

PROPOSED WORK STATEMENTIntroduction

The general goals of this project may be divided into two categories of investigation: applied research and basic research. Approximately equal (50%) effort will be expended on both categories. Specific suggestions for the pursuit of both categories of investigation are provided in the next two sections but it should be understood that these are offered as general guidelines. ~~Both~~ Both the contractor and the sponsor desire the effort to be flexible enough to permit either one to suggest the need for redirection as appropriate. In view of the peculiar sensitivity attached to this area of research, the interests of both the contractor and the sponsor will be well served by the observation of particular administrative procedures; ~~these are suggested in~~ these are suggested in the final section.

Applied Research

Approximately 50% of the total effort will be to experimentally explore the potential for applications of paranormal abilities. The existence and validity of the abilities will, in this context, be assumed and the goal will be successful measurement of the parameters of such abilities. Four general areas of applications are described below. Within the constraints of the available subjects, paranormal abilities are to be tested and the results summarized in a complete and detailed manner. The summaries should be presented in formats which permit statistical interpretations. In some cases a statistical interpretation may mean nothing more than a single positive or negative result. But in most experiments there will be sufficient data to permit traditional statistical summaries and comparisons.

In determining the potential utility of such abilities the most important characteristics are accuracy and reliability. Accuracy will be defined as the

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agreement with predetermined sets of properties. The emphasis is on predetermined sets. Only a selected group of properties should be tested and they must be selected before the tests. During the course of the experiments, data may be obtained on interesting properties not previously selected but these cannot be retroactively included in accuracy statements or conclusions. Reliability will be defined as reproducibility of a task performed on request. These narrow definitions are chosen to focus experimentation on the practical aspects of the applications and utilization of paranormal abilities. ~~It is not suggested that~~ It is not suggested that negative results will imply the ~~lack~~ non-existence of paranormal abilities--but merely that there is little potential for control and utilization of such abilities at the present time.

The following types of experiments are suggested.

1. Perception of information stored in sealed envelopes, packages, boxes, etc. The experiments should, for both numeric and alphabetic material, measure quantitatively such factors as:

- a. resolution
- b. bit rate
- c. accuracy
- d. reliability
- e. variation with density

2. Determine remote ~~viewing~~ viewing capabilities on a microscopic level; for example, in room-to-room remote viewing, determine the contents, personnel and activities. The determination must, once again, be in quantitative form and should include but not necessarily be limited to:

- a. accuracy
- b. reliability
- c. resolution

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3. Characterize and determine the abilities for locating arbitrarily chosen objects such as, for example, items of electrical or other equipment--both metal and non-metal. The measurements should focus on:

- a. the range at which located
- b. reliability and accuracy

4. Determine the characteristics of remote viewing and interactions such as the capacity to remotely locate people and remotely assess their abilities, occupations, attitudes and their potential for paranormal ability.

5. And, finally, such other experiments as may be designed to measure other paranormal characteristics suggested as being of interest.

*This 50% of the effort will be devoted to:*

Basic Research

Approximately 50% of the contract effort will be devoted to basic research and, in this context, the goal is to find the underlying mechanism of 'giftedness' or at least to identify areas of communality between gifted subjects (sufficiently to formulate a 'profile' or an incipient screening system) and to attempt to identify (or formulate theories on) the nature of the energy responsible for the phenomena. Generally, this effort should be in the following categories.

1. Identification of Measurable Characteristics Possessed by Gifted Subjects (approximately 25% of the effort). This should include but need not be limited to:

a. Sensory Evaluation. The classical sensory pathways in the 'gifted' (and matched control) subjects must be studied. Testing must go beyond the 'normal' range and include discriminatory measures as well as threshold evaluations for each ~~the~~ modality and include some testing (with barriers ~~between~~ interposed) focussed on the special abilities of the subject.

b. Psychological Testing. A battery of aptitude and personality tests will be given to each gifted subject. And, in addition, the sponsor's

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psychological evaluation techniques will be applied.

c. In-Depth Interview and General History. This will focus on special abilities as perceived and manifested by the gifted subject and on particularly suggestive historical or environmental cues which he/she associates with the discovery, development or functioning of the paranormal abilities.

d. Behavioral Assessment. Subjects will be tested using the tachistoscopic detection, reaction time, field dependency, time estimates and other measures (including, if feasible, certain observation-and-assessment measuring devices to be provided by the sponsor) in order to relate the results from the gifted subjects to the larger population.

Identification of Neurophysiological Correlates (20% of the effort).

2. ~~was to be completed by the end of the project~~ Autonomic Nervous System (heart rate, GSR, plethysmograph) and Central Nervous System (averaged evoked potential, contingent negative variation, spectral analysis) will be characterized in terms of:

- a. baseline levels
- b. response proclivities to liminal and subliminal stimuli
- c. response to stimulus anticipation (AEP, CNV, spectral analysis)

and conditionability.

3. Identify (or provide theories on) the nature of the ~~validated~~ validated paranormal phenomena and energy (5% of the effort).

#### Particular Administrative Procedures

In view of the special sensitivity of (and the unusual degree of interest in) the phenomena being investigated, it is imperative that the normal contractual obligations (concerning, for instance, the need-to-know principle and the handling of reports to and queries from the sponsor's organization) be scrupulously observed. In addition to thorough quarterly progress reports, brief monthly progress and financial reports will be submitted to the project officer or his désignee.

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It is expected that some data and analyses will be worthy of publication in the open literature but these will be submitted to the project officer for review and will be published only after his agreement has been obtained to the effect that such material does not contain sensitive information.

In view of the history of related research in this field and the involvement of other government agencies and other sponsor personnel, it is to be expected that the contractor will be confronted with awkward queries or expression of interest concerning continuing research. For the benefit of both the contractor and the ~~contractor~~ sponsor, we should attempt to agree upon procedures which will preclude disruption or confusion of the effort. It is suggested that, since we cannot possibly anticipate all the forms which this might take, the contractor simply attempt--in the first instance--to fend off such queries and that, should it become necessary, he confer with the project officer before making commitments or disclosures to other parties.

- A. Identification of measurable characteristics possessed by gifted individuals (20%)
- B. Determination of those neurophysiological correlates, if any, which relate to parapsychic activities (20%)
- C. Establishment of experimental protocols which either validate the parapsychic nature of the activities under study or identify the nature of the energy responsible to the phenomena. (10%)

Specific details of the experimental protocols will be determined by agreement between the sponsor and contractor technical personnel.