

SCIENTOLOGY

The dramatic rise of the organization

Here are the key dates in the history of the Church of Scientology.

1911
L. Ron Hubbard born in Tilden, Neb.

1938-49
Hubbard earns a living as a science fiction writer.

1941-45
Hubbard enlists in U.S. Navy, commands patrol craft at Boston Navy Yard and other U.S. ports.

1948
Hubbard tells friends that starting a religion would be a good way to make money.

1950
"Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental Health" is a best-selling book, selling 150,000 copies.



1952
Hubbard creates Dianetics Centers in Boston and a half-dozen other U.S. cities.

1953
Hubbard, right, creates the Church of Scientology, in New Jersey.

1900

1910

1920

1930

1940

1950



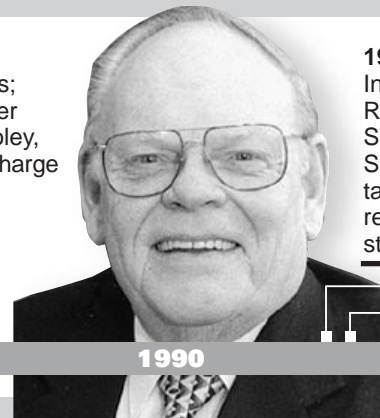
1963
Food and Drug Administration raids Scientology Church in Washington, D.C., seizes "E-Meters."

1965-68
Australia, Rhodesia and Britain ban Scientology as a destructive cult.

1977
FBI raids Scientology headquarters. Hubbard's third wife, Mary Sue Hubbard, and 10 others are later imprisoned for spying on the U.S. government.

1980s
Scientology pays an estimated \$5 million to settle 20 fraud lawsuits by former members, many of them represented by Boston lawyer Michael Flynn.

1986
Hubbard dies; Boston lawyer Earle C. Cooley, right, takes charge at deathbed, oversees Hubbard's cremation.



1993
Internal Revenue Service gives Scientology tax-exempt religious status.

1993-96
Using literacy lessons, Scientology targets minority families in Boston and across U.S.

1960

1970

1980

1990

2000