

LIFE LINE - HUNT (360)

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DALLAS, TEX., MARCH 29 (AP)-TEXAS OIL MILLIONAIRE H.L. HUNT SAID TODAY "THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WILL OBJECT" TO AN INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE RULING REVOKING HIS LIFE LINE FOUNDATION'S TAX-EXEMPT STATUS.

"I DON'T THINK THE IRS WILL KEEP THE RULING IN EFFECT," HUNT SAID IN AN INTERVIEW. "THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WILL OBJECT TO IT."

THE CONSERVATIVE FOUNDATION PRODUCES A 15-MINUTE RADIO PROGRAM SEVEN DAYS A WEEK BROADCAST BY 384 STATIONS IN MANY STATES.

REP. WRIGHT PATMAN D-TEX., URGED THE IRS TO REVOKE THE FOUNDATION'S TAX EXEMPTION BECAUSE THE PROGRAM "PROPAGANDAIZES ON SUCH ISSUES AS RACIAL INTEGRATION AND INCOME TAXES."

HUNT SAID LIFE LINE "IS AND ALWAYS HAS BEEN A PUBLIC AFFAIRS, RELIGIOUS, EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM. I DO NOT BELIEVE IT HAS EVER SAID ANYTHING AGAINST INTEGRATION OR INCOME TAXES."

THE OIL TYCOON, WHOSE WEALTH HAS BEEN ESTIMATED AS HIGH AS \$2 (B) BILLION, SAID THE FOUNDATION MIGHT PROTEST THE RULING TO THE IRS BUT THAT NO SPECIFIC PLANS HAD YET BEEN MADE.

HUNT SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THAT IRS REGULATIONS DEFINE A TAX-EXEMPT, EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION AS ONE THAT PROVIDES INSTRUCTION TO THE PUBLIC ON SUBJECTS USEFUL TO THE INDIVIDUAL AND BENEFICIAL TO THE COMMUNITY.

"WE THINK IT'S USEFUL AND BENEFICIAL TO TELL THE AMERICAN PEOPLE THAT THEY ARE LOSING THEIR LIBERTIES TO SOCIALISM AND COMMUNISM," HUNT SAID.

EA132DN

HE SAID THE LIFE LINE BROADCASTS BEGAN ON 35 STATIONS NOV. 10, 1958.

"IT'S BEEN HIGHLY PROFITABLE FOR ADVERTISERS," HE SAID, ADDING THAT THE PROGRAM NOW HAS OVER 200 SPONSORS.

THE WASHINGTON STAR REPORTED SUNDAY THAT THE IRS HAD REVOKED THE FOUNDATION'S TAX-EXEMPT STATUS. HUNT CONFIRMED THE ACTION TODAY.

HE SAID THE LIFE LINE BROADCASTS WOULD CONTINUE REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE REVOCATION STANDS OR IS REVERSED.

THE WHITE-HAIRED MILLIONAIRE SAID THE FOUNDATION WAS ESTABLISHED TO ALERT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TO IMMINENT DANGER.

"WE'RE IN DANGER OF LOSING OUR FREEDOMS. COMMUNISM IS MAKING SUCH

REMARKABLE GAINS--THEY DOMINATE ANOTHER 100 MILLION PEOPLE EVERY YEAR-- THAT IT'S TIME FOR THE PEOPLE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT," HUNT SAID.

CRITICS OF LIFE LINE HAVE CHARGED THAT THE PROGRAM IS EXTREME RIGHT-WING, AND AGAINST NEGROES, JEWS, LABOR UNIONS AND THE UNITED NATIONS.

HUNT SAID IT WAS ESSENTIALLY PRO-FREEDOM AND AGAINST COMMUNISM.

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DALLAS--FIRST ADD LIFE-LINE--HUNT (A131DN) X X COMMUNISM.

IN WASHINGTON, THE IRS SAID THE LIFE LINE FOUNDATION RECEIVED A RULING AS A TAX EXEMPT EDUCATIONAL ORGANIZATION ON JULY 30, 1952, UNDER ITS ORIGINAL NAME, FACTS FORUM.

THE IRS SAID IN SUPPORT OF ITS APPLICATION, THE ORGANIZATION SAID ITS PURPOSE WAS "TO SUPPORT AN EDUCATIONAL UNDERTAKING" AND, MORE SPECIFICALLY, TO CONDUCT "SMALL DISCUSSION GROUPS DEVOTED TO THE STUDY AND CONSIDERATION OF THE ART OF LIVING, SOCIAL ADVANCEMENT, THE SCIENCE OF GOVERNMENT AND AGRICULTURE."

THE IRS SAID THE ORGANIZATION CHANGED ITS NAME TO LIFE LINE FOUNDATION IN 1958 AND MOVED FROM DALLAS TO WASHINGTON.

"ITS PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY IS THE PRODUCTION OF A DAILY RADIO PROGRAM, DEVOTED TO POLITICAL COMMENTARY," THE IRS SAID IN A STATEMENT. "THIS IS A SUBSTANTIAL CHANGE OF ACTIVITY FROM THOSE ON WHICH THE RULING WAS BASED."

THE STATEMENT SAID IRS NOTIFIED THE FOUNDATION IN SEPTEMBER, 1962, IT PROPOSED TO WITHDRAW ITS RULING OF TAX EXEMPTION.

THE EXEMPTION WAS WITHDRAWN, THE IRS SAID, "AFTER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION OF ALL THE EVIDENCE, INCLUDING BRIEFS FILED ON BEHALF OF LIFE LINE."

"IT IS THE REVENUE SERVICE'S VIEW," THE STATEMENT SAID, "THAT ASIDE FROM OCCASIONAL INDIVIDUAL BROADCASTS WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN EDUCATIONAL, THE CONTENT OF LIFE LINE'S BROADCASTS, TAKEN AS A WHOLE, IS ESSENTIALLY POLITICAL. . . ."

THE IRS SAID THE FOUNDATION STILL HAD OPEN CERTAIN AVENUES OF APPEAL BEFORE THE WITHDRAWAL OF EXEMPTION IS FINAL.

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