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MINUTES OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF PRISONS

ECCLESIASTICAL REPRESENTATIVES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
(now called the RELIGIOUS ISSUES COMMITTEE or RIC)

2006



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Prisons

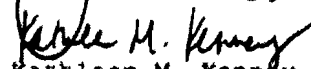
Washington, DC 20534

June 22, 2006

MEMORANDUM TO JOSEPH SCIBANA, WARDEN, FCI EL RENO □

FROM:


John M. Vanyur, Assistant Director
Correctional Programs Division


Kathleen M. Kenney
Assistant Director/General Counsel

SUBJECT:

Religious Issues Committee Request:
Satanism

We have reviewed the request from FCI El Reno concerning the request of an inmate that Satanism be allowed time and space in the chapel, as well as personal and congregate religious property.

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This memorandum is to be used solely as advice for the Chief Executive Officer in rendering a decision regarding religious accommodation. The inmate will be notified that any decision made by the Chief Executive Officer may be appealed through the Administrative Remedy process.

cc: Regional Director, SCRO



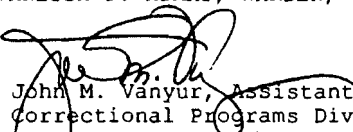

U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Prisons

Washington, DC 20534
June 22, 2006

MEMORANDUM TO VANESSA P. ADAMS, WARDEN, FCI PETERSBURG

FROM:


John M. Vanyur, Assistant Director
Correctional Programs Division

Kathleen M. Kenney
Assistant Director/General Counsel

SUBJECT:

Religious Issues Committee Request:
Nations of Gods and Earths

We have reviewed the request from FCI Petersburg concerning the request of an inmate that the Nations of Gods and Earth be allowed time and space in the chapel, as well as personal and congregate religious property.

The Religious Issues Committee (RIC) finds the religious beliefs and practices expressed in the supporting documentation are similar to those found in the Nation of Islam umbrella group. Religious traditions within this umbrella group share a common heritage with Wallace D. Fard or later known as Wallace Fard

(b) (5)

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This memorandum is to be used solely as advice for the Chief Executive Officer in rendering a decision regarding religious accommodation. The inmate will be notified that any decision made by the Chief Executive Officer may be appealed through the Administrative Remedy process.

cc: Regional Director, MXRO

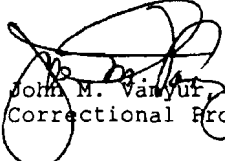


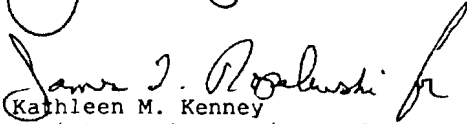
U.S. Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Prisons

Washington, DC 20534

February 10, 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

FROM:  John M. Vanoy, Assistant Director
Correctional Programs Division


Kathleen M. Kenney
Assistant Director/General Counsel

SUBJECT: Complete Summary of Religious Issues Committee
Recommendations: 1994 - 2005

The Religious Issues Committee (RIC) reviews requests of a religious programming nature from institutions and makes recommendations to the wardens for implementation. Attached is a complete summary of all RIC recommendations made to the Chief Executive Officers since the RIC began receiving requests in 1994. A cumulative summary of all RIC recommendations is provided annually. Please keep this on file for reference during 2006. The RIC recommendations are listed in alphabetical order.

GROUP	INSTITUTION	DATE
AFRICAN HEBREW ISRAELITES OF JERUSALEM	FCC Coleman (Low)	February 22, 2001
BLACK HEBREW ISRAELITES	FCI Estill	June 25, 1999
Request: Inmates at FCI Estill and FCC Coleman (Low) requested to meet and practice their beliefs as Black Hebrew Israelites and African Hebrew Israelites of Jerusalem, respectively.		

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ALMIGHTY YAHWEH KINGDOM OF DIVINE LOVE FAMILY MINISTRY
FCI Manchester December 12, 1996
Request: Inmates at FCI Manchester requested that the Almighty Yahweh Kingdom of Family Love be authorized to meet as a religious group.

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AMERICAN HUMANIST ASSOCIATION FCI Jesup January 14, 1997
Request: Inmates at FCI Jesup requested to establish a chapter of the American Humanist Association as a religious group.

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ASATRU/ODINISM

FCI Florence
FCI Texarkana
USP Florence

August 15, 1994
December 27, 1995
May 1, 1995

USP Terre Haute January 8, 1996
FMC Rochester September 16, 1996

Request #1: This group has requested to meet and practice their beliefs with specific accouterments. At Terre Haute, the group requested to meet in an outdoor location.

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FCI Florence January 13, 1998

Request #2: An inmate requested approval to wear throughout the institution an **Odinist headband (hlath)** adorned with rune characters, or a plain headband if runes could not be displayed.

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FCI Allenwood (Medium) March 23, 1998
USP Marion November 23, 1999
FMC Fort Worth September 21, 2001
FCI Texarkana September 17, 2001

Request #3: Clarification was sought by several institutions on which items were appropriate for inmates to possess as **personal religious property** and which items were **appropriate accouterments to be kept in the Chapel for services**. A list of requested items was included by each institution. Inmates at FCI Texarkana requested a separate outside worship area for use by Asatru participants only.

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AUSAR AUSET SOCIETY **FCI Schuylkill** **October 7, 1998**
Request: Approval was requested for the Ausar Auset Society to
meet as a religious group.

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AUSAR **FCI McKean** **April 24, 2000**
Request #1: Inmates at FCI McKean requested time and space for
practitioners of the Ausar tradition.

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allows the individual practitioner accessibility to religious literature as guided by Program Statement 5266.10, Incoming Publications, and the ability to meet one's personal ritual and devotional needs within the confines of their assigned living area.

FCI Cumberland February 28, 1996

Request #2: The group is requesting religious literature, recognition of "holy days," religious accouterments, wearing apparel and visits. There is no request for meeting time and space.

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USP Beaumont December 2, 1999

Request #3: Inmates at USP Beaumont requested that the Christian/Israelite Identity be permitted to meet and function as a religious group.

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CHURCH OF MARIJUANA FCI La Tuna May 3, 1996
Request from the above group to meet has not been granted because the function of the group was determined to be in violation of Bureau policy and/or a threat to the security interests and the safe and orderly running of the institution.

NOTE: The Federal District Court for the District of Wyoming found that the Church of Marijuana did not constitute a religion for purposes of RFRA.

CHURCH OF SCIENTOLOGY **FCI Jesup** **February 14, 2001**
Request: Inmates at FCI Jesup requested that the Church of
Scientology be permitted to **meet and practice** their religion.

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CHURCH UNIVERSAL AND TRIUMPHANT **FCI Cumberland** **January 14, 1997**
Request: Inmates have requested to **meet as a separate religious**
group.

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COMMON FARE ISSUES **Central Office** **October 31, 1997**
Request: Religious Services and Food Services Branches requested
a **review of the common fare menu** and the perceived need for
increased hot foods and a greater variety of food on the menu.

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ECKANKAR **USP Terre Haute** **August 19, 2003**
Request: An inmate from USP Terre Haute requested that Eckankar

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Request #2: FCI Texarkana and the SCR has requested a review of the accommodation of the House of Yahweh, and more specifically, the faith tenet of **religious headwear (kippah/yarmulke)**.

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I AM **FPC Nellis** **June 4, 1996**
Request: The group requested to meet as a **religious group** and be provided **dietary needs, ceremonial observances and worship/study opportunities**.

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ISLAMIC OUTREACH FUND **USP Florence** **March 4, 2005**
Request: Inmates requested **group time and space for religious programming** in the chapel.

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MELANIC ISLAMIC PALACE OF THE RISING SUN

FCI McKean

January 26, 1995

Request: The group requested to meet as a religious group.

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MESSIANIC ISRAEL

FCC Coleman LOW

July 25, 2003

Request: Inmates at FCC Coleman Low requested that Messianic Israel be allowed separate worship, religious programs and be permitted to observe the Jewish holy days.

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MESSIANIC JUDAISM

FCI Big Spring

November 21, 2001

Request: Inmates at FCI Big Spring requested separate time and space in the Chapel for the Messianic Jews to worship and study. They also asked permission to observe the Jewish holy days.

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METAPHYSICAL SPIRITUALISM **FPC Alderson** **September 5, 1996**
Request: Inmates at FPC Alderson requested that Metaphysical Spiritualism be **permitted to meet**.

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NATSARIM **FCI TEXARKANA** **December 20, 2004**
Request: An inmate requested the accommodation of **separate worship and study time** for the practice of Natsarim in the religious program schedule.

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ODUM **FCI Ashland** **February 2, 1995**
There was a request regarding an inmate **wearing an earring for religious purposes** in the institution. This request was denied for security and health reasons.

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN **FMC Carswell** **May 18, 1996**
Request #1: Based on their religious beliefs, the group requested **specific days of work proscription**.

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FCI La Tuna

September 5, 1996

Request #2: Inmates at FCI La Tuna requested they be permitted to meet separately as Orthodox Christians, observe Mondays as the Sabbath and hold a Christian Passover.

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PAGANISM

FCI Cumberland

June 23, 1997

Request #1: Inmates belonging to the Pagan religious tradition requested to meet for worship and study.

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FMC Rochester

May 8, 2003

Request #2: An inmate requests Paganism be allowed time and space in the chapel, as well as personal and congregate religious property.

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PALO MONTE MAYUBA

FCI Miami

January 13, 1998

Request: An inmate requested the establishment of a separate

African Caribbean religion which is similar in theology and practice to Santeria, and other Yoruba religious groups.

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RASTAFARIAN **FCI Ashland** **December 20, 2004**
Request: An inmate requested an Ital Diet be made available to inmates of the Rastafarian religious faith.

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RASTAFARI BOBO **FCI Jesup** **March 17, 2003**
Request: An inmate requested that Rastafari Bobo (Shanti) Ashanti Order of Melchizedek be allowed to meet and function as a separate religious group.

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SANTERIA **FCI Miami** **August 28, 1995**
Request #1: The group is requesting weekly services, holy day observance and certain specific materials to facilitate their religious beliefs and practices.

religious beliefs and practices.

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FCI Allenwood (Medium) March 23, 1998

Request #2: Inmates at FCI Allenwood requested approval of **specific religious practices and items** for ritual and personal use by members of the Yoruba/Santeria faith group.

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SATANISM

**FCI Florence
LSCI Allenwood**

**November 20, 2002
August 8, 2003**

Request: Inmates from the above institutions have requested **weekly meeting time and space** in the Chapel as well as **personal and congregate religious property** to practice Satanism.

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SHEE'AH ITHNA ASHARA MUSLIM COMMUNITY

FCC Beaumont (Medium) February 22, 2001

Request: Inmates requested **separate worship and religious study time** and requested Ashara to be a day of work proscription.

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SHETAUT NETER

USP Atlanta

June 15, 2004

Request: Inmates requested **separate time and space** in the chapel for worship and study, as well as the accommodation of personal and congregate religious property.

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THELEMA/ORDO TEMPLI ORIENTIS FCI Sandstone February 22, 2001

Request: An inmate at FCI Sandstone requested that Thelema or the Ordo Templi Orientis (OTO) be permitted to **meet for worship and religious study**.

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USP Atwater

September 2, 2003

Request #2: An inmate at USP Atwater requested that Thelema be allowed time and space for purposes of religious study.

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TRADITIONAL ESOTERIC VEGETARIANIST CHURCH

FCI Cumberland

January 14, 1997

Request: An inmate has requested time and space for the Traditional Esoteric Vegetarianist Church to meet in the chapel. In addition to meeting for worship, the inmate requested candles and incense for prayers at night and listed 38 holidays. The inmate adheres to a strict vegetarianist diet and requests organic foods.

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UNIVERSAL FAITHIST

FCI Big Spring

December 20, 2004

Request: An inmate requested separate worship and study time be scheduled for the Universal Faithists religion.

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YAHWEH BEN YAHWEH **FCI Tallahassee** **February 9, 1995**
Request from the group to **meet** has not been granted because of the group's association with the violation of Federal law resulting in incarceration.

YAHWEH'S NEW COVENANT ASSEMBLY FMC Fort Worth **November 21, 2001**
Request: Inmate participants of Yahweh's New Covenant Assembly requested to meet in the Chapel for **worship and religious study**. In addition, participants requested to celebrate several **religious holy days**.

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