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SECRET TENTATIVE

March 10, 1978

SG1I

[redacted]

SG1I

Dear [redacted] SG1J

Since you will be keeping track of [redacted] program, I thought I would send you copies of a series of memos on my ideas about the program. Enclosed is the first batch.

With best regards,

H. E. Puthoff, Ph.D.
Senior Research Engineer
Radio Physics Laboratory

HEP:dlt

Enc.

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SRI

MEMO

SG1J

TO: [redacted]

DATE: 10 March 1978

FROM: H. E. Puthoff

LOCATION: 44

SG1J

SUBJECT: R&D Aspects of Psychoenergetics Program (U)

CC: [redacted]

With regard to the mix of R&D versus operational or semi-operational efforts, I wish to enter the following comments on the record.

The temptation, having seen good remote viewing, is to blitz through a series of targets and assess the ability on that basis. However, I would opt against such a procedure in favor of an alternative approach for the following reason. Basically, we are in the position analogous to an individual who might naively pack uranium ores into bomb shapes and find that some percentage of them achieve criticality and detonate, while others do not. For him the temptation might be to make a lot of them to determine the success rate and then assume that he can count on that percentage. However, a better approach for the long run is to step back, carry out R&D on the various factors involved so that understanding and control can be achieved, and then proceed with manufacture of a high-reliability product.

Similarly for our field, I think it is better to pull back from applications and place the emphasis on R&D at this point, if we truly wish to develop a program to determine the exploitation potential of this field.

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SECRET

MEMO

SG1J

TO: [redacted]

DATE: 7 March 1978

FROM: H. E. Puthoff

LOCATION: 44 SG1J

SUBJECT: Psychoenergetics Program Policy (U)

CC: [redacted]

Since we have established in our research that good feedback to the data source (subject) is necessary for maintaining a high quality product, it is important that we provide as much feedback as possible; this is what provides continuing correction to the subject to aid in improvement of the remote viewing skills.

With regard to our recent effort, since the visual feedback is classified beyond the subject's clearance level (which is only SECRET), I would like to request that we make an effort to obtain something at the SECRET level for feedback to the subject (U-2? artist's rendering as we did for earlier Price work?).

For the long haul, I think we should consider SI/SAO for the subjects working on the more sensitive projects if we are serious about obtaining good results. In the absence of good feedback, subjects' abilities extinguish (the Decline Effect, one of the best-validated characteristics of psychoenergetic functioning). We don't yet know whether this is due to psychological factors only, or whether it prevents stabilization of some mechanism in a substantive way (like learning to ride a bicycle without kinesthetic feedback). In any case, lack of visual feedback to a subject doing remote viewing is definitely established to be a known handicap.

Presumably with proper control we can still assure ourselves that a cleared subject has not had access to data on a given site before remote viewing takes place.

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