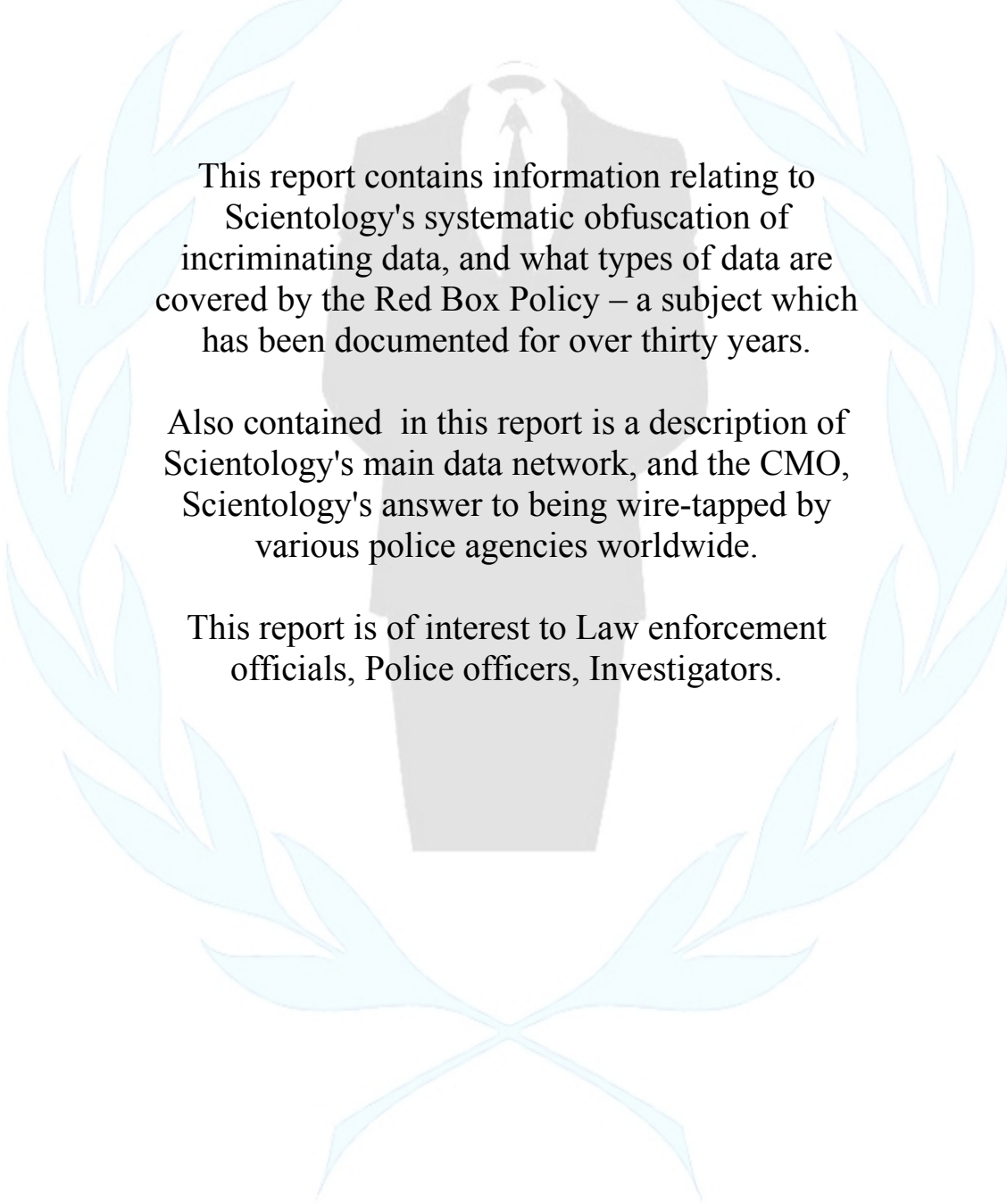


May 2010

Scientology's Secretive Communications



This report contains information relating to Scientology's systematic obfuscation of incriminating data, and what types of data are covered by the Red Box Policy – a subject which has been documented for over thirty years.

Also contained in this report is a description of Scientology's main data network, and the CMO, Scientology's answer to being wire-tapped by various police agencies worldwide.

This report is of interest to Law enforcement officials, Police officers, Investigators.

Scientology's Secretive Communications

Contents

Transcript of Red Box Policy

Written by Mary Sue Hubbard - under her code name "Judy". This policy is still in effect at every Scientology establishment and premises worldwide.

Scientology's Communication Infrastructure

Describes the history, equipment and use of various parts of Scientology's highly obfuscatory methods for communicating amongst themselves.

Telegraph Newspaper article from 20 may 2010

Report on a search warrant executed by police in Turin, Italy

Scan of St Petersburg Times article from 1979

Report documenting some of the finds during the American investigation of an activity the Scientology organisation called "Operation Snow White"

Operation Snow White

Direct copy of the wikipedia article on the USA government's successful prosecution of various high ranking members of Scientology for infiltrating over 100 government agencies. An activity still being undertaken in 2010.

Note:

Following the above case against Scientology, various governments ran investigations which revealed infiltration/subversion by Scientology. Prosecutions were too numerous to cover in this report.

--Transcript of Policy--

Secret

25 Mar 1977

All concerned
B1 staff

All Secs
DGI US OFFICE

VIA: DDG I US <-----

RE: RED BOX

Dear All,

This is to introduce into BIUS the complete red box system. Most of you have heard of this earlier - I will now explain it in detail.

First of all, all data that is red box data, has to be pulled from your areas. The complete definition of Red Box material is attached.

Secondly, you must ensure that none of your juniors (for those of you who have them) have red box data in their areas.

All the red box material from your areas must be centrally located, together and in a moveable container (ideally a briefcase), locked, and marked.

When this is done in each area, we will divide up the amounts and deputize persons in the area to be responsible for its removal from the premises in the case of a raid. This procedure will be drilled. This procedure will stay in at the new location.

Please have all this data sorted and located in proper container by Monday night Mar 28. I will then divide up removal duties, and we will drill it Tuesday night just before the all hands.

Love [Signature] Judy

RED BOX DATA INFORMATION SHEET

What is Red Box data?

- a) Proof that a Scientologist is involved in criminal activities.
- b) Anything illegal that implicates MSH, LRH.
- c) Large amounts of non FOI docs.
- d) Operations against any government group or persons.
- e) All operations that contain illegal activities.
- f) Evidence of incriminating activities.
- g) Names and details of confidential financial accts.

2. Where is Red Box data kept?

- a) Out of date material or finished cycles that can be shredded[,] should be.
- b) Large amounts of red box data that is not needed for day to day function but cannot be destroyed is located with all our NON FOI docs - and can be called for via CIC.
- c) Small amounts of data that must be kept on hand due to security and frequent use - is to be kept in a briefcase locked up - and is to be marked. (in B1 office area)

3. How is Red Box data, kept on the B1 premises, cared for?

- a) This data will be picked up and carried out of the building by 'owner' immediately upon notification of a raid, search warrant etc.
- b) Persons carrying this data (as few as possible) will leave the premises and only return when they have called in and received an "all clear" - (Details of who goes where with what data will be sorted out later - and drilled)

[Handwritten Note:] NOT FOR COPYING! This sheet is to be returned to Sec. of BI US

--end of transcript--

Note:

Department B1 is now part of Scientology's "Office of Special affairs" (OSA) pronounced 'oh-sah'

Scientology's Communication Infrastructure

Telex

Within Scientology today, many policy directives still exist which specifically mention and dictate the uses for their Telex system. In actual fact, Scientology does not use Telex anymore, since most of the first world saw the Telex system made obsolete and discontinued over the last 20 years.

Scientology's (1993 onwards) "Telex Machines" are in fact Microsoft / IBM based computers, individual "Telex Messages" are emails, encrypted with 32bit SSL certificates. There are 5 shared SSL certificates in use, one for each continent. These certificates have never been replaced since the system was activated.

Telex/INCOMM machines are kept in a separate lockable room within each branch. Each machine is unplugged from the mains electric supply and telephone sockets when the branch is closed. Only one staff member may operate an INCOMM machine - the HCO (Hubbard Communication Officer). Only one INCOMM machine per branch has connectivity with INCOMM, all other "network users" pass messages via the HCO using floppy disk.

The mail server for all Scientology's branches worldwide is called INCOMM & is located in California. INCOMM has no connection to the internet.

INCOMM connects to each branch via a normal telephone line. Differently to most operations, the "Telex Machine" at each branch accepts incoming connections from the mail server - at no time can a branch initiate a connection. Connections are made once or twice per day, and the mail queue is processed at that time.

Special keyboards have been made for INCOMM machines, with small programs called "Macro" pre programmed into the function keys. This has been done to save the staff from gaining knowledge about the use of Information Technology, which could lead to them reading critical articles about the organisation.

Incredible security systems are installed at the INCOMM facility, which include huge amounts of false data for any potential hacker to find, and a reporting system.

INCOMM is also the location where Scientology keeps it's central database on critics of their organisation - which is used by their terrorist wing, the OSA to co-ordinate attacks upon them. Specially adapted computers are required to connect to the OSA database. (details unknown)

Another function of INCOMM is to scan the contents of communications, and send additional "Telex Messages" to branches regarding sales activities. These additional messages are based on the writings of L Ron Hubbard, all of which are contained in a relational database.

Anonymous now has information that information passed via this network contains no "dirt load" as per policy written by L Ron Hubbard. No message containing sensitive data can be sent via any technology or physical mail. Instead, for messages that could lead to convictions, Scientology uses the CMO system.

CMO (Commodores Messenger Organisation)

Originally based on the Scientology boat "Apollo", the CMO started as a small group of young cult members, who had to imitate the tone of voice Hubbard used when delivering his messages. Any responses were relayed back to Hubbard, complete with pauses and tone of voice.

Today the CMO is one of the most powerful organisations within Scientology, and is based in the Hollywood Guarantee Building in Los Angeles California on a floor above the OSA. Messengers are routinely sent flying half way round the world to avoid a thirty second telephone call.

Often a message is word changed (simple code), in accordance with Hubbard policy, and then broken up into 4 unintelligible blocks, each block being given to a different messenger. Each messenger then travels to the delivery address via different routes and at different times. The message is then pieced back together by it's recipient.

In order that messengers can be effective in this role they receive many months of training and drilling in the methods used.

CMO briefing documents are, as per policy written by L Ron Hubbard, printed with blue ink on blue paper - to make duplication more difficult.

It has been reported that CMO messengers endure much security checking, in Scientology this means aggressive interrogation whilst holding the electrodes of the "E-meter" - Scientology's crude lie detector. Violence is often threatened and used during these "Sec Checks", also threats of blackmail and incarceration inside Scientology's RPF (internal slave labor camps).

Many missions that CMO messengers are sent on are in fact part of Scientology's security procedures, to check that individuals are still trustworthy.

CMO is also the de-facto "Ethics" department, for Scientology. CMO officers routinely assign cult members to the RPF, instruct them to divorce each other and conduct "sec-checks".

In effect, the CMO is directly accountable only to David Miscavige and other top officials located at the notorious Scientology compound at Hemet, in the California desert. Most cult members fear to be in the presence of a CMO messenger - "messages" that they deliver often tear families apart and ruin the lives of recipients.

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Information on 'enemies of Scientology found' in Italian police raid

Secret dossiers of information on the "enemies" of Scientology were found when Italian police raided the movement's offices in Turin.

By Nick Squires in Rome

Published: 11:29PM BST 20 May 2010

During a nine-hour search of the offices, Carabinieri officers are said to have discovered a cache of files hidden in a basement behind a locked door.

The files allegedly contained personal information relating to judges, magistrates, journalists and police who had reportedly been deemed hostile to the US-based Church of Scientology, Italian media reported.

Police seized computers as well as handwritten files, which are also said to contain details of former members of the religious movement.

The raid was ordered by magistrates who suspect that the local chapter of the worldwide movement may have violated laws governing the holding of sensitive data, including information about the health, political opinions and sexual orientation of a range of people, La Stampa newspaper reported.

Scientology, which counts among its most high-profile adherents the Hollywood actors Tom Cruise and John Travolta, was founded in 1953 by the science fiction writer L. Ron Hubbard.

The controversial religion is often criticised as a cult. It was denounced in the Australian parliament in November, when a senator described it as abusive, violent and manipulative, and only narrowly escaped being banned in France after being prosecuted for

fraud.

In the United States, two former members launched a landmark law suit against the movement last month, alleging that for years they were treated little better than slaves and forced to work 20-hour days.

Claire Headley alleged that she was coerced into having an abortion, while her husband Marc said he was subjected to strange mind-control exercises.

The Church has denied all the allegations and has questioned the plaintiff's motivation in bringing the law suit.

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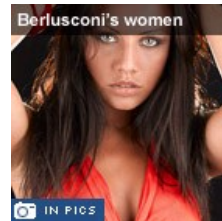
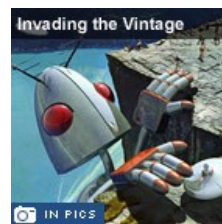
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TODAY PAST WEEK PAST MONTH

- Higher taxes on holidays, marriage and driving
- Woman died after doctors failed to spot toilet brush in her buttocks
- Michelle Obama challenged on immigration by seven-year-old
- Ghost picture mystery resolved

Memo tells of plan to safeguard 'Red Box' documents

By CRAIG ROBERTON
St. Petersburg Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON — The hundreds of files and thousands of documents on public view at the U.S. District Courthouse here contain many memoranda and reports labeled "Red Box."

The materials labeled Red Box usually contain sensitive data — often government documents — marked "Secret."

On Monday, reporters sifting through the documents came across one, dated March 1977, that defined for them just what Red Box data is.

RED BOX IS "proof that a Scnist (Scientologist) is involved in criminal activities," said "Judy" in a memo to other church officials.

It is also a lot of other things, Judy writes, among them:

✓ "Anything illegal that implicates MSH (Mary Sue Hubbard) or LRH (Scientology founder L. Ron Hubbard, Mary Sue's husband)."

✓ "Large amounts of non FOI (Freedom of Information) documents."

✓ "Operations against any government group or persons."

✓ "All operations that contain illegal activities."

✓ "Evidence of incriminating activities."

✓ "Names and details of confidential financial accounts."

Judy's policy memo goes on to urge that all out-of-date documents under the Red Box label be shredded. In the event of a raid, Judy continues, "this data will be picked up and carried out of the building by 'owner' immediately . . ."

"All the Red Box material from your areas must be centrally located, together and in a moveable container (ideally a briefcase), locked and marked," Judy wrote.

THREE MONTHS later, in July 1977, the FBI raided church headquarters in Los Angeles and Washington and carted off hundreds of Red Box documents. It was apparent Judy's "complete Red Box system" had failed.

But the church officials were not only concerned with raids in their desire for security. They were also worried about thefts of church documents.

A detailed May 1974 memorandum signed by Mo Budlong, one of nine church leaders convicted recently in federal district court, urges officials to be aware of the methods of thieves.

"From time to time," Budlong wrote, "files, policies, technical materials and documents vital to the church have been stolen from organizations . . . It is important that for the purposes of security we recognize the difference between a nut and a professional."

"Therefore," he continues, "I am giving a description of how the professional operates in stealing materials by infiltration or by straight breaking, entering and theft."

Budlong then describes how a professional thief "cases" his prey; how he insures security of the operation,

Cartoon prompted 'Op Funny Bone'

By CHARLES STAFFORD
St. Petersburg Times Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON — Jim Berry, the cartoonist who draws the humorous panel *Berry's World*, penned a prosperous looking gentleman in a vested suit, standing waist deep in money while talking to a more modestly dressed fellow.

The vested man said: "I WAS into est, Primal Therapy, Yoga, Scientology, Hare Krishna, Transcendental Meditation. NOW I'm into money!"

That 1977 cartoon did not play well at headquarters of the Church of Scientology.

Among church documents released by a federal court in Washington Monday was a letter that Greg, writing for Dick, sent to Sandy, Brian, Donna and Gary.

"ATTACHED," he said, "is Op (operation) Funny Bone. It was done off of a recent LRH order to myself, so needless to say I want the actions done fast."

LRH is L. Ron Hubbard, founder of Scientology.

The plan was to find as many "back issues" of *Berry's World* as possible. "There should be many buttons of persons that are being pressed, eg: A joke on Poles, a joke on Catholics, a joke on Jews, a joke on any ethnic groups. Make a list of this person types or ethnics."

Then church members were to write leaders of these ethnic groups suggesting they complain to newspapers carrying *Berry's World* and urge them to drop it.

ANOTHER DOCUMENT shows that a church member did contact the Newspaper Enterprise Association — the syndicate that circulates *Berry's World* — in May 1977 to find out what he could about Berry. There is no indication whether the scheme went any farther.

A Washington spokesman for the church said Monday he was sure Hubbard did not order the operation and that "it was a local invention."

"It is in violation of the creed of the Church of Scientology, which Mr. Hubbard wrote," he said. "One of the points of the creed is to work for freedom of speech throughout the world."

of the operatives and of the organization; how he invents a cover story and chooses his tools and equipment; and how he secures the stolen materials at a later date.

Nancy Reitze, a spokeswoman for the Church of Scientology in Clearwater, said, "In the red box, there were many documents and crimes which the Justice Department is not about to reveal. Scientologists have never hidden the fact that they have done extensive investigation into constitutional violations perpetrated on Americans by government agencies who long ago forgot what the foundations of this country were all about."

Operation Snow White

was the [Church of Scientology](#)'s name for a conspiracy during the 1970s to purge unfavorable records about Scientology and its founder [L. Ron Hubbard](#).

Operation Snow White was carried out by Church of Scientology members and included a series of infiltrations and thefts from:

- government agencies
- foreign embassies & consulates
- private organizations critical of Scientology
- 136 Agencies in total
- more than 30 countries[1]

Operation Snow White was single largest infiltration of the United States government in history[2] with up to 5,000 covert agents.[3]

The FBI investigation into "Operation Snow White" revealed documents about another Scientology "Operation" - '[Operation Freakout](#)', wholesale persecution of Paulette Cooper[3]

Under Operation Snow White, [Scientology](#) operatives committed [infiltration](#), [wiretapping](#), and theft of documents in government offices, most notably those of the [U.S. Internal Revenue Service](#).

Eleven highly-placed Church executives, including [Mary Sue Hubbard](#) (wife of founder [L. Ron Hubbard](#) and second-in-command of the organization), pleaded guilty or were convicted in federal court of:

obstructing justice, burglary of government offices, and theft of documents and government property.

The case was *United States vs. Mary Sue Hubbard et al.*, 493 F. Supp. 209 ([D.D.C. 1979](#)).[4][5][6][7]

Background

As early as 1960, L. Ron Hubbard had proposed that Scientologists should infiltrate government departments by taking secretarial, bodyguard or other jobs. [8] In the early 1970s, the Church of Scientology was increasingly scrutinized by US federal agencies, having already been raided by the [Food and Drug Administration](#) in 1963. The [Internal Revenue Service](#) (IRS) claimed it owed millions of dollars in taxes and the [Federal Bureau of Investigation](#) (FBI) sent agents into the organization. [8] The Church's response involved a publicity campaign, extensive litigation against the IRS and a program of infiltration of agency offices. [8]

The specific branch of Scientology responsible for Operation Snow White was the [Guardian's Office](#). Created in 1966 by [L. Ron Hubbard](#) himself, the Guardian's Office's purpose was to protect the interests of Scientology. [9] At the time of Operation Snow White, the Guardian's Office had worldwide headquarters (Guardian's Office WW) located at [Saint Hill Manor](#) in England. Headquarters in the United States (Guardian's Office US) were in [Los Angeles, California](#). A smaller office also existed in [Washington, D.C.](#) (Guardian's Office DC) and other cities throughout the United States. Each of the Guardian Offices had five bureaus including the Information Bureau which oversaw the infiltration of the government. L. Ron Hubbard oversaw the Guardian's Office, though it was Mary Sue Hubbard, his wife, who held the title Commodore Staff Guardian. [10]

Several years later, in 1973, the Guardian's Office began a massive infiltration of governments around the world, though the primary target of the operation was the United States. Worried about Scientology's long term reputation, the Guardian's Office decided to infiltrate [Interpol](#) in order to obtain documents relating to Scientology, as well as those connecting L. Ron Hubbard to criminal activity. This duty was handed by Jane Kember to Henning Heldt and his staff. [11]

Around this time L. Ron Hubbard himself wrote Guardian Order 732, which called for the removal and correction of "erroneous" Scientology files. It is here that Operation Snow White has its origins. Though the order called for this to be achieved by legal means, this would quickly change. [12] Hubbard himself would later be named by federal prosecutors as an "unindicted co-conspirator" for his part in the operation. Though extensive records of his involvement exist, many Scientologists claim his directives were misinterpreted by his followers. [13][14]

Operation Snow White would be further refined by Guardian Order 1361. Addressed from Jane Kember to Heldt, Duke Snider, and Richard Weigand, GO 1361 called for, amongst other things, an infiltration of the [Los Angeles](#) and [London](#) offices of the IRS, and the [Department of Justice](#). [15]

While the order was specific to the IRS, the Guardian's Office was soon recruiting their own field agents to infiltrate other governmental offices, including the [Drug Enforcement Administration](#) (DEA), the [U.S. Coast Guard](#) intelligence service,[\[16\]](#) and the [National Institute of Mental Health](#), among others, as well as the [American Medical Association](#).[\[17\]](#) The program called for rewards to be given for successful missions carried out by Scientologists. [\[18\]](#)

Other planned elements of the operation included petitioning governments and the [United Nations](#) to charge government critics of Scientology with [genocide](#), on the theory that official criticism of the group constituted "deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction".[\[citation needed\]](#) One of the sentencing memoranda in the case also noted that, contrary to what the defendants claimed, the programs planned by the [Guardian's Office](#) were not restricted to trying to remove "false reports" but included plans to plant false information—for instance, planting false records about "a [cat](#) with a [pedigree](#) name" into US security agency computers so that later "the creature holds a press conference and photographic story results." The purpose of this plan was "to hold up the American security to ridicule, as outlined in the GO by LRH."[\[19\]](#)

The start of 1974 saw a Michael Meisner appointed Assistant Guardian for Information in the District of Columbia (AG I DC). Meisner's responsibilities now included the implementation of all Information Bureau orders, programs, and projects within the DC area. Meisner's supervisor at this time was Duke Snider, the Assistant Guardian for DC, or AG DC. This was the highest position in Washington's GO office.[\[20\]](#)

In July 1974 Meisner was ordered by Duke Snider to implement the previously written plan to obtain Interpol documents, which were then located in the [U.S. Department of the Treasury](#). Meisner had more to do than just this, though, as by August he was also taking directions from a Cindy Raymond, the GO's Collections Officer for the US, who ordered Meisner to assist her in finding a loyal Scientologist agent to gain employment at the IRS headquarters in Washington DC. This employee was to steal all documents dealing with Scientology, especially those involving current litigation by Scientology against the government. Meisner discussed this with Raymond for a period of a month before interviewing various Scientologists with no luck. A month after the order had been given, Raymond informed Meisner that she had selected Gerald Wolfe.[\[21\]](#)

Implementation

The GO's actual infiltration of the government likely began when Gerald Wolfe and Michael Meisner were able to gain employment at the IRS as clerk-typists. Under direction of the Guardian Office, Wolfe monitored files on tax-exempt organizations and, when requested, illegally made copies for Scientology.[\[16\]](#) Meisner supervised both Wolfe and the Information Bureau section in DC, and reported to the GO's Deputy Guardian for Information in the US.[\[22\]](#)

In November 1974, Operation Snow White took an unexpected turn for the GO when they received word that the IRS would be conducting a meeting on Scientology's tax-exempt status. In response, the church sent a spy to bug the room.[\[23\]](#) On the morning of November 1, the day before the meeting, a GO agent, Hermann, broke into the conference room and plugged the device into an electrical outlet. This device, in turn, then transmitted a signal to an [FM frequency](#), which was picked up and recorded by Scientologists sitting in a car in the parking lot of the [Smithsonian](#), which faced the office. After the meeting Hermann removed the device, and the taped recording of the meeting was sent to LA.[\[24\]](#)

By December, Wolfe, Herman, and Meisner had sent a shipment of stolen documents 20 inches thick to Duke Snider. Snider, in turn, sent notification to Mo Budlong in LA. By the end of December, Wolfe was stealing documents from the IRS's [Chief Counsel](#)'s office. Just days after Christmas, Wolfe broke into the office of Barbara Bird, an attorney in the IRS' Refund Litigation Service. Bird had been present at the November 1st meeting. Instead of stealing files, Wolfe took them to a copier and made photocopies using government paper. [\[25\]](#)

Later Wolfe met Meisner at a Lums Restaurant, where he reported on his most recent theft. Meisner took the documents and underlined selections that he believed his superiors would find interesting or relevant and wrote a summary of the important points. This was then routed through the Assistant Guardian for DC and on to the Deputy Guardian for the US, the Deputy Guardian for Information in the US, the Branch I Director of the Information Bureau, and the Collections Officer, all of which were in LA. A copy was also sent to Mary Sue Hubbard. This was typically standard procedure for Meisner.[\[25\]](#)

In early 1975 Operation Snow White expanded again as Sharon Thomas obtained employment in the [U.S. Coast Guard](#) Intelligence Agency and Nancy Douglass began work at the [Drug Enforcement Administration](#) (DEA). Douglass stole documents and made photocopies of others. These were transmitted to Hermann.[\[26\]](#)

By Spring, attention had been called back to the IRS case as Mary Sue Hubbard had instructed Kember and Heldt to "use any method at our disposal to win the battle and gain our non-profit (tax) status."[\[27\]](#) Heldt wrote back telling that her request had been sent to the Information Bureau, who had been ordered to complete the collection of documents from the IRS and the Department of Justice's tax files within three months.[\[28\]](#)

In April, Meisner procured a directory of the Department of Justice and located the offices that would have files pertaining to Scientology litigation. When he found what he wanted he sent in Wolfe, who broke into the offices of two attorneys on three successive Saturdays. Wolfe copied twelve files and met up with Meisner, as before, at Lums restaurant. These files were especially useful to Scientology, as it detailed the government's strategy in various court cases.

In May, Willardson directed Meisner to implement "Project Horn," which called for Meisner to "provide a cover for PR and legal for the way they obtained IRS docs." The idea would be for the GO's Public Relations Bureau to view the documents without worrying about being connected to the theft. Willardson's idea called for Meisner to steal documents dealing with organizations other than Scientology. Willardson also called for the theft of IRS stationary, in order to forge letters from a (fictional) disgruntled IRS employee. The files on various organizations (including Scientology, of course) would then be sent out attached to the fake letter. The idea was that it would appear that an upset IRS agent had himself sent the files to numerous organizations. There would be nothing to tie it to Scientology. Wolfe stole both the stationary and, without permission, files on the [Unification Church](#) and [Bob Jones University](#).^[29]

During the Summer and Fall months of 1975 the GO launched an additional plan. In July, Meisner was told by Cindy Raymond that the Church of Scientology had initiated a [Freedom of Information Act](#) (FOIA) lawsuit against the IRS. Meisner was directed to add the office of Charles Zuravin to his list of offices to monitor. Zuravin was representing the government in the case. Meisner immediately passed this duty on to Wolfe, who broke into Zuravin's office multiple times between July and November. Wolfe revealed to his superiors that Zuravin was preparing an index of Scientology files relevant to the FOIA case. IRS offices from all over the country were sending files to Zuravin. This index file, required by the courts in all FOIA cases, is a total list of the documents requested, and reasons for their exemption from the public, if any.^[30]

By October, Zuravin had finished the index, numbering each document in order to simplify location, and had provided a copy to Scientology attorneys. These attorneys, in turn, gave the index to Raymond, who passed it along to Meisner, who passed it to Wolfe. Wolfe then entered Zuravin's office and then began copying the documents listed on the index. Zuravin had essentially done the GO's job for them.^[30]

On December 5 1975 Jane Kember issued Guardian Program Order 158, which intended to give L. Ron Hubbard early warning of impending legal action. The plan called for the infiltration of the government agencies that had either the power to issue, or the knowledge of, impending [subpoenas](#).^[31] Specific agencies include the US Attorney's Office in DC and LA, the IRS Office of International Operations, the DEA, and the Coast Guard and [Immigration and Naturalization](#). After reviewing the letter, Meisner concluded it would be a better idea to infiltrate the Department of Justice than the [US Attorney's Office](#).^[32]

In January 1976 Hermann, the Southeast US Secretary for the Information Bureau, informed Meisner that Heldt and Weigand approved a plan to send Alverzo to Washington. Alverzo arrived on the 17th, and on the 18th he picked the locks on the doors belonging to the office of Lewis Hubbard (no relation to L. Ron Hubbard) and the file room housing Zuravin's files. Wolfe stood guard at the end of the hallway while Alverzo worked on Hubbard's door. A few doors down Meisner worked on Zuravin's door. After an hour and a half with no success, Meisner was getting upset. In frustration, Meisner hit the top of Zuravin's door, which popped right open. The three Scientologists entered the office and took the remaining Scientology related documents. They then traveled to another floor where they made photocopies. Wolfe continued to make copies while Alverzo and Meisner tried again to open Hubbard's office. The trio then worked well into the night photocopying files from Hubbard's office. When they left, sometime around 2 AM, they left with a foot tall stack of documents.[\[33\]](#) Less than a month later Richard Weigand wrote to Jane Kember, telling her that the IRS documents that had been ordered to be obtained in [Guardian Order 1361](#), over two years earlier, had been obtained.[\[34\]](#)

Gerald Wolfe, along with Meisner, were later able to break into a room and make false IRS identification cards, which allowed them access to the federal courthouse in Washington. Wolfe and Meisner then used these cards to gain access to restricted areas and steal more documents.[\[16\]](#)

While Wolfe and Meisner continued their work at the IRS, Mary Sue Hubbard, along with other Guardian Office members, were coming up with further plans. Guardian Program Order 302, written by Cindy Raymond and approved by Hubbard, amongst others, directed the infiltration of all government agencies that had withheld files from Scientology's various FOIA requests.[\[35\]](#)

On the night of April 14, Meisner and Wolfe were on the tenth floor of the IRS building housing the [Office of International Operations](#). Trying to enter an office, the pair found it locked. A passing cleaning lady noted Meisner and Wolfe's suspicious behavior, and notified a security guard. The guard confronted the pair and was presented with Wolfe's genuine IRS card and Meisner's fabricated one. Satisfied, the guard had the cleaning lady open the door. Inside, the pair grabbed a hefty load of files. Unable to find a photocopier, the pair then took the files to the main IRS building, where the pair again used their identification to gain access. After copying the files they returned them to Crate's office. The entire process took some four hours. [\[36\]](#)

In May, Wolfe broke into the United States Courthouse and stole keys to the office of Assistant United States Attorney Nathan Dodell. Wolfe then took these keys to have them duplicated, and returned them unnoticed. Almost three weeks later Wolfe and Meisner broke into Dodell's office, stealing documents and, as usual, forwarding them to Guardian headquarters in Los Angeles. [\[16\]](#) The GO's interest in Nathan Dodell stemmed from a Scientology FOIA case. In April, Judge George L Hart asked Dodell whether the US had considered taking a deposition of L Ron Hubbard. Dodell responded that it was an "interesting thought." Furthermore, he promised to discuss it with the Department of Justice. [\[37\]](#)

In May, Meisner and Wolfe entered the US Courthouse for the District of Columbia around four in the afternoon. They went to the third floor, which was the home of both the US Attorney's Office and the [Bar Association Library](#). They planned to locate Nathan Dodell's office, which was in the back of the [Civil Division](#) area, near an elevator. They then searched for the building's photocopiers. After mapping out these locations, they left. Later, Wolfe and Meisner made a copy of Dodell's keys.[\[38\]](#)

On May 21, Meisner and Wolfe entered the Courthouse, signing in to do research in the library and were issued an elevator key. After riding the elevator to the floor of the library, the pair entered the library and removed several books from shelves and sat at a table.

After a few minutes they exited through a backdoor and emerged in a hallway. In this hallway was Dodell's office, which they entered using their keys. The duo stole a number of documents related to Scientology and walked through the hallway to the two copy machines they had previously located. The pair photocopied some six inches of documents before returning the originals to Dodell's office. [\[38\]](#)

One week later Wolfe and Meisner again met outside the IRS building. The duo then walked to the US Courthouse, and signed in under fake names. They repeated their actions from the previous week, copying another foot of documents from the District of Columbia Police Department as well as the [Food and Drug Administration](#). Returning to Dodell's office through the library, they were stopped by the night librarian, who asked if they had signed in. While they had signed in at the front desk, they had failed to do the same at the front desk of the library.

When they announced that they had not, Johnson, the night [librarian](#), told the pair not to come back unless they had specific authorization from the day librarian. The pair promptly left. Three days later Johnson notified the US Attorney's Office that two individuals had been seen using the photocopying machines of the Attorney's Office. Johnson and the night guard were told to immediately contact the FBI if the individuals returned.[\[37\]](#)

Less than two weeks later Hermann phoned Meisner, and ordered him to return to Dodell's office and steal his personal files. The goal was to formulate a plan that would result in Dodell being removed from his position as an Assistant US Attorney for the District of Columbia.[\[37\]](#)

Meisner and Wolfe entered the United States Courthouse on June 11 around 7 in the evening. They signed in as they did before, and headed to the library. Johnson, the night librarian, recognized the pair and immediately stopped them. Meisner was prepared for this, and showed the man a letter from the head librarian. Wolfe and Meisner continued to the back of the library where they exited into the hallway. Outside Dodell's office the two saw that cleaning ladies were still at work.[\[37\]](#)

While Meisner and Wolfe waited for the cleaning crew to vacate the office, Johnson called the FBI, which sent two agents over immediately. The two agents confronted the Scientologists and demanded to see their identification. Wolfe used his real identification. Meisner presented his fake card, and told the agents that he had recently resigned from the IRS. Meisner told Hansen that the pair was in the library to do legal research, and that they had used the photocopiers to copy books and cases. Neither mentioned Scientology. After roughly twenty minutes of questioning, the FBI agents allowed them to leave. Meisner then phoned Hermann to inform him of the news and was told to immediately fly to LA. [\[37\]](#)

Aftermath and trial

Meisner and Wolfe were given cover stories by the Guardian's Office. [39] On the last day of June, Gerald Wolfe was arrested. Wolfe was charged with "the use and possession of a forged official pass of the United States." [40] The day after Wolfe's arrest, Mary Sue Hubbard wrote a letter to Weigand ordering him to keep her abreast of the situation. Hubbard also conversed with Mo Budlong, and Richard Weigand about Wolfe's arrest, cover story, and subsequent plan to destroy evidence linking Wolfe and Meisner to Scientology. [39]

At the end of July a judge decided that the case against Wolfe warranted an investigation by a Grand Jury. A week later the judge issued an arrest warrant for Meisner, who, at the time, was being hidden in LA. The FBI was able to connect him to Scientology. [41] By January 1977 it was becoming increasingly likely that Scientology would be unable to escape Operation Snow White without serious penalty. Though Meisner was still in hiding, he was growing increasingly anxious about the situation. [42] By April, Meisner wanted to surrender to the authorities. Meisner was quickly put under the control of several guards. [39]

On May 13, Gerald Wolfe entered a guilty plea. [43] Later in the month, Meisner escaped his captors, only to be convinced to rejoin the GO the following day. [44]

In June, Wolfe, after being sentenced to probation and community service, testified before the Grand Jury. Instead of the truth, Wolfe told the latest incarnation of his cover story. [39] Several days later Meisner would again escape his captors, though this time he would contact the FBI. Meisner was eventually taken to Washington, where he agreed to plead guilty to a five-year conspiracy felony and cooperate with the Grand Jury. [45]

On July 4 the [FBI](#) raided Church of Scientology locations in Los Angeles, Hollywood and Washington, DC. [8] The Los Angeles raid involved 156 FBI agents: the most that had ever been used in a single raid. It lasted 21 hours and filled a sixteen ton truck with documents and other items. [8]

The raids not only turned up documentation of the group's illegal activities against the United States government, [46] but also illegal activities carried out against other perceived enemies of Scientology. These included "[Operation Freakout](#)", a conspiracy to frame author [Paulette Cooper](#) on false bomb-threat charges, and conspiracies to frame [Gabe Cazares](#), mayor of [Clearwater, Florida](#), on false [hit-and-run](#) charges. [47][48] The papers also revealed that Sir John Foster (author of the [official UK Government inquiry into Scientology](#)) and [Lord Balniel](#) (who had requested the report) were targets, along with the [National Association for Mental Health \(NAMH\)](#) and [World Federation for Mental Health](#). [49]

Comparing the FBI to the Gestapo, the Church declared that all the files seized from the Church were taken illegally, [50] though the FBI produced a 40-plus page affidavit detailing 160 specific items they were looking for. [51]

By July 20, some 13 days after the raid, a Washington judge ruled that the documents should be returned, at least temporarily, to the Church, and that none of the documents could be shared with branches of the government, unless that

specific branch was investigating Scientology. Scientology's lawyers had successfully argued that in order to prepare for an August 8 hearing on the legality of the raid, they must be able to see the documents.[52] By July 27 a judge in Washington had ruled the warrant authorizing the raid was too broad, and as such, violated the Church's 4th Amendment rights.[53] In August this ruling would be overturned, with Scientology promising to take the case to the [Supreme Court](#),[54] which would, early in the next year, refuse to hear the case.[55]

In August 1978 11 high ranking members of Scientology were indicted on 28 charges. One of the indicted was [Mary Sue Hubbard](#), wife of Scientology's creator L. Ron Hubbard. The other ten were [Gerald Wolfe](#), [Cindy Raymond](#), [Henning Heldt](#), [Duke Snider](#), [Gregory Willardson](#), [Richard Weigand](#), [Mitchell Herman](#), [Sharon Thomas](#), [Jane Kember](#), and [Mo Budlong](#). [Kendrick Moxon](#) and [L. Ron Hubbard](#) were named unindicted co-conspirators.[56]

Over the course of the investigation the Church of Scientology would attempt to have a judge removed,[56] and would subpoena almost 150 federal agents in what appeared to be a large stalling scheme.[57] The Church would also offer several shifting explanations for their actions.[58][59] Ultimately, these tactics failed and the defendants agreed to a plea deal.

The Scientologists would be found guilty and their attorneys would be allowed to argue for the suppression of the government's evidence. 7 of the 11 members of the Guardian's Office pled guilty to just a single count of conspiracy to obstruct justice. One more pled guilty to a similar charge and a ninth pled guilty to a misdemeanor. The remaining two Scientologists were in England, awaiting extradition. [60]

On December 6, 1979, some five years after Operation Snow White began, it officially came to an end. Five of the Scientologists were sentenced to four years in jail, with four of the convicted being taken immediately. Mary Sue Hubbard, wife of L Ron Hubbard, was sentenced to five years. Each of the six faced a fine of 10,000 dollars.[61] The next day the four remaining Scientologists were sentenced. Three of the four faced a fine of \$10,000 and five years in jail. The fourth was fined \$1,000 and sent to jail for six months. Upon release she was given five years of probation and community service. All of the Scientologists immediately began to appeal.[62] Their appeal was rejected.[63]

In November 1980, the two remaining Scientologists, Jane Kember and Mo Budlong, were finally convicted on nine counts of aiding and abetting burglary in connection with break-ins at government offices,[64] and were sentenced to two to six years.[65]

Involved parties

[Mary Sue Hubbard](#), Cindy Raymond, Gerald Bennett Wolfe, Henning Heldt, Duke Snider (not to be confused with [Duke Snider](#), a baseball player of the same name), Gregory Willardson, Richard Weigand, Mitchell Herman, Sharon Thomas, Jane Kember, and Mo Budlong, all high-ranking Scientologists, were convicted and sent to prison for five years.

[Kendrick Moxon](#) was listed as an "unindicted co-conspirator" for providing false handwriting samples to the FBI.^[2] Moxon continued to act as an attorney for the Church of Scientology until at least 2000, representing the Church in the [Lisa McPherson](#) case.^{[66][67]} [L. Ron Hubbard](#) was named by federal prosecutors as an "unindicted co-conspirator" and went into hiding for the rest of his life.^{[8][14]}

After leaving prison Mary Sue Hubbard was no longer involved with the Church and passed away from breast cancer in 2002, unacknowledged by the Church.^[68]

Effect of the scandal

The Church has been notably reluctant to discuss the operation's details; typical statements by members and operatives are often vague comments saying that the [Guardian's Office](#) (GO) had been "infiltrated" and "set up" to fail in its mission to protect the Church, that those involved were "purged" from the Church, without detailing what actually happened (although it has been suggested many of those involved and "purged" remained in important positions of power within the church).^[69] Church spokespersons on the Internet and elsewhere have been known to claim that the operatives "had done nothing more serious than steal photocopier paper."^[70]

Operation Snow White extended to [Canada](#) and resulted in legal proceedings against the Church.^[*citation needed*]

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