



THE BLACK VAULT

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cost, and potential benefit to clandestine operations. The whole field includes medical, physiological and psychological aspects and while there has been much speculation on the subject very little of a positive nature is known about the extent to which human behavior can be predicted, directed and controlled. Chemical Division has launched a program having some specific goals in view and has now reached a point in progress where a review of the program should be made to determine if the effort should be continued and what course it should take.

b. Because of the scarcity of positive knowledge, much time and money is being spent on fairly basic research and extensive testing and experimentation. This type of activity cannot be measured in terms of concrete results nor can dollar values be applied. It requires an appraisal of the objectives of the program from the point of view of the operational benefits to be derived, weighed against the allocation of R&D manpower and funds.

c. In considering the objectives, it is helpful to examine the operational problems the program is designed to meet. One of the major problems is that of improved interrogation techniques. Many different methods are used to break down an individual's resistance to interrogation but there is always doubt about the accuracy and reliability of information obtained by the classical methods of pressure, duress or torture. The use of drugs or psychochemicals in this respect is not new. So-called "truth serums" have been used, sometimes successfully but more often not. The approach being taken by Chemical Division is to use psychochemicals to create within the individual a mental and emotional situation which will release him from the restraint of self-control and induce him to reveal information willingly under adroit manipulation.

d. Related to the improvement of offensive interrogation techniques is the development of defensive measures against opposition interrogations. Knowledge gained in the former will lead to countermeasures for the protection of Agency personnel and information concerning Agency activities. This is another objective of the program.

e. The potential use of psychochemicals in political action operations is well recognized, although it has not been explored as thoroughly as might be expected. Chemical Division includes it as an objective of its program to be prepared to support or make such operations possible. Non-chemical methods of accomplishing political action operations are also included in the program.

f. Lesser objectives but perhaps of equal importance are

and practical aid to case officers in handling agents. In total, the objectives are considered to be sound. Certainly, research leading to a better understanding of the workings of the human mind is an essential element of intelligence and anything that contributes to the prediction of human behavior or makes possible its direction or control is of inestimable value.

g. Some concrete results have been achieved. Six specific products have been developed and are available for operational use. Three of them, P₁, C₁, and C₉, are discrediting and disabling materials which can be administered unwittingly and permit the exercise of a measure of control over the actions of the subject. These have been used in six different operations on a total of 33 subjects. The other products are

K₂, a knockout material used to facilitate unconsciousness; K₃, an alcohol extender which produces a degree of inebriation out of proportion to the amount of alcohol consumed and; A₂, which is a stimulant similar to Benzedrine in its effect but without its undesirable after-effects.

A manual has been produced which analyzes methods used by Communist security forces in the arrest, interrogation and indoctrination of "enemies of the state." Two other manuals of lesser distinction have been published. One describes methods of administering drugs or chemical materials surreptitiously and misdirecting attention of a subject. The other is devoted to

and methods of influencing free choice. Other studies are still in process which, it is anticipated, will produce more profound knowledge on the subject of influencing human behavior.

At the present time, there are a substantial number of active projects concerned with substantive research in the behavioral field. Since many of them include other activities, it is not practical to try to segregate those contracts which have direct application or to apportion those with multiple objectives. The total extent of the effort, however, can be fairly accurately described.

- i. Extensive research is being conducted by two organizations in which the Agency has substantial interests. One is the [redacted] a research foundation with headquarters in Washington. It is supported in part by the Agency and is used principally as a funding mechanism to finance research projects. In addition to its use as a cover facility, it provides useful information in several areas of medical research and

permits the inclusion of areas of special interest in research sponsored by [redacted] The medical member of CD Staff is accredited to [redacted] The other organization is the [redacted]

[redacted] This is wholly supported by the Agency as a cover facility. The Society has two full-time employees and a high-level Board of Directors who ostensibly provide funds for research in the lesser known ecological aspects of humanity. As a cover facility, it is more effective and less costly than [redacted]

J. Substantive research in the behavioral field is being conducted under contract at several universities throughout the country. The University [redacted] is exploring the effects on human tissue of lysergic acid, the principal ingredient of P. [redacted] University is working on knockout materials while [redacted] University is searching for antidotes for similar materials. At [redacted] University, researchers are seeking an antagonist for ethyl alcohol to provide a defense against intoxication. At the University [redacted] one of the country's foremost authorities on hypnotism is examining the validity of the hypnotic state and measuring the effect of hypnosis on the human mind.

A project at [redacted] University is concerned with research in neurology to determine the effect of emotional stress and the resulting structural damage to the brain or other tissue of the human body.

k. A major problem in the behavioral program is that of arranging for and conducting the essential tests and experimentation which produce the basic data for the development of techniques and the application of the end product to operational use. This is a time-consuming and costly

process but one which must be accomplished carefully and thoroughly.

There are no short-cuts or substitutes which can be applied. Because of

the unconventional use of the materials involved, CD has had added

difficulty in obtaining expert services and facilities to conduct tests

and experiments. Some of the activities are considered to be professionally

unethical and in some instances border on the illegal. These difficulties

have not been entirely surmounted but good progress is being made. Another

problem is raised by the lack of professional knowledge of lysergic acid,

the basic substance with which CD is concerned. Very little research

has been done by the medical profession and CD is breaking new ground

in its efforts to develop this material for operational use.

1. Preliminary tests and experiments are generally conducted on animals. For this purpose, CD has engaged the services and facilities of such institutions as:

The National Institute of Mental Health conducts tests on its ape colony to study the effects of P and knockout material and has provided such information of operational value. Human experimentation is more difficult to accomplish. The best results have been obtained from mental institutions such as

Narcotics Addiction Hospital, Lexington, Ky.,

An arrangement is in process with the [] which is expected

to produce valuable results. Even with all the data gathered from these

institutions there remains a considerable area of doubt. These tests

and experiments are conducted under controlled conditions and the results

may be quite different from those obtained in the operational use of the

material. In this respect,

must

be considered as experimental as well. Much more testing must be con-

ducted before the behavioral program can be considered to have accomplished

its objectives.

n. In almost five years since Fiscal 1952 the program has cost

approximately

This includes funds to support the

and part of the cost of supporting

It also includes part of a grant to

to aid in the construction of a wing devoted to mental illnesses.

Concrete results achieved thus far are difficult to justify in relation

to cost. No price can be attached to the intangible value of the

extensive contracts established with outstanding members of the medical

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and other scientific professions. At this point in time it is impossible to assess accurately the potential of the program or to estimate the value of the anticipated results. It is believed, however, that the program should be continued with the adjuration that it be conducted as economically as possible.