

ВЕЛИКИЙ СТАЛИН-ЗНАМЯ ДРУЖБЫ НАРОДОВ СССР!

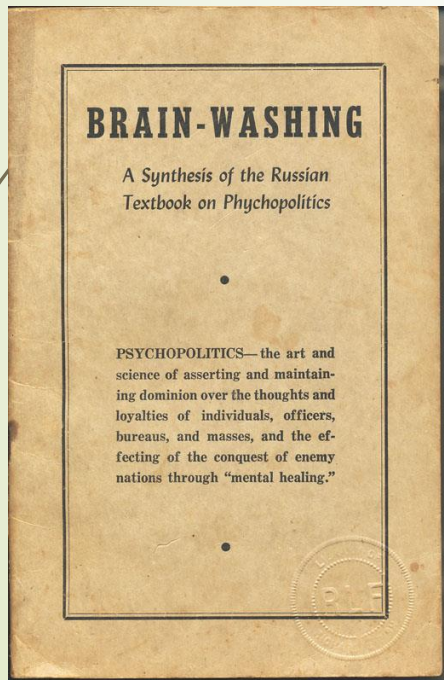
Does Scientology Believe in Brainwashing? The Strange Story of the *Brain-Washing Manual* of 1955

Massimo Introvigne (CESNUR)

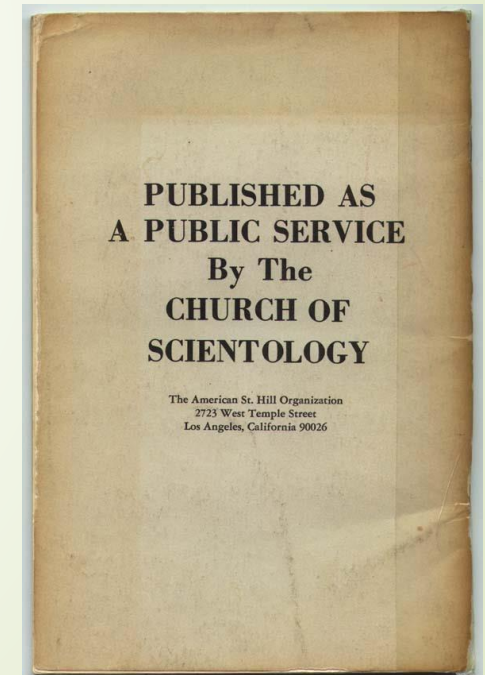
Antwerp FVG, January 25, 2014



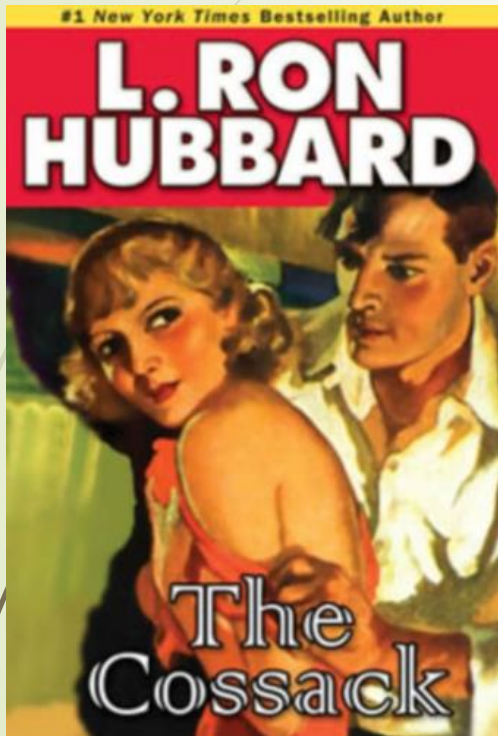
Contradiction?



- The Church of Scientology today is happy to quote scholars who criticize anti-cult brainwashing theories
- Yet in 1955 L. Ron Hubbard published a booklet called *Brain-Washing*, implying that brainwashing was practiced with some success in several countries
- Did Hubbard believe in brainwashing? In order to answer this question, we need first to study Hubbard's attitude towards Communism



Hubbard's Pulp: No Sympathy for the Czar

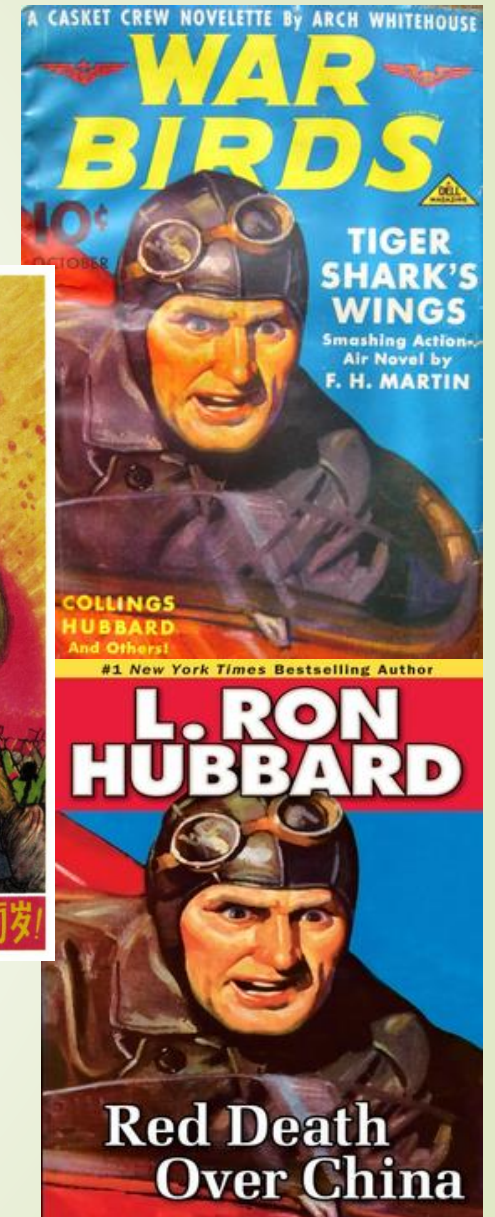
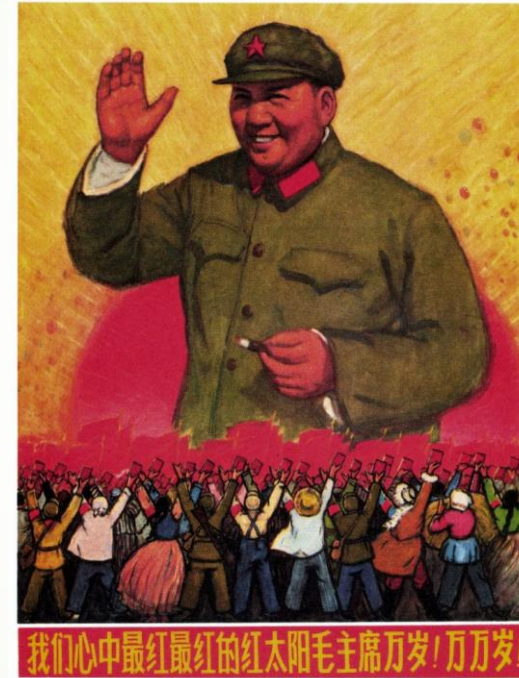


- In *The Cossack* (1935) the Czarist Duchess of Novgrod [sic] is a murderer who ends up as a prostitute (falsely) accused to be a Communist and lynched by a mob in nationalist China, where «the beard-curling cry of “Communist!” was enough to send these peoples into swirling mobs of fiendish activity»
- «Although we hardly approved of Nicholas II [right] as a ruler, we needed a head for the state we thought we could form, and the best marionette we could find would be Nicholas» (American agent Stuart in *The Price of a Hat*, 1936)



Red Death Over China

- ▶ In *Red Death Over China* (1937) pilot John Hampton flies «the only plane Mao possessed»
- ▶ While initially he works only for money, Hampton experiences a religious conversion of sort – in a temple – and willingly sacrifices his life for the Maoist cause
- ▶ «It was not power which Mao and his men craved, but freedom. In their domain the peasants could own their own land – a fact which was not equaled in all of China»

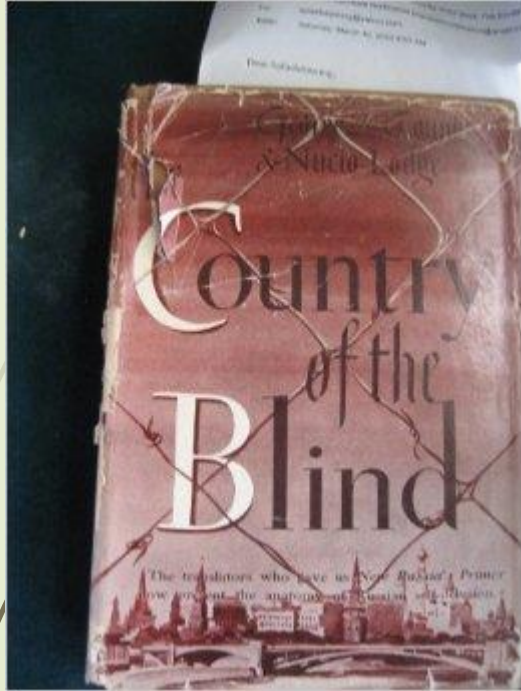


Hubbard vs Chiang Kai-Shek

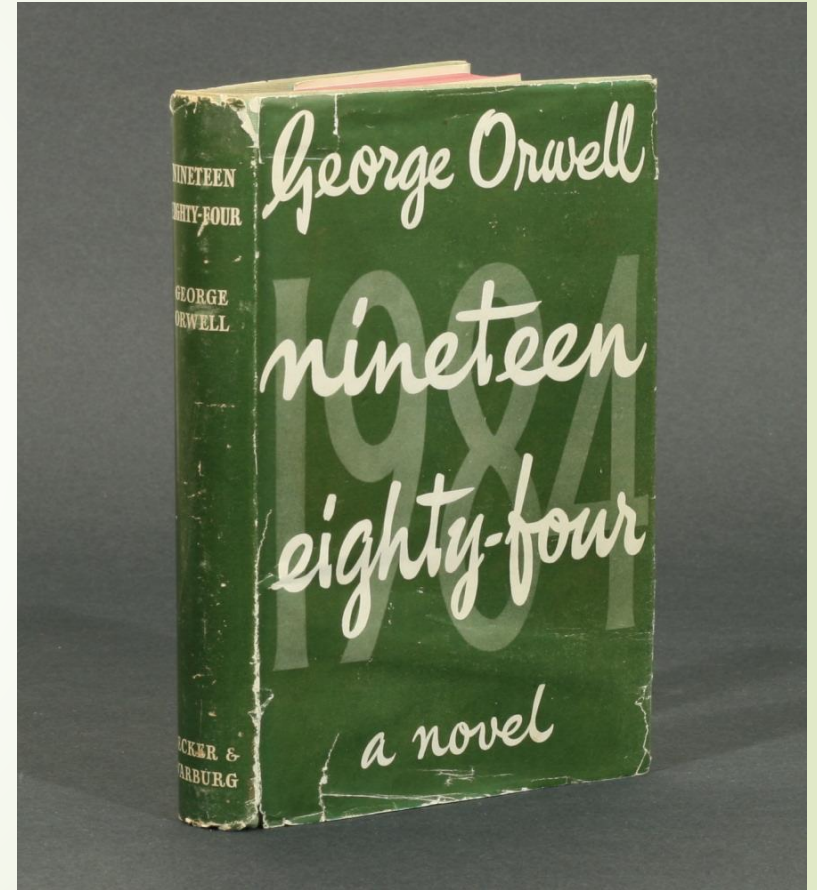


- ▶ «Consider the U.S. support of China's totalitarian regime headed by Chiang Kai-shek. While we weakly spoke of freeing the Chinese from the yoke of imperialism, we poured huge sums of money and war material into the hands of a government which practiced the very principles we spoke against! When this government finally fell there was no one ready to teach the Chinese the human way of life. [...] Somebody was there with a propaganda aimed directly into the desires of the people who want just a tiny taste of freedom. Russian agents were there» (Dianetic Auditor's Bulletin, July 1951)

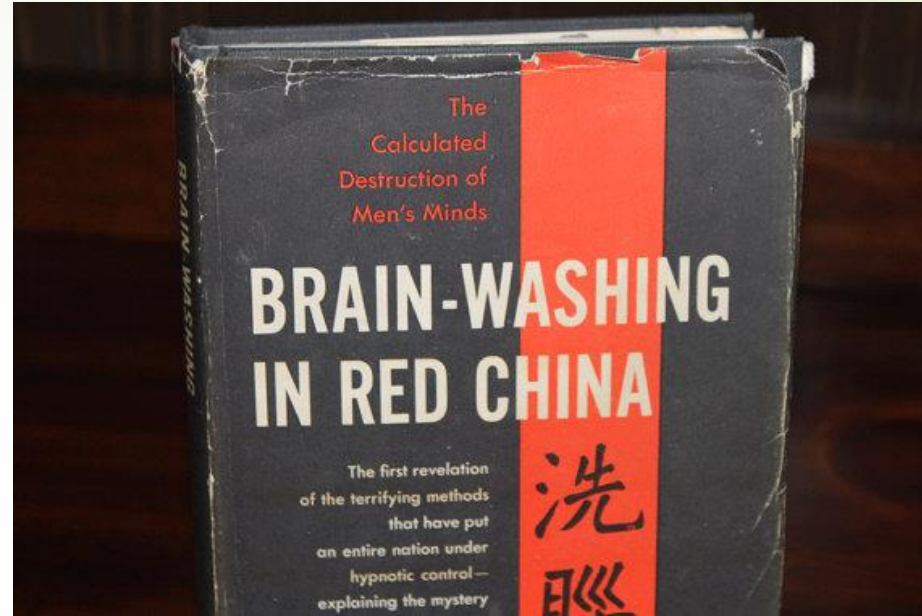
The Threat of Soviet Mind Control



- ▶ 1949: *Country of the Blind*. U.S. anti-Communist academics George Sylvester Counts (1889-1974) and Nucia Perlmutter Lodge (1894-1983) accuse the Soviet regime of widespread «mind control»
- ▶ «We make the brain perfect before we blow it up [...]. No one whom we bring to his place ever stands out against us. Everyone is washed clean [...]. By the time we had finished with them, [...] there was nothing left in them except sorrow for what they have done and love of Big Brother» (George Orwell, *Nineteen Eighty-Four*, 1949)

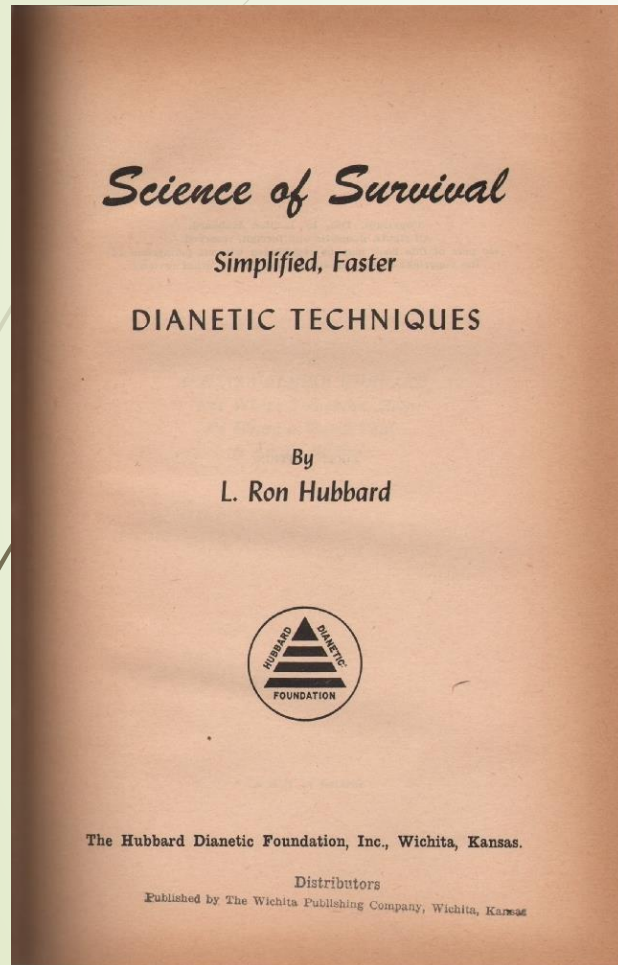


Edward Hunter and Brainwashing



- In 1950 Edward Hunter (1902-1978, left), an OSS and later CIA agent whose cover job was that of reporter, coined the word «brainwashing» in an article of the *Miami Daily News*. In 1951, he published *Brain-Washing in Red China*
- Hunter claimed to have found the word in Chinese sources (*hsi nao*) but in fact he created it based on Orwell's *Nineteen Eighty-Four*

Hubbard and Pain-Drug Hypnosis

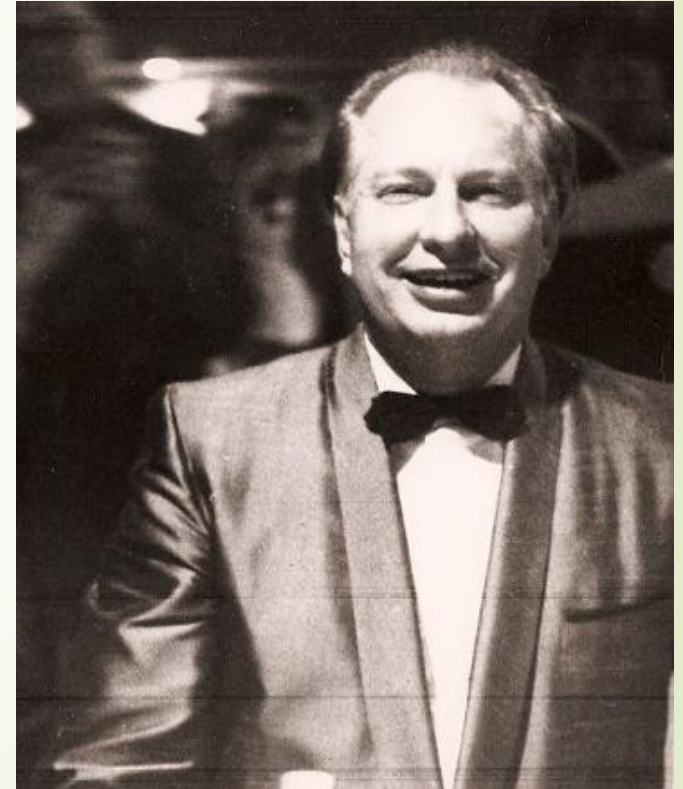


- ▶ «There is another form of hypnotism which falls between the surgical operation and straight hypnotism without physical pain. It is a vicious war weapon and may be of considerably more use in conquering a society than the atom bomb. This is no exaggeration. It required dianetic processing to uncover pain-drug-hypnosis. Otherwise, pain-drug-hypnosis was out of sight, unsuspected, and unknown»

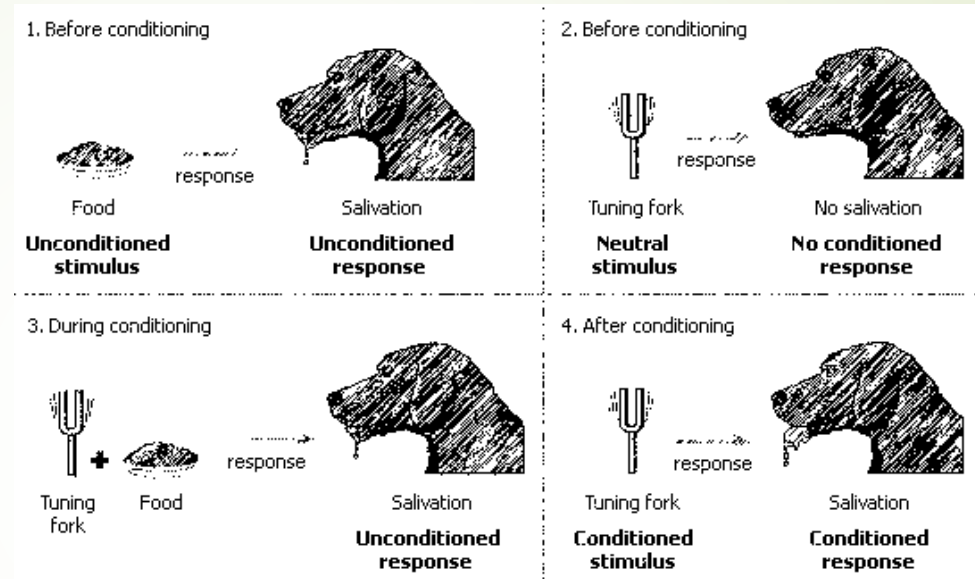
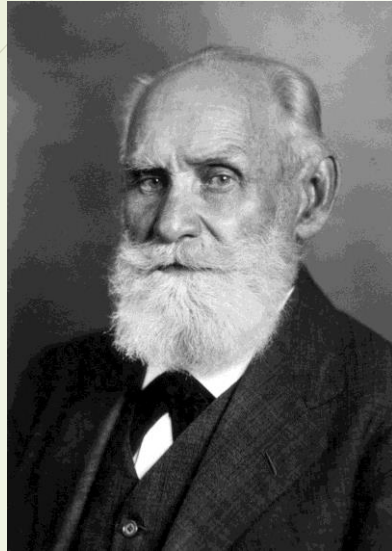
(Hubbard, *Science of Survival*, 1951; pain-drug hypnosis, according to Hubbard, was practiced by the Soviets)

Hubbard and Hunter

- ▶ In one of the lectures delivered at the Games Congress in Washington, D.C. in 1956, Hubbard called Hunter's text on brainwashing «a fascinating book»
- ▶ Consistent with his idea that the Chinese Revolution started from legitimate claims, and was later infiltrated and controlled by the Soviets, Hubbard insisted that Hunter's book confirmed that brainwashing techniques were imported into China by Russian Communists

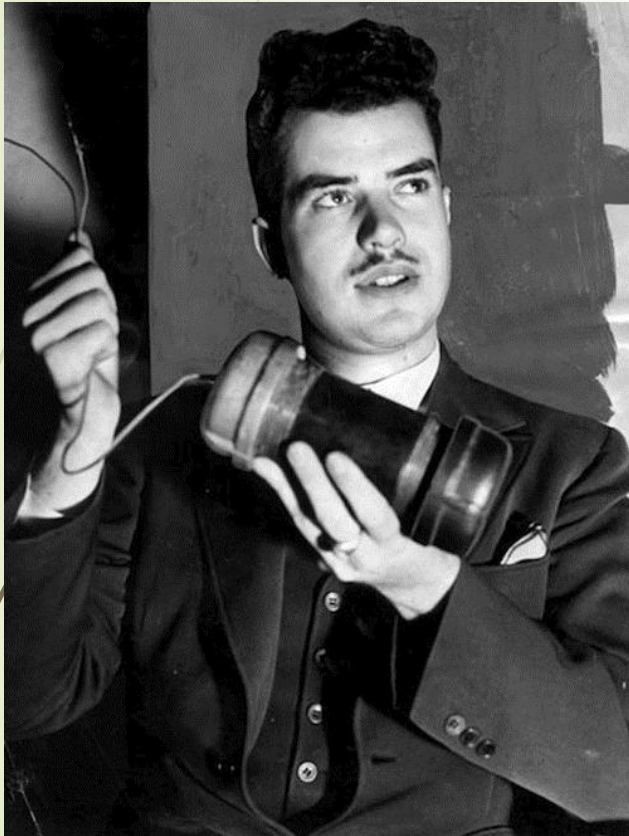


The Pavlov Connection



- ▶ Hubbard praised Hunter for showing «how all of Pavlov's experiments on dogs could be applied to human beings in order to produce a certain given result»
- ▶ At the Games Congress of 1956, Hubbard also claimed that the secret of brainwashing was revealed in a mysterious «book written by [Ivan] Pavlov [1849-1939] for Stalin and which hitherto has never been outside the doors of the Kremlin»
- ▶ «That book never left the Kremlin». But now «I have that book», Hubbard announced

Jack Parsons and Communism



- ▶ One of the most controversial portions of Hubbard's biography is his association in 1945-1946 with the Agapé Lodge of the occult organization Ordo Templi Orientis (O.T.O.) led by Cal Tech scientist Jack Parsons (1914-1952, left)
- ▶ Parsons at that time was sexually involved with Sara Elizabeth «Betty» Bruce Northrup (1924-1997), his wife's half-sister
- ▶ Sara's father, Burton Ashley Northrup (1872-1946), who worked for the U.S. intelligence, investigated Parsons and discovered that he had joined a secret Communist cell in the 1930s

Hubbard and Sara

- ▶ Hubbard fell in love with Sara Betty Northrup, and the two broke with Parsons and were married on August 10, 1946. Since Hubbard was not yet divorced from his first wife, Polly Grubb (1907-1963), the marriage was legally invalid
- ▶ The marriage quickly deteriorated, and Sara found a lover in one of Dianetics' early associates, Miles F. Hollister (1925-1998). After a bitter divorce with Hubbard, she married Hollister. Hubbard attributed both his marital difficulties and problems within Dianetics to Communist infiltration and mind control techniques



Los Angeles Examiner * Wed., April 11, 1951 Sec. 1-9



'Dianetic' Hubbard Accused of Plot to Kidnap Wife Hiding of Baby Charged to Dianetics Author

Wife Says Her Husband Conspired to Conceal 13-Month-Old Girl Missing Since Feb. 23

Wife Accuses Dianetics Hubbard of Kidnaping Her

DIANETICS INVENTOR SUED FOR DIVORCE

Wife's Complaint Charges He Subjected Her to 'Scientific Torture Experiments'

Ron Hubbard Insane, Says His Wife

IN COURT ACTION—Mrs. Sara Hubbard (above) has charged that dianetics founder mate, L. Ron Hubbard, and two other men kidnaped her and concealed her daughter, 13, from her.

The Los Angeles Examiner photo

Communism vs Dianetics?

The Hubbard Dianetic Research Foundation, Inc.
 275 MORRIS AVENUE
 P. O. BOX 502, ELIZABETH, N. J.
 ELIZABETH 3-2201

Office of the President
 March 3, 1951

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 WASHINGTON, D.C.
 Attn: Mr. Parrish.

Gentlemen:

The following is a list of Communist Party members of suspects in our organization.

LEO WEST: In charge Chicago office. Known.
 DAVE VROGMAN: Employee our Chicago office. Suspect.
 ROSS LAMEREAUX: " " " " " "
 SARA NORTHEUS (HUBBARD), formerly of 1003 S. Orange Grove Avenue, Pasadena, Calif. 25 yrs. of age, 5'10", 110 lbs. Currently missing somewhere in California. Suspected only. Had been friendly with many Communists. Currently intimate with them but evidently under coercion. Drug addiction set in fall 1950. Nothing of this known to me until a few weeks ago. Separation papers being filed and divorce applied for.

MILES HOLLISTER: Somewhere in vicinity of Los Angeles. Evidently a prime mover but very young. About 22 y 6'. 180 lbs. Black hair. Sharp chin, broad forehead, rather Slavic. Confessedly a member of the Young Communists. Center of much turbulence in our organization. Dismissed in February when affiliations discovered. Active and dangerous. Commonly armed. Outspokenly disloyal to the U.S..

GENE BENTON: Somewhere in Los Angeles. Permitted to resign when discovered to be a member of the Young Communists. Center of much turbulence in organization. Was living at Deane Apts. on North Carondelet. May still be there. Squat, beefy, about 5'8", about 30. Possibly a member of the Lincoln Brigade but not very probable. Right name, Weinberger.

PEGGY BENTON: Member Young Communists by statement. 28 yrs. old, wife of Gene Benton.

LYN HITE: Friend of Bentons and Hollister. Suspected 840 N. Western, Los Angeles, Hempstead 1316. Very intimate with none but Communists or suspects.

HENRY HUNTER: Mathematician from Berkeley. One arm. Left arm ~~broken~~ at shoulder. Supposed to have trouble with government before. About 28 yrs. Blond hair, Blue-grey eyes. Suspected only.

MARGE HUNTER: wife of Henry. States she is a

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1001
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- ▶ Hubbard reported to the FBI that Sara had been subject to Communist mind control techniques and that a Communist cell had tried to infiltrate and destroy Dianetics
- ▶ Suspect Communists in the early Dianetics group included, according to Hubbard, Miles Hollister (left), Sara's lover, and Gregory Hemingway (1931-2001), the son of the famous writer Ernest Hemingway (1895-1951), a transsexual medical doctor who later changed his name into Gloria (right)



The Manual

Wichita Publishing Co.
451 North Main St.
Wichita 2, Kansas

Box 242
Silver Spring, Md.
Sept. 4, 1955

Dear Manney;

I enclose a manuscript which I need done into a book on a hurry-emergency basis.

I need only 2,000 copies for the first run. The ms. is short being only 87 pages. I want it in an economical size booklet (according to the best paper cut you can make) around 5x7 inches. A paper cover, very cheap. Saddle stitched of course. The general appearance should be like an Army training manual.

You will get half the cost at once and half on delivery. Delivery of 200 by fastest means, of the remaining 1,800 by cheapest transport. Delivery to Box 242 Silver Spring.

I don't want proofs. I have to have SPEED!

This ms. is pretty violent stuff. A copy of it has been sent to the F.B.I. of course and there's no risk in printing it. I need it for circulation to various government agencies. By the time I get through I may need tens of thousands of them so save the type. However, in printing it I wouldn't let it get shown around as the government may want to get it classified.

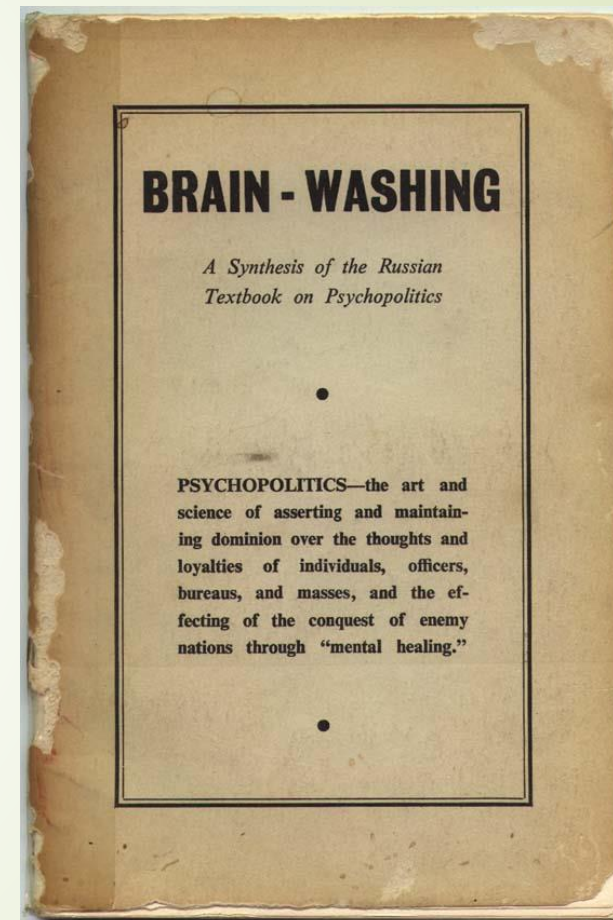
You wire me the total cost and I'll zip half of that to you and we're on our way.

So glad you're in communication from there again. I have so much work to be done that it worries me that you aren't available to do it. Sure hope you are now.

Best to Mrs. Manney -

Ron

- September 4, 1955: Hubbard sends to his publisher a booklet to be printed «on a hurry-emergency basis»
- *Brain-Washing: A Synthesis of the Russian Textbook on Psychopolitics* is released shortly thereafter



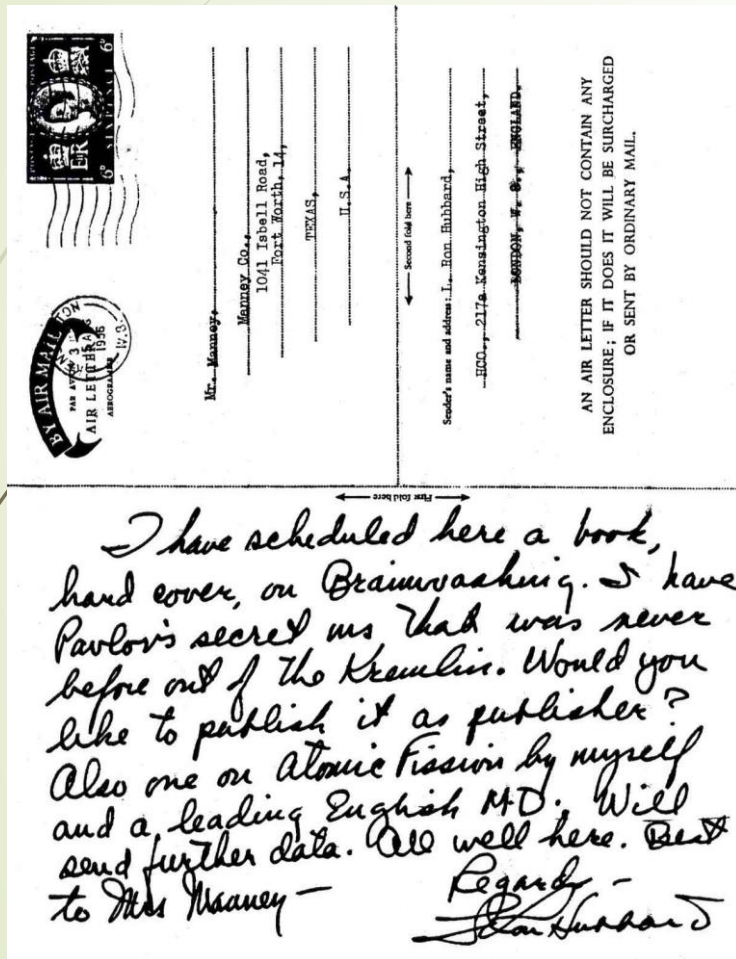
Official Reactions

➤ FBI

The authenticity of this booklet seems to be of a doubtful nature since it lacks documentation of source material and communist words and phrases. Also, there are no quotations from well-known communist works as normally would be used in a synthesis of communist writings. In addition, the author himself admits that he cannot vouch for the authenticity of this booklet.

- National Security Council: «If the booklet is a fake, the author or authors know so much about brainwashing techniques that I would consider them experts, superior to any that I have met to date»
- Edward Hunter: «The book is a hoax, and what it has mostly achieved is to fool people who think they are getting my *Brain-washing in Red China* which was based on first hand sources, and put the word into the language»

1956: The Book is Withdrawn



- ▶ January 1956: Hubbard withdraws the booklet from circulation and asks that all copies should be returned to Scientology, following, or so he claims, «the friendly opinion of the government»
- ▶ August 15, 1956: Hubbard tells his publisher he is writing a new book on Russian brainwashing since he has «Pavlov's secret that was never before out of the Kremlin» – but it will never be published

A Speech by Beria?

- The *Manual* claims to be a synthesis of books that were in circulation in the Soviet Union, originating from Lavrentiy Pavlovich Beria (1899-1953), the chief of Russian's secret police NKVD until he was arrested and executed for treason in 1953
- The booklet opens with a speech Beria allegedly gave to the «American students at the Lenin University»



Joseph Stalin (left) pictured with Lavrenti Beria (right) in 1936

Pain-Drug Hypnosis as Brainwashing



- ▶ «It is in the interest of Psychopolitics that a population be told that a hypnotized person will not do anything against his actual will, will not commit immoral acts, and will not act so as to endanger himself. While this may be true of light, parlor hypnotism, it certainly is not true of commands implanted with the use of electric shock, drugs, or heavy punishment»

(Brain-Washing: A Synthesis of the Russian Textbook of Psychopolitics, 36)


Soviet Brainwashing in the West



- The *Manual*, published by Scientology when it was starting its international campaign against psychiatry, explains that Soviet agents have infiltrated the West, where brainwashing is disseminated through psychiatrists
- In the US, Soviet agents work against American individualism and single out certain religions, including «that terrible monster, the Roman Catholic Church», Christian Science and Scientology

Kenneth Goff


KENNETH GOFF SPEAKS
IN GREELEY TWO NIGHTS
Former head of the youth Communist League of America. Former friend of Earl Browder. He now exposes the whole filthy setup of Atheistic Communism.



Monday, Dec. 20
"A HOOPY TRAP FOR YOUTH"
Young people are urged to come.

Tuesday, Dec. 21
"WHEN GOD'S PEOPLE MADE AN ALLIANCE WITH THE DEVIL?"

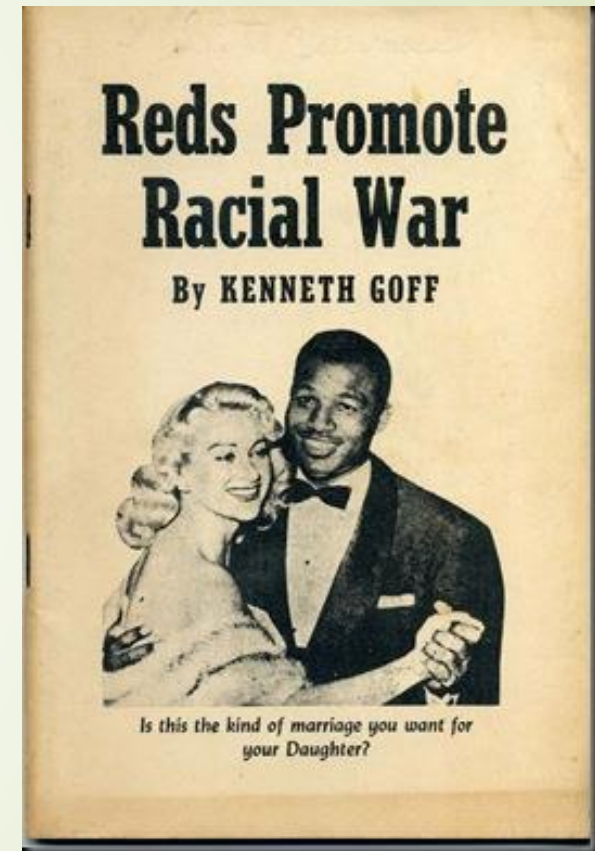
Juvenile Delinquency
Rev. Brown's Subject for 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY
9:45 a.m., Bible School, Feb. 12.
11:00, Subject, "THE LOST CHRISTMAS"
7:00, Young People.



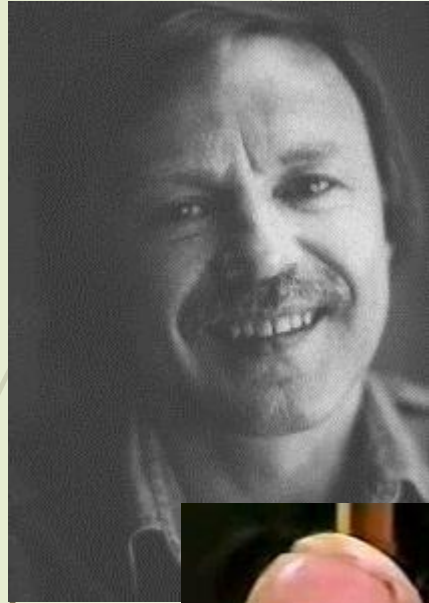
RADIO KFKA. 5:45 P.M. Mondays thru Fridays. 9:30 A.M. and 5:30 P.M. Sundays.

Fundamental Baptist Tabernacle
5th Ave. and 10th St. Rev. Dennis Brown, Pastor

- Kenneth Goff (1909-1972), a former Communist turned right-wing Christian activist, claimed to have compiled the *Manual* based on Communist internal documents
- Both Morris Kominsky (1901-1975), a left-wing opponent of Goff who published a detailed critic of the *Manual*, and Colonel Gordon «Jack» Mohr (1916-2003), Goff's friend and associate, claimed that Goff, rather than Hubbard, wrote the *Manual*
- Goff's earlier versions of the *Manual* were published without date, and there is no evidence that they pre-date the Scientology publication of 1955. Differences between the two versions are minimal



«Dad Wrote Every Word of It»



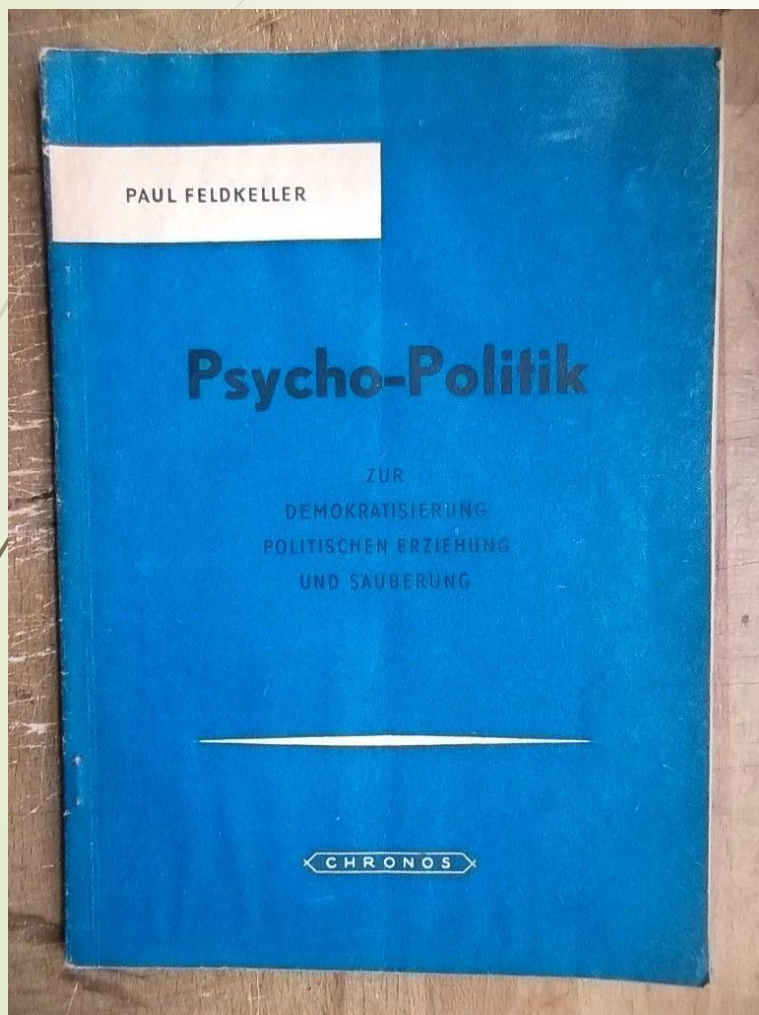
- ▶ For anti-cultists, it is quite obvious that the *Manual* is simply a figment of Hubbard's imagination
- ▶ Anti-cultist Bent Corydon (above) claimed in 1987 that Hubbard's son Ron DeWolf (1934-1991, below) stated that «Dad wrote every word of it». After Hubbard's assistant John Sanborn (1922-2011) had recommended to discredit psychiatry by connecting it to Communism and Soviet spy rings, «you could hear him [Hubbard] dictating the book», DeWolf claimed

Hubbard's Story

- ▶ «Fortuitously, in Phoenix [Hubbard's home, right] there came into our hands two manuscripts [...] they were left there at the front desk with the request that they be mailed back to their owner» (allegedly «Charles Stickle», «supposed to be a professor at Columbia University in New York City»), and «we are not sure exactly from whom these came» (Hubbard, *Operational Bulletin* no. 9, 1955)
- ▶ There are other, slightly different versions, but this is Hubbard's story. No professor Charles Stickle has been traced, in New York or elsewhere



Paul Feldkeller?



- ▶ «Some of the mystery concerning the manuscript on brainwashing which came into our hands in Phoenix was resolved when it was discovered that a book called *Psychopolitics* (spelled with a K) is in the Library of Congress. It is in German. It was written by a man named Paul Fadkeller, and was published in Berlin in 1947. Although I may be misinformed and I definitely do not read German, this book [the *Manual*] is probably the Russian translation»
- ▶ Hubbard mentioned again «Fadkellen» (i.e. German philosopher Paul Fedkeller, 1889-1972) both in public and in private correspondence. Fedkeller's book, however, shares with the *Brain-Washing Manual* only the word «psycho-politik» in the title – and the meaning it's not even the same

Why Does It Matter?

- ▶ Scientology critics such as Stephen Kent (right) and the authors of the Australian Anderson Report (1965) claim that the *Brain-Washing* booklet is important because it was later used as a manual in order to practice brainwashing within the Church of Scientology
- ▶ They claim that Hubbard admitted this in a Technical Bulletin dated 22 July 1956, where he wrote that «we can brainwash faster than the Russian (20 secs to total amnesia against three years to slightly confused loyalty)»

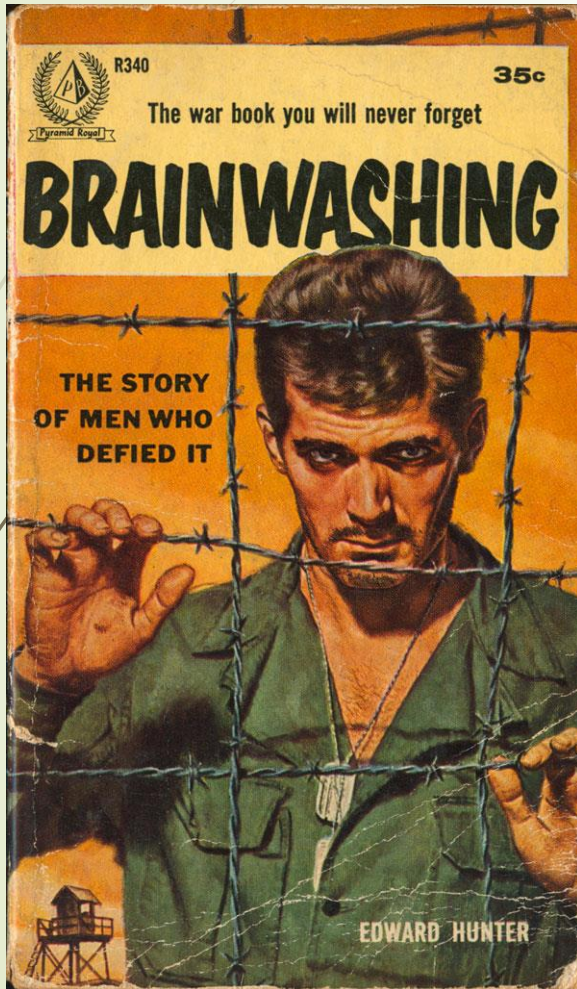


A Misunderstanding



- ▶ In fact, Hubbard's works *denounce* brainwashing as something that epitomizes everything that Scientology finds reprehensible in modern psychiatry and *should not* be practiced
- ▶ According to Hubbard, Scientologists «know more about psychiatry than psychiatrists» (Technical Bulletin, July 22, 1956) and «can» replicate their evil techniques, including brainwashing, but should not do it, otherwise their «moral sense» would be as low as the psychiatrists'

«Brainwashing Does Not Do a Job»



- ▶ A second reason for Scientology not to practice brainwashing: it doesn't work
- ▶ «Brainwashing is not effective It does not do a job. It's a hoax. The communist can't brainwash anybody. It's one of these propaganda weapons. They say, "We have this terrific weapon called brainwashing". But there is practically not a person in this room that would be permanently harmed by brainwashing except as it related to being starved and kept under conditions of duress. In other words, if you put a guy into a military stockade and fed him poorly for two or three years he's going to be in secondhand condition, isn't he? Well, that's just exactly the effect brainwashing had on them. It had no more effect than this»

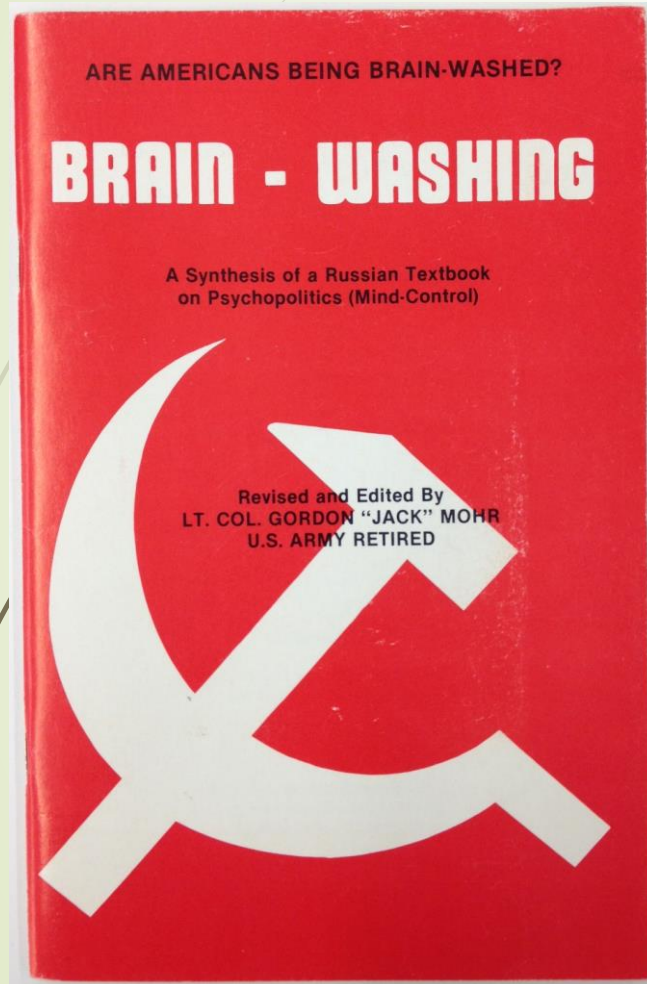
Hubbard at the Games Lectures, Washington D.C., 1956

Hubbard: Two Meanings of Brainwashing

- First meaning: techniques that resort to the use of drugs and physical violence in combination with hypnosis: «pain-drug hypnosis». This «brainwashing» does exist, but may only reduce a victim to an empty shell rather than changing the person's worldview
- Second meaning: religious indoctrination processes using powerful mind control techniques. This «brainwashing» for Hubbard does not exist, it is simply a false argument used by critics in order to discredit Scientology and other religions



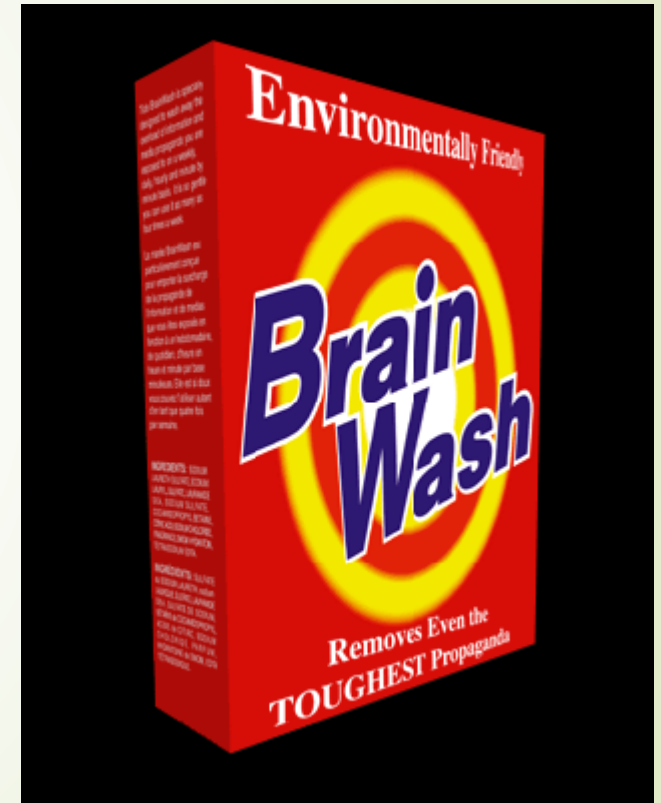
So, Who Authored the *Manual*?



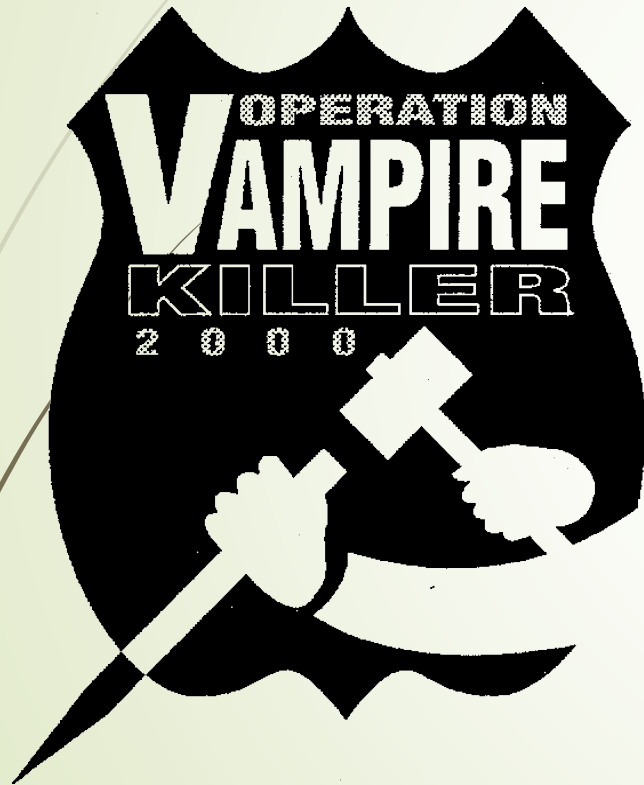
- ▶ Both Hubbard and Goff stated that they wrote or dictated the text, but they claimed to work on the basis of Communist sources available to them
- ▶ The *Manual* may be a figment of Hubbard's imagination. But
 - the style is somewhat different from all known Hubbard writings
 - why did he insist for years that Feldkeller's book (easily available and written in German, not exactly an exotic language) was the source?
 - Goff's friends, including Mohr, insisted that Goff compiled it: there is no evidence of this, but Goff was describing Soviet «conditioning» in similar terms before 1955

An Alternative Scenario

- An alternative scenario is that a governmental agency (other than the FBI, possibly the CIA) prepared one or more manuscripts derived from a number of sources: Soviet and American Communist tracts, textbooks on psychopolitics in general, Hunter's writings. The agency then forwarded the manual, more or less anonymously, to the Church of Scientology, and possibly to Goff's group and others



An Enduring Legacy



- ▶ Whoever originated it, the *Manual* campaign was successful. The booklet was reprinted in dozens of editions by right-wing organizations and kept in print to this very day
- ▶ Even too successful. After the end of the Cold War, right-wing extremists claimed that the U.S. Government, rather than the Soviets, was now brainwashing its citizens in order to enforce the sinister New World Order
- ▶ This was claimed by *Operation Vampire Killer 2000*, a booklet by Jack McLamb which reprinted portions of the *Manual* and inspired the terrorist of the Oklahoma City bombing of 1995 Timothy McVeigh (1968-2001). And there is now an *Operation Vampire Killer 2012*. The story never ends...