



# THE BLACK VAULT

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156

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : C/MS  
FROM : Psychiatric Consultant  
Agency Medical Officer  
SUBJECT: Medical Research Plans of Project

DATE: 28 July 1952

As a result of our observations during the recent field experiment in regard to Project we respectively submit the following suggestions:

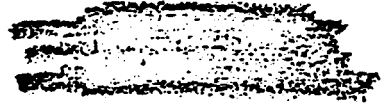
1. Primarily the purpose of the project is to develop a method of eliciting the truth from hostile subjects.
2. We believe that the project should be reorganized so that its direction is under the control of better qualified personnel. We would suggest that a small group of specialists be appointed as a board to direct this project. This group should be composed of a security officer, a medical officer, a psychiatrist and a research specialist. A heavy accent on the medical section is necessary because basically the project is a medical research one. This committee should have the authority:
  - a. To direct the research.
  - b. To determine the priority of the research problem.
  - c. To integrate the results of the research.
  - d. To assign subdivisions of the project to appropriate branches or farm them out to acceptable research agencies.
  - e. To dispense the necessary funds.
  - f. To develop a proper cover for the project.

This board should meet at regular intervals so that the progress of the project may be accelerated.

Before any further field experimentation is performed, we believe that certain basic research is essential. Briefly this research may be listed as follows:

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ps 1 of 3  
mail 1 of 2



I. A Library Research

- a. Review of the literature in regard to the ability of an individual to lie under narcosis and hypnosis.
- b. Review of the methods used to date to elicit the truth from hostile subjects.
- c. Review of the literature in regard to the effect of drugs on the polygraph.

II. Drug Narcosis

- a. The combined use of hypnosis and drug narcosis with special reference to the use of drugs to facilitate the induction of hypnosis.
- b. The ability of the individual to lie under sodium pentothal narcosis.
- c. The use of desoxyn to increase productivity both with and without sodium pentothal.
- d. The effect of desoxyn on the truthfulness of the subject.
- e. The combined use of pentothal and polygraph.
- f. Combined use of pentothal, desoxyn and polygraph.
- g. Instruction of interrogators in methods of interrogating under narcosis and hypnosis.
- h. The effect of drugs on the polygraph.

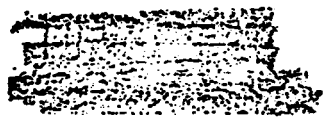
III. Hypnosis

- a. Can the individual lie during a hypnotic trance?
- b. Quick methods of induction of hypnosis.
- c. Methods of teaching hypnotic techniques.
- d. The use of the polygraph with hypnosis.

Also these research projects should be approached with an open mind and experience would indicate that we will probably be forced to rely on drug narcosis rather than hypnosis because of:

- A. The difficulties of the induction of the hypnotic state, especially where there is a difference in language.

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B. The uncertainty of the depth of the hypnosis.

C. The uncertainty of the amnesia following.

These are primarily medical research problems. The direction of the program would have to be under medical supervision.

At the conclusion of the research on these basic problems it is strongly recommended that another field problem be setup for their practical evaluation.

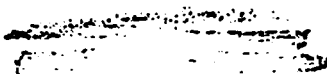
Psychiatric Consultant

Agency Medical Officer

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ (26 July 1952)

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copy 1 of 2