

WILMINGTON SUNDAY NEWS JOURNAL
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on page F-8**Books****The CIA and men's minds**

THE SEARCH FOR THE "MANCHURIAN CANDIDATE": The CIA and Mind Control, by John Marks. Times Books, \$9.95.

A few years ago James J. Angleton, one-time counterintelligence chief for the CIA, told me over dinner that the agency had been involved in a bizarre effort to master human mind control.

The implications of what he said, and the revelations that followed, were staggering. Frank C. Olson, a top Army employee, committed suicide after a dose of untested LSD was slipped into his coffee by the man who ran the program, Sidney Gottlieb.

Eighty-six universities took part in what was called MKULTRA, and one of those schools was our own University of Delaware.

It is all told with chilling detail in John Marks' superb new book.

Marks, who had previously co-authored with Victor Marchetti "The CIA and the Cult of Intelligence," had the forebearance to wage a long Freedom of Information Act fight to gain access to the few thousand pages of surviving records that detailed this worst yet of CIA horror tales.

The professor at Delaware who did the CIA's bidding over a 10-year period is James A. Moore. Moore is a quiet but determined chemistry professor who feels no regret for creating compounds that he turned directly over to the same people who fed Olson his deadly dose of LSD.

The book, which should be read by anyone with a child in the University of Delaware or with an interest in how power can corrupt, takes but an evening to go through.

It details the CIA's use of "safe houses," or CIA rented buildings in major U.S. cities where the

compounds Moore and his colleagues developed were tested on unwitting prostitutes as well as average people. This allowed the CIA to determine how such drugs affected sexual performance.

On another front the agency funded bizarre psychiatric research that led to mental disabilities instead of relief for dozens of people.

If the book falls short on anything, it is in the details of who and how the local university and other universities allowed themselves to be used for one of the most perverse government activities since Hitler's doctors performed their "controlled" experiments on "undesirables" in the German death camps during World War II.

The book tells us that former CIA Director Richard Helms stepped up this program and ordered its records destroyed. Had it not been for a mistake, the six boxes of records which revealed the horrors of MKULTRA would have been unknown to us.

This book should be required reading for anyone with any doubts about the power held by the elite "old boy network" of the CIA. Its underlying lesson is that people who assume they have the wisdom to take control of other people's lives and do so in the name of national security must be stopped.

My friends at the CIA tell me John Marks is hated for bringing the story of MKULTRA out in the open. If that is so, he should wear their anger as a badge of honor for exposing these acts.

Sidney Gottlieb's agreeing to testify to the United States Senate about the details of MKULTRA only with criminal immunity is all the proof one needs to know that the CIA is still immune to justice.

Joe Trento
Joe Trento, a News-Journal investigative reporter, has dug deeply into CIA excesses.