

Cult plans recruiting drive for Scotland

STUDENTS of scientology said yesterday that they are to start a major recruiting drive in Scotland.

On Monday, a special team of 10 will begin a three-week lecture tour of Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee, Aberdeen and Perth.

Mr. Roger Barnes, 24, the governor of the Hubbard Academy of Personal Independence, in Queen Street, Edinburgh, said yesterday that more than 2000 Scots had passed through in the five weeks since it opened.

Flights

A spokesman for the cult said that students will continue to come in from America on normal flights. They will study in Edinburgh and take in the Festival at the same time.

But the cult — it has been described as "socially harmful" by Health Minister Kenneth Robinson — have decided to ban further charter flights of students to Britain . . . meantime.

The decision was made after immigration officials clamped down on the second of the scientologists charter flights from America yesterday, and after news that another charter flight, planned for September, had been cancelled by the airline.

Tourists

Two days ago, 150 U.S. scientologists cancelled a charter "flight to freedom" from New York to Prestwick after being told they would be barred from entering the country.

But early yesterday, 100 of them in a second bid to beat the ban, tried to come in as tourists.

But only 20 satisfied the Home Office that they had arrived as tourists and had sufficient funds to support themselves during their stay.

The remaining 80 were on their way back to America last night.

The first party of students to leave Scotland after taking advanced courses in Edinburgh flew out from Prestwick yesterday.



We are not running away, says scientologist Candy

BLONDE Candy Chaleff waited for the plane taking her to America yesterday and spoke of her scientology beliefs.

The mini-skirted 22-year-old New York secretary was one of the first group of the cult's students to complete an "advanced course" in Edinburgh.

She explained that she was the group's Public Relations Officer, and had been working with the organisation for a year before coming to Edinburgh two months ago.

Candy laughed at sugges-

tions that the students were leaving because of nation-wide criticism and speculation about the cult.

She said: "We're not running. We have completed our courses and are returning home."

Upheaval

"Some of us will be coming back to Edinburgh. I intend to return when all this nonsense has blown over."

She added: "Scientology is based on the belief that man is a spirit, not just a hunk of meat walking around."

"All it is is teaching people to better themselves. I don't understand why there should be all this upheaval about it."