

Gen. Duane L. Faw, USMC(Ret.)
23301 Bocana St.
Malibu CA 90265

August 2, 1991

William G. Watson
Moody Press
% MLM,
Chicago IL 60610

Dear Mr. Watson,

Mr. Julio Edwards forwarded to me excerpts from your book A Concise Dictionary of Cults and Religions. I am rather embarrassed for you because the information under the headings Urantia Book, Urantia Brotherhood and Urantia Foundation are so erroneous that they reflect adversely upon all other entries in the book. I presume the book was written for scholarly information about the cults and religions extant at this time. If so, and if these entries are any example, it is a sad failure. If it was written for propaganda purposes (which now appears to be the case) it is badly misnamed.

You are correct in listing The Urantia Book as a sacred book. Many, including me, who look to it for spiritual guidance and inspiration --as well as to The Bible. I found Jesus and accepted Him as my personal Savior through conventional Christianity--based upon Bible teachings. Although sure of my salvation, I was uncomfortable with the rationales that various Christian churches gave to support it. The Urantia Book made my Bible come alive! The Bible--properly read--contains far more "truth" than I ever suspected. There is a book, the PARAMONY, which parallels and harmon(y)izes the two books which is very useful when comparing their teachings. In my view, The Urantia Book presents a far more plausible cosmology to the modern mind than does The Bible, including a far more lovable God (the Father) and a far more merciful Jesus (the Son).

Your listing of the two organizations as either cults or religions is a little premature. Their goal is to "foster a religion" in the generic sense built upon the teachings of Jesus of Nazareth. So far we have been rather ineffective as the Foundation has only five members and the Fellowship (successor to the Brotherhood) has slightly over 1,000, many of whom (such as myself) are active in various organized religions, including Christianity.

I look forward to a day when I can point with pride to an accurate description in your book of The Urantia Book as a sacred book and many cults or religions--by many names--organized around the teachings of Jesus which it contains. Until then I shall continue to hold your book in the low scholastic esteem it deserves.

Sincerely,

Duane L. Faw, JD