

Scientists Pressed For Answers By Cazares

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Attorneys representing Mayor Gabriel Cazares in his \$6-million libel suit against the Church of Scientology have served the other side with a series of questions that, if answered, would resolve many of the doubts still lingering about the group.

Perhaps the most bizarre question sent to the Scientologists' counselor, Sarasota attorney Clyde H. Wilson, involves Scientology founder L. Ron Hubbard.

Clearwater attorney Patrick D. Doherty has asked that representatives from the organization that owns the former Fort Harrison hotel and the old Bank of Clearwater building "indicate any trips away from the planet Earth which he (Hubbard) claims to have made with particular attention to dates, places visited, method of travel, and other persons, giving names and addresses,

who accompanied him." Hubbard has written that he visited both Heaven and Venus, citing the exact times of the travels and detailing the surroundings.

It is obvious from the questions that Cazares' attorney hopes to question Hubbard personally in the case, which was filed after the Scientologists sued the mayor for \$1-million for allegedly violating their civil rights when he questioned the true identities of the purchasers of the two Clearwater properties.

That suit was dismissed last month because parts were too vague. However, the organization was given an option to file an amended suit within 30 days.

Doherty wants to know exactly where Hubbard has lived since 1940, and when the Scientologist visited this area, including the date of each arrival, the purpose of the visit, where he stayed and the date he left.

The Scientologists have contended that although Hubbard was in the area in January, he is no longer here, adding he is seeking a retirement estate in Ireland.



Hubbard In Heaven

There can be no doubt Scientology founder L. Ron Hubbard believes in heaven.

He says he has been there—twice. In a 1963 bulletin, Hubbard wrote that although he had once been skeptical, his travels had convinced him heaven was real.

"For a long while, some people have been cross with me for my lack of cooperation in believing in a Christian Heaven, God and Christ," he wrote. "I have never said I didn't disbelieve in a Big Thetan (Scientology's 'soul') but there was certainly something very corny about Heaven et al. Now I have to apologize. There was a Heaven.

"It was complete with gates, angels and plaster saints."

Hubbard knows exactly when he was first there. "43 891,832,611,177 years, 344 days, 10 hours, 20 minutes and 40 seconds from 11:02 1/2 PM Daylight Greenwich Time May 9, 1963."

The second trip was several hundred billion years later on the same date, and much had happened between the two visits.

The first time, the gates were majestic.

"An avenue of statues of saints leads to them. The gate pillars are surmounted by marble angels. The entering grounds are very well kept, laid out like Bush ester grounds in Pasadena, so often seen in the movies.

But by the second trip, heaven had become shabby.

"The vegetation is gone," he wrote. "The pillars are scruffy. The saints have vanished. So have the angels."

Hubbard also found an old bank building in heaven much like the one the Scientologists recently purchased in downtown Clearwater.

"This bank building was the on-the-corner old-fashioned granite-like construction, two or three stories high, with the door in the rounded front—even a revolving type door," he wrote.

To leave heaven, the visitor goes through the bank, down the stairs "and eventually out the Pearly gates."

In his account, described by Scientology officials as an allegory, Hubbard wrote that "the symbol of the crucified Christ is very apt indeed. It's the symbol of a thetan betrayed."

He also wrote that his two trips to heaven had strengthened his belief in the goodness of Scientology.

"New religions always overthrow the false gods of the old," he wrote. "They do something to better man."

"We can improve man. We can show the old gods false. And we can open as a happier place in which the spirit may dwell. What more can you expect?"

Venus spacecraft launched
A sophisticated, five-component spacecraft began its planned 220-million-mile journey to Venus on Tuesday — the second mission of a \$230-million project to study Earth's nearest neighbor. The 1,900-pound Pioneer Venus 2 multiprobe was launched from Cape Canaveral and will rendezvous in early December with Pioneer Venus 1, an earlier spacecraft that was launched on May 20.

an explanation of why the Scientologists transferred the deed of the hotel from Southern Land Leasing and Development Corp., another of its subsidiaries, to the Church of Scientology of California through a quit claim.

The 10-page interrogatory was filed in the county courthouse Friday.

It is uncertain when, or if, Doherty will receive answers to his questions.

Other questions include: Any known plans to change the Church of Scientology of California, or its subsidiary, United Churches of Florida, Inc. Whether any member of the organization ever investigated Cazares or his wife Margaret. A list of all the "contributors, subscribers, members (or whatever they may be referred to by defendant's lingo) of persons who have contributed or paid to the defendants (Scientologists) or any of the subsidiary organizations in the Pinellas County area."

The names, salaries and purpose of the guards who regularly patrol the buildings. A specific description of the background and training of Scientology ministers. An explanation of the "method of securing financial support... used by the religion of Scientology."

Doherty has also asked for an explanation of why the Scientologists transferred the deed of the hotel from Southern Land Leasing and Development Corp., another of its subsidiaries, to the Church of Scientology of California through a quit claim.