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Approved For Release 2004/09/09 : CIA-RDP96-00788R001100060006-9

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PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE
ON INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

February 5, 1979

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MEMORANDUM FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dear Colleague:

The Subcommittee on Evaluation has for almost a year and a half been following the intelligence community's activities in the field of parapsychology or remote viewing. It also can be described by other terms such as mental imagery or ESP. Parapsychology denotes the ability of certain individuals to access and describe, by means of mental processes, information which is ordinarily blocked from human perception by distance or shielding, and generally accepted as secure against such access. The aspect which has been investigated most has been to test the ability of a subject to remote view geographical locations even at intercontinental distances, given only geographical coordinates or a known person on whom to focus.

The Subcommittee began its investigation in an attempt to determine whether the community's activities in this area were above board and not part of the "mind control" activities of the Central Intelligence Agency where in some cases the rights of individuals were violated.

While the Subcommittee has not made any determination to endorse the experimentation as valid or invalid, it does find that continued activity in this field may offer promise in applications to intelligence problems.

Thus, I have asked that Doctors Harold Puthoff and Russell Targ of SRI International, formerly Stanford Research Institute, brief the full Committee next Tuesday, February 13, at 10 a.m. The briefing will be classified. Doctors Puthoff and Targ are both physicists who did early work in high-energy laser physics. They have appeared before such scientific

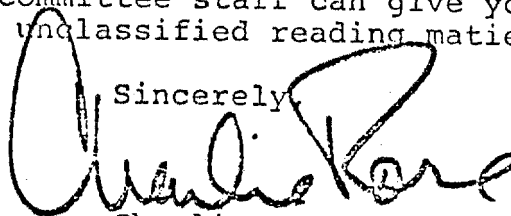
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bodies as the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, have published in the IEEE Journal, and most recently gave a presentation before the American Association for the Advancement of Science convention in Houston last month.

Since there is considerable sensitivity to parapsychology in the scientific community because of the inability to attach to parapsychology the principles and/or laws of physics, as well as with the uniformed who would label such research more mind control experimentation, it would be appreciated if their appearance before the Committee be kept privileged.

I think you will find this presentation interesting and exciting. I urge you to attend. If you would like additional background prior to the briefing, Dick Giza (225-5658) of the Subcommittee staff can give you a detailed pre-brief and provide unclassified reading materials.

Sincerely,



Charlie Rose

Chairman, Subcommittee on Evaluation