

March 25, 2010

Dear Mr. Cooper,

I've just found out that you are planning a show about Scientology, specifically about Management at the International Base and the Chairman of the Board, David Miscavige. I'm writing to you because I am an ex-Sea Org member from the Int Base and wanted to impart my experiences, showing it is a fact your sources are liars and that from the tone of your advertisements, you are not producing a fair and balanced account.

First of all, I'll give you a bit of my own background. I've been a Scientologist all my life and I find it has helped me on a daily basis, not only in my interpersonal relationships, but as a spiritual being. The writings and processes developed by L. Ron Hubbard have been invaluable to me and to so many people I know. I meet many people on a day-to-day basis who could benefit from the courses and processes in Scientology. I view the Church as a selfless and humane organization attempting to help others by making LRH's technology available.

I joined the Sea Org in 1994. I held positions at Bridge Publications, in the Commodore's Messenger Organization and in Religious Technology Center.

I was in the Sea Org for many years and then left several years ago... I was in the thick of it, and I know what was going on.

I understand that some ex-base staff have been making claims that they were handled with violence and oppression. I just want to say upfront, this is an outright lie. It would be laughable if it weren't so malicious. I view these claims as an obvious attempt to deflect responsibility by those who were blatantly guilty of their own vicious methods of control. I have found that people who cannot bear the burden of their own crimes often try to make themselves feel better by accusing others of what they are themselves guilty of. In my opinion and experience on the Int Base, this situation is a very true representation of that phenomenon.

During my time at the Int Base, the atmosphere was generally professional, friendly and productive. The staff were in general interested in their work, in their studies and in their companionship with other staff. Yes, there were times when deadlines were tight and stress was high. Believe me, when you're working long hours for a cause you deeply believe in, it's no small thing when someone you sit next to is making things go wrong. You don't hesitate to mention it and try to get the person to get the job done right.

In my experience, Mr. Miscavige's presence on the base was an inspiration for us. He has an astute grasp of L. Ron Hubbard's Policy and Technology, and he would not back down from making sure that they were applied correctly. It was not uncommon to

receive instructions from Mr. Miscavige to refer to LRH's Policy and then apply that Policy to our posts. In fact, this was, in my recollection, his most common form of correcting situations that went wrong. I do recall instances when certain staff would continually mess up on the job, despite these corrections, and when it was a matter pertaining to correct application of LRH's technology, Mr. Miscavige would sometimes personally meet with the people involved. I was present for many of these meetings. During these meetings Mr. Miscavige would try to get an understanding of what the staff member was confused about, and would attempt to ascertain what policy the person was not following. This would commonly result in another study order for those involved. There were times when Mr. Miscavige's frustration was evident, though I never saw him act unprofessionally.

I understand Tom DeVocht is claiming he was mistreated. The most interesting thing about this is that while I was at the Int Base, Tom DeVocht was repeatedly reprimanded for wasting vast amounts of parishioner's donations through mismanagement of the building projects he was in charge of, as well as outright lies to hide his negligence. As you can imagine, many of the base staff were fed up with his unwillingness to change his out-ethics behavior. We were all there to help forward LRH's technology, and here was someone who was continually and knowingly setting us back. I'm sure the peer pressure for Tom was high, and so I can imagine how he came to delude himself into believing it to be a terrible place. Well, if Tom DeVocht wants to continue to be a liar even now, that's his business, but to lend credence to the story of this disgruntled ex-base staff member is probably not wise, especially considering he was a known liar and incompetent staff member.

I've also noticed Marty Rathbun is making these claims about the base and about Mr. Miscavige. This is the most dishonest thing I could imagine Marty saying. Mainly because, the few times I witnessed physical intimidation at the base were each at the hands of Marty Rathbun. In one instance Marty grabbed another staff member by the shirt collar and shoved him against a wall. In another instance, during an ethics interview of a Gold staff member, Marty pushed the man's head back with his finger and poked his chest numerous times during the interview.

Marty was removed from his position due, in part, to being involved in similar fear-mongering behavior. It sounds to me like Marty is just trying to discredit Mr. Miscavige and justify his own actions at the same time.

It goes without saying that you needn't take my word for all this. I'm sure you could ask to go and see the Int Base yourself, and I'm sure you could interview the people there going about their business. I think that would be the equivalent of the "horse's mouth". To do anything less than that, considering the subject of the show you are doing, would result in a serious injustice to Mr Miscavige, hundreds of people who work very hard and are very proud of what they do and finally the Scientology religion.

Sincerely,  
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