

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : FILE

DATE: 25 November 1953

FROM :

SUBJECT: Special Training Project, [REDACTED]
3 through 5 November 1953.(b)(1)
(b)(3)

1. [REDACTED] professional consultant to the Technical Branch on hypnosis arrived in Washington Tuesday, 3 November 1953.

He was met by [REDACTED] at the Airport and after checking in at a hotel, he was taken immediately to lunch.

2. Between 1:00 and 5:00 PM, Tuesday afternoon, a general work session was held with [REDACTED] present with discussions aimed at development of plans for the remainder of [REDACTED] stay in Washington and at hypnotic work in general.

3. From 6:00 to 9:30 PM on Tuesday, a first work session was held by [REDACTED]. Present were [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] in addition, the following subjects were present: [REDACTED] By [REDACTED] process of observing and participating in the work, [REDACTED] demonstrated hypnotic methods and techniques with good results. The work, in general, was routine but [REDACTED] ideas and delivery techniques and mannerisms were carefully observed and noted by all present. [REDACTED] offered comments and some discussion as each test went along. The evening was devoted to having [REDACTED] do the bulk of the hypnotic work since [REDACTED] main effort in coming to Washington was to devote primary attention to [REDACTED] and secondary attention to [REDACTED] insofar as assisting them in hypnotic techniques.

4. On Wednesday, 4 November 1953, a general conference was held between 10:00 and 12:00 in the morning on the hypnotic work with [REDACTED]. Again in the afternoon of Wednesday, 5 November between 1:00 and 4:00 PM, a general conference and critique was held with [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] present. These conferences were of an informal nature and consisted of a more or less round-table discussion involving any and all subject matter and having to do with the practice of hypnosis and the relation of hypnosis to the [REDACTED] program.

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5. On Wednesday, 3 November 1953, between 7:00 and 9:30 PM a special demonstration in hypnosis was conducted by [REDACTED] in Room 24, Building 13. Present at this demonstration were a group of representatives from [REDACTED] and in addition individuals that had previously participated in the hypnotic work. In addition, [REDACTED] attended. No official count was made of those present but probably 25-30 people attended.

6. [REDACTED] talked for approximately 10-15 minutes at the start of the demonstration on hypnosis in general and then proceeded to give a series of demonstrations which he believed would be of interest to Security officers and the others present. In addition to answering many questions and demonstrating certain simple hypnotic processes, [REDACTED] gave three main demonstrations: A) [REDACTED] by the use of hypnosis, arranged with two good subjects, [REDACTED] that if questioned in any way or manner on questions involving security, they would immediately go into a deep hypnotic state. This was very clearly and effectively demonstrated. B) [REDACTED] demonstrated a good regression with [REDACTED] with the subject going back to the age of ten. In this connection, it should be noted that [REDACTED] in writing as she did at the age of ten wrote her name as [REDACTED] which was her name before it had been changed by her family. [REDACTED] explained that security codes could be built around the process of regression and messages could be conveyed in this manner using a regression technique to conceal the message. C) [REDACTED] demonstrated the possible transfer of control of a subject by showing that unless certain code words were used a good subject could or would under no circumstances recall the words or give them to anyone else.

7. In general, this demonstration was successful and all hands expressed appreciation for [REDACTED] demonstration including [REDACTED] who stated to the writer that a demonstration similar to this or perhaps more advanced should be done for other Agency officials in the near future. In this connection, [REDACTED] was particularly impressed by security aspects of individuals operating under hypnosis and so commented.

8. On Thursday, 5 November 1953, [REDACTED] held a general discussion on hypnosis with [REDACTED] present although [REDACTED] were unable to participate for part of this time owing to certain air raid duties which they had to perform.

9. Between 2:00 and 3:00 PM, another general conference followed with [REDACTED] participating. [REDACTED] from 3:00 to 5:00 PM, at the invitation of the writer, [REDACTED] attended the round-table discussion with the above group in regard to the possible use of hypnosis in connection [REDACTED]. The writer explained to all hands that this discussion must be kept at an absolute Secret level [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] This round-table discussion appeared very successful and [REDACTED] expressed his appreciation for the discussion to the writer [REDACTED].

10. Between 7:00 and 9:00 PM, another informal discussion was held with [REDACTED] present. This discussion was in the nature of a roundup and resume of the work carried out and was entirely successful.

11. [REDACTED] left Washington at 11:00 AM [REDACTED] on Friday. [REDACTED] had previously planned to [REDACTED] the morning of 8 November but his plans were changed due to heavy snow fall at Washington.

[REDACTED]