

MKULTRA (U)

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[REDACTED]  
Chief, MKULTRA Task Force

MKULTRA, the so-called CIA "Mind Control" Program of the 1950s and early 1960s, probably has caused more outcry than any other CIA activity with the possible exception of the Bay of Pigs. It began in 1975 with the investigation conducted by the Select Committee to Study the Government Operations with Respect to Intelligence Activities of the United States Senate. At that time, it was believed that all MKULTRA records had been destroyed in 1973. In 1977, during a search for documents in response to a request under the Freedom of Information Act, an employee of OTS discovered seven boxes of MKULTRA financial documents that had escaped the 1973 destruction. These boxes contained fragmentary financial data about 149 MKULTRA subje~~p~~rojects. (U)

The discovery of these records was reported to the Congress, and in August 1977, the Select Committee on Intelligence and the Subcommittee on Health and Scientific Research of the Committee on Human Resources of the United States Senate held joint hearings. Further hearings were held by the Senate Subcommittee on Health and Scientific Research in September 1977. During the

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one year to the next, many times new subprojects were created. For example, subproject 149 was a continuation of 132; 132 was a continuation of 42, and so on. In some cases as many as six or eight subprojects may have been created when one subproject could simply have been extended from year to year. In any case, ~~we found that~~ /it was determined/ 85 of the MKULTRA subprojects did not involve human experimentation and required no action by the Task Force. Forty of the subprojects ~~we~~ where humans were involved required no action. Eighteen of these required no action because no drugs were involved. Twenty-two required no action because the drugs used would not have caused harmful aftereffects; subjects were witting volunteers, usually paid; research was conducted under the management / and/ and substantive control of the institution ~~conducting the~~ /do/ research. (U)

For the sake of convenience, the remainder of the MKULTRA subprojects where human involvement was known or suspected were divided between those involved with private research institutions and those involved with the safehouses [REDACTED] (U)

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In sum, insofar as work done at private institutions is concerned, the Task Force found for the most part that CIA was interested in the results of research

leads to unwitting subjects, and the entries in it are cryptic, handwritten, and range from barely legible to meaningless scrawl. (U)

The Task Force and the DEA inspector conducted between 45 and 50 interviews. Those interviewed included employees of FBN, DEA, and CIA who were directly acquainted with George White and his work [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] None of the people interviewed knew of any instance where the safehouses were used for the administration of drugs to unwitting persons. They were available for CIA use only as standby or contingency facilities--CIA could only get access to them by first notifying the FBN local office. FBN personnel are confident in their belief that the safehouses were not, and could not practically have been used routinely for unwitting drug experimentation by George White or anyone else under the circumstances of their availability. They are equally confident in their belief that the safehouses were not and could not practically have been routinely used as houses of prostitution, or for the administration of drugs by prostitutes to unwitting subjects. Officers in the local police forces active at the time the safehouses were in operation are confident in their belief that the safehouses could not have been used regularly for such

the bar had been surreptitiously given a small dose (neither of the participants could recall the exact quantity) of LSD in a cocktail. One of the participants recalled the name of the bar, the position of the subject, STATINTL

that [REDACTED] and that the incident occurred about 1958. Neither of the persons interviewed knew, or could recall, the subject's name. They reported that she was able to continue the performance of her duties for the remainder of her shift but was treated at a hospital after she went off duty. A followup conversation with her several days after the incident reportedly revealed that she apparently had suffered no harmful aftereffects but had given up drinking. (U)

The bar where the incident took place no longer exists, but a visit to the premises where it had been located resulted in the identification of a former employee STATINTL of the bar who is currently employed elsewhere in [REDACTED]

NTL [REDACTED] This individual was interviewed and recalled the first name only of the subject of the experiment but reported that the subject had died of cancer about 1963. This source did remember the name of another individual who had been employed at the bar when the incident took place. This second individual also was interviewed,

contact the Agency. (U)

Among those who have been located and informed, three do not recall the incident and do not believe that they were ever given doses of LSD; one recalls a "bad trip" and plans to sue the Agency for invasion of privacy. The husband of the deceased subject is considering whether to file suit. (U)

We have no absolute assurance that these were the only cases of unwitting testing, but neither do we have absolute assurance that there were others. Everything that we have been able to learn from all the sources exploited, including the Congressional testimony and a recent interview with the principal MKULTRA officer, indicates that there were very few experiments using unwitting subjects. Unfortunately, we may never know the whole story. (U)

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