

Sunday, April 21, 1991

Letters To The Editor

For Shame!

I was surprised by the emotional tone of Mark Wilkinson's review (April 14 P7) of the book by L. Ron Hubbard titled "Clear Body, Clear Mind."

Mr. Wilkinson made his feelings about Mr. Hubbard very clear in his "review" but in the process of giving vent to these in a sarcastic diatribe of transparent intent Wilkinson violated the cardinal principle of the journalistic profession, which is to maintain objectivity.

To completely omit major sections of what is probably the most significant biochemical breakthrough of the century is not just a small oversight, it is plain stupidity, if it isn't deliberate smear.

I can't believe that Wilkinson actually read the book he "reviewed," because if he did he would have not overlooked the efficacy of Mr. Hubbard's program in dealing with radiation, for example, nor would he have completely ignored the findings on "drugs and learning" or the data on drugs burning up vitamin reserves, or several other sections of real relevance to the world today.

For shame, Mr. Wilkinson, you let your personal feelings cloud your objectivity and in doing so you have not only insulted the many hundreds of Japanese people who have already done this program with impressive results but you also insulted the intelligence of many thoughtful readers who deserve better.

You do not deserve your job at The Daily Yomiuri.

There is a relationship between chemicals or radiation in the body and a person's ability to think more clearly, say several Tokyoites who have done a

"purification program" recently. They say there is a distinct dulling effect that results from foreign substances in the body, and claim that life can be greatly enhanced by eliminating these.

What is the purification program? It is a sauna and exercise program that includes judicious use of vitamins and a high quality blended oil, which together have the effect of encouraging the body to make up any chronic deficiencies and unload unpleasant impurities as well.

It was developed by author and philosopher L. Ron Hubbard, whose research into the development of human abilities led him to notice that drug usage had a long term detrimental effect on learning ability. Even occasional or light usage of drugs seemed to be able to affect a person some years later. Hubbard researched a way that this could be reversed and came up with a program that has achieved spectacular results, especially where people had been overexposed to radiation or harmful toxins.

One amazing thing about this program is that built up radiation is discharged. Many people would not realize that sunburn and other radiation is cumulative in the body. A small dose 10 days in a row will have the same effect as a single exposure 10 times as strong. The right vitamin, niacin, however, has the effect of discharging radiation from the body and this shows up as a red sunburn flush on the body.

Niacin also has the effect of encouraging the body to renew its fatty cells when it is used with other vitamins and oil. It is these cells that can contain the harmful chemicals and drugs and it is the residual amounts of these poisons that apparently can cause a shutting off of emotions and perceptions, as well as a dulling of awareness and intelligence.

Henry Bartnik
Scientology Tokyo



Monday 22 April 1991

Scientology's war of retribution on deep-sleep therapy

By JO CHANDLER and JACQUI MACDONALD

Internal documents from the Church of Scientology, the parent organisation of the Citizens Commission on Human Rights, indicate that behind the church's public battle to expose abuses of psychiatric patients lies a hidden plan of retribution.

The documents contain evidence that some Australian Scientologists apparently have remained committed to a 30-year-old doctrine of revenge and intimidation against people the church describes as enemies. And while church members in

ed treatment, and another 24 suicides by patients after they had left the hospital.

The committee, a Scientology group founded by the church in Australia in 1972, has also been credited with helping to start the present health commissioner's probe into deep-sleep therapy in Victoria.

In pushing for the Victorian probe, the committee aimed at a leading psychiatrist and deep-sleep advocate, the late Dr Alex Sinclair. In 1989, a Coroner's Court inquiry finding concluded that Dr Sinclair had contributed to the death of a patient in 1987.

INSIGHT

Australia have been speaking out against psychiatric abuse, courts in the United States have condemned Scientology for itself using damaging psychiatric techniques.

The Citizens Committee for Human Rights was a protagonist for the Royal Commission on the use of deep-sleep therapy at Chelmsford Private Hospital in Sydney, which later reported 24 deaths as a result of the discredit-

community medically, morally and socially, and its adherents sadly deluded and often mentally ill."

Another report, to a senior member of the Scientology hierarchy in Los Angeles from the Melbourne investigations office, dated 20 May 1989, lists six psychiatrists, including Dr Sinclair, as "attackers who were instrumental in acting as witnesses for the Melb. inquiry or worked behind the scenes of the inquiry".

It added: "If we do find LSD experiment connections that can be documented to Sinclair (and two other psychiatrists), then this

can be easily run in the media ...". The Citizens Committee for Human Rights has for several years collected information about the use of the hallucinogenic drug LSD by some psychiatrists, and then distributed the material to authorities and the media.

The report also said the material could then be used to discredit the doctors as part of a campaign code-named "SWOT 19", which apparently was connected to a project believed to have been aimed at "enemy witnesses" against Scientology.

In a further report, after the start of the Victorian health com-

missioner's inquiry into deep-sleep therapy (DST) use, the Citizens Committee for Human Rights congratulated itself for its role in forcing the inquiry, saying it would particularly focus on Dr Sinclair, "a big fish as regards enemy action".

"We are utilizing (sic) the (Sydney) Chelmsford thrust to carry it on to Melbourne on an attack on DST and Sinclair and associates in Melbourne," it said.

The report details Dr Sinclair's military and professional history, his defence of deep-sleep therapy by one of the Chelmsford doctors in a trial in 1980 and his actions in

helping to "suppress" Scientology.

The national president of the Citizens Committee for Human Rights, Ms Jan Eastgate, said last week she had no knowledge of the reports cited above, and that the group was interested in Dr Sinclair because it believed he had introduced deep-sleep therapy to Australia, and because he had given evidence to a NSW court in support of the method at a time when people were dying from its use.

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Scientology's war of retribution

FROM PAGE ONE

"There's no hidden agenda or motive behind that," Ms Eastgate said.

"When I first came into Citizens Committee for Human Rights there wasn't any discussion about mental health, or mental illness or violations. People were just languishing away in psychiatric hospitals ...

"The state of reform in this country at the moment is indicative of the work that we have done," she said. The Citizens Committee for Human Rights had helped bring about important reforms ensuring that "you can't just go around arbitrarily locking people up and giving them potentially harmful treatment without their consent. What's wrong with that?"

The reports all include notations indicating that they were circulated in Australia and overseas. Some of the reports finish with instructions to cross-file copies of the documents with a long list of other files kept on individuals, including psychiatrists.

Insight has established that the church has used surveillance against church "enemies", ranging from doctors to journalists in Australia. This has continued despite the jailing of cult leaders in the United States more than a

decade ago that prompted church efforts to distance itself from such activities.

Some former Scientologists in Australia and overseas have told Insight that the intelligence operations are conducted through the church's Office of Special Affairs. The address of the Melbourne branch of the Office of Special Affairs is listed as the Scientology headquarters in Russell Street, and is behind the same doors as the offices of the Citizens Committee for Human Rights.

Some people who have resigned or been expelled from the cult in Australia, and others regarded as "threats", claim that they have been harassed and intimidated by church members or people who some believe were hired "heavies".

"Simon", who left the church after more than 20 years' involvement, said that the last time he spoke publicly about the church, he had been followed for days at a time. At the same time, his house was burgled and his vehicle was tampered with, although he has no evidence to say by whom.

He said a young man claiming to be a salesman came to his door and recited intimate details of his life, which he said would be avail-

able only from confidential personal files kept by the church of "auditing" sessions — confessional-style counselling in which an individual is attached to a primitive lie detector called the E Meter.

A Perth based anti-cult activist and Christian minister, Mr Adrian Van Leen, claims a private investigator was sent to intimidate him after he criticised the church in 1988.

Mr Cyril Vosper, a former Scientologist-turned-cult "de-programmer" who had studied in London under the church's late founder, L. Ron Hubbard, is regarded as one of Scientology's greatest enemies.

Mr Vosper, who now lives in Melbourne, said that at various times he has been under long-term surveillance — his movements apparently filmed and photographed — by people making no attempt to hide their interest in him. "They want you to know you are being watched, that itself is intimidating," he said.

Rumors about him were widely circulated to friends and associates, together with material he said would have been found in his personal "auditing" files.

Mr Vosper and "Simon" were given letters by the church branding them as "suppressive persons" and "degraded beings", and are subject to the vicious Hubbard "fair game" policy which has been central to legal action in the United States. Under the "fair game" policy, they can be "tricked, sued, lied to or destroyed".

This "fair game" policy has been under close scrutiny in the United States, where another declared "suppressive", Mr Larry Wollersheim, has been fighting a

court battle against the Church of Scientology of California. He has won a separate case against the church for intentional infliction of emotional distress, although the amount of damages is still subject to appeal.

On 21 July 1989, the California Court of Appeal found that Mr Wollersheim had suffered psychological injury as a result of Scientology practices conducted in a coercive atmosphere.

The court said the church's conduct was "manifestly outrageous", forcing him to continue the church practice of "auditing", to leave his wife and family, and forbidding him to seek professional help when he became so disturbed that he planned suicide.

The court found that Mr Wollersheim was an incipient manic-depressive for most of his life, and that the church leaders were aware of his disorder. "What (the

church) did to him during and after his years in Scientology aggravated Wollersheim's mental condition, driving him into deep depressive episodes and causing him severe mental anguish," the court found.

Mr Wollersheim's expert witnesses testified that Scientology's practices constituted "brain washing" and "thought reform" akin to what the Chinese and North Koreans practised on American prisoners of war.

The court established Scientology as an organisation with near-paranoid attitudes; that the church's sanctions "unquestionably constituted reckless disregard for the likelihood of causing emotional distress"; that the church engaged in a practice of retribution and threatened retribution — "fair game" — against members who left or otherwise

posed a threat to the organisation.

The court went on to compare some aspects of church practice with the Christian Inquisition of the Middle Ages, concentrating on "heretics" who threatened the dogma and institutional integrity of the mother church.

In a 1984 case in which the Church of Scientology California sued a former Scientologist, a Superior Court Judge found against the church, writing that former Scientologists were "still bound by the knowledge that the church has in its possession his or her most inner thoughts and confessions ... and that the church or its minions is fully capable of intimidation or other physical or psychological abuse if it suits their ends".

"The record is replete with evidence of such abuse," the judge found.

"In addition to violating and abusing its own members' civil rights, the organisation over the years with its 'fair game' doctrine has harassed and abused those persons not in the church whom it perceives as enemies.

"The organisation clearly is schizophrenic and paranoid, and this bizarre combination seems to be a reflection of its founder (L. Ron Hubbard)."

A Citizens Committee for Human Rights official in Melbourne, Mr Chris Campbell, said the findings of a variety of official inquiries demonstrated that abuse of psychiatric patients was not a figment of Scientologists' imaginations.

He said there had been many anomalies in United States court cases against the church. "I can play that game ... I can find the anomalies and make your newspaper look stupid ... but it's a regressive step."

● Additional research, David Wilson



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The battle to control the mind

WHEN a royal commission last year exposed atrocities at Chelmsford Private Hospital in New South Wales, the Citizens Commission on Human Rights scored dual victories: one public, one private.

The first came with the release of Mr Justice Slattery's 12-volume report into the nightmarish "cuckoo's nest" of Chelmsford — a private hospital where the commission found that at least 24 people died as a result of deep-sleep therapy. Another 24 patients survived the treatment but later took their own lives, 19 of them within a year of leaving Chelmsford, it found. CCHR had lobbied for an inquiry into Chelmsford for more than a decade, and the royal commissioner and the media were critical of authorities for being so slow to take CCHR's claims seriously.

The second, private victory for CCHR and its parent organisation, the Church of Scientology, which established CCHR in Australia in 1972, was heralded in the pages of the Scientology magazine 'Impact'.

On being recognised for her courageous work, the Australian president of CCHR, Ms Jan Eastgate, herself a scientist, said: "It's a fantastic group to receive an award from and I know that ridding this planet of psychiatry helps Scientology expand and therefore helps all of you."

"We have been fighting a war and we have won."

The battle analogy was an ironic echo of the words penned by the enigmatic "Jekyll and Hyde" psychiatrist at the centre of the Chelmsford tragedy, Dr Harry Bailey, before he swallowed a lethal combination of barbiturates and alcohol on 8 September 1985. "Let it be known that the Scientologists and the forces of madness have won," he wrote in a suicide note given to the commission.

The conflict that so obsessed Ms Eastgate and Dr Bailey was one paralytic campaign in an international war that has raged for 40 years between Scientologists and some people they regard as their sworn enemies, psychiatrists.

Now the battlefield is Victoria, which CCHR claimed this month was the deep-sleep capital of Australia. As the Victorian health commission winds up a long inquiry into deep-sleep therapy use in this state — large part of the investigation of CCHR — internal Scientology documents raise questions about the motives behind the church's push for the probe.

A key issue is the disturbing indication in the documents that apart from CCHR's altruistic interest in the Victorian inquiry, the Church of Scientology had a hidden agenda — and what could be seen by some as a witch-hunt aimed at discrediting the doctors and organisations helpful in outlawing the church in Victoria more than 25 years ago.

Those documents target the late Melbourne psychiatrist and deep-sleep advocate Dr Alex Sinclair as a key person behind the suppression of Scientology and a "big fish as regards enemy action against (the church)", and outline plans to have him made the subject of official investigations.

Scientology was, for a period, banned in Victoria after a Board of Inquiry into Scientology, conducted by

The Victorian and New South Wales inquiries into deep-sleep therapy may never have occurred had it not been for the lobbying of the Citizens Commission on Human Rights. **JACQUI MACDONALD** and **JO CHANDLER** investigate the operations and motives of this group.

Kevin Anderson, QC, which found in 1965 that while some aspects of Scientology seemed so ludicrous that its practitioners could be dismissed as "harmless cranks", to do so would be a grave mistake.

Mr Anderson reported to Parliament that the church was evil, and a serious threat to the community. Dr Sinclair participated in this inquiry.

A former Scientologist active in the church at the time says that the church continued under the guise of the Church of New Faith, until amendments under federal legislation in 1973 recognised Scientology as a religious denomination. That status, which remains in place today, effectively neutered the bans of Victoria and other states.

Perhaps the most stunning aspect of the reports is that more than 20 years after the Anderson inquiry, Melbourne Scientologists were — at least in 1987 — still trying to root out the individuals behind the 1965 probe that so damaged the young church internationally.

The preoccupation of a church organisation with investigations, debriefing and sweeping information gathering — particularly in regard to the medical world — may seem baffling without an understanding of the roots of Scientology, and the fixation of the church's founder, L. Ron Hubbard on espionage as a means of defending his empire against attack. Hubbard died, or in Scientology jargon "dropped his body", in 1986 after several years in hiding.

In the 1960s, Scientology developed an intelligence bureau known as the Guardian's Office, which was run by Hubbard's then wife, Mary Sue Hubbard. In an unofficial biography of Mr Hubbard, investigative journalist Russell Miller wrote that one of the "operating targets" was to assemble full data by investigation for use "in case of attack", while another operation involved the theft, destruction or laundering of government records that held unflattering information about Mr Hubbard or the church.

In 1977, FBI raids on Scientology offices in Washington and Los Angeles uncovered evidence of a spy system that resulted in nine Scientologists, including Mary Sue Hubbard, being indicted for crimes including theft of government documents, burglarising government offices, intercepting government communications and conspiracy to obstruct justice.

The sentencing memorandum of Mary Sue and her colleagues in 1978 — after they pleaded guilty to one count each — stated: "The crime committed by these defendants is of a breadth and scope previously unheard of. No building, office, desk or file was safe from their snooping and prying. No individual or organisation was free from their despicable conspiratorial minds."

Mr Hubbard was convinced that behind all the attacks on him and his church were a small group of communists who had infiltrated most of society, as a 1968 executive directive to his followers — obtained from the United States — illustrates.

"PSYCHIATRY and mental health were chosen as a vehicle to undermine and destroy the West. And we stood in their way," he wrote. He declared that Scientology had to stop this subversive destruction of the West.

The skirmish between the medical world and Hubbard began in 1950 with an article he wrote for a pulp science

— An Introduction to a New Science" and which subsequently developed into a best-selling book. His theory promised a technique that would cure any non-organic insanity, as well as providing a cure for numerous physical ailments, from arthritis to the common cold.

Central to his theory is a process known as auditing. A California court described this as a one-on-one dialogue between a Scientology "auditor" and a Scientology "student".

"The student ordinarily is connected to a crude lie detector, a so-called E-meter." The auditor asks probing questions and notes the student's reactions as registered on the E-Meter," the court said.

"Through the questions, answers and E-meter readings, the auditor seeks to identify the student's ... en-

grams." These engrams are negative feelings, attitudes or incidents that act as blockages preventing people from realising their full potential and living life to the fullest.

The court said that since Scientology held the view people had lived many past lives, they carried engram accumulated during those past lives as well as some from the present.

The auditor and student then worked to identify and eliminate all the student's engrams so he could achieve the state of "clear", the court said.

The medical profession was outraged, accusing Hubbard of "sweeping generalisations", of devising "a clever scheme to dip into the pockets of the gullible", and encouraging dangerous amateur psychological meddling.

Over the years Hubbard's theories acquired overtones of science fiction inspired spiritualism and evolved into the Church of Scientology. A letter from Hubbard to a senior aid provide an interesting perspective on just why Hubbard founded the religion.

The letter describes how Hubbard believed the development of his theories — then occurring within Hubbard "clinics" — should occur within some sort of independent structure. "I didn't go to all the work I went to on the HA (Hubbard Association of Scientologists) and other things to forget the my own revenue has to be a lot better than it has been in the past," he wrote.

"Perhaps we could call it a Spiritus Guidance Centre. Think up its name will you. And we could put in nam desks and our boys in neat blue wit diplomas on the walls and one, knock



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psychotherapy into history; and two, make enough money to shine up my operating scope; and three, keep the HIAS solvent.

"I await your reaction on the religion angle ... A religious charter would be necessary ... to make it stick. But I sure could make it stick. We're treating the present time beingness; psychotherapy treats the past and the brain. And brother, that's religion, not mental science," he wrote.

Scientology developed a highly organised structure within which adherents "bought" their way up a "bridge" to enlightenment and mental and physical health by paying for literature and specialist classes. A 1987 British investigation of the cult by 'Panorama' featured a Hubbard policy document on which the directive "make money" featured four times.

The same program listed 27 known sub-groups and companies of the church — including CCHR — many of which ex-Scientists have repeatedly asserted were formed as part of long-term exercise to create social reform bodies that would improve Scientology's battered image.

A 1970 French Government police agency investigation into Scientology found: "This sect, under the pretext of freeing humans' is nothing in reality but a vast enterprise to extract the maximum amount of money from its devotees by (use of) pseudo-scientific theories" and that Scientology used "a kind of blackmail against persons who do not wish to continue with this sect".

A Californian Superior Court memorandum of intended decision found that from evidence given to that court in 1984, similar conclusions to the French statement could be drawn in the US.

Ms Toby Plevin, a Los Angeles attorney involved in numerous actions against Scientology, argues that the bedrock of Scientology practice is to create in all believers a massive unity of mind when they have come to it on

the expectation that their individual lives will improve.

Psychiatrists, too, have exercised extreme defensiveness against Scientology.

In 1988, an article published in the Sydney Morning Herald showed just how acute tensions remained between Scientology and Psychiatry. It reported that when a Sydney psychiatrist disturbed at the treatment of patients in Helmsford wrote to one of the world's most eminent psychiatrists expressing his concerns in 1981, he was urged not to expose deep-sleep therapy at Helmsford.

Sir Martin Roth, at that time the Professor of Psychiatry at Cambridge University, replied: "The inhumanity and cruelty to which patients (at Helmsford) appear to have been subjected is quite unique in my experience and the Scientists and other organisations will have obtained ammunition for years or decades to come." He went on to urge that the issue be kept, for the moment, confidential.

While Scientists around the world have accused psychiatry of gross butchery, the church was itself accused of brainwashing.



MRS Hana Whitfield, an American ex-Scientologist who worked in the church's higher echelons as a personal aid to Hubbard, and argues that Scientology is Hubbard's own brand of psychotherapy and continues to be practised in the hands of unlicensed people.

"They don't know they are using trance induction techniques. They don't know they are using de-sensitisation techniques (and they are) ignorant of what can go wrong," she said.

In 1989, the California Court of Appeal upheld the finding that a former Scientologist Larry Wollersheim had

suffered psychological damage as a result of Scientology practices. A manic depressive, Mr Wollersheim had been physically restrained from leaving the church and threatened with attack if he did leave; forced to continue auditing when he wanted to stop; ordered to leave his family; financially ruined by the church and ordered not to seek professional help as his emotional state crumbled.

The court also found that auditing was conducted in a "coercive atmosphere (the church) created through threats of retribution against those who would leave the organisation".

In a 1984 case in the Superior Court of California, a court memorandum of intended decision said that the record was replete with evidence of Scientology "enemies" being subjected to threats and abuse.

The judge wrote: "In addition to violating and abusing its own members' civil rights, the organisation over the years with its "Fair Game" doctrine has harassed and abused those persons not in the church whom it perceives as enemies. The organisation clearly is schizophrenic and paranoid, and this bizarre combination seems to be a reflection of its founder.



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Of Hubbard, the court report said: "The evidence portrays a man who has been virtually a pathological liar when it comes to his history, background and achievements. The writings and documents in evidence additionally reflect his egoism, greed, avarice, lust for power, and vindictiveness and aggressiveness against persons perceived by him to be disloyal or hostile."

Additional research, David Wilson.

Church out to even the score

By JO CHANDLER
and JACQUI MACDONALD

A telex sent in April 1987 to Scientology's Melbourne Office of Special Affairs from its Australian-New Zealand headquarters tracks the church's defensive strategy in response to an investigation by the former television program 'Willesee'.

The program was looking at a woman's claim that her trip into the Russell Street headquarters had almost cost her \$43,000.

The telex spelt out a seven-step program for defusing the story. One course of action was to loudly brand the investigation a "set up".

"(The) Church has exposed CIA-style experimentation (sic) in Australia at Chelmsford. Could be they want to get revenge on us by sending in a plant. FBI has been proven to infiltrate the church dozens of times because we were opposed to their mind control activities," the telex says.

"Go on about the fantastic effectiveness of Scientology and the spiritual gains," it advises.

"Have somebody in ministerial garb."

It then suggests courses of action in the church's 'Manual of Justice'. "Investigate the reporter, not the show," it says.

Insight has obtained a copy of the 'Manual of Justice'. It is a disturbing document first issued by the church's late founder, L. Ron Hubbard, in 1959 and reissued in Australia in 1981.

Buried in the pages of jargon is advice from Hubbard: "People attack Scientology; I never forget it, always even the score."

On dealing with the media, the manual uses the example of a "bad magazine article", and advises first a request for a retraction. Second, "hire a private detective of a national-type firm to investigate the writer".

"Get any criminal or communist background the man has. (Because all subversive activities foolishly use criminals...)"

It advises that the church threaten litigation, then "use the data you got from the detective ... to write the author of the article a very tantalising letter

... Just tell him we know something very interesting about him and wouldn't he like to come in and talk about it ... He'll sure shudder into silence."

Although the manual is more than 30 years old, the telex indicates that in 1987, the formula it prescribes was still being recommended to deal with the media in Melbourne.

Last July, the British 'Sunday Times' revealed a Scientology "dirty tricks campaign" that also smacks of the Hubbard formula for dealing with inquiries.

The paper reported that the church had paid private detectives more than \$100,000 to organise a worldwide campaign against one of its reporters, Russell Miller, who wrote 'Bare Faced Messiah', an unauthorised biography of Hubbard.

It claimed that documents revealed that for three years, Miller had been followed around the world by investigators, spying on him and trying to discredit him by giving false information to police.

Hubbard's Manual of Justice, or how to avoid dogged reporters

A telex sent to the Melbourne Office of Special Affairs (OSA) from Scientology's Australian/New Zealand headquarters in April 1987 tracks the church's defensive strategy in response to an investigation by the former television program *Willesee*.

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□ JO CHANDLER and
JACQUI MACDONALD

Scientology's 'degraded beings'

By JO CHANDLER and
JACQUEL MACDONALD

Internal documents from the Church of Scientology, the parent organisation of the Citizens' Commission on Human Rights (CCHR), indicate that behind the church's public battle to expose abuses of psychiatric patients lies a hidden agenda of retribution.

The documents contain evidence that some Australian Scientologists apparently have remained committed to a 30-year-old doctrine of revenge and intimidation against people whom the church describes as "enemies".

And while church members in Australia have been speaking out against psychiatric abuse, courts in the United States have condemned Scientology for itself using damaging psychiatric techniques.

CCHR was a leading protagonist for the royal commission into the use of deep sleep therapy (DST) at Chelmsford Private Hospital in Sydney, which later reported 24 deaths as a result of the discredited treatment, and another 24 suicides by patients after they had left the hospital.

CCHR, a Scientology group founded by the church in Australia in 1972, has also been credited for helping to start the Health Commissioner's probe into DST in Victoria.

In pushing for the Victorian probe, CCHR targeted a leading psychiatrist and deep-sleep advocate, the late Dr Alex Sinclair. In 1989, a coroner's court concluded Dr Sinclair had contributed to the death of a patient in 1987.

Dr Sinclair has been investigated by the church's so called "intelligence" arm because he was — according to a 1987 report by a former CCHR member — "an enemy witness... involved in the suppression of [Scientology] in Victoria".

In March 1987, a report to an arm of the church called the Office of



"Even the score" ... Hubbard.

Special Affairs (OSA), said Dr Sinclair had been an active player behind the scenes in a 1965 Victorian inquiry into the cult. That inquiry reported to Parliament: "Scientology is evil; its techniques evil; its practice a serious threat to the community medically, morally and socially; and its adherents sadly deluded and often mentally ill."

The national president of CCHR, Ms Jan Eastgate, said last week she had no knowledge of the report and that the group was interested in Dr Sinclair because it believed he had introduced DST to Australia, and because he had given evidence to a NSW court in support of the method at a time when people were dying from its use.

"There's no hidden agenda or motive behind that," she said.

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at the moment is indicative of the work that we have done."

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In a 1984 case where the Church of Scientology California sued an ex-Scientologist, a Superior Court Judge finding against the church wrote that former Scientologists were "still bound by the knowledge that the church has in its possession his or her most inner thoughts and confessions... and that the church or its minions is fully capable of intimidation or other physical or psychological abuse if it suits their ends."

"The organisation clearly is schizophrenic and paranoid, and this bizarre combination seems to be a reflection of its founder [L. Ron Hubbard]."

In the church's Manual of Justice, first issued by Hubbard in 1959 and re-issued in Australia in 1981, is this advice from the founder: "People attack Scientology. I never forget it, always even the score."

A CCHR official in Melbourne, Mr Chris Campbell, said the findings of a variety of official inquiries demonstrated that abuse of psychiatric patients was not a figment of Scientologists' imaginations. He said there had been numerous anomalies in US court cases against the church.

Additional research by David Wilson.

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