

THIS FILE IS MADE AVAILABLE THROUGH THE DECLASSIFICATION EFFORTS AND RESEARCH OF:

THE BLACK VAULT

THE BLACK VAULT IS THE LARGEST ONLINE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT / GOVERNMENT RECORD CLEARING HOUSE IN THE WORLD. THE RESEARCH EFFORTS HERE ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DECLASSIFICATION OF THOUSANDS OF DOCUMENTS THROUGHOUT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, AND ALL CAN BE DOWNLOADED BY VISITING:

[HTTP://WWW.BLACKVAULT.COM](http://www.blackvault.com)

YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO FORWARD THIS DOCUMENT TO YOUR FRIENDS, BUT PLEASE KEEP THIS IDENTIFYING IMAGE AT THE TOP OF THE .PDF SO OTHERS CAN DOWNLOAD MORE!

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS SECTION
COVER SHEET

SUBJECT: EXTRASENSORY PERCEPTION

SUBJECT: Extrasensory Perception

CROSS REFERENCE(S)

FILE DESCRIPTION
BUREAU FILE

SUBJECT

ESP

FILE NO.

63-4036

SECTION NO.

1

SERIALS

1

10

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : A. H. Belmont *ab 7/17*

DATE: July 16, 1957

FROM : W. A. Branigan

Tic: Mr. Belmont
Mr. Branigan
Mr. DeLoach

Tolson _____
Nichols _____
Boardman _____
Belmont _____
Mason _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Nease _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

SUBJECT: EXTRA SENSORY PERCEPTION

b7c
[REDACTED] attended a private exhibition of extra sensory perception given by Mr. William Foos at American Legion headquarters in Washington, D. C. This exhibition was informal and attended by twenty individuals, principally officials of the Veterans Administration. *b7c*

Mr. Foos, resident of Richmond, Va., is a high school graduate employed in a minor capacity with the C. and O. Railway. About two years ago he became interested in extra sensory perception (a term probably technically inaccurate) and began experimenting with members of his family. He claims to have achieved amazing success and in recent weeks has received a considerable amount of publicity in the Richmond area. [REDACTED]

he is holding a number of exhibitions locally in an apparent attempt to create interest in his ability to teach the blind to see. He has appeared at Duke University where experiments have long been conducted on the power of extra sensory perception, and various government agencies (including the Veterans Administration) are very much interested. *b7c*

Very simply, Foos claims the ability to teach the blind to see; in six months to teach a person without eyes to see sufficiently well to drive an automobile safely. He disclaims any supernatural power and, not being a scientist or physician, has no technical or scientific explanation. He merely states that a person can do what he makes up his mind to do. He claims to have taught not only members of his family but approximately 25 other individuals as well, including persons completely blind, to see with 100% efficiency.

To illustrate his ability, his daughter, Margaret Foos (about 16 - 17 years of age) was blindfolded by the observers with pads and an elastic band, thereafter reading, distinguishing color and moving about the room with complete ease. She could read

Enclosure *b7c*

(7)

SE 47

RECORDED - 96
INDEXED - 96
EX-110

63-4036-1

14 JUL 23 1957

67 AUG 5 - 1957

11-4-51

S.P.

b7c

EX-110

Ps. file

Belmont from Branigan
Re: EXTRA SENSORY PERCEPTION

minute handwriting submitted by those in attendance, accurately trace the written material and in all ways function without error as with complete vision. In answer to a question [REDACTED] as to whether distance was a factor, Foos stated that during one recent public exhibit Margaret had distinguished colored balloons at a distance of 400 feet. In answer to another question as to whether motion would complicate the problem, Margaret played the childhood game of jacks using a small (1½" diameter) rubber ball, deftly retrieving it regardless of angle of bounce. b7c

Mr. Foos was questioned as to his ability to teach a person to read an article covered by a pad or to see through a wall. He at that time avoided a direct answer, stating that because of the defense aspects of such a possibility he was not at liberty to discuss it. Later, however, in private conversation, he claimed that he had taught one of his students to accurately read an article completely obscured by heavy cardboard and that teaching the ability to see beyond a solid masonry wall was merely a matter of degree. He would pursue this matter no further.

[REDACTED] inquired of Foos as to his general method of teaching - whether individual tutoring was essential. He stated that he had taught a group with equal facility. He further stated that he had found it much easier and had had greater success in teaching the physically blind rather than those with ordinary vision. b7c

OBSERVATIONS.

[REDACTED]

Should his claims be well-founded, there is no limit b7c to the value which could accrue to the FBI - complete and undetectable access to mail, the diplomatic pouch; visual access to buildings - the possibilities are unlimited insofar as law enforcement and counterintelligence are concerned.

As fantastic as this may appear, the actuality of extra sensory perception has long been recognized - though not to the degree of perfection claimed by Mr. Foos. It is difficult to see how the Bureau can afford to not inquire into this matter more

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: August 13, 1957

FROM : SAC, RICHMOND (62-1269)

SUBJECT: EXTRA SENSORY PERCEPTION
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Re Bulet July 22, 1957.

[REDACTED]

b7c b7d

The records in the library of the Richmond Times-Dispatch and the Richmond News-Leader, newspapers of Richmond, Virginia, were checked on August 9, 1957, by SA [REDACTED] which reflected an article by K. LEWIS WARREN, date lined June 17, (1957), which related that MARGARET FOOS, a sixteen year old high school girl, had demonstrated with her father, WILLIAM FOOS, of Ellerson, Virginia, methods by which WILLIAM FOOS hoped to teach the blind to read. Cotton pads had been placed over the eyes of MARGARET FOOS, secured by a black elastic blindfold, and in that condition she had, found and read passage from a magazine furnished by a reporter and had read samples of handwriting as well as verses from the Bible by request from the audience.

The article further stated that WILLIAM FOOS did not claim to be a psychologist or to have had even elementary knowledge of the subject; however, he claimed to have read everything possible on the subject of Extra Sensory Perception since starting his experiments some two years previous.

- ② - Bureau
1 - Charlotte
1 - Richmond (62-1269)

RECORDED-11

INDEXED-11

REC'D - FBI

12 AUG 14 1957

C.D. DeLoach
E. J. Sullivan

70 SEP 17 1957

REC. SEC.
FBI

RH 62-1269

The article further stated that FOOS was a foreman in the salvage warehouse of the C. & O. Railway on leave of absence, that he started experimenting with the children who visited his place in Hanover County, Virginia, to fish and ride his horses and later began working with friends. Further, that FOOS had recently been to Duke University where he had demonstrated for two days before Dr. JOSEPH B. RHINE, an eminent authority on the subject and other members of the Parapsychology Department of the University.

The article then states that FOOS impressed the viewers as being thoroughly sincere and stated that his main interest in his project is to help the blind; however, he refused to divulge his methods of teaching, but believed he can teach other instructors in the field.

The article further set out that FOOS hoped to obtain a charter for Extra Sensory Perception Research, Inc., and listed the backers and members of the organization as HENRY CARAVATI, Richmond Public Relations Man, WILLIAM CANTOR, an auctioneer, and ROBERT CANTOR, a lawyer. Further, if the charter was granted, FOOS planned to recruit blind youngsters who would be willing to cooperate in the experiment.

The library contained another newspaper article, dated June 22, (1957), to the effect that ESP (Extra Sensory Perception) Research, Inc., received a charter yesterday from the State Corporation Commission and will undertake clinical training for the blind. The officers and staff of the organization were set forth as follows:

WILLIAM A. FOOS, President and Director of Research
HENRY L. CARAVATI, Vice-President
ROBERT A. LLOYD, Vice-President
SAM LOMBARDO, Vice-President
ROBERT CANTOR, Secretary
WILLIAM CANTOR, Treasurer
MARGARET FOOS, Research Assistant

RH 62-1269

The article further set forth that the staff was to leave Monday to conduct a series of demonstrations in Washington and New York and that a clinic would be opened when the staff returned.

[REDACTED] b7c

[REDACTED] b7c

One copy of this communication is being furnished for the information of the Charlotte Office should the Bureau care

[REDACTED] b7c

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : A. H. Belmont *AB*

DATE: August 9, 1957

FROM : W. A. Branigan *WAB*Tic: Belmont
BraniganSUBJECT: EXTRA SENSORY PERCEPTION
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Tolson	_____
Nichols	_____
Boardman	_____
Belmont	_____
Mason	_____
Mohr	_____
Parsons	_____
Rosen	_____
Tamm	_____
Nease	_____
Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holloman	_____
Gandy	_____

[REDACTED]

b7c b7d

[REDACTED]

*b7c b7d**See 62-60521-44745*

[REDACTED]

b7c b7d

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

D.C.

[REDACTED]

*b7c b7d**63-4036-5**ENCLOSURE*
*1-6**63-4036*
Enclosure

INDEXED - 36

[REDACTED]

b7c b7d

AUG 15 1957

*b7c b7d**File 63*

Memo Branigan to Belmont

Re: EXTRA SENSORY PERCEPTION

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that this memorandum and attachments thereto be filed for possible future reference.

b2/b7c

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

3

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7c b7d with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

- ☐ For your information: _____

- ☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
63-4036 - enclosure to serial 5.

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. A. H. BELMONT

DATE: September 6, 1957

FROM : MR. R. R. ROACH

SUBJECT: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
EXTRA SENSORY PERCEPTION DEMONSTRATION
BY MR. WILLIAM FOOS
AUGUST 8, 1957

Tolson _____
 Nichols _____
 Boardman _____
 Belmont _____
 Mohr _____
 Parsons _____
 Rosen _____
 Tamm _____
 Trotter _____
 Nease _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holloman _____
 Gandy _____

According to information furnished to the Bureau, William Foos of Richmond, Virginia, allegedly gave a demonstration in extra sensory perception to representatives of military intelligence and Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) sometime during August, 1957. Pursuant to the request of Supervisor [REDACTED] inquiry concerning this was made by SA [REDACTED] Liaison Section, at the Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence (ACSI), Department of the Army. *DECLASSIFIED BY SP-11 [REDACTED]*

ON 2-16-88 per [REDACTED] Army Letter dated 2-9-82
 Lieutenant Colonel John Downie, Special Operations Branch, ACSI, advised [REDACTED] that a representative from his office and a representative from the Army Intelligence Center at Fort Holabird, Maryland, had attended a demonstration given by Foos held on August 8, 1957, at the Marriot Motor Hotel, U. S. Highway #1, Arlington, Virginia. Attached hereto is a copy of a memorandum submitted by George C. Blackwell, the representative from Colonel Downie's office attending this demonstration. As far as Colonel Downie knew, there was no representative from CIA at this demonstration; however, it was his understanding that on August 8, 1957, another demonstration was given by Foos to individuals unknown to Colonel Downie, not representing the Department of the Army however. *b7c*

2 Colonel Downie stated that Lieutenant Colonel Leroy C. Hill, the representative from the Army Intelligence Center, is making an evaluation of the demonstration; however, to date he has reached no conclusion. According to Colonel Downie, when Colonel Hill completes his evaluation he, Downie, will so advise the Bureau. Colonel Downie further advised that his office has made inquiry from others who have attended different demonstrations put on by Foos with the following results: Inquiry was made of representatives from the President's Committee on Employment of the Physically Handicapped who attended one of Foos' demonstrations. It was determined that Major General Melvin J. Maas, U. S. Marine Corps (retired), Chairman of this Committee, was of the opinion that the claims by Foos that he could teach blind persons to perceive has not been proven by his demonstration and until such time as Foos has taught persons known to be blind to perceive objects, the President's Committee will not sponsor, recommend, or associate itself with Foos.

Enclosures

RECORDED - 33

INDEXED - 33

1 - Mr. Belmont

1 - Liaison Section

21 SEP 11 1957

64

63-4036

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Memo Roach to Belmont

RE: EXTRA SENSORY PERCEPTION
DEMONSTRATION BY MR. WILLIAM FOOS
AUGUST 8, 1957

According to representatives of the Blind Veterans Association, who had attended one of Foos' demonstrations, the demonstrations did not reveal any extra sensory perceptive powers of Foos or any of his associates. That Association does not contemplate any action toward sponsoring Foos or his teachings.

Inquiry by Colonel Downie's office at the Veterans Administration reflects that the Veterans Administration, since Foos would not submit to scientific testings and since portions of the demonstration conducted with blindfolds furnished by the Veterans Administration were 100 per cent unsuccessful, concluded that the claims of Foos were without basis. The Veterans Administration contemplated no further action. Colonel Downie stated that the information from the Blind Veterans Association and from the Veterans Administration was obtained on a very confidential basis. He, therefore, requested that the Bureau not disseminate this information outside of the Bureau. Attached hereto also is a copy of a memorandum furnished by Colonel Downie relative to Dr. Henry K. Puharich, Round Table Foundation, Glen Cove, Maine. While Dr. Puharich's work is not exactly in the field of extra sensory perception, Colonel Downie stated that the Army is interested in determining the possibilities of his techniques.

ACTION:

For information.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

SUBJECT: Extra Sensory Perception Demonstration

1. At 1400 hours, 8 August 1957, S/A [REDACTED] accompanied Lt Colonel Hill to the Marriot Motor Hotel, U. S. Highway #1, Arlington, Virginia, to witness a demonstration of Extra Sensory Perception. The demonstration was given in Suite 5008 (rooms 5005, 5006, 5007, and 5008) and was conducted by Mr. William Foos of Richmond, Virginia. b7c
2. Mr. Foos explained that, in February 1957, he inadvertently discovered a method of teaching others to see through barriers and distinguish objects beyond these barriers. He explained that his hope and intentions were to use this discovery in teaching the blind to see through Extra Sensory Perception, and that in teaching his daughter, Margaret, how to perceive objects etc., beyond physical barriers, he realized that this knowledge and ability had serious and dangerous implications as well as practical value in Military and/or Diplomatic operations. For this reason, he explained, he had limited the perceptory range of his pupils.
3. Mr. Foos had Margaret seated at a card table and requested an observer to blindfold her. Two coats (cotton pads) were placed over her eyes and held in place with a dark elastic band that fastened behind the head. So blindfolded, Margaret demonstrated ability to read, distinguish colors, locate verses in the Bible, and trace handwriting. All objects read, traced or identified were placed on the table. Margaret was not successful in identifying or reading a Trip Ticket held approximately 16" above the table.
4. A young man, approximate age: 17, demonstrated his ability to identify ESP and playing cards before S/A [REDACTED] and one other unidentified observer. The demonstration was held in the same manner — i.e., identical blindfold and cards placed on the table. This young man was approximately 50% successful in identifying ESP cards placed face up on the table, which he was allowed to feel and flex with his hands. His success in naming cards held up before him and facing away from him even without the blindfold was very limited. b7c
5. S/A [REDACTED] is not qualified to judge on the ESP ability of any person in the demonstration. However, [REDACTED] feels that all demonstrations were merely tricks and can be explained logically by qualified performers in this field. b7c
6. Persons present in the demonstration were as follows:
Mr. William Foos, Richmond, Virginia, alleged or self-styled discoverer of method of teaching ESP.
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-1 [REDACTED] b7c
ON 2-16-83
per Army letter 2-9-83

63-4036-6

MEMO DATED 9-6-57
[REDACTED]
b7c

SUBJECT: Extra Sensory Perception Demonstration

Margaret Poos, daughter and pupil of Mr. Poos, age 16.
Boy-Unidentified age 17
Girl-Unidentified age 17

Demonstration was sponsored or arranged by Mr. Daniel Cox Fahey Jr.,
3805 Blackthorn, Chevy Chase, Md., Consultant, OSI and Vice President, Wash-
ington Industrial Research Consultants.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
b7c Special Operations Section

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

SUBJECT: PUMARICH, Henry K., Dr.
Round Table Foundation, Glen Cove, Maine

1. On 3 September 1957, Dr. H. E. Savely, Chief, Aerospace Medical Division, Air Force Office of Scientific Research, Tempo "T", 14th and Constitution Avenues N. W., Washington, D. C., was interviewed in his office concerning SUBJECT and stated in substance:

2. His only contact with PUMARICH was for about two days in August 1957 when he (Savely) and Mr. William J. Frye, Professor, Electrical Engineering, University of Illinois, visited SUBJECT in Glen Cove, Maine. SUBJECT owns a 20 room mansion on a 60 acre estate at Glen Cove, Maine, where experiments in mental telepathy and mystic phenomena are performed. This work and experimentation is carried on under the organization named the "Round Table Foundation" which is a non-profit and State of Maine licensed organization with the following officers:

President: Walter C. Paine

Vice-President: Dr. Henry K. PUMARICH

Secretary-Treasurer: Joyce Borden Balokovic

Former Secretary-Treasurer: Alice Bouvarie - deceased

3. SUBJECT directs from one to fourteen employees consisting of Peter Hurkos who was born in the Netherlands; Morey Bernstein who wrote "The Return of Bridle Murphy"; and others who act as domestic help.

4. Dr. Savely was told by SUBJECT that the Round Table Foundation operates on contributions which average from 24 to \$60,000 per year. Two of the contributors and Backers are Representative Bolton of Ohio and Mr. W. H. Balk, department store owner from North Carolina.

5. SUBJECT uses various electronic equipment and drugs in his experiments and appears to be dedicated to the study of the science of transmitting messages from one person to another through mental telepathy.

6. Mr. PUMARICH graduated from Northwestern University in 1948 and served his internship at Permanente Hospital somewhere in California. SUBJECT served in the Army Medical Corps in 1951-1953 at the Army Chemical Center, Edgewood, Maryland.

7. Mr. Savely feels that SUBJECT'S work is worthwhile and that PUMARICH could do some good in this field. Source knows nothing of a derogatory nature or anything concerning SUBJECT'S political feelings or affiliations.

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-7 [REDACTED]
ON 2-16-82

per Army letter 2-9-82

b2/b7c

Special Operations Section

63-4036-6

UNABLE TO DETERMINE IF THIS
DOCUMENT IS BEING USED FOR
DOWNLOADING PURPOSES.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. TOLSON

DATE: September 6, 1957

FROM : L. B. NICHOLS

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: EXTRASENSORY PERCEPTION
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Tolson _____
 Nichols _____
 Boardman _____
 Belmont _____
 Mohr _____
 Parsons _____
 Rosen _____
 Tamm _____
 Trotter _____
 Nease _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holloman _____
 Gandy _____

William A. Foos, Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad employee, Richmond, Virginia, claims to have special ability in the field of extrasensory perception. His demonstrations have been witnessed by two Special Agents of this Bureau in privacy at American Legion headquarters, Washington, D. C. Foos has a 15-year-old daughter who, although blindfolded, can presumably read anything placed before her. She plays cards, checkers, accurately describes unknown individuals, and does many other things to exhibit the power of extrasensory perception as taught by her father. The Richmond Office has conducted a discreet background check on Foos and has found that Foos is regarded as a well-respected person. Foos is currently attempting to establish a clinic for the blind in Richmond, Virginia.

Other demonstrations put on by Foos, reportedly before the Intelligence Division of the Army and the Central Intelligence Agency, have reflected that a 16-year-old boy has been trained to look through walls and read newspapers. This youngster also can reportedly read documents which have been enclosed in a briefcase.

August, 1957. [REDACTED] accompany him to witness a demonstration by Foos and his daughter at the Marriott Motel in Washington, D. C.

[REDACTED] also accompanied [REDACTED] arranged the blindfold on the young Foos girl and participated in the demonstration. The youngster put on a rather amazing performance of reading while blindfolded, as indicated previously in this memorandum. [REDACTED] although suspecting that some trick was being perpetrated, admittedly stated that the young girl was unable to see. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] also attended the demonstration and was unable to offer an explanation for the girl's ability to see while blindfolded.

cc-Mr. Belmont
 Mr. Roach
 Mr. Jones

RECORDED - 33

SE-32 SEP 13 1957

INDEXED - 33

63-4036

Memorandum Mr. Roach to Mr. Belmont
RE: EXTRASENSORY PERCEPTION
INFORMATION CONCERNING

With regard to the report that a boy trained by Foos read material "through a brief case," [redacted] stated that this was strictly a rumor which has been circulating around the Government and as far as he has been able to establish, there is no basis whatsoever indicating that such an act took place. Foos has made the claim that this could be done. He has also stated that a person can read beyond a wall. Foos qualifies these statements with the declaration that in order to do this, additional training is required. *b7c* *u*

[redacted] is quite certain that Foos has not come up with any capability which could be of assistance to U. S. intelligence. He stated that CIA, nevertheless, plans to follow any additional reports concerning Foos' work. He stated that he would keep the Liaison Agent advised regarding any significant developments. *u*

ACTION:

None. For your information.

b7c
b3, National Security Act
1947
CIA Act 1949

DO-7

FROM

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

TO

OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK MARK

Mr. Tolson _____ ()
Mr. Mohr _____ ()
Mr. Parsons _____ ()
Mr. Belmont _____ ()
Mr. Callahan _____ ()
Mr. DeLoach _____ ()
Mr. Malone _____ ()
Mr. McGuire _____ ()
Mr. Rosen _____ ()
Mr. Tamm _____ ()
Mr. Trotter _____ ()
Mr. W. C. Sullivan _____ ()
Mr. Ingram _____ ()
Miss Gandy _____ ()

See Me _____ ()
Note and Return _____ ()
Prepare Reply _____ ()
For Your Recommendation _____ ()
What are the facts? _____ ()
Remarks:

*Do there
anything
to this?*

X *DS*

11-5-81 *SP-1* *[REDACTED]* *b2/b7c*

REC-32

ENCLOSURE

63-4036- *9*

JUL 14 1960

ESE *400*

Memorandum

TO : D. J. Parsons

DATE: June 16, 1960

FROM : A. H. Belmont

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

1 - Parsons
1 - Belmont
1 - Branigan
1 - Laboratory
1 - Lee

SUBJECT: "SPYING BY MIND-READING!"
ARTICLE IN "NEW YORK JOURNAL AMERICAN"
JUNE 14, 1960
MISCELLANEOUS - ESPIONAGE - R 11-5-81 BY SK [REDACTED]

Moore
Parsons
Belmont
Callahan
DeLoach
Malone
McGuire
Rosen
Tamm
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

EXTRA SENSORY PERCEPTION

This memorandum is in response to the Director's inquiry concerning a newspaper column relating to the use of mental telepathy by the Army Intelligence Service.

The "New York Journal American" on 6-14-60 carried a column by Ruth Montgomery "Spying by Mind-Reading!" in which she stated the Army Intelligence Service was conducting research experiments in mental telepathy. She speculated that the ultimate achievement would be to develop a method whereby U. S. spies could "receive" thoughts of plotters in the Kremlin. The Director asked, "Is there anything to this?"

Declassified per Army letter 2-9-82

Lieutenant Colonel Lee Martin, Chief of Investigations, Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, U. S. Army, advised liaison agent [REDACTED] that the Army is conducting no such project as described in the article. He did state that the U. S. Air Force had a contract in 1958 and 1959 with the Bureau of Social Science Research, Washington, D. C. which did research in the many phases of mental problems raised by the Korean War, with particular emphasis on brainwashing. This research did incidentally include mental telepathy or extra sensory perception; however, the results were inconclusive. (u)

Our Laboratory experts advised that informed scientific opinion at the present time is that there is no basis in science for the validity of extra sensory perception as described in this article. It is true, of course, there are some areas and activities of the human mind which have not been explored or completely understood. In recent years serious scientific study has been undertaken by psychologists for the purpose of explaining these little-understood functions of the mind.

In 1957 one William Foos, Richmond, Virginia, claimed that he could teach blind persons to see through the use of extra sensory perception. He claimed he could teach people to read a paper which was

b2/b7c

Class. & Ext. By

Reason: E.O. 11. 1-2.4.2

REC-32

63-4036-9

JUL 14 1960

ENCLOSURE

White & Tamm

6-28-60

10

NOT CONTAINED
CLASSIFIED
EXEMPT

you on the TV ... the untouch-
bles."

convention

Capital Letter: *N.Y. J. Q. - 6.14.60*

Spying by Mind-Reading!

By RUTH MONTGOMERY

WASHINGTON: The Army Intelligence Service is beginning to delve into an unknown reach of the mind which — should it eventually prove successful — could make spying the least hazardous branch of defense.

A number of top intelligence agents are conducting research experiments in mental telepathy, a fascinating phase of extra sensory perception.

The project receives expert guidance within the department, but many of the officers have become so fascinated by the possibilities that they have formed groups, outside of office hours, to try reading each other's minds.

Some of the experiments to date have proved enormously successful, with the average of correct responses far surpassing that which could be achieved by hit-and-miss guessing.

The Intelligence Service hopes to develop enough "sensitive" agents, and to perfect their technique to such an extent that they could actually pick up thought waves emanating from the Cold War "enemy" camp.

The ultimate achievement would be to develop a method whereby American spies could actually "receive" the thoughts of Soviet plotters meeting in the inner reaches of the Kremlin.

The 20th Century has witnessed such fantastic advances in other realms of science that this project may not be as wild as it seems at first glance.

How many in the 19th Century believed that man could fly, not only above the clouds, but at a speed exceeding that of sound?



MONTGOMERY

Who at the turn of the century thought that by turning a dial in his living room, he could hear a symphony concert in New York, or a news commentator speaking from Tokyo?

Only 20 years ago, would you have believed it possible to sprawl on your own couch, while watching a ball game in St. Louis, or a political convention in Los Angeles? For that matter, did you think man could send a monkey into orbit around the earth or moon?

This age is surely the most fascinating that the world has ever known, but perhaps the most neglected phase of science is the probing of the subconscious mind, and the possibilities of thought transmission.

Military intelligence for some time has been delving into the possible utilization of hypnosis in spying. — This correspondent reported several years ago that intelligence agents were being sent on delicate missions; then brought back and queried in the normal manner about what they had observed.

Afterwards, they were hypnotized, and while in trance were again questioned about the layout of the room they had been assigned to visit. Under this condition they were able to supply every detail, even down to the number of slats in the venetian blinds.

The drive to develop other techniques for espionage has been heightened, since the U-2 incident.

Think what a joke it would be on Nikita if, as a result of his tantrums, America was spurred to develop a new and fool-proof technique for espionage. It would be pleasant to think that U. S. spies seated comfortably in Washington could pick up the dastardly plots that Communist big-wigs were hatching behind locked doors in the Kremlin.

At least we can dream, can't we?

(Herald Headline Service)

INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 11-5-81 BY SP-1984/gw

ENCLOSURE

63-4036-9

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Tamm

DATE: 6/28/60

FROM : B. J. White

SUBJECT: EXTRASENSORY PERCEPTION (ESP)

Tolson
Mohr
DeLoach
Callahan
Malone
McGuire
Rosen
Tamm
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Gandy

SYNOPSIS:

Director has commented about studies in extrasensory perception at Duke University. Experimental work in Parapsychology Laboratory there reported since 1934. Research has covered "supernormal faculties" not recognized by modern psychological and physiological methods. Various forms "supernormal cognition," telepathy, clairvoyance and precognition have been investigated using special ESP card decks. Experiments devised for purpose eliminating pure chance as causative factor of evidence supporting ESP. Scientists generally critical of evidence and methods. Belief in ESP has gained little acceptance among psychologists and fails test of common experience.

DETAILS:

The Director has noted, "I have been told that at Duke University some work is being done in the field of extrasensory perception," on a memorandum responding to his inquiry about the article "Spying by Mind Reading," THE NEW YORK JOURNAL AMERICAN, dated June 14, 1960.

Studies on extrasensory perception, often referred to as ESP, have been made at Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, since 1934. [redacted] of the Parapsychology Laboratory, this University, has reported considerable experimental work in the field of psychical research. His experiments give the impression of psychological sophistication but have received continuous and severe criticism in learned circles since publication. b7c

Psychical research in parapsychology encompasses the experimental study of "supernormal faculties," real or supposed of human personality, supernormal being an equivalent for "not recognized by general scientific opinion." The function of this research is to collect and weigh all available evidence for and against such faculties, either for acceptance by general scientific opinion, or rejection.

The theory supporting this investigation is completely opposed to results of research in experimental psychology which has not revealed other sensory mechanisms than those described in modern textbooks of psychology and physiology.

63-4036-10

63-4036 JUL 19 1960

REC-32

JUL 14 1960

JLG:nw

(7)

Memorandum to Mr. Tolson from L. B. Nichols
Re: Extrasensory Perception, Information Concerning

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Numerous questions were asked of Mr. Foos following the demonstration and [REDACTED] was most blunt in his questioning in attempts to find out if there were any "gimmicks" involved. Mr. Foos was quite evasive in his answers and refused to discuss his methods of instruction. He also refused to allow a demonstration of the young boy reading documents enclosed in a briefcase or reading through the walls of a room. He claimed, however, that this could be done and that he would be willing to have this act performed at a later date. Mr. Foos spoke continually of learning the principles of extrasensory perception through constant reading of the Bible. He claimed, however, to be an atheist in his beliefs. Mr. Foos has appeared before medical officials at Duke University, the Veterans Administration, Washington, D.C., various medical associations in New York City, and before various groups in Richmond, Virginia. He has never charged admission. He is, however, according to his own explanation, attempting to initiate interest so that funds will be subscribed for a clinic for the blind in Richmond, Virginia, which he hopes to head.

b7c

Mr. Foos, during the above-mentioned demonstration, requested that [REDACTED] sign a statement indicating that his daughter could not see during the demonstration. This invitation was refused for obvious reasons. Mr. Foos did not know at the time that [REDACTED] was employed by the FBI.

b7c

Foos may, of course, be attempting to commercialize on a "fake trick" he and his daughter and the young boy have perfected. On the other hand, there is a possibility that Foos does have extrasensory perception abilities. This, of course, is something we cannot afford to overlook in our work but we should not, however, under any circumstances allow Foos the privilege of indicating to outsiders the FBI is interested in his work. He should be given no opportunity to use the FBI in any manner which would further his own interests. It is believed advisable, however, to have checks made with CIA and the Intelligence Division of the Army to determine what reaction those agencies had after witnessing the demonstration as put on by Foos, his daughter, and the young boy traveling with them.

ACTION:

As indicated above, the Domestic Intelligence Division, Liaison Section, should attempt to obtain further information from the Army and CIA relative to this matter.

See memo
Rw-82-6-10-1
9-6-57
b2/b7c
-2-

b7c
b2
63 NSA
CIA
CIA
WHO IS FAMILIAR WITH THIS
MATTER IS OUT OF TOWN
UNTIL 9/12/57. LIAISON
WILL FOLLOW
9/11/57 -

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. A. H. Belmont

DATE: September 17, 1957

FROM : Mr. R. R. Roach

SUBJECT: EXTRASENSORY PERCEPTION
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Tolson	✓
Nichols	✓
Boardman	✓
Belmont	✓
Mason	✓
Mohr	✓
Parson	✓
Rosen	✓
Tamm	✓
Nease	✓
Winterrowd	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Holloman	✓
Gandy	✓

Reference is made to a memorandum Mr. Nichols to Mr. Tolson dated September 6, 1957, concerning William A. Foos who has claimed to have a special ability in the field of extrasensory perception. The Liaison Agent has been in contact with the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) for the purpose of obtaining that agency's comments or observations concerning demonstrations which Foos has given in the Washington, D. C., area.

On September 16, 1957, [redacted] of CIA advised Agent [redacted] that he had been designated by his agency to coordinate all information developed concerning Foos' demonstrations and to follow any reported developments of significance. [redacted] stated that as far as his agency is concerned Foos has not come up with any new or revolutionary development and his claims to certain performances in the field of extrasensory perception definitely have not been supported by fact or evidence. According to [redacted] Foos has used his daughter in demonstrating her ability to do a certain amount of reading while blindfolded. [redacted] stated that Foos has insisted on using a particular type of blindfold which raises a question regarding the possibility that Foos is using nothing more than a trick by cleverly permitting his daughter to see by "pinpoint vision." [redacted] is of the opinion that Foos is using a blindfold material which permits his daughter to have a considerable area of vision through a tiny aperture in the blindfold cloth. [redacted] stated that it was interesting to note that Foos has refused to permit anybody to place any kind of a shield between his daughter's eyes and the document being read. He further stated that the daughter is able to read to certain extent while the blindfold is on her eyes but when the same material is placed face down on the document, she is unable to read anything. (S) U

According to [redacted] he has conducted some research in this field and stated that with proper training a person can have a large field of vision looking through a small hole or even along the sides of a blindfold or disks which might be placed over the eyes. [redacted] also remarked that although Foos claims to have an ability of training others in the field of extrasensory perception, he himself is unable to do any of the things which his proteges can do. (S) U

- (7) [redacted]
- 1 - Mr. Nichols
 - 1 - Mr. Belmont
 - 1 - [redacted]
 - 1 - [redacted]
 - 1 - Liaison Section
 - 1 - Mr. [redacted]

RECORDED - 16

14 SEP 24 1957

64 SEP 26 1957

DL-137

CLASS. BY [redacted]

REASON [redacted]

DATE [redacted]

NOT CONTAINED
CLASSIFIED
SHOWN


11-5-81


Memorandum to Mr. Tamm
Re: EXTRASENSORY PERCEPTION
63-4036

two per cent responses expressing an opinion that ESP is an established fact, and seven per cent that it is a likely possibility. Ninety-one per cent answered that ESP is a remote possibility, impossible or an unknown. However, the most valid objection against belief in ESP powers is that common experience does not produce evidence for telepathy, clairvoyance and precognition. For example, stock investments should prove most profitable ventures for anyone gifted with these so-called powers.

ACTION:

None. For information only.

 4/50 b2/b7c

 
 b2/b7c



FILE DESCRIPTION

BUREAU FILE

SUBJECT ESP

FILE NO. 62-29734

SECTION NO. _____

SERIALS A

Memorandum Belmont to Parsons

Re: "SPYING BY MIND-READING!"

ARTICLE IN "NEW YORK JOURNAL AMERICAN"
JUNE 14, 1960

covered or to see through a wall. Recognizing the value of such activity to our counterespionage work, we thoroughly checked the claim and had to conclude that his alleged powers had no scientific basis. Other Government agencies such as Veterans Administration, Central Intelligence Agency and Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence also checked on Foss and were highly skeptical of his work.

ACTION:

For information.

 6/17 b2/b7c



 b2/b7c

I have been told
that at Duke Univ.
some work is being
done in the field
of extra sensory perception.

X

 b2/b7c

FILE DESCRIPTION

BUREAU FILE

SUBJECT ESP

FILE NO. 94-3-4

SECTION NO. 3

SERIALS 365

ONLY

190-19266-16

~~190-19266-1136~~

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 10-5-60

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: ~~STATEMENT BY DIRECTOR~~
~~CONCERNING USE OF EXTRASENSORY~~
~~PERCEPTION IN SOLVING CRIMINAL CASES~~

Tolson
 Mohr
 DeLoach
 Callahan
 DeLoach
 Malone
 McGuire
 Rosen
 Sullivan
 Tavel
 Trotter
 Tele. Room
 Ingram
 Gandy

By letter to Director 9-27-60, attached, Edwin D. Krell, midwest correspondent for Dell Publishing Company, advised he is planning to do an article concerning parapsychology in criminal investigation. He noted that much has appeared in newspapers on this topic in recent months, but in checking into the situation he found no evidence to support the contention that mediums have aided police in solving crimes. Krell feels the public is entitled to this information and requested a statement from the Director on this matter for use in the article.

Krell mentioned Gerard Croiset, a Dutch medium, who reportedly related what happened to Judge Joseph Crater, who vanished in New York in 1930. Krell also made reference to Peter Hurkos, also from Holland, who in June, 1960, made headlines while working on the Carroll Jackson family murder case. Krell noted that Hurkos' work led to the arrest of a suspect (John Atwell Tarmon) who was later released when the actual killer (Melvin Davis Rees, Jr.) was caught by the FBI.

In conducting research in this matter, Krell advised he contacted a Dr. F. Brink, Dutch police official and attorney, who sent Krell an article he had written in which he stated: "Neither in the Netherlands, nor in any other country, is it possible to obtain reliable information which would justify the conclusion that the judiciary authorities and the police derive any benefit from the intimations of clairvoyants." Dr. Brink also quoted a letter from Scotland Yard: "So far as the London Police are concerned, we completely ignore anything put forward by clairvoyants in the course of criminal investigation."

INFORMATION IN BUFILES

We have had cordial relations with Dell Publishing Company since the 1930's, and they have carried numerous favorable stories relating to the work of the FBI. Dell publishes well-known fashion, beauty, detective and juvenile magazine. We have enjoyed favorable relations with Krell and he has written some excellent articles about Bureau cases based upon material furnished to him. His articles appear in the Dell publications, "Inside Detective" and "Front Page Detective." (94-3-4-228)

Enclosure 2 sub 10-7-60

1 - Miss Gandy

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Tamm

1 - Mr. Rosen

17 OCT 14 1960

CRIME RESEARCH

Jones to DeLoach Memo
Re: Statement by Director Concerning
Extrasensory Perception

There is no information in Bufiles concerning Gerard Croiset, reportedly a Dutch medium. Bufiles reflect that in April, 1952, Captain Filippus Brink, an attorney and member of the de Bilt, Holland, police force, toured the Bureau in connection with a visit to the United States to study law enforcement methods in this country. There is no derogatory information in Bufiles concerning Brink.

Bufiles reflect that Peter Hurkos, whose true name is Peter Cornelius Van Der Hurk, was born 5-21-11, in Dordrecht, Netherlands. He is alleged to have extrasensory perception and it has been claimed in many news and magazine articles that he has assisted police departments in many countries in solving crimes as a result of his ability. Bufiles contain no information to substantiate any of the claims made by Hurkos concerning the solution of crimes.

On 5-25-60, Dr. Francis Regis Riesenman, psychiatrist on the staff at St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Washington, D. C., advised the Virginia State Police (VSP) that he planned to bring Hurkos to Virginia and Maryland to observe the sites where the bodies of the Jackson family were found. He requested that the VSP allow Hurkos the opportunity of examining the clothing and other physical evidence in the case. VSP felt they would be subjected to public criticism whether they agreed or declined to participate and finally decided to allow Hurkos to examine the material. The Director noted: "I am amazed that the VSP would participate in any such circus."

Riesenman and Hurkos contacted the VSP on 6-7-60, and spent about a week working on the Jackson case, as a result of which the Director commented: "We should be sure Hurkos isn't injected in any case in which we have jurisdiction. He is a complete fraud."

The 6-9-60, issue of "The Washington Daily News" carried an article entitled "Telepathist Says He Can 'See' Killer" which related that Hurkos stated he knew what the murderer looked like and hoped "soon" to turn over to police information that would solve the case. Mr. Tolson commented: "This screwball is connected with the great Interpol." The Director noted: "Just how silly can one get." (79-27510-2174)

The 6-14-60, issue of the "New York Journal American" had an article entitled "Spying by Mind-Reading?" which dealt with experiments by the Army Intelligence Service in mental telepathy and extrasensory perception. The Director inquired: "Is there anything to this?" Our Laboratory looked into the matter and determined there is no basis in science for the validity of extrasensory perception as described in the article.

Jones to DeLoach Memo

Re: Statement by Director Concerning
Extrasensory perception

The Director noted: "I have been told that at Duke University some work is being done in the field of extrasensory perception." The Laboratory determined that Duke has been conducting experiments involving extrasensory perception since 1934, and that their research covered "supernormal faculties" not recognized by modern psychological and physiological methods. Further, that scientists generally are critical of the evidence and methods, and the belief in extrasensory perception has gained little acceptance among psychologists, and fails the test of common experience. (63-4036-10)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the attached letter by the Director be sent to Krell, enclosing the Director's statement concerning extrasensory perception in the solution of criminal cases.

Cop Sees ESP on Way To All Police Departments

By WILLIAM McFADDEN

In the not too distant future, every police department in the land will have extra-sensory perception consultants, perhaps even extra-sensory perception bureaus, New York Police Lt. John J. Cronin said today.

A veteran of 38 years on the force, he plans to retire Christmas Day, his 64th birthday.

For 18 years—longer than any other man in the history of the department—he headed the Missing Persons Bureau.

"After I retire, I might write a book on ESP," he said. "It has provided much information on police cases that is accurate."

MISSING GIRL

One of the fantastic cases he had was that of a 10-year-old Baltimore girl who was missing last July.

A Baltimore police sergeant visited Mrs. Florence Sternfels of Edgewater, N. J., who calls herself a psychometrist. On her advice, when he got back to Baltimore he dug in a neighbor's cellar. The body of the girl was found two feet under the dirt floor.

Lt. Cronin also noted that Gerard Croset, the Dutch clairvoyant, is credited with finding 400 missing children.

"Right now, ESP is a bit and miss proposition. It's in an elementary stage, like stage. The stage electricity was in when Ben Franklin flew his kite," Lt. Cronin said.

METHOD OF FUTURE

"But it does exist. It is a kind of sixth sense that primitive man possessed but has been lost through the ages. It's not supernatural, mind you. And it will be the method of the future."



LT. J. J. CRONIN
ESP in Police Work?

Journal-American Photo by [unclear]

"Once it is gotten into scientific shape, it will help law enforcement agencies solve certain crimes that have been baffling them."

Lt. Cronin said he believes most persons run away because of money or love problems, with school problems the spur to child runaways.

RIVERFRONT SQUAD

After ending his career in Missing Persons Bureau in 1961, he worked in the riverfront squad and now is in the office of the Chief of Detectives.

He lives at 6330 Virco ave., Bronx, with his wife, Alice.

Stressing that ESP will grow in police use, he said:

"In Europe some of the ESP people have been qualified to give testimony in court. It will come here, too."

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
DeLoach _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Evans _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

JOHN J. CRONIN
B. APPROX 1900

62-29734A
NOT RECORDED
OCT 30 1964

The Washington Post and Times Herald _____
The Washington Daily News _____
The Evening Star _____
New York Herald Tribune _____
New York Journal-American _____
New York Mirror _____
New York Daily News _____
New York Post _____
The New York Times _____
The Worker _____
The New Leader _____
The Wall Street Journal _____
The National Observer _____
People's World _____
Date _____

Memorandum to Mr. Tamm
Re: EXTRASENSORY PERCEPTION
63-4036

The principal lines of investigation in parapsychology are directed for the most part in studying "supernormal cognition," that is knowledge shown by a "percipient" (receiver) of matter concerning which he has no natural means of knowing. These include such debatable phenomenon as: telepathy, supernormal knowledge derived from another's mind; clairvoyance, all manifestations of supernormal knowledge, not in the mind of another person, without the intermediary of sensory information; and, precognition, supernormal knowledge of future events that can neither be perceived sensorily, inferred rationally or brought about deliberately. Because these modes of perception arise spontaneously from life experiences of certain persons only, the elimination of fraud, collusion and other sources of error are uncontrolled and uncontrollable. The devising of objective experimental techniques to establish reality of these mental phenomena presents difficulties not met in accepted psychological research.

Laboratory experiments have been made as follows:

Clairvoyance Tests: A special ESP card deck of five cards each of five different symbols is used (cross, circle, star, wavy lines and a square). The probability for correct guesses of cards is five in twenty-five. If subject consistently averages above one in five, results are not explainable by mere chance.

(1) Open Matching Test: One ESP card of each symbol placed face up in a row. Complete ESP deck is shuffled. Before top card is dealt, subject decides which symbol matches symbol on top card of deck. Top card is then dealt and placed below guessed symbol, and so on through the deck.

(2) Blind Matching Test: Like above except five key cards are face down during test.

(3) Single Card Calling Test: Subject guesses symbol on top card of shuffled ESP pack, and so on through the deck.

(4) Pack Calling Test: Subject makes twenty-five consecutive calls, directed at a shuffled but unbroken ESP deck.

Success at these tests that is, consistent averages above one in five, allegedly demonstrates capacity of subject to have supernormal knowledge concerning the ESP symbols in a shuffled deck.

Memorandum to Mr. Tamm
Re: EXTRASENSORY PERCEPTION
63-4036

Telepathy Tests:

(1) Pure Telepathic Method: No cards used. Subject holds a random choice ESP symbol in mind. Recipient attempts to read sender's thoughts.

(2) General ESP Test: Sender shuffles and cuts ESP deck. Concentrates on face of successive cards while receiver attempts to read sender's mind, and so on through the deck.

(3) Distant Telepathy Test: Above tests conducted at distances of several rooms or miles.

Precognition Tests: Subject makes guesses with intention to have them correspond to order of ESP deck after it is shuffled by experiments. Also subject may decide beforehand which face of a die or combination of dice faces he desires to appear in successive casts.

The scientific criticism of ESP experiments emphasizes several factors which have led to considerable false evidence for extra chance scores using the above methods:

(1) Possibility of unconscious and other sensory cues.

(2) Choices made are dictated by mental habits of subjects and not by random chance.

(3) Errors due to suggestibility of experimenter in recording results of guesses.

(4) Criticism of statistical methods; although it is generally agreed that the statistical methods properly applied are valid.

COMMENT:

In general, belief in extrasensory perception has gained little acceptance by informed scientists. Thus, replies to questions sent to members of the American Psychological Association recorded only

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET**

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7C b2 with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☒ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

- ☐ For your information: _____

- ☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
63-4036 - attachment to serial 1

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

RECORDED - 96

SAC, Richmond (Orig & 1)

7-22-57

63-4036-1
Director, FBI

**EXTRA SENSORY PERCEPTION
INFORMATION CONCERNING**

On 7-15-57 a Mr. William Foss (ph.), resident of Richmond, Virginia, gave a private exhibition of extra sensory perception. Very briefly, it is his claim that he can teach the blind to see with 100 per cent efficiency; in six months to be able to teach a person without eyes to drive an automobile safely. He claims that distance and motion are no greater factors than in ordinary vision and hints of the possibility of seeing beyond a covering paper or solid wall. His daughter, Margaret, was blind-folded and assisted in the exhibition, reading written and printed material, tracing, catching a bouncing ball, and talking about with apparent ease.

William Foss is said to be a high school graduate employed in a minor capacity with the C. and O. Railway. It is reported that about two years ago he became interested in extra sensory perception and began experimenting with members of his family, achieving amazing success. In recent weeks he has been publicized in the Richmond area and is now apparently attempting to interest various government agencies in his claimed ability to teach the blind to see.

Although there is considerable skepticism concerning these claims and the Bureau has not been in a position to check as to their authenticity, many scientists have long recognized the general principles of extra sensory perception. Should the claims of William Foss be well-founded, the possibilities are unlimited insofar as law enforcement and counterintelligence are concerned. Consequently, the Richmond Office is requested to advise [redacted] of the Richmond Office or otherwise readily available. The likelihood [redacted] must be borne in mind and no action taken which might indicate Bureau interest or be interpreted as Bureau sponsorship in any promotional scheme.

cc - 2 - Mobile

FBI - MOBILE
REC'D 8/1/57

Memo prepared Belmont to Boardman 7-16-57 by [redacted] re same subj.

Tolson _____
Nichols _____
Boardman _____
Belmont _____
Mason _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Nease _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

1 AUG 1 1957 Room

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-4-81 BY SP-1

COMM - FBI
JUL 22 1957
MAILED 25

b2/b7c
b2/b7c
b2/b7c
b2/b7c

Let to SAC, Richmond
Re: Extra Sensory Perception

[REDACTED]

**Bureau indices contain no information
identifiable with William Foos.**

b7c

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, MOBILE (62-0)

SUBJECT: EXTRA SENSORY PERCEPTION
INFORMATION CONCERNING

DATE: 7/31/57

Re Bulet to Richmond 7/22/57 in captioned matter.

- [REDACTED]
- 2 - Bureau
 - 1 - Richmond (Info)
 - 1 - Mobile
- (4)

62/b7c
C.D. [REDACTED] (info)
b7c b2
RECORDED - 65
INDEXED - 65

63-4036-2

63-4036
THREE b7c b2

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : W. A. Branigan

DATE: August 9, 1957

FROM :

SUBJECT:

EXTRA SENSORY PERCEPTION
(WILLIAM FOOS)

Tolson _____
Nichols _____
Boardman _____
Belmont _____
Mason _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Nease _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that this memo be filed for possible future reference.

Ticklers: Mr. Branigan

RECORDED - 34

INDEXED - 34

6 AUG 16 1957

ESP 22C

FILED