

THE NEW YORK TIMES, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1977

Extent of University Work for C.I.A.

By JO THOMAS

Special to The New York Times

Is Hard to Pin Down

P. 78

WASHINGTON, Oct. 8—Despite three days of Congressional hearings, no one yet knows the degree to which some of the nation's most prominent universities were compromised in the Central Intelligence Agency's secret mind-control research in the 1950's and 1960's.

Adm. Stansfield Turner, the Director of Central Intelligence, said in Congressional testimony last August that the C.I.A. covertly sponsored research at 80 institutions, including 44 colleges and universities, from 1953 to 1963. The research was part of the project code-named MK-ULTRA, which sought to control human behavior through such means as hypnosis, drugs and brainwashing.

The Senate Health Subcommittee, which wanted to hear the academicians' reaction, quietly invited the presidents of 20 institutions to testify at its hearings Sept. 20 and 21. Only one president accepted; he was not scheduled to testify because all the others declined, explaining that they had previous engagements.

The list of the 80 institutions given to Senate investigators is still classified, but each of those institutions has been notified separately by the C.I.A. that in some way, knowingly or unknowingly, it played host to C.I.A. research, and 26 colleges and universities have acknowledged this publicly.

Research Varied

Inquiries at these institutions disclosed that C.I.A. research on campus varied from innocuous sociological surveys to tests aimed at finding better ways to administer drugs to unsuspecting subjects. The attitudes of current administrators likewise ran the gamut from outrage to indifference.

The passage of time, more than 20 years in some cases; the C.I.A.'s secretiveness during the project and the fragmentary nature of the records the C.I.A. has made available to universities have combined, in most cases, to make a reconstruction of what happened difficult or impossible.

At many universities, money for these projects was channeled through foundations so that neither the university nor the professor doing the research knew the true sponsor or purpose of the work. Sociological, cultural and anthropological studies were financed through the Society for the Investigation of Human Ecology, based at Cornell University. Biochemical and medical research was often financed through the Geschickter Fund for Medical Research Inc., headed by Dr. Charles Geschickter, a Georgetown University pathologist.

Sense of Injury

"I feel that I've been done an injury, personally, by the C.I.A.," said Dr. Anthony J. Wiener, who in 1957 received a \$12,000 grant from the Society for Investigation of Human Ecology. At the time Dr. Wiener was a guest at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's

Center for International Studies; when Herman Kahn, he later wrote the book "The Year 2000."

"I would not have lent myself to that kind of deception, and I don't think I should have practiced any sort of deception on me," Dr. Wiener said.

When he first heard about the study, Dr. Wiener said, he was looking for money with which to continue a study of the social role of Soviet scientists. Twenty years later he learned that the C.I.A. hoped to find out "what can be developed in spotting and recruiting such persons as potential agents" from his study.

"They made no attempt to point me in that direction," Dr. Wiener said. "I never gave them any material for identifying potential defectors. That was their interest at all."

7 Projects at Stanford

"We've been made guinea pigs," said Robert Freelen, director of government relations at Stanford, which incidentally lent its name to seven C.I.A. research projects. These ranged from a survey of the literature on human groups to a project that simply channeled money to a psychiatrist, a member of the Stanford clinical faculty, who is paid for such enterprises as a survey of the ways in which criminals gave up to the unsuspecting.

The Stanford projects were financed either through foundations or through payments made directly to clinical faculty members, thus bypassing the university. Mr. Freelen said he was not sure the university could guard against such projects in the future. "Obviously there's a question to how much investigation you can do on the sources of funds and their credibility," he said. "If they lie and you believe, I don't know how that problem gets solved."

Stanford has been making public every piece of information it can gather about its past involvement with the C.I.A.'s mind control research. It was the first institution with any major involvement in the program to do so, although the University of Denver, which hosted a small experiment in hypnosis, tracked down those details with vigor and made them public several years ago.

STAT