

Category	Newspaper Article
Title	Former IRS Employee says Agency abuses Taxpayers
Source	“Reuters”
Author	
Date	April 3rd, 1991

Contents:

A former Internal Revenue Service collection agent Wednesday accused the agency of using strong-arm tactics, including unnecessary seizure of property, to collect money from taxpayers.

James Cox, who left the IRS after 11 years of service, said at a news conference that mismanagement at the tax agency is being reflected in the kind of treatment being meted out by collection agents.

“When management mistreats employes within a system ... it manifests itself in the work that is being done,” said Cox, who spoke at a news conference sponsored by the National Coalition of IRS Whistleblowers, a group started by the Church of Scientology.

He said he has heard collection agents use profanities, racial slurs and other abusive language to verbally attack taxpayers. He also said there were cases of agents seizing property to harass taxpayers.

Don Roberts, an IRS spokesman said many of the kinds of complaints Cox outlined had been reviewed by Congress two years ago, after which hotlines were established to handle whistleblower complaints.

Cox said agents who report abuses to the hotline are subject to harassment, but Roberts said the allegation “sounds like more fiction than fact.”

Cox and Paul DesFosses, president of the National Coalition of IRS Whistleblowers, offered some tips to taxpayers who find themselves owing money to the IRS.

They said to try to tape record each conversation with with the IRS. They also suggested taxpayers hire the best accountant or attorney they can afford to represent them when they meet with IRS agents.

Category	Newspaper Article
Title	Greece orders Cult's Founder, Followers away
Source	"Reuters"
Author	
Date	March 19th, 1969

Contents:

CORFU, Greece - Lafayette Ron Hubbard, American founder of the Scientology cult, and 200 of his followers aboard a ship docked off this Ionian island received Greek government orders last night to leave the island.

Hubbard, who started the movement which is considered psychotherapy with religious overtones, claimed his ship is unseaworthy. A Corfu spokesman said "the ship requires some minor repairs which can be done within a few hours."

The controversial movement has been banned in several countries. Most of those on the ship are U.S. citizens but the group includes Britons, Australians and New Zealanders.

Category	Newspaper Article
Title	France sentences Scientology head
Source	"Reuters"
Author	
Date	February 15th, 1978

Contents:

PARIS- The American founder of the Church of Scientology, L. Ron Hubbard, was sentenced by the Paris Criminal Court in his absence yesterday to four years in prison and a \$7,000 fine for fraud. The court has issued a warrant for the arrest of Hubbard, who established the church in 1952. His whereabouts were not known here. The court did not rule on the religious or philosophical basis of the 2-million member church, but said it made fraudulent promises to heal mental and other illnesses and induced prospective members to pay more for courses than the courses were worth.

Georges Andrews, the president of the French branch of Scientologists, said to have 10,000 members here, was given a suspended prison term of one year and fined \$600.

Category	Newspaper Article
Title	Scientology loses Case against Customs Bureau
Source	"Reuters"
Author	
Date	May 14th, 1979

Contents:

The Supreme Court today dismissed a challenge by a religious organization that questioned the authority of Customs inspectors to read papers and private correspondence brought into the country.

The Church of Scientology of California sued the government after two shipments of cardboard boxes containing church documents sent by air cargo from Britain were seized at Los Angeles Airport.

A customs inspector impounded the documents after reading references in them to the Central Intelligence Agency, Interpol, de-bugging, decoding machines and sabotage.

The documents, sent aboard a British Airways flight in July 1976 by the Worldwide Church of Scientology in Britain, were later examined in detail by customs inspectors.

The Bureau of Customs, which first sought to find violations of a law that prohibits written material advocating treason or insurrection from being brought into the country, later determined that the documents must be returned to the church.

Category	Newspaper Article
Title	Court Hearing in Extradition Case of Kember and Budlong
Source	"Reuters"
Author	
Date	May 14th, 1979

Contents:

Two Church of Scientology officials instructed members of the sect to infiltrate United States government tax offices, an extradition hearing in London was told today.

They had been trying to obtain all files relating to Scientology, alleged lawyer David Tudor-Price, acting for the U.S. Government.

The two wanted in the United States are British-born Jane Kember, 41, and Morrison Budlong, 30, an American.

They were among 11 Church of Scientology members charged by a U.S. federal grand jury last August in connection with the alleged theft of U.S. Government documents and bugging of a government meeting. The trial is expected to be held later this year.

The church, founded in the United States by Ron Hubbard, claims a world-wide membership of over five million and is based in southern England.

Mrs Kember had the title "Guardian Worldwide" and supervised and controlled operations, while Mr Budlong was in charge of the information Bureau, Mr Tudor-Price told the extradition hearing today.

He said Mrs Kember instructed the deputy to obtain further documents, saying she was "leaving it to him how he did so."

Mr Tudor-Price said that the following October Mrs Kember issued a directive that scientologists should infiltrate the Internal Revenue Service in Washington and London to obtain all scientology-related files.

The two issued further directions in 1975 and 1976 and a number of scientologists obtained employment in the Internal Revenue Service in Washington and carried out burglaries and thefts, he went on.

Although Mrs Kember did not visit the United States and Mr Budlong went there for only a short time on vacation there was a substantial case against both in that from England they counselled and procured people in the United States to commit the offenses, Mr Tudor-Price said.

The London magistrate hearing the extradition case earlier turned down a submission for a ruling that Mrs Kember should be subject to European Economic Community (EEC) regulations.

She was entitled to certain benefits under the EEC treaty which "modified" the Extradition Act of 1870, her lawyer said.

The hearing was adjourned until tomorrow.

Category	Newspaper Article
Title	Scientology protests against annual A. P. A. Meeting
Source	"Reuters"
Author	
Date	May 16th, 1979

Contents:

Rosalynn Carter campaigned for her husband's new mental health legislation today, urging a national commitment to improved care for the mentally ill.

Mrs Carter said mental illness has a staggering problem in the United States, with one of four afflicted by some kind of emotional distress.

"The mentally ill cry out for our help and support," the President's wife told more than 1,500 delegates at the annual meeting of the American Psychiatric Association.

Mrs Carter appealed to the powerful association, voice of the 30,000 psychiatrists in the nation, to lobby legislators to pass the new mental health act, which President Carter sent to Congress yesterday.

"This proposed act charts a new course for mental health care in our country - a course that will assume the availability of services to every citizen," she declared.

As Mrs Carter addressed the meeting, members of the Church of Scientology demonstrated outside with placards saying "psychiatry kills."

Mrs Carter, appearing earlier on a television show, said despite her husband's poor showing in opinion polls, he would have no trouble being re-elected to the White House next year.

He was elected to run the country, not run in the polls, she said. "If he wants to be re-elected, he'll be re-elected."

Mrs Carter last night attempted some political fence-mending when she dined with Chicago's new woman mayor Jane Byrne, a Democrat known to be friendly with Senator Robert Kennedy.

Mrs Byrne was miffed that when she was campaigning for mayor, President Carter stayed overnight with then Mayor Michael Bilandic.

Mrs Byrne, who upset Mr Bilandic in the Democratic primary, felt this amounted to presidential endorsement of her opponent.

Category	Newspaper Article
Title	Scientology starts international Protest against chemical Bomb
Source	"Reuters"
Author	
Date	July 30th, 1979

Contents:

The United Nations disarmament secretariat received a call today for the "delirium bomb" drug BZ to be banned and disclosure of all stockpiles of the hallucinatory drug.

The appeal came from the Swiss Church of Scientology on behalf of several of its human rights organizations and the British National Society for Crime Reduction and Social Justice.

A 10-page document handed to the secretariat of the Geneva Disarmament Committee said the United States used the drug in Vietnam and that research had been carried out in Britain on military personnel.

It said the British government had dumped excess supplies in the Atlantic Ocean without researching disposal problems of the drug, said to be up to 100 times as potent as LSD.

Signatories to the document included a group called the American Citizens for Honesty in Government, part of the Church of Scientology, which is suing the U.S. government on behalf of about 7,000 people who took part in drug tests on soldiers in the 1960s.

According to the documents, the Pentagon has said it stores more than 50 tons of BZ at army bases, enough to incapacitate the population of the world several times over.

"It is not known how much of this agent has been stockpiled by other arms of the U.S. forces, nor how much is held by other nations, such as the United Kingdom," the scientologists said.

The document said there was evidence that BZ had also been used for military and non-military purposes in Canada, Italy, Israel, Norway, France, The Netherlands, Argentina, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, the Soviet Union and Switzerland. It gave no details.

The immediate effects of the drug are delirium and amnesia. Its long-term effects are not known.

A U.N. treaty against bacteriological and biological weapons was signed by the United States in 1975 but the army was allowed to keep its BZ some stockpile for possible use in civilian disturbances.

Category	Newspaper Article
Title	9 Scientologists found guilty
Source	"Reuters"
Author	
Date	October 26th, 1979

Contents:

Nine leaders of the Church of Scientology were convicted today of conspiring to infiltrate U.S. government agencies and steal documents relating to church activities.

After a three-hour hearing District Court Judge Charles Richey ruled that the evidence proved the Scientologists' guilt beyond reasonable doubt.

Under an agreement reached between lawyers for the Scientologists and government prosecutors, the church members agreed not to challenge the government's evidence.

The prosecution alleged that the Scientologists committed scores of break-ins at government offices, including the Justice Department and the Internal Revenue Service, and maintained a network of spies to obtain information on file about the church.

Under the agreement the government will not press for a jury trial of the case.

No date for sentencing was set. Of the nine, seven were found guilty of conspiring to obstruct justice and could be sentenced to up to five years in prison and fined 10,000 dollars.

Another defendant was found guilty of conspiring to obtain government documents illegally. He could also be sentenced to a five-year prison term.

The ninth defendant was found guilty of theft.

Those convicted are Mary Sue Hubbard, wife of church founder Ron Hubbard, Henning Heldt, Duke Snider, Richard Weigand, Gregory Willardson, Cindy Raymond, Gerald Bennett Wolfe, Sharon Thomas and Mitchell Hermann.

United States Attorney Carl Rauh, in a statement issued after the hearing, said the convictions conclusively established that the church members committed a multitude of crimes against the government.

"On behalf of the Church of Scientology, top officials directed and engaged in a massive and highly disciplined conspiracy to burglarize offices of the United States government, to steal confidential documents and to obstruct justice," Mr Rauh said.

The church, in a statement, said it did not condone illegal activities, adding that it could not speak for the defendants.

A church spokesman said the proposal under which the church members agreed not to challenge the government's evidence would enable the church to appeal an earlier court ruling upholding the legality of an FBI search of the church's Los Angeles offices in 1977.

Church spokesmen have repeatedly charged that the government waged a 20-year campaign of harassment against the church. The government has denied the charges.

The nine convicted today were among 11 persons indicted more than a year ago on similar charges. Two are in Britain awaiting extradition proceedings.

Category	Newspaper Article
Title	U. S. Supreme Court refused to hear an appeal by Scientology
Source	"Reuters"
Author	
Date	January 21st, 1980

Contents:

The Supreme Court today refused to hear an appeal by the Church of Scientology for the return of documents which the Justice Department says proves a conspiracy among church members to infiltrate the government.

The Scientologists are demanding that the documents be handed over to the church and not be used in any future criminal proceedings against the church or its members.

The documents were seized by FBI agents in 1977 from the church's offices in Los Angeles and Washington. They were used as evidence in a recent case in which nine church leaders were convicted of conspiring to steal government documents relating to church activities.

Church officials have said they will appeal the conviction.

The lower courts denied the church's request for return of the documents and their suppression as evidence. The courts said such action would interfere with current criminal proceedings relating to church activities.

Category	Newspaper Article
Title	(No Title)
Source	“Reuters”
Author	
Date	February 29th, 1980

Contents:

The Paris Appeal Court today recognized the U.S.-based Church of Scientology as a religion and cleared a former leader of the movement’s French branch of fraud.

Georges Andreu, formerly president of the sect in France and three other leaders of the church, including its American founder Ron Lafayette Hubbard, received fines and suspended prison sentences a year ago after the movement was accused of enticing people to join by making fraudulent promises.

Mr Andreu, who had been given a suspended prison term of one year and fined 750 dollars was the only one of the four to appeal.

The Paris Court of Appeals acquitted Mr Andreu because of what judges called his obvious good faith, and the court’s president strongly hinted that the three others, who were sentenced in their absence, might be acquitted if they appealed.

“Scientology seemed to correspond to a definition of religion in that it embraces both a faith and a community,” the judges said.

The Church of Scientology claims to have five million members around the world. There are 10,000 adherents in France.

Category	Newspaper Article
Title	Jane Kember and Morrison Budlong found guilty
Source	"Reuters"
Author	Neil Lewis
Date	December 19th, 1980

Contents:

Two high-ranking members of the Church of Scientology were sentenced to prison terms today for their role in an alleged scheme orchestrated from England to undermine the U.S. government and judicial system.

Jane Kember, 44, a British subject, and Morrison Budlong, 32, an American, were each given terms of two to six years for ordering and supervising from England burglaries of U.S. government offices by subordinates in Washington.

"From their headquarters in East Grinstead, England, they challenged and attempted to undermine the judicial and government structure of the United States," the prosecutor told the court before sentencing.

The two were extradited from England earlier this year. They said they would appeal both the verdict and the sentence.

Last December nine other members of the church, including Mary Sue Hubbard, wife of the church's founder L. Ron Hubbard, were convicted for similar crimes and sentenced to varying prison terms.

The Scientologists in both trials said their campaign against the U.S. government, particularly the Internal Revenue Service, was begun because the government was harassing the church.

The prosecutor argued that the church was trying to coerce the government into providing it with tax-exempt status.

He said the church's efforts did not stop at ransacking the offices of government agencies but extended to infiltrating and stealing from any organisation which opposed it, including law firms, newspapers, local officials and business groups.

Evidence at the trial showed messages written by the two defendants to church members in the United States directing a coverup of a burglary at the offices of a prosecuting attorney.

The government said other documents seized for this trial showed that Kember directed an effort to discredit a woman who wrote a critical book about the church, with the goal of having the woman imprisoned or committed to a mental institution.

Among those the government said were harassed were the American Medical Association, Coast Guard intelligence, and the California attorney general's office.

In one case, the government said, Kember and Budlong supervised an effort to smear the mayor of Clearwater, Florida, who had complained that the Scientologists were operating under a cover name in his community.

One church member was ordered to fabricate a story about the mayor having a mistress, it said.

Another was to offer to drive the man around Washington while he was visiting and then stage a fake hit-and-run accident with an accomplice, implicating the mayor.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Raymond Banoun said Kember was the third-ranking member of the church and Budlong was her assistant.

Category	Newspaper Article
Title	Scientology publishes Report about Agent Orange Tests
Source	"Reuters"
Author	
Date	January 23rd, 1981

Contents:

The Canadian Defense Department said today that its armed force worked with the U.S. Army in testing chemical defoliants during the Vietnam War.

A department spokesman said it was interested only in "obtaining technical information and assistance on range clearance and brush control," during the tests in 1966 at a Canadian Army base in Gagetown, New Brunswick.

The spokesman said he did not know if U.S. Army officials told the Canadians that the chemicals would be used in Vietnam.

The cooperative testing effort was revealed by the Church of Scientology after it obtained a 1968 U.S. Army report on the chemical testing program.

Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau said yesterday that he would investigate the reports of Canadian-American participation in the tests, which included Agent Orange.

U.S. military personnel who served in Vietnam claim that exposure to Agent Orange caused them to contract cancer and other serious disorders.

Simon De Jong, a member of Parliament for an area near Gagetown, said the chemicals may have caused health problems among residents there.

"Can any mother or father ... in any of the other little towns and villages that ring Camp Gagetown be certain any longer that the affliction they or their children may be suffering from was simply an act of God and not something far more sinister?" he asked.

The U.S. Army report, dated October, 1968, said aerial spray tests were carried out in 1966 by "personnel of the Biological Sciences Laboratory, Fort Detrick, Maryland, in collaboration with the Canadian Ministry of Defense."

Helicopters had sprayed "herbicides and dessicants" in a dense forest between in Camp Gagetown. The area chosen was "free from hazards and adjacent cropland," the report said, adding that the site provided "similiar vegetation densities to those of temperate and tropical areas, such as Southeast Asia."

Agent Orange and two other chemical compounds "appeared very effective on hardwoods, but had little or no effect on conifers," the report said.

Category	Newspaper Article
Title	Woman awarded 39 Million Dollars against Scientologists
Source	“Reuters”
Author	
Date	May 18th, 1985

Contents:

EUGENE, Oregon - The Church of Scientology has been ordered to pay 39 million dollars in damages to a woman who charged she had been defrauded of tuition fees by false self-improvement claims.

A jury in Hoagland, Oregon, deliberated for nearly three days after a 10-week trial and decided yesterday that the church defrauded Julie Titchbourne by saying she could improve her eyesight and become more intelligent by joining the church.

Titchbourne, 27, an engineer, said she relied on church statements about the background of founder L. Ron Hubbard and the benefits from the church in deciding to join the organisation for nine months in 1975 and 1976.

She had sought 3,253 dollars in general damages, which was the amount she paid for Scientology courses in 1975, and up to 42 million dollars in punitive damages against Hubbard and the Church of Scientology.

She had won a two million dollar judgment in a 1979 trial against the church but that was overturned on appeal and a new trial was ordered.

A lawyer for the scientology organisation said another appeal would be made to overturn the latest judgment.

Category	Newspaper Article
Title	Scientology Protest draws Travolta, 1,000 Others
Source	“Reuters”
Author	
Date	May 20th, 1985

Contents:

PORTLAND, Oregon, - Film star John Travolta and jazz musician Chick Corea today joined an estimated 1,000 members of the Church of Scientology protesting at a 39 million dollars court judgment against the church.

Travolta flew his private jet here from Los Angeles, held a 10-minute press conference, then left about two hours later.

“It’s simple - I’ve been a Scientologist for 10 years now,” said Travolta, looking tired and in need of a shave. “I received counseling and I give counseling, and I just feel it’s time to stand up for what one believes.” Some 1,000 people gathered outside Multnomah County courthouse in Portland for a third day of demonstrations against the verdict.

Church officials said more supporters were continuing to arrive in Portland, but backed down from their original estimate that half a million people would protest.

A jury last week awarded 39 million dollars to Julie Christofferson Titchbourne, 27, a former member of the church who said she was victimised by “wanton misconduct” by the church and its founder, L. Ron Hubbard.

She accused the church of making fraudulent representations, including a claim it could increase her intelligence and improve her eyesight.

Category	Newspaper Article
Title	Judge declares Mistrial in 39 Million Dollar Scientology Case
Source	“Reuters”
Author	
Date	July 16th, 1985

Contents:

PORTLAND, Oregon - A judge today declared a mistrial in a lawsuit against the Church of Scientology that led to a 39 million dollar award to a former church member.

The ruling followed weeks of demonstrations by hundreds of Scientologists outside the court where a jury on May 24 awarded the sum to Julie Christofferson Titchbourne, a 27-year-old Oregon engineer.

She claimed the church defrauded her by promising to improve her poor eyesight and intelligence, and that it had misrepresented the credentials of church founder Ron Hubbard.

Circuit Court Judge Donald Londer ruled a mistrial in the 10-week proceeding that led to the award.

“It’s a great day for religious freedom in America,” Scientologist lawyer Earle Cooley told Reuters by telephone. Titchbourne’s lawyer, Garry McMurry, declined to comment. No new trial date has been set.

The church claimed that letting the award stand would have amounted to an attack on religious freedom. McMurry contended the case was one of consumer fraud, not a religious issue.

The church held protest rallies in numerous cities against the award and at one time drew film star John Travolta and other entertainers to Portland to demonstrate in its behalf.

Titchbourne joined the church in 1975 but left a year later. She had won an earlier two million dollar judgment in a 1979 trial but lost that award when the church appealed.

Category	Newspaper Article
Title	Church of Scientology Founder reported dead Church Leader said to have left Millions
Source	"Reuters"
Author	Ronald Clarke
Date	January 28th, 1986

Contents:

The president of the controversial Church of Scientology said last night that its founder, L. Ron Hubbard, a former science-fiction writer, had died of a brain hemorrhage at the age of 74.

The church has branches in Britain, France, Australia, South Africa, Spain and elsewhere.

Church spokesmen said it has six million members, but dissident former members maintain the number was less than 100,000.

The president, the Rev. Ken Hoden, told reporters in Los Angeles that Hubbard died in his sleep last Friday at his ranch in San Luis Obispo, Calif., and his body was cremated and the ashes spread over the Pacific.

Hubbard left the bulk of his estate to his church, Hoden said, without giving financial details.

Hubbard has not been seen in public since 1980 despite a series of suits filed by former Scientologists who claimed the church had brainwashed its members.

Hoden said Hubbard retreated to his ranch after he felt certain his church was running smoothly.

Hubbard, from Nebraska, was a little-known science fiction writer until 1949 when his book, "Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental Health," became a best-seller in the United States.

The book also became the basis for his Church of Scientology, which calls itself the preacher of a new religion, based not on the worship of a god, but one able to make people happy through a counselling system.

Church members said under the system, called auditing, a therapist used a galvanometer that measured changes of electrical current in the skin to monitor emotional responses to questions.

The book maintains that unhappiness is a result of processes in a part of the brain. Hubbard said he had developed procedures that enabled people to rid themselves of such inhibitions.

Hubbard's son, Ronald DeWolf, who changed his name from L. Ron Hubbard Jr. in 1972 after falling out with his father over the church, said in Las Vegas he had loved his father, but he hoped the church organization would now improve.

Church Leader said to have left Millions

Leaders of the controversial Church of Scientology said today their founder L. Ron Hubbard, a science fiction writer who has died of a stroke, left tens of millions of dollars to the church.

Hubbard, 74, had not been seen in public since 1980, and was said to have lived with a few trusted aides on a ranch near San Luis Obispo, Calif.

He ignored a string of lawsuits filed by former Scientologists who claimed the church had brainwashed its members.

The report of his death was relayed by the church, which claims six million members, by satellite to scientologists around the world, church officials said.

Dissident scientologists maintained the number of church members had in recent years dropped to less than 100,000.

Three thousand church members packed a Hollywood theater to be told Hubbard died in his sleep of a brain hemorrhage last Friday.

Church lawyer Earle Cooley told reporters no post mortem was performed, in accordance with Hubbard's will, and his ashes were scattered at sea.

Hubbard's fingerprints and blood samples were filed with the local coroner's office, he said.

Cooley said that Hubbard provided generously for his third wife, Mary Sue Hubbard, who helped him found the church in 1954, and "certain of his children" and left the remainder of his estate to the church - "tens of millions of dollars."

The president of the church in Los Angeles, the Rev. Ken Hoden, said the amount left to the church was very substantial. "It was millions, just millions," he said.

"Hubbard decided he had completed his work, and since he had completed everything he had set out to do, he decided to discard his body," Hoden said.

Lafayette Ronald Hubbard, born in Tilden, Nebraska, was a little-known science fiction writer until 1949 when his book "Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental Health" became a best seller in the United States.

The book was the basis for his Church of Scientology, which calls itself the preacher of a new religion, based not on the worship of a God but one able to make people happy through a counselling system.

Church members said that under the system, called auditing, a therapist used a meter that measured changes of electrical current in the skin to monitor emotional responses to questions.

According to church documents, the church blamed much of mankind's problems on a time 75 million years ago when Earth was one of 90 planets ruled by a tyrant named Xemu.

Xemu trapped people in 10 volcanoes and dropped nuclear bombs on the volcanoes, freeing spirits that later attached themselves to people blocking their path to total freedom.

Hubbard, in later writings, attacked psychiatry, the Central Intelligence Agency and the Internal Revenue Service.

In 1959, Hubbard established a world headquarters of scientology in East Grinstead, southern England. Hubbard and 200 of his followers were reported to have moved to the island of Corfu, off Greece, in 1968.

His estranged eldest son, who changed his name from L. Ron Hubbard Junior to Ronald DeWolf, claimed in a legal action in 1983 that his father was either dead or incapacitated and that a trustee should be appointed to administer church funds.

A judge in Riverside, southern California, ruled Hubbard was alive and capable of handling his own affairs.

Category	Newspaper Article
Title	U. S. Jury awards 30 Million Dollars in Scientology Suit
Source	“Reuter”
Author	
Date	July 22nd, 1986

Contents:

LOS ANGELES - A jury awarded 30 million dollars today to a former official of the Church of Scientology who claimed his 11-year membership in the organisation left him emotionally and financially ruined.

The Los Angeles Superior Court jury found after eight days of deliberation that the church had caused Larry Wollersheim, 37, emotional distress and ordered the church to pay 25 million dollars in punitive damages and five million dollars in compensatory damages.

Wollersheim testified during a trial that church members engaged in a pattern of lies, tricks and deception in efforts to keep him from disclosing how the organisation operated.

He contended that Scientologists, who profess self- redemption and a belief in a universal life force, lied to him when they told him church auditing, intense counselling and confession sessions would bring him greater health, stability and business success as well as supernatural powers.

Wollersheim, who rose through Scientology’s ranks to become a member of an elite church branch, the Sea Organisation, said he spent about 100,000 dollars on church courses before he found the promises to be bogus.

Lawyers for the church described Wollersheim, as a draft-evading hippie drop-out whose bad temper led him to become a wife-beater and a malcontent. The church contended he had a history of mental illness before joining the group.

The church maintained that the case was a broad-based attack on the freedom of religion and that it should never have been allowed to go to trial.

Category	Newspaper Article
Title	Swedes bombarded by Theories over who killed Olof Palme
Source	"Reuters"
Author	Richard Wallis
Date	February 8th, 1987

Contents:

Since the hunt for Prime Minister Olof Palme's killer was reorganized last week, Swedes have been bombarded almost daily with new theories about who committed the murder.

Suggestions, most of them advanced by rival investigators, cover an amazingly broad range of suspects. They include Kurdish extremists, embittered tax exiles, neo-Nazis, religious fanatics, international arms dealers and even the Swedish police.

The overall effect has been to add even greater confusion to a case that after nearly a year seems to be farther than ever from a solution.

The evening newspaper Aftonbladet, close to Palme's ruling Social Democratic Party, summed up the Swedes' perplexity in a cartoon this weekend.

It shows a crowd gathered around the spot where Palme was shot in central Stockholm on Feb. 28 last year. Each bystander names a different suspect.

Among the best-known names are the KGB, the Soviet secret police; the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA); the extreme rightist European Labor Party; Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi; Iran's Ayatollah Khomeini; former Ugandan dictator Idi Amin and the Church of Scientology.

In the same issue of Aftonbladet, columnist Gunnar Fredriksson comments: "People are now daring to say what I have long suspected - that the case will probably never be solved."

Most of the "theories" the police are working on are based on anonymous tips. The known facts about the murder, 11 months into the biggest manhunt in Swedish history, are few.

There is no known motive, no murder weapon has been found and - if one is to believe the prosecutors - there is no suspect.

The new police team that took over the case after last week's shakeup is starting from scratch.

Detectives told reporters this weekend they would stage a new reconstruction of the crime and question again all the witnesses already heard.

Rival groups of investigators are fighting to convince public opinion that their theory is correct.

The most pessimistic view is taken by the outgoing prosecutor in the case, Claes Zeime, who simply says, "We know nothing about the killer."

At the opposite extreme is the former police murder hunt team, which believes it knows the name and hideout of the killer. According to this theory, the killer was a professional assassin based in the Belgian city of Liege hired by the Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK).

It is because of total disagreement with the prosecution on the PKK lead that the murder hunt team was broken up by the government last week.

The new police team, however, says it will treat all leads in the case equally. This unit is the source of a flood of "new" theories.

Complicating matters further, people on the political left suggest that the police or the security service SAPO could have had a role in the murder.

These suspicions appear to be mainly based on the fact that the police and SAPO would have known that Palme had dismissed his bodyguards for the night.

The police this weekend said they were checking a tip that a patrol car - perhaps a fake one - was acting suspiciously near the scene of the crime just before Palme was killed.

The trouble is that in his homeland Palme aroused strong and conflicting feelings. Some Swedes revered him, others regarded him as virtually a Soviet agent.

"It could just as well have been a disgruntled taxpayer as an anti-communist cop - or anyone else," a senior government official said.

Category	Newspaper Article
Title	Church of Scientology loses Book Ban Appeal in British Court
Source	"Reuters"
Author	
Date	October 22nd, 1987

Contents:

The California-based Church of Scientology lost a bid in a British court on Thursday to ban a biography of its founder, the late science fiction author L. Ron Hubbard.

The secretive religious movement had asked the Court of Appeal for an injunction against publication of "Bare-Faced Messiah" by London journalist Russell Miller, which would have reversed a High Court decision dismissing their application as "mischievous and misconceived."

L. Ron Hubbard, a former science-fiction writer, died of a brain haemorrhage at the age of 74 last year.

The Scientologists claimed letters and diary notes used in the book were leaked by a former follower, that documents used were the subject of a Californian court "sealing" order and that the publication of two photographs of Hubbard would be a breach of copyright.

But Lord Justice Fox and Sir George Waller ruled that the church had proved none of these arguments.

"The Church is an active church with, we are told, several million members. It is desirable for the public interest that these doctrines and assertions of fact, whether they relate to Mr. Hubbard or otherwise, should be exposed to public criticism," Fox said.

The documents complained of were part of the essential fabric of the book, which sought to compare Mr. Hubbard's account of his life with reality, Fox added.

He said the proceedings were entirely separate to any that may be taking place in California.

The author, Russel Miller, said he had worked on the book for two-and-a-half years. "It was so well documented because I knew they (the Scientologists) would litigate," he added.

Sheila Chaleff, Director of Special Affairs for the Church of Scientology, said after the hearing she would consider asking the House of Lords for leave of appeal.

"The book is very one-sided. It gives an untrue picture of a great man," she told reporters. "If you want my opinion it is a very boring book."

The book is now due to be serialized in the Sunday Times of London newspaper next month after it is published on October 26.

Scientology, which calls itself a new religion based not on the worship of a god but one able to make people happy through a counselling system, has been widely accused of brainwashing and defrauding its members.

In the latest of a series of suits, a Los Angeles court last year awarded \$30 million to a former official of the church who claimed his 11-year membership in the organization left him emotionally and financially ruined.

Church spokesmen claim he has six million followers but dissident former members maintain the church has fewer than 100,000 members.

Category	Newspaper Article
Title	Judge allows Publication of L. Ron Hubbard Biography
Source	“Reuters”
Author	
Date	August 10th, 1988

Contents:

NEW YORK - A federal judge in Manhattan cleared the way on Wednesday for distribution of a biography of L. Ron Hubbard, founder of the Church of Scientology.

A suit seeking to enjoin publication of the book, “Bare-faced Messiah: The True Story of L. Ron Hubbard,” was brought by New Era Publications International ApS, a Danish firm which is related to the church.

The suit charged that the book’s author, Russell Miller, had infringed on Hubbard’s copyright. The book has already been published in England, Australia and Canada, where the church had sued unsuccessfully to prevent publication.

Although Judge Pierre Leval found there was “some small degree of infringement,” he declined to stop distribution of the book, published by Henry Holt and Co.

Leval said in his decision that the book argued “Hubbard was dishonest, pretentious, boastful, paranoid, cowardly, cruel, disloyal, aggressive, bizarre, and finally, even insane in his pseudo-scientific fantasies and his obsessions.” He said the if the book were barred, “the public would be deprived of an interesting and valuable historical study.”

Category	Newspaper Article
Title	Elvis Presley's Daughter marries a Musician
Source	"Reuters"
Author	
Date	October 5th, 1988

Contents:

LOS ANGELES - Lisa Marie Presley, who will inherit the multimillion-dollar fortune of her late father Elvis Presley, has married musician Danny Keough, a press spokesman said on Wednesday.

The wedding took place on Monday at the Church of Scientology, to which Presley belongs, in Los Angeles and the couple left for a honeymoon at an undisclosed location, spokesman Paul Bloch said.

Elvis Presley, who died in 1977, left an estate valued at 31 million dollars by the state of Tennessee where he lived.

Financial advisers believe the fortune, which his 20-year-old daughter will receive in five years, could now be worth 50 million dollars.

Lisa Marie, Presley's only child, has belonged to the Church of Scientology for 10 years and has been dating Keough, 23, for two years.

Her mother, Priscilla Presley, who attended the wedding with a few close friends of her daughter, was quoted by Bloch as saying: "I'm thrilled for Lisa Marie. Danny is a great guy and I couldn't be happier for the two of them." It is the first marriage for both.

Category	Newspaper Article
Title	Spain: Court releases 29 of 69 detained Scientologists
Source	“Reuters”
Author	
Date	November 21st, 1988

Contents:

MADRID - A judge on Monday released nearly half of 69 members of an international religious sect detained on suspicion of offences ranging from fraud to tax evasion, court sources said.

The 69 members of the Church of Scientology from 15 countries were arrested at a Madrid hotel on Sunday at a congress of the group which treats drug addicts and offers members ways to reach spiritual perfection.

The sources said Judge Jose Maria Vasquez Honrubia, who ordered a police swoop on 26 offices of the group throughout the country, released 29 people, most of them Portuguese. He was questioning others and remanded two Spanish women in custody.

Among those detained were the sect’s American director, Hebert Hertzch, 53, from Los Angeles, several other Americans, Portuguese and Swiss and about 20 Spaniards.

Vasquez Honrubia said the group, founded in the United States in 1966 and claiming branches in 30 countries, made members pay progressively larger fees and threatened people who wanted to leave.

“The real god of this organisation is money,” he told reporters. He said more arrests were likely.

Vasquez Honrubia said the group was registered as non-profit-making but documents showed profits of 666,000 dollars in Spain in 1986.

He said the sect’s leaders could be charged with belonging to an illegal organisation, fraud, threats, public health offences, tax and possibly capital evasion.

The group’s lawyer, Jose Luis Chamorro, said evidence presented against the group was shallow and out of context.

Witnesses said both supporters and opponents of the sect turned up outside the court after the judge urged former members to come and testify.

Vasquez Honrubia said the group’s four Narconon centres for treatment of drug addicts in Spain were run by non-qualified staff in poor conditions of hygiene.

He said police had investigated the sect's offices for nine months following upto 40 complaints filed in Spanish courts, including one for abduction of a youth.

Category	Newspaper Article
Title	Spain: Spanish Judge expels six Scientologists
Source	“Reuters”
Author	
Date	November 22nd, 1988

Contents:

MADRID - A Spanish judge on Tuesday ordered the expulsion of six foreigners detained in a police swoop on the Church of Scientology, court sources said.

Diplomats said the six were three Britons, an American, a Dane and a Swede. They were all women except for two of the Britons. Judge Jose Maria Vazquez Honrubia released 41 of the 71 members of the international sect and remanded nine others in custody.

They were detained on Sunday at a Madrid congress of the organisation which claims branches in 30 countries and specialises in the treatment of drug addicts and teaches members how to reach spiritual perfection. The judge has said they could face charges ranging from fraud to tax evasion.

The detainees waited outside the court under police guard after a bomb scare delayed questioning by the judge.

The organisation has reacted angrily to the raid on its congress and offices throughout Spain. One of its Spanish leaders described the crackdown as a revival of the Inquisition.

The group charged in a statement that the police action was inspired by shadowy interests benefiting from the proliferation of drugs. It said it would continue to treat drug addicts.

The sources said Vazquez Honrubia ordered police raids on 26 offices of the sect across the country. Among those detained were the sect’s American director, Hebert Hertzch, 53, from Los Angeles, several other Americans, Portuguese and Swiss and about 20 Spaniards.

Vazquez Honrubia said on Monday the group, founded in the United States in 1966, made members pay progressively larger fees and threatened people who wanted to leave.

“The real god of this organisation is money,” he told reporters. Vazquez Honrubia said the group was registered as non-profit-making but documents showed profits of 666,000 dollars in Spain in 1986.

Category	Newspaper Article
Title	Spain: Spanish Magistrate remands U. S. Scientology Leader in Custody
Source	“Reuters”
Author	
Date	November 23rd, 1988

Contents:

MADRID - A Spanish magistrate ordered the American director of the Church of Scientology, Heber Jentzsch, to be remanded in custody on Wednesday, court sources said.

Jose Maria Vazquez Honrubia, who made the order, said Jentzsch, detained on Sunday with 70 others at a congress at a Madrid hotel, could face charges including fraud, illegal association, coercion, falsification and tax evasion.

The police swoop on Sunday followed a nine-month police investigation of the sect’s activities in Spain.

Ten others, four women and six men, have also been remanded in custody and could face similar charges, the sources said. Forty-one of those detained were released on Tuesday.

The sect claims branches in 30 countries and specialises in the treatment of drug addicts, teaching members how to reach spiritual perfection.

The organisation has reacted angrily to the raid on its congress and offices throughout Spain. One of its Spanish leaders described the crackdown as a revival of the Inquisition.

Vazquez Honrubia said on Monday the group, founded in the United States in 1966, made members pay progressively larger fees and threatened people who wanted to leave.

He said that although the group was a registered charity, documents seized by investigators showed profits of 666,000 dollars in Spain in 1986.

Investigators had seized a computer at one of the sect’s offices in Madrid which stored financial information on hundreds of Spanish companies.

It was not immediately clear whether the other 19 members of the sect detained on Sunday had been released.

Category	Newspaper Article
Title	Scientists released on Bail in Spain, Lawyer says
Source	“Reuters”
Author	
Date	December 11th, 1988

Contents:

The leader and 10 other members of the Church of Scientology were released on bail of more than \$1 million nearly three weeks after they were arrested in Madrid, their lawyer said Sunday.

He said they left Carabanchel prison Saturday night and were banned from leaving Spain without the judge's permission. No charges have been brought against them, he added.

Among those freed on bail were the American president of the sect, Heber Jentsch, and three other foreigners - an American, a South African and a Portuguese woman.

An earlier Reuter report mistakenly said four foreigners other than Jentsch had been freed.

Judge Jose Maria Vasquez Honrubia set bail at \$650,000 for Jentsch and at a total \$430,000 for the others.

Jentsch and 70 other scientologists were held last month and the judge said they could face charges of fraud, illegal association, falsification and tax evasion.

All but 11 including Jentsch were released after questioning, and six foreigners were expelled from Spain.

The group ran centers for the treatment of drug addicts and offered members courses in reaching spiritual perfection.

Category	Newspaper Article
Title	75 Church of Scientology Leaders go on Trial in Italy
Source	“Reuters”
Author	
Date	March 29th, 1989

Contents:

Seventy-five leaders of the Church of Scientology in Italy went on trial on Wednesday on charges including fraud, tax evasion and illegal practice of medicine.

The defendants were ordered to stand trial by magistrate Guicla Mulliri, who investigated the group at the instigation of relatives of members of the Church, founded by American L. Ron Hubbard.

Parents said they were not allowed any contact with their children who had joined the Church or entered its drug rehabilitation programmes.

The investigation made headlines in Italy in December 1986 when police confiscated records from Church branches and drug rehabilitation centres throughout the country.

The defendants are also charged with defrauding local governments because of contributions to the drug programmes, which the prosecution says did not meet medical standards.

Outside the courthouse, supporters of the defendants held up banners accusing the prosecution of carrying out a “modern inquisition” against freedom of religion.

They set free 75 doves to protest against the trial, which was adjourned until next week after opening formalities.

Category	Newspaper Article
Title	Judge blocks L. Ron Hubbard Biography on Copyright Grounds
Source	“Reuters”
Author	Gail Appleson
Date	January 30th, 1990

Contents:

A federal judge, in a decision that could severely affect biographers and scholars, on Tuesday blocked publication of a critical biography of Scientology founder L. Ron Hubbard, saying it violated copyright laws.

Lawyers said the ruling is the latest in a series of judgments that place copyright law above constitutional freedom of speech guarantees, impeding biographers and scholars from quoting from their subjects.

U.S. District Judge Louis Stanton ruled that Carol Publishing Co. could not publish an unauthorized Hubbard biography, written by former Church of Scientology member Jonathan Caven-Atack, in its present form because it used a substantial amount of copyrighted material.

“It (decision) drives a dagger into the heart of the First Amendment,” said Melvin Wulf, Carol’s lawyer, who said his client would appeal.

“The decision shows an abysmal misunderstanding of copyright laws. If this ruling survives, the process of biographers and scholars will be critically impaired,” Wulf said.

Floyd Abrams, a New York lawyer who specializes in First Amendment cases, said the Era decision was the latest ruling in which judges have blocked publication of books said to violate copyright laws. Abrams said the rulings let copyright law outweigh First Amendment rights.

These rulings have primarily come from the Second Circuit Court of Appeals, which sits in Manhattan, the heart of the book publishing industry.

“The Second Circuit has taken a rigid view of copyright law which led to a number of injunctions ... to the great consternation of the publishing industry,” he said.

The suit against Carol and Caven-Atack was brought by Copenhagen-based New Era Publications International, the exclusive licensee of Hubbard’s works.

New Era has filed other copyright suits in the United States, England, Canada and Australia to stop publication of materials critical of Hubbard and the Church of Scientology.

Stanton's decision follows a Second Circuit Court ruling in favor of New Era in a copyright case against Henry Holt & Co. which the U.S. Supreme Court has been asked to review.

Carol Publishing unsuccessfully argued its book was protected by the "fair use" doctrine that is part of copyright law. Fair use allows a reasonable use of copyrighted materials without the consent of the owner if the materials are used for criticism, comment, news reporting, teaching or research.

But Stanton ruled that Carol's profit from its use of the Hubbard copyrighted materials "tends to weigh against a finding of fair use."

Caven-Atack had been a member of the Scientology Church but became disillusioned after discovering what he perceived to be abusive practices against dissident church members.

"(The author) came to believe that Scientology is a dangerous cult and that Mr. Hubbard, far from being the gentle prophet portrayed in Church literature, was a paranoid, vindictive and profoundly disturbed man," Stanton said.

New Era said copyrighted material made up about 2.9 percent of the book's contents.

Category	Newspaper Article
Title	Suit says Lilly Drug causes Side Effects
Source	“Reuters”
Author	
Date	November 12th, 1990

Contents:

The Citizens Commission on Human Rights, formed by the Church of Scientology, said Robert and Sylvia Bailey of Forsyth County, N.C., filed suit against Eli Lilly and Co, alleging that Robert Bailey was not adequately informed of harmful side effects of the Lilly drug Prozac, which he was given to help him stop smoking.

The group said the suit alleges that as a result of taking Prozac, Bailey experienced numbness, swelling and crippling physical pain migrating throughout his body, making it impossible for him to work and hard to move. It said the suit alleges that Prozac damaged his nerves, perhaps permanently.

The group said Bailey still suffers from a throbbing headache allegedly caused by Prozac and while on the drug he became impotent, a condition which has not disappeared.

Prozac has been primarily marketed as an antidepressant.

The suit seeks to recover over \$ 10,000 in compensatory damages and over \$ 10,000 in punitive damages, as well as costs and whatever further relief the court might find proper.

The suit was filed in the General Court of Justice, Superior Court Division, of Forsyth County, N.C.

Lilly has been sued by other Prozac users, who have alleged, among other things, that the drug is addictive, has caused violent behavior and has caused attempted suicide.

Category	Newspaper Article
Title	Suit alleges Ciba-Geigy Drug caused Suicide
Source	“Reuters”
Author	
Date	December 11th, 1990

Contents:

The Citizens Commission on Human Rights, which was formed by the Church of Scientology, said a suit has been filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Florida, Pensacola Division, alleging that Ciba-Geigy AG’s psychiatric drug Ritalin drove 18-year-old Paul Richard Tusai to commit suicide.

The commission alleged that the drug can cause children to go into severe, prolonged depressions. It alleged that 16-year-old Brad Eckstein of Atlanta committed suicide shortly after his Ritalin dosage was cut by one-third because any cut in dosage can cause depression leading to suicide.

The commission said the suit, against the Swiss pharmaceutical company’s U.S. subsidiary Ciba-Geigy Corp, alleges that Ciba-Geigy failed to warn physicians that suicide was a potential result of the drug’s use.

The suit seeks an unspecified amount of damages and is the first filed against Ciba-Geigy alleging that Ritalin use could cause suicide, the commission said.

Category	Newspaper Article
Title	Lilly hit with two more Prozac Suits
Source	“Reuters”
Author	
Date	January 15th, 1991

Contents:

The Citizens Commission on Human Rights, a group formed by the Church of Scientology, said the law offices of Leonard L. Finz have filed two suits in New York State court against Eli Lilly and Co, alleging that Lilly’s drug Prozac caused a suicide and an attempted suicide.

The group said the suits seek damages of 150 mln dlrs each and bring total damages sought in Prozac-related suits to nearly one billion dlrs.

The group said the suits allege that Prozac caused a man to commit suicide and a woman to attempt suicide.

Category	Newspaper Article
Title	Del Shannon's Widow sues Lilly over Prozac
Source	"Reuters"
Author	
Date	January 28th, 1991

Contents:

The Citizens Commission on Human Rights, a group formed by the Church of Scientology, said LeAnne Westover, the widow of rock singer Del Shannon, has filed suit in California Superior Court against Eli Lilly and Co, alleging that Shannon's use of the Lilly psychiatric drug Prozac caused his February 1990 death from a gunshot wound to the head.

The group said the suit seeks unspecified damages for Lilly's marketing of a drug that it allegedly knew was unsafe, as well as damages for negligence, wrongful death breach of warranties and other causes.

Category	Newspaper Article
Title	German Party concerned at Scientology Sect move into East
Source	“Reuters”
Author	
Date	March 20th, 1991

Contents:

Germany’s main opposition party warned members in the ex-communist east on Wednesday against exploitation by the controversial U.S.-based Scientology sect.

The warning from the Social Democratic Party (SPD) came the day after the liberal Free Democrats (FDP), a partner in Bonn’s ruling coalition, accused the sect of trying to infiltrate its Hamburg branch.

SPD deputy leader Herta Daeubler-Gmelin said the sect, accused in the past of intimidating and indoctrinating members, had launched an intense recruitment drive in former East Germany since the Berlin Wall opened in November 1989.

“Our aim must be to protect as many people as possible, who seek spiritual guidance, from Scientology and its cover organisations,” she said.

A spokeswoman for the Scientology Church’s German headquarters said in Hamburg earlier this week: “As a church we are completely unpolitical. But individual members may be involved (in politics).”

Daeubler-Gmelin said she had received many complaints that the organisation was luring people in eastern Germany to expensive seminars for dealing with psychological problems.

Recruits had been induced to pay large sums to the sect, with one young Dresden man transferring his life savings of 100,000 marks (65,000 dollars).