

SCU professor's book details CIA attempts at mind control

By Dale Rodebaugh
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SANTA CLARA—For the last 30 years the United States government has carried out the most extensive mind-control research and experimentation in history, according to a University of Santa Clara law professor who has co-authored a book on the topic.

Examination of 20,000 pages of CIA and Army documents shows that the CIA probed everything from the psychological impact of circumcision to the practices of Haitian witch doctors, Alan Schefflin said in an interview.

"The Mind Manipulators" is not a sensationalized novel written hurriedly to exploit Watergate and other recent revelations about the intelligence community, Schefflin said.

It is the result of five years of research and hundreds of interviews and contains more than 1,800 footnotes, said Schefflin, who teaches legal ethics and law and psychiatry. His co-author is Edward Opton, a San Francisco attorney.

The CIA isn't alone in mind-control research; it is practiced to a lesser degree by other government agencies, schools, hospitals, universities, the military and prisons, Schefflin said.

"Behavior modification and mind control is the leading school of psychology today," he said.

"No other country has conducted experiments in these fields with the zeal and longevity of the CIA. Its experiments can be traced to its predecessor, the Office of Strategic Services organized during World War II."



Alan Schefflin
... 5 years of research

The CIA has far exceeded its charter and every president since and including Harry Truman authorized violations of that charter," Schefflin said.

"It's not a pretty picture. What we have is the CIA okayed by the president to intervene for our 'security' all over the world. We can't take over the world, but if its leaders can be manipulated to think a certain way, to our advantage."

Sen. Frank Church's committee that investigated the CIA characterized it as a rogue elephant, Schefflin said. "But we are trying to show that the

agency was very much in control. It knew what it was doing."

Experiments were carried out many times on unwitting citizens, Schefflin said.

"In addition, the agency was unsupervised, with not even Congress knowing what was going on. Its budget was hidden, coming from many sources, and no one knew how the money was spent. Because of this secrecy, the agency could synthesize the knowledge of the best minds in the nation without scientists knowing it.

"The CIA also earned its own money by acting as a runner of opium for the tribesmen of Southeast Asia whose political and military support it needed."

Soviet experiments are nothing compared to those of the CIA, Schefflin said, because the Russian hierarchy has ruled out areas of research not compatible with its political doctrine.

The CIA concentrated its experiments in drugs and hypnosis, Schefflin said. He said he compiled a list of 130 drugs, in-

cluding heroin, used by the agency.

"One organization funneled money to a federal drug rehabilitation and research agency in Kentucky that offered drugs to inmates. The director of that institution defended the practice before Congress," he said.

The CIA was looking for a precise mind-control agent in an attempt to get 'Manchurian Candidates,' Schefflin said. "But I don't think it can be done. There is no known drug to turn people into robots.

"But then, there is little need for such a drug when people are willing to give up their minds so readily. Just look at the religious gurus. They don't need sophisticated techniques. They can talk people into whatever they want."

The danger of behavior modification and mind control goes far beyond what the CIA has done, Schefflin said.

"It is obvious there is a clear link between government and science to perfect mind control and that there is a spillover of the technology into the general public.

"More and more people know how to manipulate others and are taking advantage of it.

"The impact of behavior modification is that they're saying, 'the only thing we're interested in is your behavior.' All the leading proponents of this philosophy are explicit that people must not think of themselves as free."

To resist mind control, Schefflin said, "we must first understand it, be familiar with the techniques and know who is using it. Then we must write to legislators and start organizations to resist it."

He said "The Mind Manipulators" grew out of the efforts of a group that fought the UCLA "violence center" that proposed among other experiments to give amphetamines to black and Chicano school children.

"We stopped public funding of that project, but they may be doing work now with private funds," Schefflin said.