

# CULT FATHER LOSES PLEA TO KEEP CHILDREN

**T**HE decision to "rescue" two children from the clutches of the Scientology cult, branded "corrupt, sinister and dangerous" by a High Court judge, was backed by two Appeal Court judges yesterday.

They refused the plea by the father, a Scientist, to overturn Mr Justice Laye's ruling in July that the children must be handed over to their mother to start a new life in Australia.

The 32-year-old father said the judge had gone too far in his attack on the church and its founder L. Ron Hubbard. And he claimed this had affected the judge's discretion in deciding what was in the best interest of the children, a boy of 10 and girl of eight.

Mr Justice Laty described the practices of Hubbard and his helpers as "grimly reminiscent of the ranting and bullying of the raving mad." Those close to him at the top.

Hubbard a charlatan

He had said: "Scientology is both immoral and socially objectionous. In my judgment it is corrupt, sinister and dangerous. It is corrupt because it is based on lies and deceit and has as its real objective money and power for Mr Hubbard, his wife and those close to him at the top."

Mr Justice Laty had called Hubbard a charlatan.

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of Hitler and his henchmen." He said their brainwashing of children at an early age was "training for slavery." Lord Justice Dunn sitting with Lord Justice Purchas pressed the judge had expressed himself in "strong and ardent" language to oppose it. "It is sinister because it indulges in infamous practices both to its adherents who do not toe the line unquestioningly and to those outside who criticise or oppose it."

forthright terms." But he said that was no ground for challenging his decision. "It said there was ample evidence that the father had lied and brainwashed them so that on occasion, and the judge could not rely on assurances that the children would be protected from Scientology until they were old enough to make up their own minds. "The children have been living with the father since the couple split up in 1978. But the judge ordered them to be handed over away from the cult."

to the 26-year-old mother on Saturday at noon.

# RELIGIOUS SECT'S FOUR ON COUNCIL

is expecting a child in October, was refused leave to appeal to the House of Lords. But he was told he could have reasonable access to the children.

Mr Justice Lacey had found that the children were happy and well looked after by the father but if they stayed with him they would be brought up as Scientologists.

Lord Justice Dunn said the Scientific factor "tipped the scales" in favour of the mother. The judge had to balance the risks and to do so he had to make findings about Scientology.

Those findings were not challenged. Those findings were not challenged.

Four members of a controversial religious sect will be returned unopposed as parish councillors for the village of Herringewell, Suffolk, today.

It will be the village's first council election. The four live in the manor house taken over by the Medina Rajneesh sect as its British HQ in 1982. It is home to 140 of the followers of Bhawan Shree Rajneesh.

Ma Prem Diana, Ma Simant, Swami Anand Amrito and Swami Anand Neerava have been nominated to the council in their English names: Diana Grant, Derek Hawkins, Christopher Scott and Gillian Westley.

## City earmarks \$100,000 to beautify causeway

By HOWARD FRENCH  
Sun staff writer

Clearwater city commissioners Thursday night agreed to allot \$100,000 from a Dec. 4 referendum on a proposed \$11.1 million bayfront preservation project to beautify Memorial Causeway. And at the same time, the commission directed the city's legal staff to find a way to exclude any commercial use of the waterfront area through restrictive language on the referendum ballot.

Critics of the plan, such as resident Robert Bick-erstaf, said the city should allow private enterprise to develop recreational opportunities along the bayfront "without using tax money."

Supporters of the plan, such as Waterfront Planning Committee chairman Wray Register, said the project could be the last chance to preserve the bayfront for future generations.

The referendum will be split into two questions,

with Proposition One focusing primarily on revitalizing existing public parkland along the waterfront between Chestnut and Drew streets. That portion of the plan would cost \$3.8 million and would include the purchase of a 90-foot strip of parking lot from the Maas Brothers department store to complete the green belt.

The second proposition would cost \$7.2 million and would provide for the purchase of new parkland, with the city acquiring four bayfront parcels. Included in the sites targeted for acquisition, however, are two controversial properties—the former Sandcastle Motel, now owned by the Church of Scientology, and the Norman Bie property, a sliver of land stretching south from the WTAN radio station.

Owners of both sites have stated emphatically that their land is not for sale.

Both phases of the project would be financed by a

30-year municipal bond program. And city officials estimate the average homeowner, with a \$62,900 home and a \$25,000 homestead exemption, would pay about \$17.43 annually in additional taxes if the plan is approved.

Also Thursday night, commissioners unanimously agreed Clearwater Beach should have a full-time police patrol of its own. And those using beachfront parking lots should foot the bill, projected at \$181,910 the first year, they said.

The decision finalizes a key part of a plan that the city hopes will control, if not end, problems with rowdiness along the beachfront at night. In August, the city's Beach Task Force and Police Chief Sid Klein agreed that an experimental task force should be assigned to the beach to beef up enforcement.

The suggestion came on the heels of complaints from beach residents and businessmen that the

(Please see \* CITY, next page)

(from page 1A)  
annual spring and summer influx of college-aged people was driving away law-abiding visitors.

But by increasing parking meter rates along the beach from 30 cents to 50 cents an hour, the city can afford the six additional full-time officers required for the beach patrol, commissioners said, as a first line of defense against beach rowdiness.

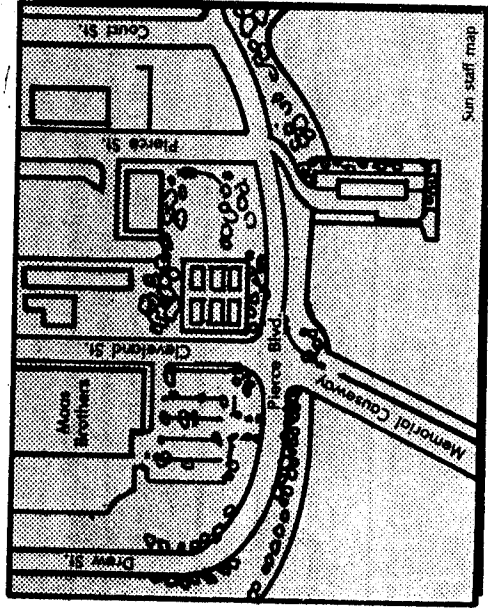
In other business Thursday, commissioners:

- Approved an \$82.2 million budget for the next fiscal year, starting Oct. 1. The budget provides for a slight drop in millage rates from 4.369 to 4.303 mills, although city officials have said some homeowners could experience a slight increase in their tax bills if their property has been reassessed during the past year.

A mill is \$1 in taxes for every \$1,000 in taxable, assessed property.

- Approved a 5 percent salary raise for police personnel for each of the next three years. The contract was approved earlier this week by members of the Fraternal Order of Police.

The city still is negotiating with two remaining unions, the International Association of Firefighters and the Communications Workers of America, representing about 900 civilian employees.



Map shows area affected by bayfront plan.

# Scientists head to appeal tax ruling

## California report

[illegible]

# Clearwater Sun

WEDNESDAY, September 26, 1984

Clearwater, Florida

## Sect vows to fight tax 'setback'

By HOWARD FRENCH  
Sun staff writer

Church of Scientology officials remained unruffled Tuesday in the wake of a legal setback in the sect's battle to maintain tax-exempt status.

The U.S. Tax Court on Monday shot down the California Church of Scientology's claim to non-profit status, although the matter is expected to be appealed and may go to the U.S. Supreme Court before it is resolved.

"With the IRS and the tax courts you're guilty until proven innocent," said local sect spokesman Richard Haworth. "Now we're going to move into the regular court system where you're innocent until proven guilty."

According to the federal ruling, the sect's California-based "mother church" cannot legally withhold its tax payments on the basis that it is a non-profit organization. The court held that the sect is operated for the financial benefit of its founder, L. Ron Hubbard.

☐ Editorial: Scientology bears no resemblance to religion, 8A

As a result, the court ruled, the California Church of Scientology, founded in 1954, does not deserve a religious exemption from paying taxes. That could mean the organization will be required to pay at least \$1 million in taxes owed, the Internal Revenue Service says, for the years 1970-72.

The Clearwater-based Flag Service Organization severed financial ties with the California sect in 1982. But Pinellas County Property Appraiser Ronald Schultz said Tuesday the ruling has a direct bearing on his battles with the sect over tax exemptions.

"The financial structure of the local corporation does not seem to be substantially different from the California operation," he said. Next month, he said, his office will begin an audit of sect financial re-

cords under court order to determine the status of the local operation.

"The tax court came to the same conclusion we expected to come to" upon completion of the audit of local sect finances, he said.

But in a written response to the tax court ruling, Heber Jentzsch, sect international president, said the Church of Scientology will continue the battle against what he considers an IRS assault on religious freedom.

"Let me make this clear," he said. "This decision has only strengthened our iron determination to work with other churches, human rights organizations and concerned American taxpayers to bring about the reform of America's Gestapo (IRS) and, if necessary, to bring about its dismantling."

In a related matter, sect spokesmen said that if the church's tax-exempt status is knocked down, a Clearwater proposal to restrict downtown expansion by non-profit groups could benefit the sect.

The city is locked in a legal battle of its own with

the sect regarding a charitable solicitations law, aimed at forcing non-profit groups to register with the city and submit to city scrutiny of their financial records. The city says the law is designed to protect residents from fraud, but sect officials contend the city is trampling on the constitutional guarantee to freedom of religious worship.

Although a lower court found the law constitutional on its face earlier this year, a federal appellate court in Atlanta has placed enforcement of the ordinance on hold, pending further litigation.

Meanwhile, the city Planning Department is proposing a ban on the use of land in Clearwater's downtown development district by non-profit groups. City Planner John Richter said the measure should be incorporated into a new city code to maintain a stable tax base in the district, encompassing the downtown core, roughly from the harborfront to Greenwood Avenue, and between Court and Jones streets.

(Please see \* SECT, next page)

### \* Sect

(from page 1B)

But Scientology spokesman Haworth said he views it as just another attempt to limit sect expansion. The sect owns eight pieces of property in the district, including the former Fort Harrison Hotel.

"If they are really worried about the tax base," he said, "the city could work out a system allowing non-profit organizations to make donations in lieu of taxes." That way, he said, churches could maintain

their non-profit status while still paying for municipal services they receive.

City Commissioner James Calderbank said he is unconcerned that the proposed code could aid sect expansion if the higher courts continue to deny its non-profit status.

"If they are ruled a business, then they will be subject to all business regulations," he said. "It really wouldn't help them."



# Clearwater

## Sun

Wednesday, September 26, 1984

### Editorials of the Sun

## Scientology bears no resemblance to religion

It's hardly surprising that the United States Tax Court has found the California Church of Scientology is not a religion.

The court says the organization was "operated for the private benefit" of its founder, science fiction writer L. Ron Hubbard, his family and Operation Transport Corp. Ltd., "a noncharitable corporation controlled by key Scientology officials." And the court refused to classify the sect's teachings as religious.

Naturally, Scientology officials plan to appeal. Their "religion" believes in litigation on the flimsiest of pretexts.

The so-called church presents a pseudo-psychological doctrine that promises heightened spiritual awareness through a procedure closer to Freudian analysis than to any legitimate religious ritual.

In the words of one of its own policy manuals, the sect's main purpose is to "make money."

And that it certainly has done! The tax court said the California operation netted more than \$2.4 million in 1970 through 1972. And the profits went into Hubbard's Swiss bank accounts.

You can bet the situation is the same in Clearwater as it was in California.

Yet the Scientologists insist on

exorbitantly priced self-improvement classes. And it ruthlessly exploits the labor and finances of its followers to enrich the members of an elite clique. Sect bosses have been convicted of such decidedly unreligious behavior as conspiring to block a federal investigation and burglarizing IRS offices.

They must think the constitutional provision protecting religious freedom is a license to flout the country's laws.

By now, most Americans must be aware that Scientology is not a church but a commercial network preying on the weak-minded. Eventually, in its laborious way, the judicial system will confirm that awareness.

# Los Angeles Times

★ Thursday, September 27, 1984/Part 1 3

## U.S. Tax Court Rules Scientology Owes \$1.4 Million

By RUSSELL CHANDLER, *Times Religion Writer*

Denying tax-exempt status to the California branch of the Church of Scientology, the U.S. Tax Court in Washington has ruled that the controversial religious group must pay \$1.4 million in back taxes and penalties, because, the court said, the church "has made a business of selling religion."

In a 222-page decision released Tuesday, the court, in stinging language, said the church "conspired for almost a decade" to defraud the government and avoid paying taxes.

The ruling came in a suit filed by the church against the Internal Revenue Service, which had denied tax-exempt status to the church for 1970-72. The suit was tried in 1981.

"It has diverted millions of dollars through a bogus trust fund and a sham corporation to key Scientology officials," the decision said.

While ruling that the church, which has national headquarters in Los Angeles, must pay taxes on its income, the court specifically said \$1.4 million in income taxes and penalties is due for the period from 1970 to 1972.

Under federal law, churches are entitled to tax-free status if they are organized and operated exclusively for religious purposes and if no part of their earnings is used to benefit private individuals or shareholders.

Heber Jentzsch, president of the Church of Scientology International, said the decision will be ap-

pealed. Commenting on the long-running feud between the church and the Internal Revenue Service, Jentzsch assailed the IRS, charging it with "waging a vicious, criminally secret war against religious freedom and religious institutions—of which the Church of Scientology is only one of many—and against the constitutional freedoms of all Americans. . . ."

### Claims Hostility

In its suit, the church had contended that it was an IRS target because of political hostility toward Scientology and because of Scientology's "unpopular religious views and practices."

Rejecting that claim, the court said: "When we consider all the

facts spread across the voluminous record in this case, we are left with the inescapable conclusion that one of the petitioner's overriding purposes was to make money."

Scientology was founded in the mid-1950s by reclusive science fiction writer L. Ron Hubbard. Its counseling procedures, for which fixed fees are charged, are based on the theory that the human mind can be cleared of negative influences through a process called "auditing." An electronic device, known as an "E-meter," is used to identify psychological problems.

In 1979, nine top Scientology leaders, including Hubbard's wife, Mary Sue, were convicted of a conspiracy that involved the burglarizing of government offices and

the theft of thousands of government documents relating to tax investigations of the church.

The California Church of Scientology won tax-exempt status in 1967, but that was revoked 10 years later, after an investigation of church finances.

During the 51-day trial in 1981, in which the church challenged the denial of its tax-exempt status for 1970-72, a coalition of 40 major U.S. denominations submitted a friend-of-the-court brief siding with Scientology. The mainline church groups charged the government with seeking "virtually unfettered discretion to cut off the livelihood of churches and religious organizations with whom they disagree."

Scientology Church in California Denied Tax Exemption as Religious Organization

By JAMES B. STEWART

Staff Reporter of The Wall Street Journal

The Church of Scientology of California doesn't qualify as a tax-exempt religious organization because of its substantial commercial activities, the U.S. Tax Court ruled.

The Washington court, in a lengthy opinion grappling with questions about the separation of church and state, also ruled that the church hadn't been a victim of selective enforcement of the tax laws when the Internal Revenue Service attempted to revoke its tax-exempt status in 1967.

It couldn't be determined how much the church may owe in back taxes. A spokesman for the IRS said the matter will be assigned to auditors, who will review the church's accounting records to determine the assessment.

The Church of Scientology of California, the assessment.

Politics and Business Are Different Things In Tax Court's Eyes

It Rejects Nelson Rockefeller's Deduction of Costs Tied To Vice Presidential Quest

By ANN MONROE

Staff Reporter of The Wall Street Journal

The U.S. Tax Court has decided that politics isn't a business.

Lawyers for the late Nelson Rockefeller argued that he should have been allowed to deduct from his 1975 income the \$50,159.78 he spent getting confirmed as vice president. Mr. Rockefeller was "in the business of holding public office," they argued. The confirmation costs were an expense of that business, much like the fees job-seekers pay to employment agencies. Those fees are deductible.

In a decision filed Monday, the tax court rejected that argument. While it agreed that most of Mr. Rockefeller's career had been spent in various public offices, it held that "holding public offices is too amorphous a description to constitute a single trade or business."

What's more, getting a job in the private sector "involves considerations far different from receiving the nomination and obtaining confirmation... to serve as vice president of the U.S.," the court said.

Most of the expenses—\$505,727—went for legal and professional expenses.

A Rockefeller family spokesman said, "The attorneys are reviewing the opinion and considering whether it should be appealed."

Mr. Rockefeller was nominated for vice president by Gerald Ford on Aug. 20, 1974, after Mr. Ford succeeded Richard Nixon as president. He was confirmed by Congress in December and served until January 1977. He died in January 1979.

one of many churches of Scientology, is known as the "Mother Church" among Scientologists. Scientology was founded by L. Ron Hubbard, a science-fiction author, and teaches that spiritual competence is achieved by "erasing" mental images in the "reactive," or unconscious, mind that cause irrational behavior.

Heber C. Jentzsch, president of the Church of Scientology International, said the ruling will be appealed to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco. He said that "if this illogical opinion is upheld, every church in America will come under the rule of the IRS. We were, are, and will be a religion, and nothing more."

The IRS spokesman said the IRS wouldn't comment on a pending case.

In reaching his conclusion, Tax Court Judge Samuel B. Sterrett found that the church sold religious services, books and ar-

Mr. Jentzsch denied any impropriety and added that the opinion represented an ongoing campaign of harassment by the IRS against what it considered dissident groups. He said the church is suing the IRS for \$750 million in damages for violation of its First Amendment rights.

Earlier this year, the Supreme Court refused to hear an appeal by the Rev. Sun Myung Moon, who was convicted of tax fraud and tax evasion in a case that raised analogous questions concerning church and state. The Rev. Moon received the backing of a number of mainstream religious groups, and Mr. Jentzsch said he has received expressions of support from religious leaders around the country.

"The IRS is generating a gathering storm," he said. "President Reagan has got to get the IRS off the back of religion in America."

## Cazares blasts sect's candidate forum

By BOB MAILETT  
Sun staff writer

Pinellas County Commissioner Gabe Cazares wants Gov. Bob Graham and Pinellas-Pasco State Attorney James T. Russell to investigate an upcoming campaign forum sponsored by the Church of Scientology, which he claims is attempting to subvert and control county elections.

"There is no question that this cult has in the past leveled political actions against those who have opposed them," Cazares

said. "They have tried to control communities elsewhere and I think it is important that people be aware that it could happen here."

However, church spokesman Richard Haworth said the forum is merely an opportunity for the 800 to 1,000 registered voters among the church staff and membership to hear the issues and the candidates.

"Goodness gracious, this is America," Haworth said. "We are informing voters. That's just good

citizenship."

Cazares said he was prodded into action after reading press accounts of a candidates' forum held in August at the former Fort Harrison Hotel, international headquarters for the sect. That forum was attended by about 350 church members and several candidates including Commissioner John C. Chesnut, Republican John Espey (defeated in his primary bid for property appraiser) and several judicial challengers.

Subsequently, Cazares received

an invitation to attend a similar forum scheduled for Oct. 26 at the sect headquarters. He called the invitation "an insult."

"For any candidate for office to go is, to me, out-and-out pandering for votes," Cazares said.

Although some candidates who received invitations to the forum said they felt it improper to attend, Chesnut defended his appearance as just another stop on the campaign trail.

"I never refuse an invitation to talk in front of any group and I

gave them the same campaign speech," Chesnut said. "He (Cazares) does not tell me how my political campaign should be run. ... I think he's negated himself for making any decision involving Scientology."

In a Sept. 5 letter, Cazares urged State Attorney Russell to review the forum issue, saying "it has serious legal ramifications."

Cazares questioned whether the Scientologists offered any inducements to the candidates, if the

(Please see \* FORUM, next page)



GABE CAZARES

## \* Forum

(from page 1B)

candidates made any promises, and if the forum violated any laws governing the activities of nonprofit charitable organizations. He also suggested candidates could have a conflict of interest because of pending litigation between the Scientologist and the county over property tax exemptions.

Cazares said he has not received a response from Russell. Russell could not be reached for comment Wednesday.

Meanwhile, on Sept. 21, Cazares fired off a letter to Pinellas County Supervisor of Elections Charles Kaniss, asking his opinion of whether the Scientologists had vi-

olated any laws governing political action committees.

In a letter of response, Kaniss said no organization is required to file as a PAC unless its contributors \$500 or more a year to support or oppose a candidate or issue. He also said no state statute governs the time or place for forums.

However, Cazares said he was not satisfied with that response.

"I'm going to go to Tallahassee and ask the governor to look into this," Cazares said. "An international paramilitary ... organization has made its home in Florida and is trying to subvert the elections process. I think that is of such importance it ought to go to the top official in the state."

Still, Scientology spokesman Haworth maintained the forum was in no way illegal or unethical and said no candidates made promises of special treatment to the church at the forum.

"I have read announcements in the newspaper where all kinds of churches are doing this, but he (Cazares) does not attack that," he said.

Haworth also denied Cazares' claims that church officials tell members how to vote or try to blackmail candidates with block votes.

"If Cazares is worried about the opposition from our parishioners, maybe he should take a look at his own record," Haworth said.

## Sect's interest in college buy rumored

By HOWARD FRENCH  
Sun staff writer

Depending on whom you ask, the Church of Scientology's Clearwater-based Flag Service Organization Inc. either has expressed interest in buying Dunedin's Trinity College and expanding, or has absolutely no interest in the property at all.

According to a source who asked not to be identified Wednesday, Scientology representatives

☐ Probe sought on sect candidate forum, 1B

have made overtures to the school's administrators indicating the sect would be interested in buying the campus.

But sect spokesman Richard Haworth denied the rumor.

"It's all a surprise to me," he said, adding he has fielded similar rumors in the past, also un-



**RICHARD HAWORTH**

founded.  
Trinity College Dean Barry Banther also said he is "not at (Please see \* SECT, next page)

## \* Sect

(from page 1A)

liberty" to reveal the names of "several groups" who have expressed interest in the property. The facility, formerly the Fenway Hotel, was converted to a fundamental Christian college in the 1960s and counts evangelist Billy Graham among its alumni.

However, Banther said he "would not be surprised" if the Church of Scientology is among those interested in buying the property and school buildings, saying the sect has expressed interest in the past. But, he added, the property is not for sale.

"It is not listed for sale, nor is it listed with any broker," he said.

"And although the school has been approached by several groups expressing interest, we have told them all the same thing I am telling you—it is not for sale."

The flurry of interest in the facility, he said, may have been sparked by the school's recent talk of relocation. Banther said the school's board of directors has discussed building a new campus but has not located a suitable site.

And if the old facility is sold, he said, the board would attempt to remain in the Clearwater-Dunedin area and find a good neighbor as a replacement at the old campus.

"It would be our hope to sell (the campus) to someone compatible with the neighbors and the community," he said. "But that can't be guaranteed."

There is at least one potential Trinity College suitor who acknowledges interest in the campus—the city of Dunedin.

"We have not heard anything officially that the (school) is for sale," said Dunedin City Administrator Lee Dodge. "There's just been the usual street discussion about what a wonderful site it would be for a city hall."

In fact, he said, Dunedin's municipal offices are scattered

throughout town, and consolidating them into the Trinity College site might provide both efficiency and financial savings. But, he said, speculation places the price of the site at up to \$2.5 million, and that would be "quite a (high) price for the city (to pay)."

Pinellas County Property Appraiser Ronald Schultz said the two parcels and buildings which comprise Trinity College are appraised at slightly more than \$1.5 million on county records. But he said he had not heard any word that the Church of Scientology was interested in purchasing the site.

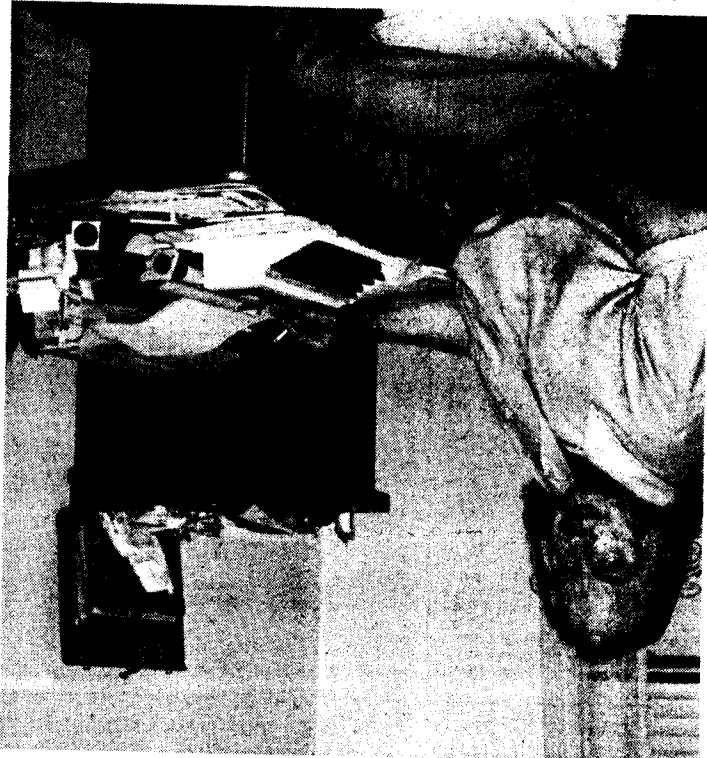
The Pinellas-Pasco State Attorney's Office has dropped a charge of false imprisonment pressed in August against a security guard for the Church of Scientology, officials said.

Roy Rodriguez was arrested Aug. 23 after he and two other sect guards chased 21-year-old John Williams of Clearwater on foot through downtown Clearwater, police said. The guards accused the man of throwing a rock through the window of the sect communications office at 500 Cleveland St., police said.

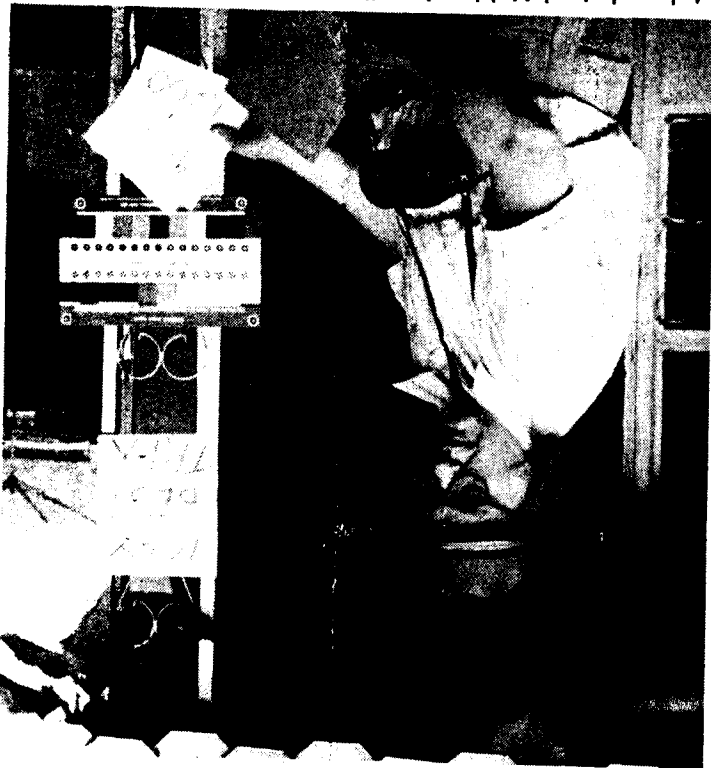
Four sect guards were in the communications office when the look came through the window around 9 p.m., police said, and when they ran outside, Williams was walking about a half-block away from the building.

Rodriguez tackled Williams behind the Pierce 100 condominiums and handcuffed him, police said. Williams denied throwing the rock, police said, and Rodriguez was arrested and charged. The charge was dropped Sept. 19 due to insufficient information, according to a report from the State Attorney's Office, police said. The report stated that although Rodriguez did not have probable cause to make a citizen's arrest, the state would drop the charge because Williams lied to investigating officers and informed the State Attorney's Office, police said.

Williams was charged Sept. 17 with throwing a deadly missile into an occupied dwelling.



Hubbard types at Codwise Place, Queens, N.Y., in 1973.



A long-haired Hubbard walks in Queens, N.Y., in 1973.

## Could Hubbard be hiding on Suncoast?

By GEORGE-WAYNE SHEOR

Sun staff writer

He may be the most highly visible "invisible" man on earth—Mr. Lafayette Ronald Hubbard. Although not seen publicly since 1980, the reclusive founder of the controversial Clearwater-based Church of Scientology is constantly the subject of newspaper stories, court testimony and television news around the world.

L. Ron Hubbard, a flamboyant millionaire philosopher, adventurer and explorer, mystic and mes-

### Commentary

stiah, has become the Howard Hughes of our time. For no one knows—at least no one is saying—where the 73-year-old man can be found.

As author of the book "Dianet-

ics: the Modern Science of Mental Health," the journalistic seed that

blossomed into Scientology, Hub-

sands of Scientologists as the

prophet who can save mankind

from itself.

But far from being received as

the answer to the world's prob-

lems, Scientology and Hubbard,

since the May 9, 1980 publication

of "Dianetics," have been under

unrelenting pressure and scrutiny

from outsiders.

For the past 34 years, Hubbard

has discreetly slipped in and out

of public view. And like billionaire

Hughes, he has had the financial

means to insulate himself from

the outside world and seemingly

(please see \* SECT, next page)

## The faces of Hubbard



L. Ron Hubbard, the reclusive Church of Scientology founder, dons a different look in each of these photos believed to have never been published before. The picture above was taken in Hemet, Calif., in late December 1979 just before he went into seclusion. Hubbard is said to have referred to gamblers as SPs (suppressive persons), and he never gambled—he was always 'the

house.' In the foreground is Mike Douglas, who reportedly was in charge of investing Hubbard's money. The sect founder had a different look in 1973 (top left), noticeably longer hair, when he lived at Codwise Place, Queens, N.Y. Hubbard took daily walks while in Queens, and often donned glasses and a hat that changed his appearance somewhat (top right).

## \* Sect

Where Hubbard is today, indeed, even if he is still alive, has become an increasingly wide-spread topic of speculation.

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When Scientology officials are asked Hubbard's whereabouts, they invariably say they do not know. When asked, sect President Heber Jentzsch neither confirms nor denies knowledge of Hubbard's whereabouts.

It seems that no one, including Hubbard's attorneys, his wife or Scientology's highest-ranking officials, claim knowledge of the whereabouts of a man who may be the world's most talked about recluse.

The last time Hubbard was seen locally was in Dunedin in February 1976. Mary Sue Hubbard testified she has neither seen or heard from her husband since January 1980.

And although sect officials refuse to speak with a reporter about Hubbard's location and health, a trail of Hubbard's travels has been established from Clearwater to the Eastern Sea-board to California, where Hubbard was last known to be.

According to former sect insiders, Hubbard left Dunedin in early 1976 and moved to Washington, D.C., where he directed Scientology organizations on an international basis and made preparations for establishment of a permanent residence in California.

In 1976, he moved to Culver City, Calif., the staging area for the acquisition of a number of properties in La Quinta, about 120 miles away.

Armstrong, who was with Hubbard at the time, said the Church of Scientology has since claimed Hubbard never intended to establish a permanent residence in California.

"But that was not what Hubbard told me," the 37-year-old Armstrong said.

He said Hubbard stayed in Culver City until December 1976, when he moved to the La Quinta properties, which were a number of adjacent buildings where he and a circle of confidants stayed for about two years.

In early 1979, the Hubbard entourage again moved, this time to a location then known to Scientologists only as "X." Actually, "X" was simply a number of apartments in Hemet, Calif., about 75 miles southeast of Los Angeles, according to Armstrong.

At the same time, Armstrong remembers, the majority of the La Quinta crew relocated to Gilman Hot Springs, a sprawling 500-acre desert resort, about five miles from Hubbard's Hemet hideout.

Hubbard visited the Gilman Hot Springs resort a number of times, Armstrong recalls.

"So the decision was made to change the rule," he said Friday in a telephone interview. "Additionally, it was becoming widely known that L.R.H. (Hubbard) was lying to all Scientologists because, in fact, he received none of the mail addressed to him. He wasn't even interested in it."

"He had a group of other people, called the SO 1 Unit, who received all his mail and replied for him, including signing Hubbard's name to the letters of response."

Numerous letters a Clearwater Sun reporter has written to Hubbard since November 1983 have gone unanswered—by anyone.

Even Hubbard's wife of 32 years, Mary Sue, testified in a Los Angeles Superior Court earlier this year that not only has she not seen her husband for four years, she believes her letters have not been forwarded to him.

"You have a communication line to Ron!" claim various Scientology publications, which remind Scientologists that Hubbard's Standing Order No. 1 assures all that "All mail addressed to me shall be given prompt and full attention in accordance with my wishes."

In years past, similar blurb penned by Hubbard assured readers that "all mail addressed to me is received by me." But that claim was revised in February 1981, and now an ambiguous statement says that mail addressed to Hubbard "shall be properly forwarded for reply."

It is unclear who will reply. "They changed SO 1 because the original rule that all mail addressed to Hubbard was to be received by Hubbard caused some problems," recalls Gerald Armstrong, a former Scientologist and intimate of Hubbard's.

Hubbard became concerned that litigants could effect service of process (serve subpoenas) by pointing out that Hubbard's statement "All mail addressed to me shall be received by me," meant that he could be reached and was in communication with others," said Armstrong, who defected from the sect two years ago after 11 years within.

A former member of Hubbard's inner circle and the sect's archivist who was in charge of compiling information on Hubbard's life, Armstrong has since become one of Scientology's most vocal and knowledgeable critics.

"So the decision was made to change the rule," he said Friday in a telephone interview. "Additionally, it was becoming widely known that L.R.H. (Hubbard) was lying to all Scientologists because, in fact, he received none of the mail addressed to him. He wasn't even interested in it."

"In 1979 he came by to see his house which the crew had renovated for him. He also came there to oversee video and film production on the property."

But in late 1979, Hubbard left Hemet. And by all accounts, he disappeared in February 1980.

"The reason he disappeared was because a number of lawsuits had been commenced in which people were seeking to serve him with papers," said Armstrong. "He had been named in them, so he disappeared because of his fear of the lawsuits."

Armstrong said he does not know where the elderly Hubbard fled. And now, nearly five years later, the trail has grown cold. Nonetheless, there are slight indications, unconfirmed reports and circumstantial evidence of Hubbard's possible present location.

L. Ron Hubbard's "international address" is listed in sect publications as a post office box in Tampa. So does Hubbard live in the Tampa Bay area?

The idea seems credible.

There are a number of reasons to surmise the reclusive founder of the worldwide sect could, indeed, be living in or near Clearwater, which is the home of Scientology's schools of advanced study.

Hubbard moved "Flag"—his international management headquarters—from his ship, the Apollo, to Clearwater in late 1975 and established the sect's headquarters known as "Flag Land Base" in the former Fort Harrison Hotel.

His vaunted "Sea Org"—the elite, uniformed organization responsible for keeping Scientology operating—also operates from Clearwater.

And in recent months, security around and within sect-owned buildings has increased visibly, including uniformed guards who carry tear gas canisters, handcuffs and radios. And the "Open to the Public" signs that used to be posted outside the Fort Harrison have disappeared.

Hubbard's family and former confidants say the man's health has been falling in recent years and subsequently he must stay in temperate climates. Again, the Suncoast qualifies.

According to testimony earlier this year in Los Angeles Superior Court civil trial, a California physician named Gene Denk treated Hubbard for an illness in November of last year. Dr. Denk did not testify at the trial.

Hubbard, a former naval officer, is an unarguable expert on matters relating to navigation and other nautical topics, so possibly

he has again taken to the seas aboard his small flotilla of ships. Hubbard's estranged son, Ron DeWolf, said Friday he has heard "rumors" his father has fled to Singapore, where he has obtained citizenship.

"I've been told that he is possibly in Singapore, having pursued citizenship there," the junior Hubbard said. "That could be just another wild rumor, but it does seem to fit his physical necessities and such a place also gives him access to everything he would need."

"But it must be realized that it is a rumor, and the various Scientology organizations themselves have been known to spread rumors on top of it all."

Persons in the hierarchy of Scientology continually claim no knowledge of Hubbard's whereabouts. They won't even speculate. Nonetheless, during the past several years when circumstances dictated, Hubbard has been reached.

Last year, when DeWolf claimed his father was either dead or incompetent, sect lawyers produced for a California court a handwritten document from the 73-year-old man.

In the statement, Hubbard said he feared appearing in public because his life had been threatened.

"I am in seclusion of my own choosing," Hubbard wrote. "As Thoreau secluded himself by Walden Pond, so I have chosen to do so in my own fashion. Of course, I am older now than I used to be. In my case, I am fortunate to be in good health and thus able to maintain my heavy daily work schedule. As to the claim of my incompetence, I do not intend to dignify it with a response."

After handwriting experts authenticated the document, complete with Hubbard's thumb print in special ink, the court ruled not only that was Hubbard alive, but the court was able to determine that the elderly writer was in complete control of his mental faculties.

"I'll be honest with you," DeWolf said. "I think all the questions are going to be difficult to answer. I don't think anything has been resolved concerning my father's health or whereabouts. But I would imagine—I would hope—that eventually law enforcement or defectors will someday let us know what has happened to him. I'd sure like to know... a lot of people would like to know."

## Actress, husband sever their link to Scientology, get \$59,000 refund

By DAVID DAHL

Clearwater Times Staff Writer

**CLEARWATER** — Television actress Joan Prather and her musician husband, who donated their professional services to promote the Church of Scientology, have ended their longstanding memberships in the church because of differences with church management.

The couple requested — and after about six weeks received — a \$59,000 deposit they gave the Clearwater office of the church to pay for any classes they may have decided to take.

Robert Levin, a former rock musician and currently a Los Angeles clothing manufacturer.

Levin said, "We're not in agreement with the practices of Scientology management."

"We can't condone the illegal acts that the church has done, and we can't condone the operation of the church," Levin said.

Church of Scientology spokesman Richard Haworth declined comment on the departure of the two high-profile members.

MISS PRATHER, 32, said in a telephone interview



*'They are doing things we do not wish to have our names associated with.'*

— Joan Prather, star of TV's *Eight is Enough*.

Miss Prather and Levin say they had placed more than \$59,000 in a Scientology account in advance of any classes they planned to take — a common procedure

## Actress from Page 1

"I WAS kind of surprised," Miss Prather said. "They didn't try to persuade me."

Levin said in a separate telephone interview last week that he received a check for \$59,222.65 on Sept. 14. The check was dated Sept. 12 and written on a Scientology account at Sun Bank of Dunedin, he said.

Levin said he and his wife earn a great deal of money, "so (doing without) \$60,000 really didn't strap us. But I can certainly see it strapping a lot of other people."

Both Levin and Miss Prather said the demand for repayment ended a longstanding relationship they each had with the church.

MISS PRATHER said she was taking Scientology classes during the time she played Janet McArthur Bradford on the *Eight is Enough* series. That series began in March

1977 and ran for four years. It frequently is shown in syndication.

In the late 1970s, she did two television commercials touting *Dianetics*, a book written by Scientology founder L. Ron Hubbard. And Levin said he did 50 to 60 concerts for the church in the late 1980s.

They performed for free. "I just did it as a free service," Miss Prather said.

In the last year, though, the couple said they became disenchanted and began investigating the church by talking to friends who had quit. They also read court transcripts of trials involving Scientologists.

Their investigation led the couple to disassociate themselves from the church.

"WE FEEL kind of embarrassed, both being working people and relatively educated people, that we were taken in" by the church, Levin said.

Miss Prather said she was especially upset by what she calls "spy

games" and "CIA games" the media have reported about the controversial sect.

In 1979, nine Scientologists, including Mary Sue Hubbard, wife of the founder, were convicted of conspiring to block an Internal Revenue Service investigation of the church. In that case, it was revealed that church leaders had placed spies in offices of the IRS and Justice Department.

"How can you be a church and be involved in that kind of activity?" Miss Prather asked.

LEVIN SAID he knows of an estimated 200 persons who have quit the church recently because of what he termed "appalling" price increases for church classes or for differences with management.

However, Haworth, spokesman for the church in Clearwater, said last week that less than 0.5 percent of the 6,000 people who visit the Clearwater church annually ask for refunds.

In August, the church began re-

paying 33 other disenchanted or former Scientologists nearly \$400,000. David Jordan, the Glendale, Calif. attorney for the 33 people, said Thursday that the church is continuing to repay his clients.

Miss Prather estimates spending about \$25,000 for Scientology training she received. In the last few years, Miss Prather and Levin said, prices for "auditing" and other Scientology services have skyrocketed.

AUDITING involves use of a primitive lie detector called an "E-Meter" that Scientologists think clears a person of bad thoughts.

Miss Prather said she has no gripe with any of the things she was taught while with the group. However, she said some people in the entertainment industry did criticize her involvement in Scientology.

A year ago, the Scientology officials approached her to film another commercial for the sect.

"I said 'I'm still living down the first one so give me a break,'" Miss Prather recalled.

## AN OPEN LETTER TO CURRENT AND FORMER EMPLOYEES OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

For over a decade, *FREEDOM News Journal* has gained national recognition for its exclusive exposés of IRS abuses and illegal activities. Through interviews with agents and employees and with the acquisition of internal IRS manuals that detail the agency's secret policies, *FREEDOM*

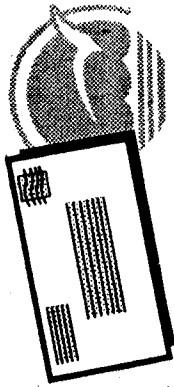
has found that —

- The IRS would not settle tax disputes if "the acceptance of an offer of compromise would result in unfavorable publicity due to the notoriety of the taxpayer even though the grounds for acceptance of the offer may well be completely valid";
- The IRS compiled an "enemies list" that included prominent individuals and celebrities such as John Wayne;
- The IRS worked with the Department of Justice to obtain "optimum news coverage" and "maximum publicity" of selected targets by getting "at the root of an editor's lack of understanding of the facts" in order to develop a proper "attitude" toward the IRS;
- The IRS infiltrated and attacked churches to force them to accept opposing standards of religious conduct or lose their tax standing;
- The IRS abused and harassed its own employees and forced them either to leave or submit to intolerable working conditions.

*FREEDOM*, the independent journal published by the Church of Scientology, is concluding another major investigation into the IRS and wants to interview current or former employees, especially (but not limited to) those who have worked with Criminal Investigations, Employee Plans, Exempt Organizations or Entity Control.

If you have been or are currently with the IRS and know of abuses of taxpayers, groups or even fellow employees and you feel it is time for these wrongs to be righted, contact

*FREEDOM*, 1413 N. Berendo St., Los Angeles, CA 90027 (213) 663-2058



## Letters to the Editor

### On Scientology

Editor:

People who deface church property are not new to this society, or to history. Swastikas on synagogues, property stolen from sanctuaries and a hundred other acts of violence depict only the depraved state of mind of their perpetrators.

Recently, the Pinellas County State Attorney's Office vindicated a Church of Scientology security guard, who captured a man suspected of throwing a rock through a church window, as charges were

filed against the chief suspect for throwing a deadly missile into an occupied dwelling (a felony) and for filing a false police report.

Evidently the trained eye of the State Attorney's Office was discerning enough to spot the truth.

On Aug. 26, 1984, the readers of the *Clearwater Sun* were treated to an editorial discussing the rock throwing incident where no mention was made of the depraved young man who was apprehended as the chief suspect in that incident. For some reason the *Sun* decided to print only one side of this story. No mention was made of the suspect's earlier threats against the church. Investigation by the police found that the individual he claimed was running from the scene of the crime was, according to the police, in jail at that time. Additio 5263610Inally, it was also discovered that the "friend" that the charged man was supposedly "waiting for" was, himself, the chief suspect in a police investigation of a recent armed robbery. Revealed later in the week was the fact that the man now charged with the crime was arrested recently on an auto theft charge in northern Florida. Thus, the facts of the case never saw the light of day.

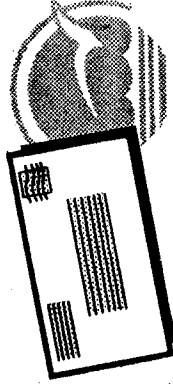
One looks in vain in the *Sun* for mention of the

hundreds of thousands of people who participate in the Church of Scientology on a daily basis, and the increases in ability and freedom that these people enjoy. Yet these facts are as close as two blocks away, should they choose to ask, and have been provided to the *Sun* time and time again.

One looks in vain in the *Sun* for mention of Hubbard for his advances in drug rehabilitation and his discoveries in education that have made it possible for thousands of people to become able to truly learn again. One sees no mention of the fact that almost 8 million copies of "Dianetics, The Modern Science of Mental Health" have been bought all over the world by people who have improved their lives immeasurably by discovering the principles of the mind that appear in the pages of that one book.

Scientology is the only road to total freedom for mankind. By eliminating barriers that have entrapped man for eons, true freedom is achieved and the road is there for anyone to travel. All one need to do is begin.

RICHARD HAWORTH  
Church of Scientology  
Clearwater



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RICHARD HAWORTH  
Church of Scientology  
Clearwater

# The Sacramento Observer

OCTOBER 11-17, 1964

## Philosopher Fights Drug Abuse



HUBBARD

Question. Who receives more fan mail per week than the Queen of England. Harrison Ford, and Pope John combined? Answer. L. Ron Hubbard.

Best known through his books and as the founder of the Scientology philosophy, Hubbard receives an average of 2400 letters a week from his friends and individuals who have been helped through his philosophy.

On his 73rd birthday in March, he received greetings from the Governors of 36 states and proclamations from Mayors in New Orleans,

Galveston, Houston and Catalina Island recognizing his humanitarian endeavors. In total there were 15,199 letters, gifts and cards sent to him from around the world on this occasion.

Since April 1963 Hubbard has received 104 plaques, recognitions, awards and official acknowledgements for his work in drug prevention and rehabilitation, education

and other fields. This was on top of 250 similar honors from earlier years.

Hubbard's methods in the field of drug rehabilitation have been used with tremendous success for nearly two decades by Narconon, an international drug rehabilitation program. Narconon, first started in Arizona State Prison in 1966, has had continual success in this field and now

has 29 centers in 11 countries which use the Hubbard Method.

A year ago the City of Riverside, California, declared July as L. Ron Hubbard Month in "appreciation for his continued efforts towards combating the ill effects of drug abuse and instilling in addicts authenticated hope for recovery and a better way of life."



# Clearwater Sun

WEDNESDAY, October 24, 1984

Clearwater, Florida

Volume 71,

## Property appraiser studies sect records

By GEC GE-WAYNE SHELOR Oct 24  
Sun staff writer

Clearwater Sun Pg 7A

CLEARWATER—The Church of Scientology complied Tuesday with a court order directing the sect to allow Pinellas County Property Appraiser Ron Schultz to examine records relating to the controversial organization's tax status.

Schultz, accompanied by a county accountant and an attorney, began examining the sect's financial records Tuesday morning on the top floor of the former Fort Harrison Hotel, which is the organiza-

tion's world headquarters.

"In effect, we are doing a financial audit," of the Church of Scientology's Flag Service Organization, Inc., a Florida corporation which owns sect property in Pinellas County, Schultz said during a break.

The examination, part of an agreement hammered out by Pinellas County Circuit Judge B.J. Driver, gives the county access to about 10,000 receipts, bills, vouchers, checks and other documents to aid in determining whether the world-wide sect

(Please see \* RECORDS, next page)

## \* Records

(from page 1A)

is, in fact, a non-profit organization.

The financial question has been the center of a bitter court battle between the county and the sect, with county officials claiming the Scientologists owe \$251,000 in back taxes from 1982 and another \$237,000 from 1983.

Although sect spokesman refused to comment Tuesday, the organization has, in the past, refuted those claims, insisting they are tax exempt.

"This has been at issue since 1976, and this is the first time we've been allowed to get at this documentation," Schultz said. But citing a court order, he said he could neither reveal the specifics of the material nor discuss his findings until the court has examined the case.

"Under the lawsuit, we asked for all kinds of documents relating to their not-for-profit status," which has been at issue since the sect arrived in Clearwater nearly 10 years ago.

The sect, which owns 10 properties in Clearwater appraised at more than \$11 million, has argued its religious status in refusing to pay taxes beginning in 1978. But after losing court decisions over about

\$500,000 in taxes from 1970 through 1980, it began payment of back taxes.

Last January, the Church of Scientology paid \$115,598 tax bill for 1978, and in March paid \$129,339 for 1979 taxes. In May the Pinellas tax collector was paid \$292,939 for 1980 taxes plus interest.

Currently Schultz is looking at documents regarding the sect's financial activities in the year's 1981 and 1982, a job the property appraiser said may take "several months."

"For the first time I've had an opportunity to visit the Fort Harrison and try and get a feel for these documents," he said. "There are a lot of documents there and hopefully we will end up with an understanding of the finances of that organization."

But understanding what has been supplied, Schultz said, will not be easy.

"Most of the organizations we deal with are small, and we understand what they are in a short period of time. But these records are so voluminous, this may take several months."

"With something this complex, we'll need a computer, so we'll have to create a (computer) program which will allow us to understand and correlate this data."

# Clearwater Sun

2B

Clearwater Sun

Thursday, October 25, 1984

## Sect branches file \$20 million-plus lawsuit

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A \$20 million-plus lawsuit has been filed by two branches of the Church of Scientology accusing a Boston lawyer, his brother, his law partner and a former Scientologist of violating the civil rights of church members.

The federal lawsuit claims attorneys Michael Flynn and Thomas Hoffman, Washington, D.C. restaurateur Kevin Flynn and former Scientologist Laurel Sullivan conspired to violate the church members' civil rights by a campaign of lies that led to government investigations and adverse publicity.

"The defendants were motivated by their own personal greed as well as a personal animus toward the adherents and tenets of the religion of Scientology," the

lawsuit alleges.

The suit, filed Tuesday by the Church of Scientology of California and the Florida-based Church of Scientology Flag Service Organization Inc., also accuses the defendants of violating racketeering law by using the mails to raise money to support their allegedly illegal activities.

Ms. Sullivan is additionally accused of breaching attorney-client privilege by disclosing information she gained as a church agent dealing with church attorneys.

"It's a suit for all religions and the protection of their First Amendment rights of freedom to worship," said the Rev. Heber Jentsch, president of the Church of Scientology International. "We've decided to pick up the slingshot and knock down the Go-

liath," which involves government."

However, Flynn—who has handled several suits against the church and its founder, L. Ron Hubbard—termed the action "just another chain in the (church's) attack on myself, my colleagues, the IRS (Internal Revenue Service), the FBI—everybody who's litigated against them."

He noted that a similar 1981 suit accusing him and others of conspiring to destroy the church was dismissed in federal district court in 1982.

Flynn claimed the current lawsuit appeared to reflect the church's frustration at recent losses on other legal fronts, including loss of its federal tax-exempt status, failure to recover 30,000 documents allegedly dam-

aging to Hubbard from a former church official, and a British court's condemnation of Scientology as "corrupt, immoral and sinister" in a suit dealing with child custody.

Ms. Sullivan was a key witness against the church in the suit regarding the Hubbard documents.

The lawsuit seeks \$10 million damages for civil rights violations, \$10 million punitive damages and at least \$600,000 in compensatory damages for the church's losses in fighting the defendants' allegedly illegal activities.

Flynn termed "nonsense" the specific allegations in the lawsuit and said many already had been disproved. They include:

□ The defendants allegedly arranged to have a forged check

drawn on Hubbard's account at the Bank of New England in Massachusetts in March or April 1982. When the forgery was discovered, the defendants allegedly falsely blamed the church. The matter is under investigation by federal authorities, but Flynn maintains the church framed him.

□ The defendants allegedly were responsible for 1982 city hearings in Clearwater which led to legislation the church is fighting as unconstitutional. The lawsuit says the hearings were conducted on the pretext of considering charitable solicitation ordinances, but effectively amounted to "criminal prosecution without due-process safeguards."

□ The defendants allegedly falsely told Arizona authorities that

the church was connected with InterCap Corp., a firm whose employees were already under criminal investigation. This in turn led to what the lawsuit termed a "baseless" investigation of the church by the Arizona attorney general's office.

□ Flynn also is accused of making false statements in the lawsuit he filed on behalf of Hubbard's eldest son, Ronald DeWolf, seeking to have his father declared legally dead or mentally incompetent.

That suit was later dismissed, and on Monday Hubbard's third wife, Mary Sue Hubbard, filed a \$5 million Superior Court lawsuit alleging that DeWolf and Flynn attempted a "massive hoax" in seeking to have DeWolf declared trustee of the Hubbard estate.