CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

[redacted]

COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT [redacted] Experiments in Hypnosis at a Distance/ Resumption of Experiments/Data May Be Published Soon

REPORT NO OO- B-321/07499-65

DATE DISR 11 May 1965

NO PAGES 3

REFERENCES

DATE OF INFO [redacted]

PLACE ACQUIRED [redacted] UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE [redacted]

1. L L Vasiliev, Professor of Physiology at Leningrad Univ[redacted]sity, [redacted] most definitive treatment of his work is in "Experiments in Mental Suggestion" published in England in 1963, by the Institute for Study of Mental Images, Church Crookham, Hampshire, England. This publication is a summary, with technical detail, of Vasiliev's experiments conducted in the 1930's. The chapter headings are:

   (1) Origin and Development of the Study of Mental Suggestion
   (2) Electromagnetic Theory or Telepathy and Its Experimental Basis
   (3) The Physical Apparatus, Exploratory, and Verification Experiments Research Design
   (4) Mental Suggestion of Motor Acts
   (5) Mental Suggestion of Visual Images and Sensations
   (6) Mental Suggestion of Sleeping and Awakening
   (7) Critical evaluation of the Hypnogenic Method and the Results Obtained by Its Application; Improved Version of the Hypnogenic Method
   (8) Experiments in Mental Suggestion at Long Distances
   (9) Some Psychological Aspects of Mental Suggestion
   (10) The Present State of the Problem of Mental Suggestion

2. The experiments studied the possibility of making telepathic suggestion of sleep and arousal at some distance. The subject was placed in an iron cage, this device being used in order to determine whether there were some electromagnetic impulses that were mediating this. The cage was designed as a control to rule out certain explanations for the phenomena.

3. A number of experiments were made, some without any shielding, some with the indoctor (person transmitting suggestion) shielded, and some with both indoctor and subject (recipient) shielded. The results were similar regardless of shielding.

4. If the suggestion was successful, the subject would go to sleep. The experiments were designed to show that there is more tendency to sleep

2

[redacted]

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

[redacted]

[redacted]



when the message is sent than when it is not. On the average, the subject fell asleep 6-8 minutes after the message was sent. When no message was sent, the average was 17 minutes required to fall asleep.

3. Recording techniques included skin reflex, [redacted] Experiments were recorded automatically. The subject would press a bulb, relaxing his grip when falling asleep. A kymograph showed when the subject was asleep. A second line showed when the suggestion was sent.

4. Presumably the shielding was at least partially effective in cutting out any electromagnetic influence, any sound, or any other known sense modality by which the suggestion could have been received. Vasiliev apparently felt that the experiments with effective shielding might have experienced some sound transmission, and that the experiments that were sound proofed effectively might have experienced some deficiencies in shielding. He was not satisfied with the testing. [redacted]

7. [redacted]

[redacted]



when the message is sent than when it is not. On the average, the subject fell asleep 6-8 minutes after the message was sent. When no message was sent, the average was 17 minutes required to fall asleep.

3. Recording techniques included skin reflex, [redacted] Experiments were recorded automatically. The subject would press a bulb, relaxing his grip when falling asleep. A kymograph showed when the subject was asleep. A second line showed when the suggestion was sent.

4. Presumably the shielding was at least partially effective in cutting out any electromagnetic influence, any sound, or any other known sense modality by which the suggestion could have been received. Vasiliev apparently felt that the experiments with effective shielding might have experienced some sound transmission, and that the experiments that were sound proofed effectively might have experienced some deficiencies in shielding. He was not satisfied with the testing. [redacted]

7. [redacted]