

Scientology yacht, city make waves

By LESLEY COLLINS
Sun staff writer

CLEARWATER — A 55-foot yacht destined for a Church of Scientology motel on Clearwater's bayfront hit two serious squalls Monday — a city official's turndown and a fast-approaching sun-down.

The problem of transporting the vessel Diana after nightfall was remedied by postponing her voyage toward renovation until 9 a.m. today.

But if the yacht sets sail down North Fort Harrison Avenue today via tractor trailer and is docked in the back parking lot of the Sandcastle Motel, it may be navigating into murky legal waters with the city of Clearwater.

"Since the (Land Development) code does not permit this outside storage or display within the Bayfront (Urban Core)

(Please see * YACHT, next page)

subdistrict, your request must be denied," states a letter dated Friday from city Zoning Enforcement Officer Ray Wyland. "If you desire, I would be most happy to meet with you, at your convenience, to discuss possible alternative solutions."

Wyland was responding to a Feb. 6 letter from Steven Cummings of The Wooden Boat Shop, the Clearwater contractor hired by Scientology officials to oversee Diana's short land journey from Clearwater Bay Marine Ways Marina, 900 N. Osceola Ave., and shoring in the Sandcastle's rear parking lot to undergo some \$38,000 in renovation.

As of 6 p.m. Monday, the Diana had been hoisted from its slip and lowered onto a massive tractor trailer, its two masts temporarily removed for the ship's road trip.

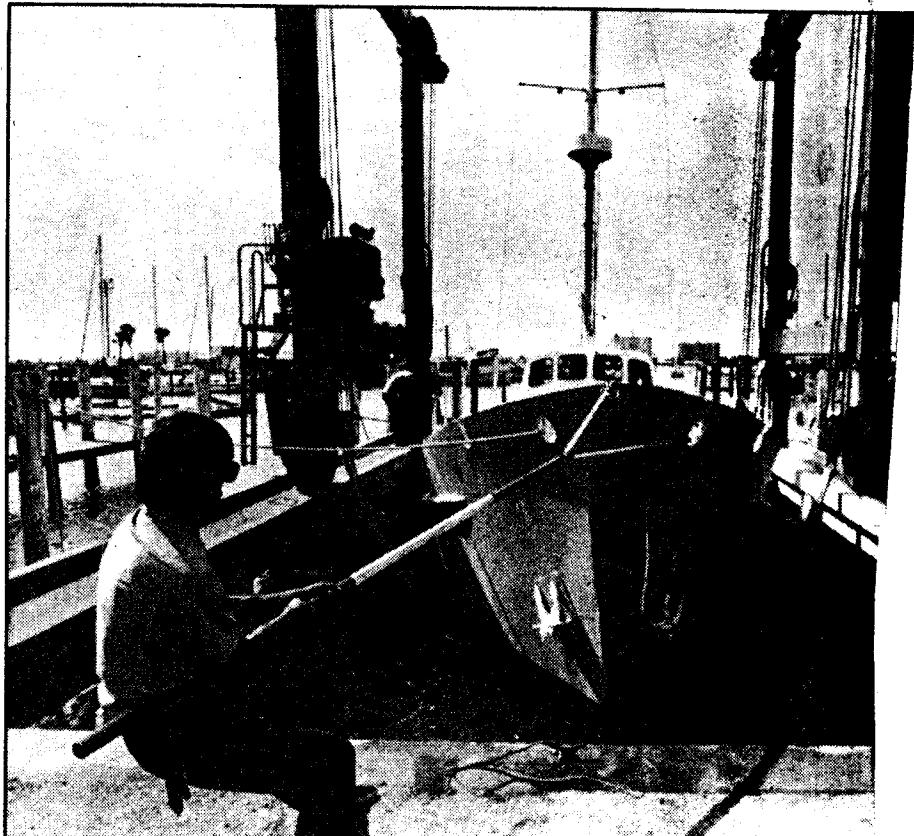
The Jan. 24 death of the ship's former owner and captain, Scientology founder L. Ron Hubbard, launched the idea by local Scientology officials to refurbish and memorialize the wood-decked vessel, a project expected to take six months to a year to complete.

A Clearwater Sun reporter showed local Scientology spokesman Ludwig Alpers and a transportation contractor a copy of Wyland's letter early Monday night.

Alpers said the duplicate was

TUESDAY, February 11, 1986

2A Clearwater Sun ★★



Greg Rossow positions Hubbard's yacht at Clearwater Bay Mari-

not a legal copy and repeatedly avoided direct answers about its impact on the yacht's placement outside the Sandcastle.

"You can go ask him whatever you want," Alpers said, referring to Michael Cummings, owner of The Wooden Boat Shop. "He's the contractor that's responsible for the job."

Cummings' response early Monday night: "I really don't have any reply. ... I don't know

how you can get a copy of that when I haven't yet."

Both City Planning Director Paula Harvey and Chief City Planner John Richter reconfirmed the contents of Wyland's letter late Monday afternoon.

Asked what city action would be taken if the vessel is shored in the Sandcastle's back yard, Richter said, "In all likelihood, they'd be informed that it was a

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Local

Clearwater Sun 3A

Scientology yacht project hits rough going

By LESLEY COLLINS
Sun staff writer

CLEARWATER — It appears the Church of Scientology's yacht restoration project has temporarily run aground.

Transportation of the 55-foot Diana, once owned by late Scientology founder L. Ron Hubbard, has been plagued by a series of delays since Scientologists announced their plans Thursday to move the vessel to the Sandcastle Motel.

Hubbard's Jan. 24 death launched the idea by local sect members to refurbish and memorialize

the neglected ship, an estimated \$38,000 endeavor or expected to take six months to a year to complete.

What typically takes transportation contractor Michael Cummings a single day to accomplish foundered Monday because a city code prohibits

any outdoor storage or display in Clearwater's bayfront zoning district. The Scientology-owned Sandcastle lies within that regulated area.

In light of the city zoning restriction, Clearwater police refused to provide an escort for the vessel's journey, rescheduled for 9 a.m. Tuesday down North Fort Harrison Avenue to the motel's

back parking lot. And a huge tractor trailer still bore Diana's stationary 38-ton load Tuesday night at Clearwater Bay Marine Ways marina, 900 N. Osceola Ave.

Despite the setbacks, Cummings said Tuesday he's not going to abandon ship. In his attempts to plot a new course for Diana, Cummings said, he is considering docking the Scientology yacht at his boat restoration/repair business, The Wooden Boat Shop, 1140 Eddridge St.

The definitive when and where about the boat's transportation, however, had not been

anchored down Tuesday night, he said. With his expenses mounting, Cummings said two giant cranes needed to position the vessel after the road trip were returned to a subcontractor until further word.

Cummings said he didn't know the intentions of Joule Yacht Transportation Inc., a Clearwater subcontractor hired by Cummings to supply the tractor trailer and a truck driver.

Company official Peter Joule could not be reached for comment later Tuesday to confirm their plans.

Hubbard defender assails 'verbal poison'

Editor:

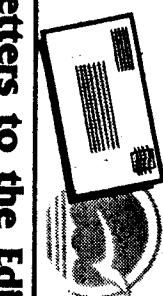
Re: Editorial of Wednesday, Jan. 29,
"Has Hubbard made his spiritual jour-
ney?"

It is hardly possible to express the depth
of shock I felt when I read your editorial.
"Has Hubbard made his spiritual jour-
ney?" Its words, couched in their sarcasm,
are weapons masquerading as journalism,
of the sort which main by spreading their
insidious verbal poison.

It is always the smallest among us who
try to destroy the greatest, like gnats
stinging a giant, the former hoping to
bring the latter down to their own de-
graded condition.

What L. Ron Hubbard has given to us,
his friends, cannot be touched or degraded,
your editorial's misguided, malicious barbs
notwithstanding. For he has given us, and
any others with enough integrity to per-
ceive them, dreams, hopes, goals, freedom,
and a way to happiness, higher than those
we had ever before imagined, let alone
achieved. His millions of friends, Sciento-
logists and others around the world, love
him more than the unfortunate small-
minded editors of the world have probably
ever loved anyone. And we will always love
him, for his works have given us a road to
truth which we have found to be otherwise
absent in this troubled society.

We didn't pause long enough to mourn
because that isn't what he wanted, but
more importantly because there is too large
a job ahead of us — making the dreams
and goals he laid out for us a reality. The
following quotation is from "The Aims of



Letters to the Editor

Scientology, by L. Ron Hubbard: "A civi-
lization without insanity, without criminals
and without war, where the able can pros-
per and honest beings can have rights, and
where Man is free to rise to greater heights
..."

We have no doubts that we will achieve
these, the aims of Scientology, despite the
ill-intentioned and the uninformed who are
forever throwing obstacles in the path of
whatever is highest and greatest in life. We
know we must achieve these goals, and we
will never quit. Our much loved founder, L. Ron
Hubbard, showed us that we could
touch the stars and paved a road to truth
which we will never abandon.

JULIE GOLDMAN

Clearwater

Hubbard death doubted

Editor:

"Hubbard is dead," said the headlines in
the Clearwater Sun. But how can the Sci-
entologists be sure unless Hubbard told
them? Did he not tell them that he had
lived millions of years ago on another plan-
et? Will they believe anyone else?

Another question: Did he ever really
live? Jesus said, "I came that they may
have life," John 10:10. "He that hath the

Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son
of God hath not life," John 5:12. Finally, is
he alive today? Jesus said, "I am the resur-
rection and the life; he that believeth in me,
though he were dead, yet shall he live. And
whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall
never die. Believeth thou this?" John 11:25-
26.

Has another religious leader ever made
this statement? Again I ask is L. Ron
Hubbard dead? Did he ever really live? Is
he alive today?

CHET THOMAS

Clearwater

Religion redefined

Editor:

"Belief in a divine or superhuman power
or powers to be obeyed and worshipped as
the creator and ruler of the universe."

Most persons in the USA believe there is
a God. In other lands it might be Allah,
Mohammed, Buddha, etc.

Scientology is NOT a religion. It is sim-
ply a device to avoid paying local taxes.
Scientologists use our streets, sidewalks,
recreation centers, libraries, schools and
many other facilities for which the rest of
us pay, and thus have to pay more as
Hubbard's blind followers pay nothing.

If there were a fire in the Fort Harrison,
would they expect our Clearwater Fire De-
partment to extinguish it? Most of us
would say to let it burn so we were rid of
these undesirables.

JOHN W. KELLOGG

Clearwater

Adv.

Clearwater

THURSDAY, January 30, 1986

Sun

Hubbard's death is verified

From Sun wires

LOS ANGELES — Authorities Wednesday confirmed the death of Church of Scientology founder L. Ron Hubbard, which the organization had announced Monday.

"Yes, we have verified fingerprints taken from the body" of Hubbard, who had not been seen in public for six years, said San Luis Obispo County Sheriff-Coroner George Whiting.

Hubbard's death occurred in the presence of a physician and "the case is closed," said Whiting. Blood samples provided by Hubbard's doctor were clear of drugs, and there were no signs of bruising or scarring on the body, said Whiting.

Hubbard, 74, died Friday on a ranch outside San Luis Obispo, Scientology officials said Monday. His personal physician, Dr. Eugene Denk, said Hubbard had suffered a brain hemorrhage several days before his death.

Hubbard's body was cremated Saturday and his remains

* Death

(from page 1A)

scattered at sea Sunday, Scientology officials said.

The organization, founded in 1954, has been called a brain-washing cult by some former members and critics and has waged a continual legal battle with federal authorities over taxes and tax exemptions.

Hubbard left tens of millions of dollars to Scientology after

making provisions for his wife, Mary Sue Hubbard, and four of his five children, said Earle Cooley, assistant chief counsel for the organization. The will was expected to be filed by the end of the week.

The fifth child, Ronald De-Wolf, was disinherited after denouncing his father and the church, said Scientology general counsel John Peterson.

(Please see * DEATH, next page)

Los Angeles Times

Editorial Pages

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Thursday, January 30, 1986

CCT/Part II

Hubbard's Son Planning to Seek Inquest, Contest Will

By ROBERT WELKOS and JOEL SAPPELL, Times Staff Writers

A Boston attorney representing the estranged son of Scientology founder L. Ron Hubbard said Wednesday that he will request a coroner's inquest into the death of the reclusive multimillionaire and plans to contest the will Hubbard signed the day before he died.

Michael Flynn, who represents Hubbard's eldest son, Ronald DeWolf, said he sent a letter Wednesday to the San Luis Obispo County coroner demanding an inquest into Hubbard's death from a stroke last Friday at age 74.

In the letter, made public by his office, Flynn said he wants to know whether the science fiction writer's vast wealth "would provide a motive for individuals close to Hubbard to engage in potential wrongdoing."

Flynn insisted that he was not accusing anyone of wrongdoing but said Hubbard's closest associates should be "made to answer questions concerning all the circumstances surrounding" the death on a remote ranch in Central California.

San Luis Obispo County Sheriff-Coroner George S. Whiting, said he would not comment on the possibility of an inquest until he received the request. Flynn and the church have been locked in legal battles for years, with both sides

trading charges. Among other things, the church has accused Flynn of attempting to forge a \$2-million check on a Hubbard account. Flynn has denied the charge.

A church spokesman, The Rev. Ken Hoden, said the controversy swirling around Hubbard's death has been created by Flynn "for a very selfish purpose."

Flynn has millions of dollars in pending litigation against the church and Hubbard.

After a church announcement Monday that its spiritual leader had completed his theological research and "discarded his body," Flynn immediately suggested that the death may have been a "hoax," a disappearing act to scuttle legal actions pending against Hubbard.

On Wednesday, Whiting confirmed that the body his investigators photographed and fingerprinted Saturday morning at a San Luis Obispo mortuary was Hubbard's.

The fingerprints, Whiting said, matched those on file with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the state Department of Justice and an additional source he declined to name. Whiting also said a blood sample drawn from Hubbard showed no harmful levels of drugs.

Given the coroner's determination, Flynn has now shifted course, calling for

Please see HUBBARD, Page 6

HUBBARD: Son Objects

Continued from Page 1

an inquest and making it clear that he intends to challenge Hubbard's will on behalf of DeWolf.

Hubbard's will was dated one day before his death, according to Whiting. Flynn said he will attempt to have the will invalidated on grounds that Hubbard may have been coerced or mentally incompetent.

In 1983, Flynn tried to have the church placed in receivership, claiming on DeWolf's behalf that Hubbard was dead or incapacitated and that his riches were being plundered by church executives. A Riverside County court found that Hubbard was alive and capable of handling his own affairs.

Church officials said that although he had suffered a stroke the week before his death, Hubbard was lucid when he amended the will, providing additional money to some family members. Hubbard also left the church he founded three decades ago "tens of millions of dollars." DeWolf apparently received nothing.

Getting Ready to Die

Church spokesman Hoden said Hubbard's will was dated shortly before his death because he had made a decision to leave his body and was getting his affairs in order.

Four days before his death, Hubbard also signed a certificate saying it was against his religious beliefs to have an autopsy performed. No autopsy was conducted, and his remains were cremated.

Hubbard died at 8 p.m. Friday in a luxury motor home parked on a remote ranch near Creston, about 30 miles northeast of San Luis Obispo, Whiting said. Hubbard was living in the motor home while the ranch house was being remodeled, church officials have said.

Seven people lived on the 80-acre ranch, where buffalo and llamas roamed freely. Among the residents was Hubbard's physician, Eugene Denk, who disappeared from the Los Angeles area in 1984, shortly after he was subpoenaed by a former Scientologist to testify in a case the church had brought against him.

Diagnosed Is Stroke

Denk, according to Whiting, determined that Hubbard had suffered a "cerebral vascular accident"—a stroke. Hubbard's body remained at the ranch for 11½ hours before being transported to Reis Chapel, a San Luis Obispo mortuary. The mortuary, in turn, notified authorities.

Hoden said the delay was caused by two Scientology attorneys who ordered that the body not be removed before they arrived from Los Angeles.

Hubbard's passing, according to Hoden, has had an "enthusiastic, galvanizing effect. . . . We are going to expand like we never have before."

"In Scientology, we know that man is a spirit. And when his body or being dies the person himself does not die. L. Ron Hubbard is alive today."

Thursday, February 13, 1986

Clearwater Sun

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Editorials of the Sun

Diana episode shows Scientology ineptitude

The current controversy over L. Ron Hubbard's yacht is a specific and splendid example of exactly how full of baloney the Scientologists are.

Faithful trackers of the Scientologists' spoor will recall that, several weeks ago, the cult issued a cassette recording titled "Can't We Be Friends?"

The taped message was rife with harmony and rapprochement between the Scientologists and the community. The cult's acknowledged hope was that the tape might heal some of the wounds that have been opened during the decade or so that the Scientologists have called Clearwater one of their homes.

This week the Scientologists began to try to move the Diana, a 55-foot yacht formerly owned by Scientology founder L. Ron Hubbard, from a local marina to the Sandcastle Motel on Drew Street Extension. They want to refurbish the yacht and display it in front of the motel as a permanent memorial to Hubbard, who recently died.

If the Scientologists truly wanted to heal all breaches between them and their Clearwater neighbors, they

(the sect's officials) would have first checked out the zoning regulations that apply to the yacht project.

But the Scientologists did not inquire. They simply hired a contractor to move Diana to the motel, and told him to proceed. Diana was hoisted onto a tractor-trailer for the trip. At about that time, the Scientologists were shown a copy of a letter from a Clearwater zoning official, stating that zoning regulations prohibit the yacht's being stored and displayed in the downtown area that encompasses the Sandcastle.

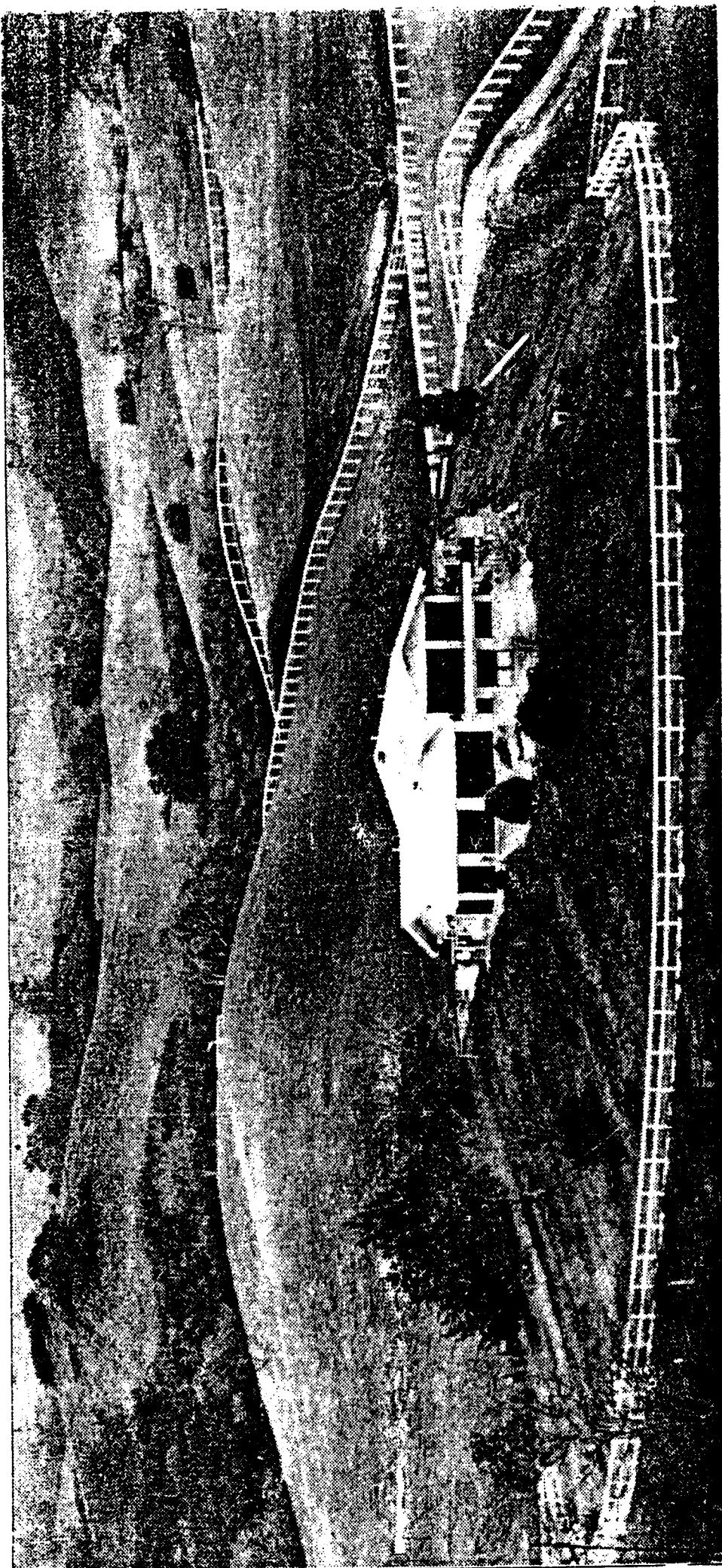
As of this writing, the Diana project is stalled at the marina. Let's hope it stays there. Even if the zoning laws allowed the Diana to be kept at the Sandcastle, sailboats belong in the water, not perched on dry land like some sort of mummified fish.

The estimated \$38,000 needed to refurbish the Diana could be better spent by the Scientologists on public relations consultants. As of this moment, the Scientologists are far in the lead for the 1986 Anne Gorsuch Burford award, given to the person or organization that most effectively alienates itself from the community at large.

Rocky Mountain News

8—Rocky Mountain News
Sun., Feb. 16, 1986. Denver, Colo.

GENIUS IN A YELLOW STRAW HAT



GEORGE KOCHANIEC/JR./Rocky Mountain News

L. Ron Hubbard's ranch house in San Luis Obispo County, Calif., was off-limits to journalists. Ranch includes stable, lake, mobile homes and horse track.

Tour of Scientology founder's ranch throws some light on his last days



Hubbard dwelt in an enigmatic haze

Tour of Scientology founder's ranch throws some light on his last days

Last week the *Rocky Mountain News* was invited to tour the estate where L. Ron Hubbard died. Hubbard, author, philosopher and founder of the Church of Scientology, broke a 20-year public silence in a 1983 written interview with the *News*. The interview, published in newspapers around the world, was to be the forerunner of an in-person interview which never materialized. The *News* interview was Hubbard's last.

Scientology, who dropped from sight in 1980. "This isn't a community where you visit back and forth a lot," said the postmaster. "Your neighbors are there if you need them, but that's as far as it goes, usually."

Hubbard supposedly went into town occasionally, and perhaps dropped into the one-room library, Long Branch Bar or Loading Chute Steak House, but none of the townspeople remembered seeing him.

A few miles from town, Hubbard's staff has posted a guard at the gate to his 160-acre ranch and are taking inventory of the writer-philosopher's possessions.

Before Hubbard's death, the ranch's location was a secret. Church spokesman Vaughn Young gave the News an extensive tour of the grounds of the ranch, which includes a stable, small lake, a number of mobile homes, pens for farm animals and a horse-training track. But church officials closed most avenues that would have provided a view of how Hubbard spent his last years.

The News was barred from entering Hubbard's tri-level home which was being redecorated when Hubbard died. Young said at trial that Hubbard's attorneys didn't want anyone in the home except the few with clearance to pack and log Hubbard's belongings.

Church officials would not even permit News reporter and photographer to wall around the outside of the house, where Hubbard lived with companions and long-time Scientologists Pat and Annie Broeker until his death at a stroke.

Requests for interviews with Mr. De Oca were denied, and ranch hands wouldn't discuss Hubbard with reporters. One workman told the *News* he had seen Hubbard several times, but never spoke to him.

The only photographs Young said were taken of Hubbard at the ranch show the bac-
of a tall, large man with white hair and
beard in a yellow straw hat, blue pants, nav-

By SUE LINDSAY
Rocky Mountain News Staff Writer

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY, Calif. — When news of L. Ron Hubbard's death was released, the tiny town of Creston, Calif., was overtaken by reporters and camera crews, who set up shop outside the post office at the only public phones in town and flew helicopters over Hubbard's ranch. "One o' them said to me, 'Isn't this the most exciting thing that's happened in Creston?'" the postmaster recalled. "I said no, because no one even knew he was there. Half of 'em still don't know what was going on."

Hubbard was founder of a multimillion-dollar empire that grew up around his religious self-improvement philosophy called

Scientology. Hubbard's vision drew millions of followers, some of whom credit Scientology with saving their lives. But the movement also has generated government scrutiny, criminal prosecution and dozens of lawsuits.

Three weeks after his death was announced Jan. 24, the news crews have moved on to other stories, but Hubbard's last days at his ranch near Creston remain shrouded in secrecy.

Hubbard, remembered as an eccentric quilted vest and black boots holding a camera. Young said Hubbard was taking photographs of his favorite ranch animal, a black Angus bull named Bubba.

Why the secrecy?
"His death doesn't change our desire to protect his privacy," Young said. "He appeared in public regularly for years until he decided to live privately and we feel we should respect that. Attention should be focused on his works and not on his shirt size." Like most Scientologists, Young, 47, never met the man he spent the last 20 years of his life working for. "It's a very strange feeling — a man you never met and how I'm walking through his house."

Hubbard lived in seclusion for most of the last 20 years, moving from one location to another with a dwindling band of church confidants.

CHURCH OR SCIENTOLOGY
sometimes wrote with a quill pen.

Various reasons are given for his reclusive behavior. He was eluding criminal prus-
tions and civil lawsuits; his life was threatened; he simply wanted to go about his life
private.

Hubbard came to the San Luis Obispo ranch 2 years ago from elsewhere in California. The ranch was acquired for \$700,000 another person's name.

The ranch's rolling hills are deep velvet green, scattered with pockets of wild daisies.

Hubbard ordered that the old wood post and wire fence be replaced and painted white. He designed an experimental irrigation system, which was to be tested this spring. Hubbard had taken an interest in raising quarter horses, and had about 35 on his farm.

See GENIUS, page 4

GENIUS IN A YELLOW STRAW HAT

Continued from page 8

ranch, Young said. He had a training track built around a water tower that was transformed into an observation station.

"What he did with this ranch exemplified his work — it was not only functional but beautiful," Young said.

Hubbard's home, swimming pool and greenhouse sit atop a hill, overlooking a lake that is home to a number of geese, ducks and swans.

The ranch is also populated by two llamas, four buffaloes, chickens, black Angus cattle and six Japanese Akita guard dogs. Hubbard had several mobile homes, including a \$250,000 model, full of camera gear and musical instruments.

Beyond the physical contents of the place, glimpses into Hubbard's life come from several files of unpublished notes viewed by the News and recollections of his staff, who remain loyal and dedicated to Hubbard and his image.

Although he had computers, Hubbard scribbled reams of notes on the legal pads and wrote his fiction on an old manual typewriter. Among Hubbard's possessions are boxes of Scientology processing.

Much of Hubbard's recent work dealt with upper level Scientology training, but staff members also stumbled upon some legal pads in which Hubbard set down his precise ideas of how the ranch should be refurbished, from its decorating theme to specifying a blue throw rug for the upstairs bath.

Typical of Hubbard's personality and work, the plan is meticulous, thorough and ordered, with a list of 70 projects to be completed, beginning with "before" photos of the place and ending with "after" shots.



George Kochanec Jr./Rocky Mountain News
Church spokesman Vaughn Young describes Hubbard. Like most Scientologists, Young never met Hubbard, although he worked for him for 20 years.

Rocky Mountain News'

16 FEB 1986

He specified that the interior should be "Mediterranean, mainly pastel with the tinge of horses and boats, sporty." The motif of one room was to be sand dunes and camels, another's racing horses.

Hubbard ordered that one office contain "my own typing table (not a card table)."

His upstairs bedroom was to be used as a study and music room, decorated in white furniture with royal blue carpeting, and was to have a white organ and drum set. The adjoining bath was to be "very marine" with "fish wallpaper," and Hubbard added, "Not with throw rug."

Hubbard's notes about comedy and satire jotted on slips of white paper were also stashed in the folder with the decorating outlines. "Comedy laughs aloud. Satire is deadpan," Hubbard wrote. "The goal of comedy is merely laughter. The intent of satire is reform."

OTHER NOTES read, "If you can't do anything else, you can always laugh." And another fragment says: "Start laughing and soon you will find something to laugh about."

A note for his *Mission Earth* science fiction series said, "*Mission Earth* is a satire. I make no apologies for it. Earth at this period of its 'culture' is just too tempting a target."

Scientologists who met Hubbard remember him as a remarkable man, a fastidious perfectionist, an eccentric, a genius. He could be wonderfully brilliant and maddeningly meticulous and demanding. Hubbard is legendary for his aversion to dirt or dust, which some say bordered on a phobia.

While he lived at the ranch, church aides say Hubbard spent his mornings doing research and went out photographing the ranch in the afternoons. In the evenings he read or watched videotaped movies or television via satellite dish.

His movie favorites included Hitchcock films, *Star Wars* but not the later movies in the trilogy, *Diva*, *Citizen Kane*, *Slaughter*

"They were good neighbors, as far as I know, but nobody knew he was here," said Shirley Terry of the adjacent Calvary Emmanuel church retreat. The mystery surrounding Hubbard whereabouts gave rise to speculation about his health. Some church followers wonder if he was dead long before his death was announced.

"WE KNOW he's had several strokes at least one heart attack," said Jon Zegal, expelled Scientologist, who has chronicled church events. "Given that history, the idea that somehow he was in perfect health, preposterous. And if he was, it doesn't make sense to have a physician in constant attendance at one's side (as Hubbard did)." But church officials say Hubbard was good health and simply decided to "discard his body to continue advanced Scientology research as a spirit or 'thetan.'" "Realizing this was an unusual case involving a controversial person, the question was, was it really him?" said George Whiting, sheriff and coroner for San Luis Obispo County.

Fingerprints were checked with records from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and California Department of Justice to identify the body's identity. Whiting said a blood test was "clear of any substances." Whiting refused a request from Hubbard's disinherit son for an inquest. "We decided this was not a coroner's case because the man was a physician in attendance for about 10 days before his death," Whiting said. Hubbard's physician Eugene Denk signed a death certificate. Denk could not be reached for comment.

Hubbard's will directs that the bulk of his fortune go to the church after his wife, Sue Hubbard, and four other children are provided for. In his will, Hubbard ordered, "Under no circumstances shall my body lie in state; be subjected to an autopsy." The body will be cremated and the ashes scattered over the ocean on Jan. 25.

wouldn't take less," she said. "He was very determined."

Marcus Swanson accompanied Hubbard when he left Clearwater, Fla., for La Quinta Calif., not far from Gilman. "In 1978 he decided it was time to shoot movies. He just went down the line saying you're this, you're that and you'd get trained on it. I became a cameraman and had no idea what a camera man was before that."

"IT WAS awesome to see he knew so much about so many different fields," said Barry Stein, a musician and architect at Gilman. "Whether it was film, music, architecture, sound, or whatever, he got everything down to the basics so that it opened up the knowledge of things for others. He was so very extremely competent and it creates a magic. Things just happened to get done when he was in there."

Stein said he once sent Hubbard a tape of African music prepared for a film Golden Era was doing. "He wrote back saying, 'This isn't African,' and sent along 50 cassettes of different African music and a description of which section of Africa used which instruments. He did things like that all the time. Hubbard tinkered with subjects, taking them apart to see how they worked, and then sharing his findings with others in the form of bulletins, rundowns and check-sheets. No subject evaded his scrutiny, even women makeup."

"When some of (Hubbard's personal) messengers got to an age where we began to wear makeup, he taught all the girls how to put it on by what he'd learned about stage makeup so we wouldn't look overly made up and how to do our hair," said Janadair Swanson.

None of these people saw Hubbard since 1980 when he began living in isolation at his ranch, neighbors seldom, if ever, saw him.

Hubbard's property can be viewed from only a few other ranches in the area, but his companions kept to themselves.



GEORGE KOCHANNEC JR./Rocky Mountain News
Barry Stein, a musician and architect, plays one of Hubbard's organs at Gilman Hot Springs, Calif., site of the church's Golden Era Studios.

"We'd sit there with a big, huge bowl of popcorn and watch the movies, and he'd stop it and replay parts so he could study their technique," said Janice Grady. Grady, who was born into the church and served as a personal messenger to Hubbard until 1979, remembers him as a man who got his way. "He knew what he wanted and he House Five and Patton. He liked Clint Eastwood and Robert Duvall.

His staff at Gilman Hot Springs, Calif., site of the church's Golden Era Studios and one of Hubbard's residences before moving to the San Luis Obispo County ranch, says Hubbard spent many nights watching movies.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1986

Hubbard 'not the person propaganda says he was'

For nearly 30 years, David Mayo was a member of the Church of Scientology, spending the last decade as a top aide who helped develop confidential counseling techniques with founder L. Ron Hubbard. But Mayo, along with many other top church officials, was thrown out of the church during a purge that began in 1982. Now he offers Scientology classes and counseling independently from modest offices near Santa Barbara, Calif.

A principal confidant and colleague of Hubbard's who served as his personal "auditor" or counselor for several years, Mayo is in a unique position to dispell some mystery surrounding Hubbard. But as the target of several church lawsuits, Mayo squirmed in discomfort at the prospect of a newspaper interview. The lawsuits have silenced him.

"I'm being sued by the Church of Scientology in two federal lawsuits. I just wish they'd leave me alone."

As for his impressions of Hubbard, Mayo would only say, "His moods ranged from one end of the spectrum to another. He was

not the person that the propaganda says he was." He paused, then added, "I think my reluctance to speak on it says a lot."

Regardless of Hubbard's personal eccentricities or faults, Mayo maintains that he was a "genius in the field of the human mind and spirit," and says Hubbard's most significant accomplishment was synthesizing bits of early eastern and western religions on which Scientology is based.

Mayo said that while Hubbard may have endorsed policies that tore the church apart, "this is secondary in importance to the philosophy he helped to create. I believe in the philosophy. I don't believe in the church administration."

"The philosophy was of the greatest importance in the early years," he said. "It ceased to be in the later years when the church became, if not military, at least a paramilitary organization. It became very harsh, severe and fanatical, really."

Mayo joined the church in 1957 in New Zealand, seeing it as a synthesis of his

interests in eastern philosophy, yoga, the

human potential movement. "I was inter-

ested in improving myself and believed that people were using only a small percentage of their true potential."

As the top Scientology "tech" resource under Hubbard, Mayo received a letter from Hubbard in 1982 saying he didn't expect to live long, said Jon Zegal, a resigned member who has chronicled Scientology history. Hubbard designated Mayo as "keeper of the tech" for 20 to 25 years, until Hubbard's spirit entered another body and was able to resume his role. But the church disputes this and claims Mayo was ousted.

Mayo is one of a number of former members who have set up a network of Scientology centers independent of the church. In Denver, they are called Survival Services. Like many former church members,

Mayo sees the excessive prices of Scientology services as a cause and symptom of the flaw running through the church.

In this and other church problems,

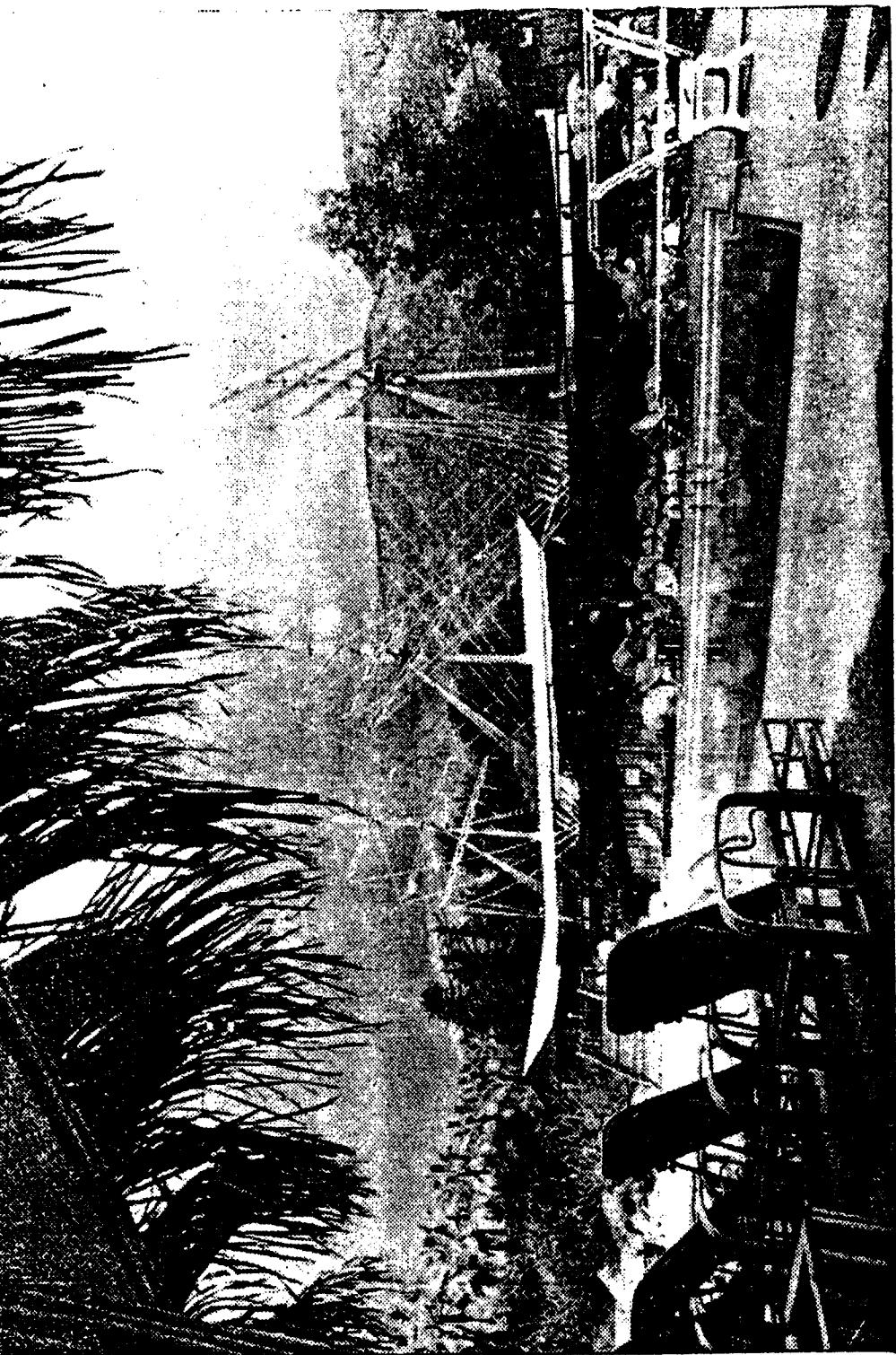
says Hubbard isn't totally free of them.

"He set the pace," he said.



David Mayo
"just wish they'd leave me alone."

Studio's ready for man who never came, never will



GEORGE KOCHANEC JR./Rocky Mountain News

A clipper ship sits next to a swimming pool at the Church of Scientology's Golden Era Studios in the desert.

By SUE LINDSAY
Rocky Mountain News Staff Writer

GILMAN HOT SPRINGS, Calif. — In the desert, about 20 miles west of Palm Springs, Calif., stands a full-size, three-masted clipper ship built at a swimming pool.

The ship is one of the projects that the late Church of Scientology founder L. Ron Hubbard ordered at Gilman Hot Springs, a resort the church purchased for \$2.7 million in 1978. Hubbard lived there in 1979 and 1980.

The heavily secured compound includes a half-dozen elaborate offices for Hubbard, a redecorated Hubbard residence, movie set, tape and film production facilities and a number of sound studios including a state-of-the-art computerized recording studio.

Several hundred Scientology staff members are housed in cabins and apartments that were part of the old resort.

The News was given an exclusive tour of Hubbard's personal quarters and his various offices at Gilman, all of which are impeccably decorated, spotless, shiny and unused.

Staff members speak about Hubbard in the present tense as if he still lives there, used the place, is still alive. That's strange, since they can't remember now whether the last time he visited was in 1979 or 1980.

What is stranger still, is that the redecorated home and many offices weren't completed until 1982 or later, so Hubbard was never there to use them in their present form. The ship was finished in 1982, the home in 1983 and the recording studio in 1984-1985.

Now, although he is dead, tables throughout the compound are set for one with glasses of water covered with plastic wrap, a flexible, striped straw poking through. Each of Hubbard's personal bathrooms has toothbrushes and identical sets of Thom McAn black thongs ready for him to step into after a shower or bath.

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lenses ready for use. Another 3,000 pieces of gear are in storage.

Hubbard's residence contains a "Capricorn II Digital Weather Console," a gift which he prized, aides said. With it, Hubbard could monitor the temperature, wind speed and direction, barometric pressure and other weather statistics from measuring devices placed outside on the property.

His books fill every office, study and conference room, and they are logged using the Dewey decimal system. There and even in his home, each one is individually wrapped in plastic wrap. The exception is a Louis L'Amour novel by his bed, a bookmark placed midway.

Hubbard's "audio-visual office" contains a display of signed photos from dozens of performers such as Willie Nelson, Natalie Cole, John Travolta, Karen Black and musicians Edgar Winter, Al Jarreau and Chick Corea who have used the studio and rave about it.

Hubbard wanted to design a studio that would enhance the musician's performance, said architect Barry Stein, a Scientologist for 10 years. The "green room" is vivid kelly green. Rather than warming up and practicing in the recording studio, Hubbard ordered a special grape and peach room for practice.

"He wanted the studio to be something to inspire the artists to perform a little bit better," Stein said. "He thought recording studios are generally very dull places and he wanted to create some images and faces on the walls."

So, hanging in the recording studio are life-size, appliqued murals of an orchestra, audience, other performers, flamingos and show girls dressed in skimpy orange costumes with real feather head-dresses. The studio is lighted with stage lights.

From Hubbard's home, called Bonnie View, the evenings gave the illusion of being near the sea, staff members said. A mist would fill the valley, faraway lights seemed like boats, and the ship's mast was illuminated.

Stein who designed the buildings and decor according to Hubbard's plans via a constant exchange of letters, admits he's disappointed that Hubbard never saw the completed projects. "The swimming pool at the house was supposed to be a surprise," he said.

Rocky Mountain News

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Turbulent life and times of L. Ron Hubbard

March 13, 1911: L. Ron Hubbard is born in Tilden, Neb.

1930: Hubbard attends George Washington University for 2 years, but eventually drops out to become a science-fiction writer, authoring hundreds of novels and short stories for "pulp" magazines.

1950: *Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental Health* is published.

1954: The Church of Scientology is founded.

Late 1950s: Food and Drug Administration launches investigation into Scientology's E-Meter.

1958: The church headquarters are moved to Saint Hill Manor in Sussex, England.

1967: Hubbard leaves England with top Scientologists to sail and live on his yacht, the Apollo. Over the years the ship will be ordered out of ports in several countries.

Feb. 20, 1968: Hubbard breaks 20-year public silence in a *Rocky Mountain News* interview in which he answered written questions. The interview is accompanied by a latter fingerprinted and written by Hubbard in ink specially formulated by a federal agent.

May 20, 1968: A judge dismisses DeWolf's suit, ruling Hubbard is neither dead nor mentally incompetent, but living in seclusion by choice.

1971: FBI raids Scientology offices in Washington

Any spot where Hubbard would conceivably sit is furnished with a yellow legal pad and pen, usually placed at an artful slant, ready for his legendary, voluminous scribbling of notes.

His snappy black, white and chrome-ofice in the movie studio contains a kitchenette with a table set with fresh flowers and salt and pepper shakers. In the adjoining bathroom, equipped as a makeup studio, Hubbard's red wig rests on a mannequin's head.

Hubbard's photographs and quotations are scattered throughout the compound, which contains various schools where actors, musicians, photographers and other students are trained by Hubbard's materials on the subjects.

The Gilman complex is the location of Golden Era Studios, an arm of the church that produces Scientology films and taped lectures. Improvements to the resort were paid for with church money from sale of those tapes at about \$20 each. The "pre-release" price for a newly released videotaped cassette is \$100.

The clipper ship, called The Star of California, was built as an entertainment center for VIPs and celebrities who come to the studios. The cost of the ship is placed at \$50,000, with labor provided by staff at the compound.

Hubbard loved toys, especially electronic ones, and Gilman is full of them. The entire place contains the best equipment available. One mini-recording studio is equipped with Hubbard's elaborate personal stereo system, extensive record and tape collection, a drum set and computerized \$16,000 Yamaha organ.

He owned enough photography gear to

stock a large camera store, if not a chain of them. Hundreds of cameras are boxed with

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