Scientologists chose to lie, bluff, scheme, and generally stir up trouble. Now the courts have given Scientology another reverse. It will be interesting to see if the Scientologists have learned from experience, of if they will continue to be litigious, defensive and combative, and thus give their opponents a continuing high profile to shoot at.

Clearwater Sun Opinion

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Since 1914 •

Clearwater, Florida

Sect installs new powers that be

By RICHARD LEIBY

Sun staff writer

The Church of Scientology installed a new hierarchy of international officers in Clearwater Tuesday, officially making the city its worldwide base of operations.

It was the church's first public installation of officers since coming here in 1975. But the ceremony at the former Fort Harrison Hotel shed little light on the powers behind the local Scientology organization, which recently split into two corporations.

The four officers sworn in Tuesday head a new corporation called "The Church of Scientology International," described as the chief administrative arm of the organization that contends it has 5 million members in 35 countries.

The international president, 46-year-old Heber Jentzsch, pledged to be a "visible peacemaker" in the community and said he would seek meetings with government leaders about controversies involving the church—notably, taxes.

But Jentzsch acknowledged in an interview that most responsibility for local issues will fall to officers of the "Church of Scientology Flag Service. Org"—another corporation formed in the reorganization.

The "Flag Org"—Scientology term for flagship organization—purchased the Church of Scientology of California's \$10.5 million in property here in December. Its officers have not yet been made available to the media.

After an inquiry by the *Clearwater Sun*, Scientology spokeswoman Laura Wolfe said an introduction of Flag officers would be planned.

Jentzsch acknowledged he is responsible to a five-member board of directors, who he said were not at the ceremony. The board votes on policy from L. Ron Hubbard, Scientology's exclusive founder.

The two new corporations were created to sever the seven-building Clearwater base from its corporate mother, the Church of Scientology of Cali-

fornia, headquartered in Los Angeles. The California organization is in litigation with Pinellas County and the Internal Revenue Service over its tax-exempt status.

As the local "peacemaker," Jentzsch replaces Kenneth Whitman, who said he has "retired voluntarily" as president of the Church of Scientology of California.

This past fall, the FBI and U.S. Attorney's Office in Tampa were seeking to question Whitman in connection with a grand jury investigation of church activities in Pinellas County. But Whitman, on hand for Tuesday's ceremony, said he was never subpoenaed and his lawyers have not heard from the authorities since September.

Jentzsch recently moved to Clearwater from Los Angeles, where he was public affairs director for the California church. He said his main responsibility now is "continuing the worldwide expansion of Scientology."

(* See SECT, next page)

*** Sect installs officers**
(from page 1A)

The international corporation owns no property. It is based in the former West Coast Building, 118 N. Fort Harrison Ave., purchased by the church in 1979.

Jentzsch said his local goal is to achieve "positive resolution" of city and county demands that the church pay property taxes.

"A dialogue has to occur," he said. "We're trying to discover what you (the community) would like us to do. What is the most positive action that can be done, that helps everybody?"

But Jentzsch refused to speculate whether the church would pay its \$556,000 tax debt if the "dialogue" produced that recommendation. "I won't deal with hypotheticals," he said.

The other officers installed Tuesday were Peggy Daroesman, vice president; William Price, secretary; and Charlie Bills, treasurer.



HEBER JENTZSCH

... new sect president

Anti-Scientology Task Force is Proper

The following editorial first appeared in the Jan. 17 ST. PETERSBURG TIMES, to whom we are grateful for permission to reprint it here.

Residents of Clearwater and neighboring communities have become increasingly disturbed and frustrated as they witness the ever-growing presence here of Scientology. Just last week the Scientologists staged an "investiture ceremony," which officially marked the establishment of Clearwater as the group's world headquarters.

Residents have watched helplessly as the group acquired \$10.4-million worth of property in downtown Clearwater and the surrounding area. They have been dismayed to learn about Scientologist opening a teen-age hangout across from Clearwater High School and trying to get school system officials to refer drug abusers to a Scientology-related drug program. They have read or heard on television about a study of cults revealing that "Scientology's techniques may be more than twice as damaging as those of any other major cult in America."

But there was nothing they could do. The local Scientology organization, as far as can be determined at this point, has not broken any laws. Its rights must be protected. County officials are trying through the courts to get the Scientologists to pay taxes, but litigation is a painfully slow process. Clearwater officials are studying various ways to control the Scientologists, but they, too, must move slowly and cautiously lest any of the Scientologists' constitutional rights be infringed on.

Private citizens cannot and should not try to do anything on their own about Scientology.

But the citizens task force, whose existence was revealed Friday, appears to be a proper vehicle for residents to address the Scientology issue in a legal and orderly fashion. It can do things that the city cannot, such as establishing a victims defense fund to help finance lawsuits against the church by its former members.

The Scientologists undoubtedly will label the task force a vigilante group. It is not that, based on what we know now. It is a group of citizens with legitimate concerns about this large, powerful and wealthy organization with its highly questionable and controversial practices. What local residents have learned about Scientology causes them to be understandably concerned about their children and about their city.

The task force's existence was revealed by Clearwater City Commission candidate Shirley Wulfeck. We believe that her concern about Scientology is genuine. But we wish the announcement had come from some other member of the task force because it now will be labeled a political gimmick by the Scientologists as well as by her opponents.

Mrs. Wulfeck refused to name other members of the task force. We believe that is a mistake. Secret membership lists connote an image that the task force should shun. She said task force members fear reprisals. We suggest, on the other hand, that the Scientologists will be able to acquire a membership list if they really want one.

So, we hope the group reconsiders and its members proudly announce who they are. And, again, we urge the task force to move carefully — and legally.



HARTFORD COURANT

29 JANUARY 1982

2 State Units Sever Links To Scientology Church

By ANDREW WALSH
Courant Staff Writer

Charging the national Church of Scientology has betrayed its philosophical teachings and bled its members financially, two of the state's three Scientology missions have broken away as part of a national reform movement surfacing within the controversial religious group.

The missions, in New London and Waterbury, are the first church units in the nation to sever ties with the church's national organization, P. Brown McKee, senior executive director of the two missions, said Thursday.

"Scientology has gone from an informal group of people with a philosophical bent ... to a miniature Nazi Germany, a military type of organization," said McKee, who has been involved with Scientology for 23 years.

Established as a formal organization in the early 1960s to spread the teachings of L. Ron Hubbard, a former science fiction writer and Naval intelligence officer, the church holds that humans have unlimited spiritual potential. It offers a long, expensive series of courses and counseling sessions designed to "clear" members of emotional difficulties.

The group has struggled to overcome a reputation as a cult and has a long history of clashes with the government.

Church officials claim about 1 million members in this country and millions more abroad. McKee estimates there are about 100,000 active Scientologists in the nation. About 160 Scien-

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Hartford Courant Jan 29, 1982

Betrayal Charged

Scientology Units Sever National Link

Continued from Page 1

tologists are active in Connecticut's three missions, local leaders said.

McKee and four other senior Scientologists in three states have been suspended for not restricting complaints about church policies and practices to official church complaint boards, Jack Brighton, a church spokesman in Boston, said Thursday. He said the dispute does not mark a serious division in the church.

"There've been some upsets with people such as Brown," Brighton said. "We've been going through a period of rapid expansion and there are some bumps along the way."

The church's mission in Rochester, N.Y., also is breaking with church leaders, said its director, Dale Grady, Thursday. Dissidents report unrest and demands for reform in local organizations across the nation.

Dissidents say the protest movement grew out a December church conference in Clearwater, Fla., where field leaders unsuccessfully pressed the church's executives to allow members to participate in church administration and to turn away from secrecy and the financial exploitation of church members.

McKee said the "horror stories" he heard from church colleagues at the Clearwater conference convinced him and some others that, "All the stories I had heard and put off as government attacks were all true."

"It's turned into an extremely regimented system... you do it one way or your thinking is 'corrected,'" he said.

While McKee and field officials in Dallas and Los Angeles have been suspended, according to Brighton, McKee and Grady said there also is church pressure on dissidents in Columbus, Ohio; Cincinnati; St. Louis; Los Angeles, and San Francisco.

Brighton said that many within the church agree that some high church officials have made major mistakes, but he said those officials have been removed.

The New London group voted to leave the church last week and the Waterbury group voted Wednesday, McKee said. About 50 active members and nine staff members are involved in the groups.

The Scientology Center of Stamford, Connecticut's third Scientology group, has remained loyal to the national organization, its director, Peter Pinchot, said Thursday.

The Waterbury group issued a six-point condemnation of the national organization, saying it was leaving the church because "senior managing officials of the church have departed from the original and beneficial form of Scientology."

Their complaints include:

- The transformation of management of the church into paramilitary units with naval ranks and the enforcement of orders in a military manner.

- Orientation of the church toward making money rather than toward providing services.

- The harassment of individuals who question the policies or practices of the church.

- The control of Scientology by a secret group, called the "Watchdog Committee" that refuses to reveal the names of its members.

- Official pressure to support and defend senior church leaders, including Hubbard's wife, who were convicted in 1979 of conspiracy in the electronic bugging of government offices and the stealing of federal documents.

- The refusal of officials to reveal the whereabouts or welfare of Hubbard, who has not appeared in public for several years and who McKee and others believe may be seriously ill.

McKee said that he has been concerned about the organization "for many, many years," but "put up with the stupidities (of administrative officials) in the hope that the organization would grow up and become mature."

"The thing that holds people to the organization," he said, "is that (its philosophical basis and some of its techniques) are so good for people."

McKee, who has directed the church's work in central and eastern Connecticut since 1973, said he thinks the church changed drastically in character during the mid-1970s. "The control of people, control of thought and separating the individual from all his money seem to be the objective," he said.

He said that the programs offered by the church have become steadily more elaborate, designed to propel persons from one course to the next.

Under the present structure of Scientology, McKee said, a person new to the religion could spend \$5,000 on introductory courses within a few months and up to \$30,000 to complete a series of courses and counseling sessions. McKee said he spent \$3,000 on his original training in the 1960s and \$30,000 on advanced training over the last decade.

McKee said the locally controlled field groups, or missions, offer only lower-level courses and must send 10 percent of the tuition fees to the national church. Formal churches are closely supervised by the national organization. There are about 180 missions and about 30 formal churches in the nation, McKee said.

Brighton emphatically denied charges that the organization has a paramilitary structure, is excessively secretive or harasses members or critics.

He said the church's services can be expensive, but that they are valid and valuable.

Small Piece matches back side (over)

In unprecedented action: Scientologists list reasons for break

By Borboro Reed
Day Staff Writer

GROTON — Twenty-six members and three directors of the local mission of the Church of Scientology have voted unanimously to end connections with the worldwide organization, citing six points of disagreement.

Although the mission has maintained a low profile since opening here in 1978, the national church has frequently attracted attention and controversy since its founding in 1954. Scientology is based on teachings of founder L. Ron Hubbard whose book "Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental Health," published in 1954, gives techniques for spiritual growth.

The separation action — unprecedented among an estimated 3.5 million U.S. followers of Scientology and 6.5 million in the world — was followed by removal of a sign with the official church name from a barned building near the Popponock Bridge Firehouse where office space is rented.

Holly Malloy of Ledyard, 28, director of the mission; and the Rev. F. Brown McKee, senior executive director of missions for Waterbury and New Britain where he lives, expect to be excommunicated because of proposals they made for the split.

Mrs. Malloy says they are also concerned that threats the church has allegedly made in the past against other opponents may be directed at them. "But someone has to do this. It has to be done," she declared. The Rev. Mr. McKee is a 30-year Scientology member.

Mrs. Malloy said the Rev. Mr. McKee's unit in New Britain has authorized him to follow procedures that may result in similar action there. A snowball effect in other states could follow, she said. She cited widespread dissatisfaction which McKee learned about when he attended an informal meeting last month in Clearwater, Fla., with other Scientology workers.

Paid notices will be published in newspapers stating that the local unit is severing connections with the Church of Scientology of California (the formal corporate name) and its branches, known as the Sea Organization and The Guardian.

"We still believe the early material of Hubbard is very workable and we'll go on with our counseling with his techniques," said Mrs. Malloy. Mainly, the disagreement revolves around changes she says started about 1978 — a year "coincident with the time nobody has seen Hubbard that we know of."

"Also, it's been since 1978 that

there has definitely been an increase in the money orientation in Scientology," she said that Sea Organization members in Clearwater (described as the elite arm of the "Watchdog Committee") complained at sessions the Rev. Mr. McKee attended that they must work 12 hours a day, with only a half-day holiday per week, and daily one-hour visiting privileges for parents with children. These members are being crammed into crowded hotel rooms owned by the church, the Rev. Mr. McKee reported.

Mrs. Malloy says the local unit has not kept up with constant increases the mother church has stipulated. The local unit charges its members a communications course and \$100 an hour for counseling. She says she does extensive, free marriage counseling. The mission is required to send 10 percent of its earnings per week to Suffolk, England, via a Los Angeles mailing address.

The official statement of dissolution charges the present senior officials of the church have abandoned the Hubbard's humanitarian purposes and cites the refusal to discontinue the whereabouts and welfare of Hubbard as one of six reasons for the action.

It also charges the church has been placed under secret control.

unnamed individuals and is demanding from its members ever-increasing sums of money, calling them donations. Other points listed are: — Supporting and defending senior church officials found guilty by a federal court.

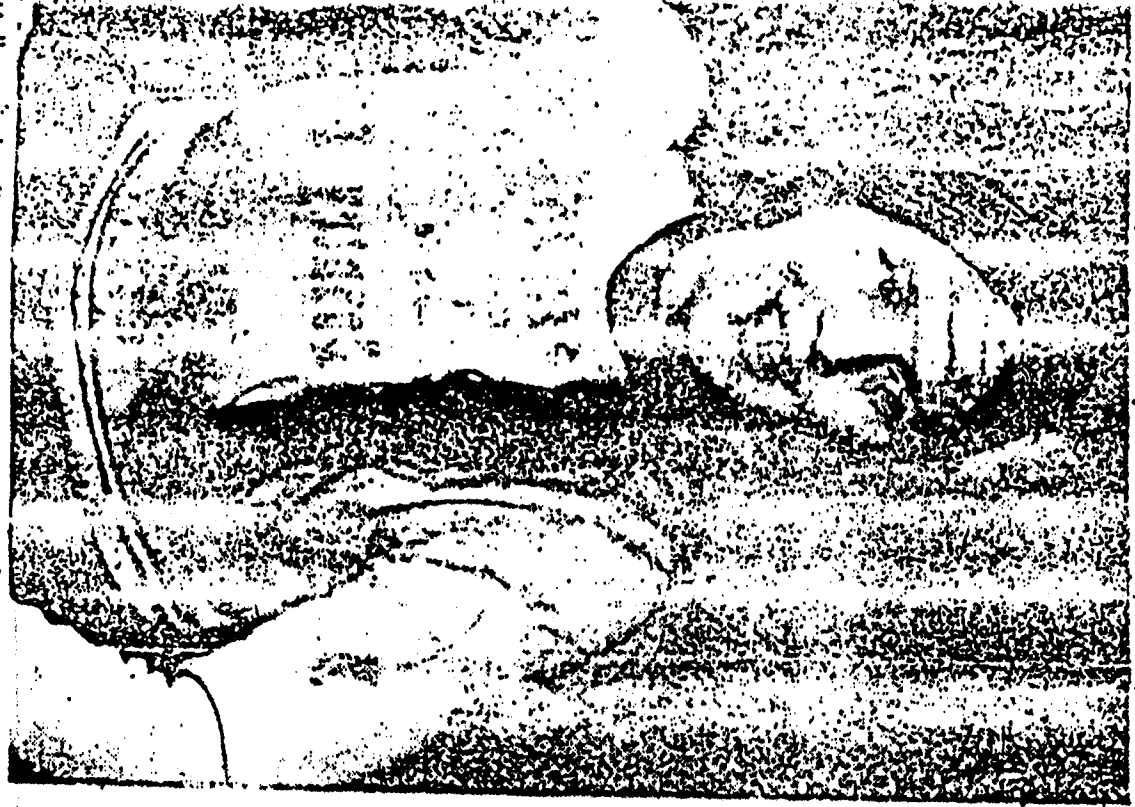
— Transforming the management of the church into a paramilitary organization where members of one unit are given military ranks and wear uniforms and operate in military fashion.

— Harassing and placing under duress individuals who question or speak out against the policies or practices of the church.

Several Scientologists, including Hubbard's wife, were recently convicted on charges of theft of federal documents, according to John J. Russell, a spokesman with the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, D.C.

Mrs. Malloy said she is concerned about reaction from the organization in the church, but that she has not personally been harassed. She said the Rev. Mr. McKee was placed under guard in the mid-1970's when he

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Malloy, mission director

Scientologists list

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had a "technical disagreement" with church officials in Washington.

Referring to the members found guilty in a federal court after investigations by the Federal Bureau of Investigation of Scientology operations in Los Angeles and Washington, she said: "Some of those people were found guilty by the federal court and yet they are still employed by the church. We were asked to collect money for them and told they weren't guilty. We wouldn't have asked people for money if we had known."

News of the break with the main church was met with surprise by officials at the Boston-based Scientology office which participated in 1980 in a program designed to give the local unit — officially named the Church of Scientology Mission of New London (where it first located) a more visible role in the community.

The Rev. Jack Brighton, acting director of public affairs, said at one point he agreed excommunication could be expected. Later, he said he had talked to the Rev. Mr. McKee and that the two plan to talk about the issues.

"I've always known Brown (F. Brown McKee) to be a man of integrity. The thing we hold in common is our belief in Scientology. If he's got some upset with the organization, that's a different thing."

The Rev. Mr. Brighton said Hub-

bard resigned in 1966 as executive director of the worldwide organization. A man named Kerry Gleason was recently named to succeed Bill Franks to the top post once held by Hubbard. Gleason, he said, is assigned as president of the Church of Scientology International with headquarters in Clearwater.

"Obviously, anyone can criticize that he (Hubbard) is not around. But I'm not concerned about that. He's not involved with the church. He's living his own life." He said Hubbard has recently written a new book, "Way to Happiness."

The Rev. Mr. McKee said it is puzzling that Hubbard's name is always stamped on the increasing number of official directives. He and Mrs. Malloy say other correspondence, which includes repeated orders to increase Scientology training courses and counseling fees, has para-military indications because it rarely bears real names. Instead, acronyms are popular. One listed is "KOPTK," which means Keeper of Technology and Policy Knowledge — the group apparently in charge of updating Hubbard counseling techniques.

Mrs. Malloy says recent books by Hubbard are not proof to her of his whereabouts. "His name's on them. But many of the later things he has done are what appears to be compilations of earlier data he wrote. There's nothing new about them that I can see."

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APRIL/MAY 1982

The **ADVISOR**

CLEARWATER, FLORIDA

Page 3

BRIEFLY.....

Scientologists Lose Tax Battle

Scientologists in Clearwater, Florida, lost another round in a fight over producing financial records from the parent church in California. A judge on Jan. 29 turned down a request from the Clearwater church for a rehearing on an order compelling it to produce the records in support of a tax-exempt status in Pinellas County. Paul B. Johnson, attorney for the church, said he will ask the 2nd District Court of Appeal to review the decision by Circuit Judge B. J. Driver. The judge ruled in a lawsuit brought by the Scientologists against Pinellas County Property Appraiser Ronald Schultz.

COMMENTARY

Extremism No Virtue in Scientology Issue

The following editorial first appeared in the Feb. 1 EVENING INDEPENDENT of St. Petersburg, FL, to whom we are grateful for permission to reprint it here.

Few movements have generated more justifiable hostility than Scientology, the pseudo-church that moved its headquarters to Clearwater in 1975.

Since then, leaders of the church have been found guilty of lying and breaking other federal laws. The group's tactics included compiling a list of targets; people who opposed them became "fair game." In recent months, a batch of front organizations have sprung up, all in the name of a good cause, all likely to be recruitment centers for Scientology.

Appropriately, the School Board refused to list one such group, Narconon, as a legitimate drug abuse referral agency for students.

In Clearwater itself, Scientology became a shrill political issue, with candidates for office sometimes trying to out-do each other in opposition to them. This settled down last year with the rejection of Richard Tenney in his campaign for mayor.

With him, we had hoped, went the antics of horn-honking and bumper-sticker crusades against Scientology.

At the same time, city officials began a responsible, long-term course of action. They enlisted legal help to explore all the options available to them to help save a community against a multimillion-dollar secret organization that behaves as if it wants to own half of the inner city.

Next month, the city will hold hearings on reports that the church has violated consumer fraud and charitable solicitations laws.

We congratulate city officials upon pursuing these legal recourses that are available to

them as the most appropriate ways of dealing with Scientology.

On the other hand, a citizens' group has sprung up with fire in its eye seeking to banish Scientology from Clearwater. That may be a popular cause; indeed, we suspect that Scientology's behavior has alienated it from an overwhelming majority of its neighbors.

But a spokesman for the new citizens' group, Shirley Wulfeck, says the task force is not above using "scare tactics so the Scientologists don't think we're sitting back doing nothing."

After opening that can of worms, however, Wulfeck would not disclose specific goals or actions of the group.

Let us be clear: Scientology is an organization worthy of opposition, and every legal means available to the public should be employed to that end. But a new wave of vigilance, of scare tactics and intimidations, won't serve the public good. If anything, it may generate sympathy for hounded Scientologists; and it could put government officials in the position of ruling against citizens and for Scientologists, under First Amendment considerations.

Extremism, even in the attack of undesirable elements in our community, is no virtue.

At the same time, a Scientology Victims Defense Fund, suggested by the citizens' group, makes sense. We can think of no more litigious group than Scientology. Private citizens can be intimidated quickly by the mere threat of a lawsuit. A private fund to assist residents in such a quandary could help us all preserve rights against Scientology threats.

These two efforts illustrate the fine line that must be walked as a city opposes a negative force in its midst.



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