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50 Scientologists told to leave Britain

DAILY TELEGRAPH REPORTER

MORE than 50 Scientology students were yesterday ordered to leave Britain by immigration officials after arriving on three flights from America.

Many had arrived at Heathrow Airport late on Tuesday night. They were booked into local hotels and guarded by security men until flight departure times yesterday.

A Home Office spokesman said last night that all 74 Scientology students who had arrived in Britain on Tuesday had been refused entry. Although most were provided with overnight accommodation, 23 had been sent back the same day.

The hotel bill will be paid by BOAC which flew the students to Britain from New York. Total cost will be around £250.

The students, who had arrived to study at Scientology's British headquarters at East Grinstead, Sussex, were ordered to leave following a ban imposed by Mr. Robinson, Minister of Health.

He said the Government was satisfied the American-born cult was "socially harmful" and did not consider the East Grinstead arrivals were *bona fide* students.

Robinson challenged

As its members were leaving the country yesterday, the cult's spokesman, Mr. David Gaiman, demanded a public inquiry into the conduct of Mr. Robinson and the activities of three Scotland Yard detectives who are conducting an investigation into Scientology on instructions from the Home Office. He said it had been impossible to take legal action against the Health Minister because he denounced the cult in the Commons and was protected by Parliamentary privilege.

He challenged the Minister to repeat his allegations in public "and then we could use the remedy under the law." Scientologists were already in the process of issuing 14 writs alleging libel on parties who had reported their activities "unfairly and grossly inaccurately."

Mr. Gaiman claimed there were

"tens of thousands" of Scientologists in the London area alone. It would not be fair to name any of them "when we are in the middle of the biggest witch-hunt since James II."

About 500 Scientologists have hired a hall in the Cafe Royal, London, for a rally this weekend. The management does not object to the meeting. "It is just a business transaction as far as we are concerned," said a spokesman last night.

An international conference of Scientologists will be held at the Fairfield Halls, Croydon, from Aug. 16 to Aug. 18, despite local protests.

Cult's charter flight off—P17



A student at Prestwick Airport yesterday

Entry was easy, say students

By LORNA BLACKIE

SCIENTOLOGY students, newly arrived from overseas, were still enrolling yesterday at the Edinburgh "Advanced Org" headquarters of the cult.

Two of the new students at the centre, where only the most advanced members go, described how they had come into Britain yesterday.

Mrs. Ruth Forsin (39), from Farmington, Michigan, said it took her less than five minutes to pass through immigration.

"I said that I was here for pleasure and study," said Mrs. Forsin, who plans to stay for five weeks.

"I was only asked how long long I was going to be here. Scientology was never mentioned. The immigration

officer was very polite and very pleasant."

Mrs. Grace Collins (61), from Detroit, arrived with her husband, Dr. Alan Collins, also experienced no difficulties.

"The immigration authorities wanted to know what I planned to do. I told them I was here for a holiday," she said.

"I expect to be in Edinburgh for about two weeks. This is a beautiful course."

A spokesman for the Home Office in London, said yesterday that once such visitors had entered the country they could normally remain until their term of stay expired.

He added: "We do not ban a scientologist because he is a scientologist. We just refuse admission to people coming as students of scientology."

At the Edinburgh college yesterday more than 150 students — an increase of 20 on last week's numbers — were taking courses.

AS MORE ARE BARRED, SCIENTOLOGISTS SAY:

We will beat ban

SCIENTOLOGY—By a scientologist

By TOM BROWN

THE scientology sect—whose students are barred from entering Britain—is going ahead with plans for an "international conference" in London this month.

Yesterday 72 scientology students were turned back at London Airport—52 of them after a night under guard in £4 10s.-a-time rooms at airport hotels at the expense of B.O.A.C.. They booked with the airline as a party from an American oil company.

6 It is an applied religious philosophy solely designed to increase the individual's ability within his community—regardless of race, class, colour or nationality. Thousands of people, having tried it, find it workable and use it in their everyday life to become better people. It is **NOT** a philosophy which accepts for training the insane, the physically or mentally sick, or the criminal.

Delegates to the international scientology conference in Croydon from August 16-18 will beat the ban by declaring themselves as immigration control points as visitors.

Despite protests, and the Minister of Health's clamp-down on the cult, the local council say

they cannot stop the conference from going ahead in their hall.

Officials of the scientology movement in London and at their East Grinstead, Sussex, headquarters would not divulge what was on the agenda of the conference. But one agreed that the recent Government action

against the movement was "an obvious item for discussion."

A preliminary conference of about 500 field staff members of the scientology movement will be held this weekend in the Café Royal in London's West End.

The Home Office said yesterday that 73 "foreign nationals" had arrived the previous night at London Airport saying they had come to study scientology.

Seats were found for 21 on flights and yesterday the rest flew to America and Sweden.

A B.O.A.C. spokesman said that 40 of the scientologists were members of a party that had been booked for a charter flight which was cancelled by Caledonian Airways after the Home Office ruling.

The scientology institute said last night they had never heard of Kathleen (19), and Noel O'Donnell (18), from New Zealand, whose parents claimed they had been "swallowed up in the organisation."

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SCIENTOLOGY JET CHARTER FLIGHT OFF

ANOTHER Scientology jet charter flight to Scotland next month has been cancelled because of the Government's ban on the entry to Britain of followers of the cult.

Caledonian Airways had planned to operate the charter. It was to have carried 186 members of the Hubbard Advanced College of Personal Independence from New York to Prestwick at the end of September.

Two days ago, 186 scientology students should have arrived at Prestwick aboard a Caledonian jet charter but the flight was cancelled at the last minute.

The first party of scientology students to come here on courses yesterday flew home to the United States. At Prestwick Airport, 18 students, six men and 12 women—including four married couples—checked in for flights back to New York.

'Expanding organisation'

Candy Chaleff, 22, said: "We are not abandoning a sinking ship. We had planned to go home before the fuss began. Ours is an expanding organisation. Nearly 6,000 people are joining every week all over the world.

"The main trouble about our religion stems from the fact that not many people in Britain—including the Health Minister—know what Scientology is all about. Basically, it is merely teaching people how to better themselves.

"Our first course is a communications course teaching people how to get on with each other. This costs £5. But our advanced courses about business, organisation and psychology cost about £350.

"We chose Edinburgh for our most advanced college in the world because it is quiet and peaceful. It's not only Americans who come. There are also a lot of Australians and South Africans, and many English and Scots are now joining."

Britain Refuses To Admit 'Scientology' Followers

© New York Times Service

LONDON — On successive days this week groups of Americans headed for Britain have been turned back because they are followers of a semireligious cult known as "scientology." The bar on scientologists, as they call themselves, was imposed by the British government after a study. The minister of health, Kenneth Robinson, told the House of Commons he was satisfied that "scientology is socially harmful." He said.

"Its authoritarian principles and practices are a potential menace to the personality and well-being of those so deluded as to become its followers."

Wiretapping Charged

The government's action has been denounced bitterly by officials of the group. A spokesman, David Gaiman, accused the police of tapping wires in their inquiry and said:

"We are in the middle of the biggest witch-hunt since the reign of James the Second."

Scientology was founded in the United States by L. Ron Hubbard, who in 1950 published a best-seller called "Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental Health." Two years later he switched to scientology.

Scientology is difficult to define. The organization's periodical, "The Auditor," calls it an "applied religious philosophy" and also says it is "the largest mental health organization in the world." In California there is a Church of Scientology.

Parallel To Psychoanalysis

Initiates are questioned at length about their most intimate life in order to release what are called their "engrams" — unhappy memories. There thus

seems to be a parallel to psychoanalysis, though without medical or other professional training.

The cult members do the questioning, and they use an "E-meter." This is a device that measures electrical resistance—Mr. Hubbard has demonstrated it on tomatoes as well as people. He says it indicates the level of spirit in the body.

In 1959 Mr. Hubbard set up a world headquarters of scientology in East Grinstead, Sussex, a London exurb.

There are now about 50 full scientologists in East Grinstead and 250 students. There are hundreds, perhaps thousands, of others in England.

There have been complaints, some raised in Parliament, by friends and relatives of initiates. They charge that mentally disturbed or weak persons are taken into the cult and taught to hate their families.

The ministry of health acted on the basis of these complaints. Mr. Robinson told parliament that he had "no power under existing law to prohibit the practice of scientology" but would take steps "to curb its growth."

The first and most significant move has been to declare that the institution in East Grinstead is not a "college," as asserted, and hence that no one may enter the country as a "student" to go there.

Dies In Australia

BRISBANE, Australia (AP) — Premier Jack Pizzey of Queensland State died after a heart attack Wednesday night. He was 57. Mr. Pizzey had been leader of the Country party Liberal coalition government since January 1968.