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26 JAN 73

MEMO FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT Parapsych Discussion with C/TSD

1. I had lunch with C/TSD in his office today and inter alia we discussed parapsych phenomena in general, the SRI presentation, TSD's interest in the field and my 23 Jan paper--a copy of which he read while I waited. The salient aspects were as follows:

a. The 52 K figure accurately represents TSD's investment in the SRI project--and, in 1953 and 1963, they also supported  to some extent but are no longer involved;

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b. C/TSD sees no short-range payoff operationally in these efforts but feels quite strongly that research should continue; specifically, he feels that the existence of undefined parapsych phenomena of certain types has been established beyond all reasonable doubt--and it is his feeling that, though the Agency is not the most logical organization to support continuing research, we ought to fill the gap until someone else does;

c. In that context, he intends to have the directors of ARPA and NSA in his office soon to try to persuade them to join him in signing a letter to the National Science Foundation (NSF)--urging them to support a long-range (3 to 5 year) program of intensive research in this area; but, even if this effort should succeed (and he has no real feeling for whether it will or not), any such program is not apt to get started for a year or so;

d. C/TSD had no basic arguments with the paper (other than that he believes 'whether' has already been established) and agrees basically with the recommendations--and appears to be willing to go along with a proposal for joint action if DDS&T is willing to put up the money;

e. He believes that the SRI people would agree to the conditions set out in the paper.

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