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DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE
Human Resources Committee

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

HRC-R&D-M-012

23 September 1976

Minutes of the Twelfth Meeting, 20 September 1976

Members or Representatives Present

Chairman
CIA
DIA
NSA
Army
Air Force
FBI

- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- Mr. George A. Sumner
- Mr. Jean R. Henson
- [Redacted]

Others Present

CIA/OTS
CIA/OTS
CIA/OTS
Army
Air Force
HRD/HRC

- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- Mr. Joe Vladich
- Mr. L. J. Stracqualursi
- Mr. John G. Kormann

1. The Chairman opened the twelfth meeting announcing that priorities had necessitated a change in the agenda and that the first item would be a discussion of a CIA R&D program followed by a review of the draft National Human Resource Plan (NHRP) and an R&D Subcommittee briefing that is scheduled for presentation to the CFI Intelligence R&D Council on 13 October 1976. The other listed agenda items would then be addressed in a subsequent meeting. The minutes of the tenth and eleventh meetings were approved.

2. The Chairman turned to [Redacted] the CIA representative, and asked him to proceed with the scheduled briefing. In his prefatory remarks regarding the briefing on parapsychology, [Redacted] noted that

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Schedule of E.O. 11652, Exemption
Category: 5B (1), (3) or (4)
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CIA was attempting to determine whether any aspect of this esoteric discipline had an application in the intelligence field. He pointed out that these CIA efforts were embodied by [redacted]

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[redacted] of DDS&T/OTS whom he then introduced. [redacted] began the briefing with a ten-minute videotape display of a TV news item presented on NBC approximately two weeks ago. The news item outlined research on remote viewing conducted by H. E. Puthoff and R. Targ of the Electronics and Bioengineering Laboratory at the Stanford Research Institute in California. After the showing, [redacted] discussed in detail the results of six sets of experiments conducted by these researchers and passed out several sets of the research material. One of the items was an article published in the IEEE Spectrum that evoked a flurry of letters to the editor and rebuttals by the authors. The upshot of the exchange was that two scientists working with the same data can come to diametrically opposite conclusions.

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3. Next a review was made of CIA parapsychology/paranormal research that began in 1972. The program was divided basically into two parts: basic research and applied research. The CIA was primarily interested in the applied aspects of such experimentation and in this regard obtained limited clearance for one such subject or sensitive. Both

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[redacted] described the experimentation conducted with the subject. Insights sought from the subject was related to the intelligence activity known to an extremely restricted circle of persons. The results of the experimentation were promising and attested to by an analyst as being helpful. Although unable to ascertain the cause of the phenomena that produced seemingly positive results, the feeling was substantiated that enough empirical evidence existed to warrant further research in this area.

4. [redacted] concluded the briefing noting that research had also revealed that persons possessing paranormal abilities are generally bright and good analysts; however, although adept in describing what they saw, they could not interpret in most instances what they had seen.

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5. Time constraints did not permit discussion of other items. The Chairman indicated it might be necessary to call a special meeting to discuss the NHRP and the Intelligence R&D briefing. The next regular meeting will be held at 1330 hours, Friday, the eighth of October, at CIA Headquarters in room 6E0708.

[redacted]

Secretariat

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