

File - Weiss

URANTIA BROTHERHOOD

INTRA-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

FROM **John W. Hales**
TO **Trustees and Trustees Emeritus
of URANTIA Foundation**

DATE **October 9, 1974**
SUBJECT **October 8, 1974 Visit of group
from Montreal, Canada**

**Present: Raoul Ireland, Michael Doyon, Alonzo Gaudreau, Samuel
Guilhot, Gisele Prefontaine, and Mark Kulieke and John Hales.**

The above group showed up at 533 about 2:30 p.m. Mark and I listened to their story until almost 5:00 p.m. Their request was to offer their efforts to settle the Weiss affair.

Raoul Ireland

A bearded man in his late twenties or early thirties. He was definitely the leader of this group. Thinks URANTIA is a good book, but also seems to bring in many "truths" of his own experience. Claims he has no other interest than to bring unity and harmony between Chicago and France. He makes it sound like God has given him this task. He carries a large ledger which he records in like a diary. He read us some inspired thoughts. During his opening remarks he stopped, saying he could not continue because of a buzzing in his head. He would give the impression that unseen friends were talking to him or there were "bad vibes" in the air.

He never has had money, but when needed, it has been given. Therefore, he flew to Paris, supposedly without invitation and offered his services to Weiss. He told Weiss he would have to come clean and do as Chicago wishes. Weiss agreed. As a gesture of good intent, he asked Weiss to pay half of his airfare--Weiss gave him 500 francs.

Raoul complained that the current situation was creating great conflict among French peoples, those loyal to Chicago and those loyal to Weiss. All they hear is Weiss' side of it. It is time Chicago goes to France and tells its side. The conflict should not exist. There must be harmony and peace. This is as God would wish it.

The solution. We all sit down together, Weiss and his followers, Canadians, and Chicago people. A public debate. Weiss would agree to everything, and if he went back on his word, he would be ruined in the eyes of his followers. He would lose everything.

A court hearing would draw disastrous publicity--like placing the Bible on trial.

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Michael Doyon

Young man in his twenties. Did not say anything during the discussion.

Gisele Prefontaine

Woman in her thirties. She did not add to the discussion, but as English was spoken, she interpreted to Samuel Guilhot, Weiss' personal spiritual minister of the past 25 years.

Alonzo Gaudreau

A Canadian priest with degrees in Psychology and Theology. An older man in his fifties. He appeared to have come with a little different agenda than Raoul's. He was rational, rather than mystical, but if talking out of turn, Raoul would take over and politely but firmly direct the discussion.

Gaudreau has a letter from Weiss in which he concedes everything to URANTIA Foundation, BUT Weiss wants to print enough copies of French books so that there is an even printing of all three volumes. Then he feels his work on this world is finished. Gaudrea will translate a letter tonight to give to URANTIA Foundation Trustees.

Gaudreau feels that translation errors are due to lack of knowledge on Weiss' part of Psychology and Theology.

Samuel Guilhot

Weiss' personal pastor of 25 years. Describes himself as "Bible Pentacostal". He gave a history of his various activities--Missionary in Africa, translator of the Bible into an African dialect, and pastor of a church in or near Paris.

He claims he did not know of Weiss-Chicago difficulty until court injunction was put into effect, then Weiss told him. He feels that this act of URANTIA Foundation has made a drastic change in Weiss. He is a broken man willing to concede all to URANTIA Foundation. His family says they will be scandalized and ruined if it goes to court. He has a broken leg and endures much suffering.

Guilhot feels that Weiss over the years has isolated himself and suffered the consequences, development of an oversized ego that lost touch with reality, that is, he sought no man's counsel but his own. Aside from the title of French translation, Guilhot did not feel there were that many errors--the spiritual message shines through. It takes a Frenchman to do translating--Guilhot knows the French mind. They are not ready for The URANTIA Book. As it was with the Bible, it will take constant re-translating to keep pace with development of French thinking. He erroneously compared The URANTIA Book to the Bible.

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Samuel Guilhot - (Cont'd.)

His concern now is that there are no more French books, and people are spiritually hungry for this truth. Chicago should not deny the people this revelation. He knows the French people. They will take it underground if this business is not soon resolved.

Americans owe much to the French. It was in France where the priesthood denied the public to read the Bible. This led to a great emigration to America where there was freedom to read. America is powerful, but what God has given, he also can take away. Since the injunction against the French URANTIA Book, there has been the energy crisis. The French book which costs \$25 for three volumes will now cost \$60--a week's wages.

Guilhot felt it was God's hand that made it possible to fly to Chicago.

Mark and I mostly listened. Mark made the point that it was in the lawyers' hands and no longer a Trustee decision. I questioned why they did not call to let us know of their coming. Raoul said Gaudreau was told not to come by Tom Kendall. Gaudreau corrected him by saying that Tom had indicated that several Trustees would be on vacation at this time. Gaudreau would be willing to meet with any of the Trustees.

Raoul said no. It would be best to meet with them all. He is a shrewd tactician. He will confront the Trustees to put them on the defensive for seemingly being unmoveable in their position with Weiss. I feel Raoul wants nothing less than a mass meeting over which I am sure he will want to preside as peace-maker. He would then come away as the new leader of French Urantians, having demonstrated to the multitude the pettiness of both Weiss and the URANTIA Foundation Trustees.

Near the end of their presentation, another motive came through. If the court procedure continues, the Book in French will be under lock and key. The whole translation might be lost. By settling out of court, my assumption is that this group will offer to make the necessary corrections, a new printing could be soon started.

The question was never answered why Weiss could not convey to his attorney a desire to settle out of court. I would then assume this maneuver of bringing a letter from him to the Trustees is once again a dodge to get permission to do one more bit of business. If this group is sincere in their effort, Weiss certainly misuses his friends. It seems to be just another chapter in his independent course of action.

John W. Hales
Resident Director

JWH:kfm