

Aperture

The Official Newsletter of the International Remote Viewing Association



IRVA News

Organizing the 2004 Remote Viewing Conference continues apace, and we are busily at work finalizing all of the myriad details involved. You can expect a great conference at the Texas Station Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas this year, featuring leading figures in remote-viewing applications and research offering presentations, workshops, and the latest information on the art and science of the discipline. Details, as always, are available at www.RVConference.org or by calling toll-free (866) 374-IRVA. Come on down!

On April 3-5, 2004, longtime psi pioneer and IRVA director Stephan Schwartz will be presenting his experiential seminar, Remote Viewing Through Time and Space, at Atlantic University in Virginia Beach, Virginia. For class and registration information, call (800) 428-1512 or access the school's website at www.atlanticuniv.org.

The first presentation of Stephan's seminar last November yielded some truly blockbuster results, accurately foretelling significant aspects—over a month ahead—of the capture of deposed dictator Saddam Hussein in Iraq. The details comprise this month's Feature Article. Also, IRVA President Skip Atwater's exciting new Remote Viewing Practicum at The Monroe Institute is tellingly profiled by Fran Theis, a recent, happy participant in the event.

Also in this issue, feedback in the form of "setting the record straight" is highlighted, as IRVA Vice President Paul H. Smith offers a riposte to critics of the U.S. Government's remote-viewing program, and IRVA director Lyn Buchanan replies to Dale Graff's recent review of Lyn's new book, *The Seventh Sense*, based on readers' questions. There's more, of course, and we trust you'll enjoy the whole issue. Oh, and don't forget to re-up your membership in IRVA to keep new issues of *Aperture* coming your way! — *The Editors*

Aperture

Ap - er - ture (ap'ěr-chěr) n. 1. A hole, cleft, gap, or space through which something, such as light, may pass. 2. A term of art in certain remote viewing methodologies, signifying the point or portal through which information transitions from the subconscious into conscious awareness.



Inside This Issue

- Science, Not Magic 2
- Feature Article 3
- ReView
 - Atwater's RV Practicum 5
 - New Directions in Psi Research 7
- RV Research 8
- Feed Back 9
- Letter to the Editor 12
- Taskings & Responses 19
- About IRVA 20

Be sure to check out the enclosed conference flyer on our upcoming RV Conference in June!



APERTURE

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A General Membership in IRVA is \$35 per year (\$45 outside the US and Canada), which includes a subscription to *Aperture* and discounts on major conferences.

Letters and contributions to *Aperture* are invited. All manuscripts, review copies, reprints, and information items should be addressed to the Editor. Submission of material does not guarantee its publication.

Web—<http://www.irva.org>



Science, Not Magic

A Response to Recent Comments on the U.S. Government's Remote Viewing Program

by Paul H. Smith, Maj. USA (ret.)

In 2000, *The Intelligencer*, the journal of the Association of Former Intelligence Officers, published two articles attacking both the U.S. government's involvement in remote viewing and parapsychology in general.¹ Both articles were loosely focused reviews of W. Adam Mandelbaum's book, *The Psychic Battlefield*. The editor of *The Intelligencer* invited dissenting views to be published in response. As a consequence, remote-viewing pioneer Dr. Harold Puthoff provided his article, "CIA-Initiated Remote Viewing At Stanford Research Institute" (available on the IRVA website at <http://www.irva.org/Papers.shtml>), and I submitted a version of this paper, "Science, Not Magic," in direct rebuttal to those articles.² Upon reading my article recently, *Aperture's* editor, Bill Eagles, suggested that I rework it and submit it for publication. In the absence here of the journal articles to which mine was a response, I have recast my piece in a modified question-and-response format to retain as much of the flavor of the articles' arguments as possible.

Claim: *Visual information cannot be transmitted to the brain except by visible light; the brain works via electrical impulses, but is well-shielded from external electrical sources—otherwise, all the*

interference would make mental functioning impossible;

further, scientific tests to see if the weakly detectable brain waves radiating through the human skull could produce parapsychological phenomena failed to show any evidence of unusual electromagnetic activity. Therefore, since there is no mechanism in the human being capable of producing the kinds of effects claimed by parapsychologists, ESP claims must be false.

This argument seems to be based on a long-outmoded belief that ESP must in some way be dependent on electromagnetic (EM) radiation, such as radio waves or microwaves. But parapsychologists discounted this theory long ago, and virtually no one takes it seriously anymore. One reason this argument turns up every now and again is that electromagnetism is the only recourse open to physical science for "action-at-a-distance" that is sufficient to explain parapsychological effects. However, one of the major objectives of the SRI-International (SRI) research in the 1970s was to examine whether electromagnetism could explain remote viewing. SRI's results and conclusions were published in the 1981 proceedings



continued on page 13



Feature Article

Remote Viewing Finds Saddam Hussein Before His Capture – Seminar students identify the fugitive leader and his whereabouts ahead of time.

Adapted from Venture Inward magazine (March 2004), a publication of Edgar Cayce's Association for Research and Enlightenment (www.edgarcayce.org). Used by permission.

The clairvoyance of the famous Christian mystic Edgar Cayce (1877 - 1945) was a remarkable example of extended remote viewing, but how well can ordinary people perform the same task? Those who took part in Atlantic University's remote-viewing seminar conducted by researcher Stephan A. Schwartz in early November 2003 discovered the real-world answer for themselves. Schwartz, a founding director of the International Remote Viewing Association and longtime applied-psi researcher, is the internationally recognized author of *The Secret Vaults of Time*, *The Alexandria Project*, *Mind Rover*, and *Remote Viewing: The Modern Mental Martial Art*.

On November 3rd, students in the seminar were asked to "remote view" the future to solve what was

students were photocopied and distributed to several people, and the originals turned over to an independent third party (in this case, Atlantic University Administrator Herk Stokely), who placed the session documents in an envelope, that was then sealed before a notary and placed in the vault of the Association for Research and Enlightenment in Virginia Beach, Virginia.

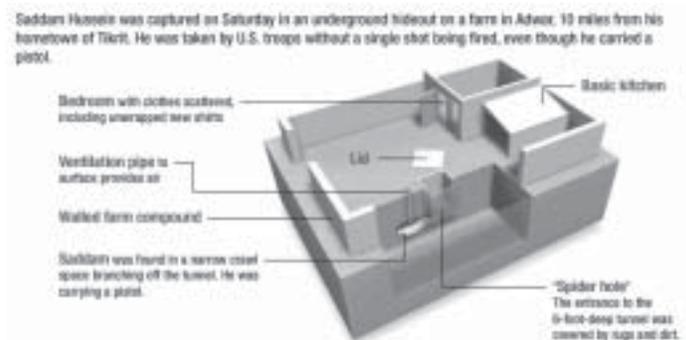
After being collected, the students' data were analyzed, and two categories of impressions were given particular consideration: (1) points of consensus concerning Saddam's physical location; and, (2) "low *a priori*" observations (i.e., hard-to-predict details, such as his appearance) about the day of his capture. "This consensus-analysis technique is analogous to that used by police detectives when recon-



A drawing of Saddam's hiding place created during Stephan Schwartz's remote viewing experiment, November 3, 2003.

then one of the most pressing challenges facing the U.S. government: Where is deposed Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein? After teaching the basic skills of remote viewing, Schwartz asked his students to "describe the location of Saddam Hussein at the time of his capture or discovery by U.S. or coalition forces."

The session was conducted as an authentic double-blind experiment, as neither Schwartz, the viewers, nor anyone else in the U.S. knew the whereabouts of the former Iraqi dictator. Schwartz used the same consensus protocol as in many previous experiments, in which lost archaeological sites and shipwrecks were found. The sense-impression data produced by the seminar's stu-



A diagram of the building where Saddam was captured on December 16th, showing his hiding place in a tiny crawlspace.

structing an event based on eyewitness observations," Schwartz said. "Each person provides independent data. Not everyone will see every aspect, and not everything they say will be correct, however sincerely they mean it." By comparing the individual impressions, patterns can emerge, and certain observations stand out. Through the use of this consensus approach, a reasonable approximation of what actually occurred is constructed. The remote-viewing data are used in the same way, although they describe an event that has not yet occurred.

continued on page 4

Remote Viewing Finds Saddam Hussein, continued from page 3

Analysis of the sense impressions of the 47 participants yielded the following future scenario:

- Saddam Hussein will be found crouching in a subterranean room or cave, which is reached by a tunnel. It will be beneath an ordinary-looking house on the outskirts of a small village near Tikrit. The house will be part of a small compound that is bordered on one side by a dirt road and, on the other, by a nearby river. There will be vegetation, including a large palm tree in the area.
- Hussein will look like a homeless person, with dirty rough clothing, long ratty hair, and a substantial and equally ratty salt-and-pepper beard. He will have only two or three supporters with him at the time of his discovery. He will have a gun and a quantity of money with him. He will be defiant, but will not put up any resistance; in fact, he will be tired and dispirited.



On November 7th, the Pentagon announced that a special “covert commando force to hunt Saddam Hussein” had been established. On December 15th, hundreds of soldiers from the Raider Brigade, along with cavalry engineers, artillery, aviation, and special operations forces, prepared to move on two locations. “In terms of the remote-viewing information,” Schwartz said, “it is ironic that even with reliable information provided by an informant, U.S. forces initially failed to grab Saddam in Tikrit.” The following day, however, in that same area, U.S. troops finally captured Saddam.

Comparing the remote viewers’ consensus with published newspaper accounts of Hussein’s capture, some striking correlations were revealed (quotes are from various news sources):

“Inside that shack, a Styrofoam plug closed Saddam’s subterranean hideaway. Dirt and a rug covered the entryway to the hole.”

“U.S. forces encountered no resistance during Red Dawn.”

“Saddam was armed with a pistol, but showed no resistance during his capture.”

“He was a tired man and also a man resigned to his fate,” said Lt. Gen. Ricardo Sanchez, commander of U.S. forces.

“Soldiers also recovered two AK-47 rifles, \$750,000 in \$100 denominations ... in the raid.”

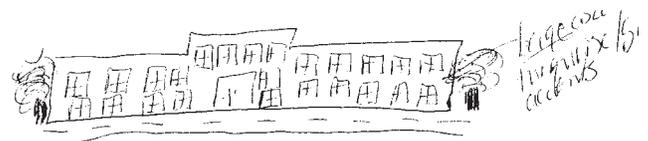
“Troops took two other unidentified Iraqis affiliated with Saddam into custody.”

As impressive as the written descriptions of the capture are, so were the drawings that accompanied them. A few examples (on this page) make this clear. Compare a remote-viewed sketch of the capture house with its picture, and do the same with a remote-viewed drawing of the hiding space with its air vent, and the schematic of the site provided by the U.S. military.

“This was just an experiment,” Schwartz emphasized. “We had no access to military forces, and, without that, there is no way to operationalize such information. People often forget that remote viewing is just a piece of a complex puzzle, not some magic bullet that alone solves the problem. However, it is difficult to resist the conclusion that, had we been able to get it to someone in the command structure who was prepared to act on it, this data might have been quite useful.”

Schwartz said that, in addition to archaeological sites, remote viewing has been used in the past to describe sites in the former Soviet Union and to locate a downed aircraft important to U.S. national security, the latter fact acknowledged by President Jimmy Carter. Schwartz also noted that literally hundreds of cases are documented in which remote viewing has helped in crime solving. ☸

Stephan Schwartz will once again teach the techniques used in the Saddam Hussein remote-viewing experiment in a three-day Atlantic University seminar, April 3-5, 2004. For information and to register, call (800) 428-1512 or e-mail registrar@atlanticuniv.edu.



ReView

By Fran Theis

Skip Atwater's Remote Viewing Practicum



IRVA President Skip Atwater's recent Remote Viewing Practicum, held in the beautiful hills of Virginia at The Monroe Institute (TMI), was an inclusive presentation of the entire spectrum of remote-viewing techniques currently available to serious viewers. Skip provided sufficiently detailed material about principal remote-viewing styles that students with no previous experience in remote viewing could easily identify and immediately begin to utilize a protocol or style that suited their personal taste. Several members of the class of eighteen were previously trained in remote viewing, but most were new to RV.

Based on a residential format similar to other TMI programs, the Practicum was an opportunity for participants to get to know one another while enjoying activity-packed days that began with exercise at 7:15 am and often continued until well past 10 in the evening. Class instruction, discussion, and instructive videos were interspersed with practical application, individualized experiential sessions, and Skip's entertaining as well as highly informative lectures. Meals in the main dining room and a mid-afternoon break provided time for personal interaction, and many new friendships were made within this unusually talented group of people. Among the approximately half-male and half-female mix of students were business owners, educators, a nuclear physicist, and a former NASA engineer, all hailing from as far away as Alaska and Scandinavia. All were graduates of TMI's Gateway Voyager program, a prerequisite for taking the Remote Viewing Practicum.

Skip introduced students to specifically designed Hemi-Sync tapes that he uses as training tools, providing a unique type of exercise that sets his Practicum apart from other remote-viewing courses. Students were taught to utilize RV 10, 12, 15 and 21, which are different than the focus-level tapes that graduates of other TMI programs have come to know.

If a program can be said to have its own mantra, then the mantra of Skip's Practicum was, "Intent is everything!" Skip taught that, underlying all of the remote-viewing styles and protocols (along with the basic behaviors of relaxing, connecting, listening, becoming aware, and reporting), the most important ingredient in

remote viewing is intent. And because the concept of underlying intent is integral to each and every remote-viewing technique, the mantra was repeated until everyone had no doubt of the importance of the concept.

The Practicum introduced students to CRV (controlled remote viewing), ARV (associative remote viewing), DRV (dream remote viewing), ERV (extended remote viewing), PRV (predictive remote viewing), RRV (resonant remote viewing), SRV (initials used for both scientific remote viewing and spiritual remote viewing), TRV (technical remote viewing), and also encouraged the use of "YRV," Skip's tongue-in-cheek name for "your own personal approach to remote viewing." Skip gave particular attention to the Controlled Remote Viewing protocol and its exceptional format for providing detailed data, and showed a video in which Paul Smith explains the basics of CRV. The interesting Hawaii Remote Viewers Guild method was also presented in considerable depth, again via video. Additionally, Skip provided handouts about other remote-viewing courses and educational opportunities to students who desired to go further in their studies or become remote-viewing professionals.

Because reliable remote viewing requires the skills of additional trained individuals apart from the remote viewer, Skip put an emphasis on learning to "monitor" remote viewers effectively, as well as the role of the judge. Going into detail on the subject of the importance of blind differential discrimination, he demonstrated how to break out viewers' descriptions into measurable details for recordkeeping and determining individual viewer-dependability ratings. Everyone in the class had the opportunity not only to work repeatedly as a viewer, but also to act as judge and monitor. In a precisely managed and carefully protected experimental protocol, students participated in an ongoing study that Skip is doing in cooperation with Dr. Dean Radin, head scientist at the Institute of Noetic Sciences in Petaluma, California. Those who wanted additional RV practice were provided with extra targets they could do

continued on page 6

Skip Atwater's Remote Viewing Practicum, continued from page 5

in whatever spare time they could manage to find. At meals during the last several days of the Practicum, Skip would circulate among the students, offering numbered practice envelopes that contained miscellaneous photos, tapes, and other target feedback, and collecting completed practice projects.

Branching out into the practical application of RV techniques, beyond the process of becoming aware and reporting, students were introduced to the concept of "the intention to heal." During a remote-viewing healing exercise, while utilizing a Hemi-Sync tape, this writer experienced an amazingly accurate understanding of the medical situation of my target individual. Whether I was instrumental in actually providing a healing benefit to the person is open to question, but there is certainly no doubt that I remote-viewed the woman's physical problems. How do I know? Because I was given post-RV confirmatory information on her condition when I opened the target-feedback envelope. That experience, which demonstrated the potentially important and truly profound nature of remote viewing, came as an unexpected added benefit to the information one would reasonably expect to acquire during any week of comprehensive remote-viewing instruction.

Skip Atwater, once again, is leading the way in

the development of remote viewing by offering within his Practicum a marvelous overview of the wide range of remote-viewing styles, along with his origination of useful Hemi-Sync RV tools. Leading by doing, Skip demonstrates that public discussion surrounding remote viewing should no longer be about whose remote-viewing technique is best, but rather which remote-viewing technique is most energizing to and most useful for each individual remote viewer. Like the very personal process of selecting a new pair of shoes that fit perfectly, Skip proves that deciding which remote-viewing technique or protocol one will use is very much a matter of personal taste and, ultimately, individual usefulness.

Skip's recent book, *Captain Of My Ship, Master Of My Soul*, contains fascinating information about his personal experiences with remote viewing; his website is www.skipatwater.com. For scheduling information and more details about Skip Atwater's Remote Viewing Practicum, see TMI's website at www.monroeinstitute.com. ☯

Fran Theis is an experienced student in the field of remote viewing, having been trained via courses offered through Remote Viewing Instructional Services (www.rviewer.com) and The Monroe Institute (www.monroeinstitute.com).

In the last issue of *Aperture* (2:2), on page 19, the caption of the photo of the 2003 Remote Viewing Conference speakers notes the absence of Skip Atwater, who was elsewhere when the photo was taken. Missing too from that group shot was Dale Graff, who also spoke at the conference. As there were no photos of Dale anywhere in that issue, we seek to amend that oversight now, by including the accompanying pictures of the two absentees!



Dale Graff



Skip Atwater

Photos courtesy Fay Atwater

ReView

By William P. Eagles

Mind in Matter: New Directions in Psi Research



The Institute of Noetic Sciences (IONS) has recently produced a half-hour video aimed at promoting awareness of and donations to the 30-year old research and education organization, and is sent gratis to all new and renewing members as an incentive. The video spotlights a conference held at IONS's Petaluma, California campus in 2003 titled *Mind in Matter: New Directions in Psi Research*, detailing the psi research initiatives undertaken by the institute in recent years. The conference included a series of lectures by notable researchers in the field, and at least one panel discussion, and was attended by approximately 70 people. Presenters included IRVA director and past president Russell Targ, Cornell psychologist Daryl Bem, University of California at Irvine statistician Jessica Utts, nuclear physicist Edwin May, research scientists Dean Radin and Leanna Standish, Apollo 14 astronaut Edgar Mitchell, and IONS's science and education vice president Marilyn Schlitz.

Psi is defined at the outset to include telepathy, clairvoyance, precognition, and psychokinesis (and later "remote viewing"), and emphasis is placed on the scientific exploration and validation of these various phenomena. Daryl Bem, identifying himself as a past president of "Psychic Entertainers" as well as a serious psi researcher, provided an initial example of magic masquerading as remote viewing, by way of emphasizing to his audience the importance of rigorous scientific controls in psi experimentation and a skepticism of anecdotal reports. Russell Targ offered an overview of efforts undertaken by his late daughter, psychiatrist and researcher Elizabeth Targ, among others, to explore "Distant Mental Influence," that is, the use of directed thought to heal or otherwise affect the autonomic physiological activity of others. In particular, the younger Targ oversaw a program to gauge the healing or palliative effects of prayer by psychics and alternative healers on patients who were HIV positive.

Russell also discussed the essence of the remote viewing skill, and Edwin May later noted how numerous experiments with Joe McMoneagle determined that a "beacon" person was non-essential to the success of outbouncer-type remote-viewing sessions. Addressing the question of "how does it work?" Leanna Standish reviewed experiments that attempted to document what she called "Distant Neural Energy Transfer," a term that

connotes the existence of some kind of physical mechanism that would explain the RV phenomenon. Through researchers' use of the electroencephalograph (EEG) machine and functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), Standish claimed that there is now, for the first time, neurophysiological evidence for the transfer of signals between two individuals' brains at a physical distance from one another. Evidence, that is, for non-local consciousness. The nature of such "signals," if any there really are, is the stuff of further research.

The conferees also addressed the issue of what the limits of consciousness might be, if any. That is, is consciousness isolated in the brains of individuals or is there some kind of collective consciousness field that permeates everything? In this vein, Dean Radin covered the project that he and Roger Nelson developed with their "Global Consciousness Program." Using a global network of 50 random number generators, they evaluated the degree to which these devices responded to events in the world that attract mass attention (such as the 9/11 terror attacks). Presenting the details, Radin's resultant hypothesis is that "mind" influences the physical world a little, and coherent collective minds may influence the world a lot.

Viewers were encouraged to test their own psi abilities by use of a simple quiet-your-mind protocol that was written on-screen. Later, Russell reminded the audience that increasing distance between a viewer and his/her target does not serve to degrade psychic ability at all. And, while the consensus opinion of the panel of Targ, May, Bem, and Radin was that psi cannot be learned *per se*, anyone's native ability can be enhanced through actually using whatever ability he or she has. Meditators seem to do best.

Notably, IRVA's current president, Skip Atwater, attended the conference and was captured on camera as saying that it was a very positive experience indeed! Further information about IONS and its ongoing research efforts may be gained from its website www.noetic.org or by calling Charlene Farrell at (707) 779-8212. ☉

William P. Eagles is Managing Editor of Aperture and IRVA's Secretary. A longtime aficionado of paranormal abilities, he is a writer, advocate, and noetic advisor.



RV Research

By Bill Stroud, Ph. D.

The Essential Overlap Matrix: An Extension For A Remote-Viewing Tool

In commenting on my article, “The Essential Overlap Matrix: An Extension for a Remote-Viewing Tool,” (*Aperture* 2:2), Lyn Buchanan shared with me an observation concerning a possible confusion in using my “essential overlap matrix” (EOM) in complex CRV sessions. As usual, his critique seems well founded and, with his permission, I pass it on to *Aperture’s* readers.

As I explained in my article, the idea of the EOM was to make a list of the images that occur during a remote-viewing session so that one can examine them to see if there is any overlap of common elements such as functions/actions or shapes/forms. Lyn Buchanan pointed out that doing this might sometimes cause a problem, especially when the session data of different sets of images come from distinct and different features within the given target. For example, one might attribute one group of images to a particular gestalt or detail of the target, when in fact these images are actually related to some other aspect of the target.

For instance, in the session cited in the article (p.16), the EOM presents a list of images that had an essential overlap in form/shape (“billows/rounded forms collected together”) and function/action (“rushing action expressing much energy”). However, if the target (an erupting geyser) also had had a group of people standing around watching it, many images (Stray Cats/AOL, etc.) might have appeared that could have had an essential overlap of form/shape and function/action related to the group of people, one that is completely dif-

ferent from the matrix related specifically to the geyser. Consequently, the viewer might unintentionally mix together the two sets of images, leading to confusion and false conclusions.

Summarily, Lyn’s observation can be posed as a challenge: In listing images within a matrix, how does one prevent incorporating within the matrix images from two or more distinct descriptive sets of images? Or, posed from a methodological standpoint: How does one establish a matrix for each cluster, since to do so would be to identify which images go in which matrix?

I trust such critiques will not end with Lyn’s observations. The validity of the matrix tool will be only as good as its contribution in clarifying for the conscious mind what so often appear as diverse musical notes, but which, if they can be correctly brought together, should form a harmonious chord. As I stated at the end of the article: “I further expect that any insight it [the matrix tool] might offer will be dwarfed by the numerous new questions it will raise.” As regards this expectation, Lyn has added: “Deciding which images apply to the different features is in-session analysis . . . but so is the regular [Phase 5 of CRV]. That’s what the EOM tool is made for. Both are designed for structured in-session analysis, so there is no conflict between working EOM and the standard ‘Ingo’ [Swann] protocols.”

Bill Stroud, Ph.D.
Clearwater, Florida

Taskings & Responses

(Q & A)

Have you been burning to ask a question of some remote-viewing expert? Are you wanting to know something about remote viewing, but didn’t know where to turn for an answer? We will be printing questions and answers in the “Taskings & Responses” column in future issues of *Aperture*. Please forward your questions to:

Janet@irva.org (with T&R Editor in the subject line), or mail to:
T&R Editor,
Aperture, Box 381,
E. Windsor Hill, CT 06028.



Feed Back

A Response to Questions

By Lyn Buchanan



Dale Graff wrote an excellent review of my new book, *The Seventh Sense*, in *Aperture 2:1*, published last November. In my opinion, it was the best review done so far, because it was so in-depth and complete. Some individuals have written to me focusing on the negative parts, but I believe that a truly good book review will present both the pros and cons. Besides, I feel that if you can't take a little criticism, you ought not to publish. The review has caused several people to write questions to me about some of the points made, and I would like to make the answers public, for everyone's further education. Going through the article, I will answer only those points about which questions have been received.

1. My comment about the potential for gaining more benefit from CRV than from "going to a guru for a month and living on saw grass and swamp water" was an attempt at humor. Of course, where political situations (which the RV field contains) are concerned, there is no humor that will not be taken as prejudicial. If anyone was offended by this statement, I sincerely apologize. I still stand by the statement as fact, but also realize now that it could be taken another way apart from either fact or humor. No prejudice was intended, and I hope that it didn't set a tone that would color the rest of the book.
2. Concerning the computer-meltdown incident in Augsburg, Germany: Dale shows skepticism about this event, which, to tell the truth, I have always had myself. He suggests that this is one of those stories that has "grown with the retelling." Indeed, I have always thought that this may be true. However, the event itself did happen. By the time Major General Stubblebine came to Augsburg and interviewed me about it, an investigation had been done, and it was found that the computer crash had included intelligence computers across Europe. Did I cause that, personally? I tend to doubt it. I think that it was some kind of domino effect, and that the line of dominoes probably fell because of the one com-

puter, rather than me somehow crashing thousands of them. However, from that day on, MG Stubblebine related the story as a mental act affecting them all.

Years later, shortly after retirement, I was sitting in the cafeteria of the Department of the Interior, when I was approached by a man who told me that he was a retired Australian intelligence officer. He introduced himself and sat down at my table. He said that he had heard about the incident and wanted to talk about it. He related that, "evidently, on that same day," the same thing had happened in Australia to their intelligence network as well. He made the assumption that I had caused it. He said that he recognized me because one of his men, who had a strong interest in this type of thing, had somehow obtained a picture of me from my presentation at the American University, and had pinned it to the wall of his cubicle as some sort of mental hero. And so, I think that Dale called this one correctly—at least I suspect so. I have no way of knowing whether the Australian incident actually took place at the same time as the Augsburg incident, but strongly suspect that the Australian officer had simply associated the two in his own mind.

Throughout this early period of my retirement, I was associated closely with MG Stubblebine and was not about to interrupt the general to correct a favorite story. I can definitely state, though, that it did grow more interesting with each retelling. As for the ability to perform psychokinesis on a worldwide basis simultaneously, I remain open to the possibility, but still reserve strong doubts that anyone (myself included) presently has such a capability. Therefore, I would tend to agree with Dale that this incident has "grown with the retelling." However, the part that I experienced was as I reported it.

continued on page 10

Feed Back, continued from page 9

3. Dale states that only one U.S. senator ever visited the unit, but I definitely remember such a visit during my early years there, before Dale had come to the unit as its director. I know that Dale was involved with the unit earlier than that, and should have known whether such an event had happened, but the event took place as I remember it, and is not made up.
4. My date of the “CIA taking over the project” is indeed in error, as Dale has stated. This is one where a little more homework on my part would have made for increased accuracy. The year was 1995, not 1993. In fact, I am surprised that I wrote “1993,” because I even stopped by the unit once in 1994. As for the phraseology that the CIA “took over” the project, I should have more accurately written that the project was “passed over to the CIA for review.” There is probably some fine distinction that is important to military history, but it is my understanding that the CIA did, in fact, take the project, but only for the purpose of dismembering it. As for the renaming of the project as STAR GATE, that did happen as Dale said. I was even there when it happened. When I read Dale’s note about this, I went back and read the book, and had a true Homer Simpson moment (“Doh!”). I couldn’t believe that I’d let such a mistake slip past my editing. Good catch, Dale!
5. Dale states that my account of the military unit being cut back to one CRVer, a tarot-card reader, and an automatic writer is tantamount to casting a “negative image” on the event. I suspect that Dale’s mindset at this point was colored by his earlier assumption caused by his take on my “guru” comment. The unit was indeed cut back to those personnel. That is a statement of fact, not some kind of negative judgment. In actual fact, I have seen work done by the automatic writer, which—on specific occasions—was of a quality not matched by any of the CRVers. There was no negative intent on my part in this account.

The session about the Chernobyl nuclear incident was not included in the military unit’s files because it was not tasked from up the chain.

6. Concerning the Brigadier General James Dozier affair, Dale states that, “Unfortunately, this information never made it to me or to anyone else involved in the search, because of an administrative time delay.” I highly suspect that the “administrative time delay” was facilitated by someone’s hesitancy to believe a remote viewer’s results. Even if the information had gone forward, though, one must understand that the results of the remote-viewing unit were never acted on directly, but that the information was always filtered in with other information from other sources, in the analysis process. I think that “administrative delay” here may have included throwing out the information due to the emphasis placed on “consensus reporting,” which has led to the tossing of a lot of good information.
7. Concerning Colonel William Higgins, Dale mentions that no report of his death was passed up from the unit to the DIA. This may be true. I do know, however, that I did the session and found those results. Again, “consensus reporting” becomes a culprit. Unless several viewers found the same information, it would not have been reported. I always wonder how much good information never made it past our own people, simply because the process we used failed us at this very point.
8. The session about the Chernobyl nuclear incident was not included in the military unit’s files because it was not tasked from up the chain. It was a demo-type tasking to simply “tell what will be in this weekend’s papers.” It was done to show a newly arrived analyst, Gene, what kind of results he could expect to see. It was a “let’s do this over the weekend” type of assignment, not one officially tasked from above our unit. Nobody’s results from that weekend tasking were ever logged into the database, since the project was not official in nature. There were actually a lot of these, and neither Dale nor anyone up the chain of command would have known of any of them.
9. The accessing of Saddam Hussein: Dale recounts that such tasking was only given on a weekly

(or so) basis, not daily. This is probably true, but the fact is that it sometimes resulted in the performance of almost daily sessions to keep track. The timing of the tasking is one thing, the timing of the sessions is another.

10. Concerning Saddam Hussein's possession of a U.S. missile: Like Dale, I find it very hard to believe that any one session's results were ever acted upon without collateral information. I strongly believe that whoever acted on that session would either have already had information concerning the event, or would have gone to other sources for confirmation. It would have been dumb to do anything without collateral information. I was told this account a couple of years after it happened by a person who somehow knew about the session, who somehow knew that I had done it, and who said that he was involved in the resulting project. I've always been suspicious that the person was either trying to make me feel good for my contribution to the process, or that the information had grown in importance in that person's mind. Either way, it has always bothered me that someone could associate me with the session, as we were supposed to have been protected from such identification through the use of viewer numbers. Nonetheless, the session was as I wrote, and the account of the results was as they were told to me.

11. The project's existence for 18 years instead of 24 is a fact.

However, the unit did not spring whole and complete from nothing. Work was done before that time, and my estimate of 24 years includes things that I have learned of, which extends the real history of the project further back than its official formation.

12. The story of the Russian particle-beam weapon is one that could not have been made more exact by doing more homework. In fact, when I read Dale's account of it, I wondered where such information could be found, or if it has yet been released to the public. I am aware of the PNUITS project and have a high degree of certainty that

the target for this particular session was not the PNUITS facility.

13. The Perfect Site Integration in this instance is what Ingo Swann calls "bilocation," not analytic overlay (AOL). I was surprised by Dale's confusion of the two. Bilocation is a known artifact of CRV. Dale's "Dream State Psi" (DSP) and "Conscious State Psi" (CSP) are terms with which I am not presently familiar and therefore would not have used. They may come from his research or may be his own terminology. I confess that I'm ignorant on that point, but the bilocation experience is well known to CRVers and certainly does not require a viewer to be unconscious or in a dream state to experience it.

14. About the wording of a move command, Dale brings up a very good point. The command was, "Move to the time of beam activation." It surprised me that there was confusion about this command in Dale's mind, because he worked so closely with us for so long. Such a command would never have been given by any monitor in our unit unless I had first identified through viewing that I had found such a beam, and that there was a time before it existed and a time when it existed. Then, the monitor is free to give such a cue; and, in fact, such a cue is not only within structure, but also an appropriate one to give.

15. Concerning the air raid on Libyan dictator Muammar Qaddafi's home: When the director told me that my session was instrumental in deciding whether to stage the raid, I also found it hard to believe. I understand that any such value it may have had would be from its mixture with information from other sources. No action was ever taken solely as a result of a remote viewer's session. There was no implication that the session was solely responsible for the decision to attack or not. The fact is that the director at that time did task me with the coordinates, the session was performed and the sketch made, and the director did tell me what I related after the results of the raid hit the newspapers. In relating this story, I was retelling what I was

The Perfect Site Integration in this instance is what Ingo Swann calls "bilocation," not analytic overlay (AOL).

Feed Back, continued from page 11

told by my director. Whether my director was joking, mistaken, or simply making an assumption, or had feedback from his taskers is something I can never know. I can only relate what I was told.

16. About “fixed futures:” A more careful reading of my understanding of time would show that I definitely do not believe in a “fixed future.” My personal belief, which I tried to show in the book, is that only a few things are fixed in time and therefore inevitable. Almost everything else is only probable, not predestined. Acting on information from the future can and probably will change it. I even suspect that the very act of viewing the future changes it to some extent. In other words, “the future isn’t what it used to be,” and, by tomorrow, it will have changed again.

There are other points in Dale’s review about which I could comment, but I have limited my discussion in this piece to only those matters that have caused IRVA members to raise questions with me in private. I would like to reiterate my thanks to Dale for an extremely good and professional book review. I find it very pleasing indeed to read a review and feel that the person who wrote it actually took the time to dissect the information provided and take a realistic look, and even do some homework in the course of writing it. I found the review to be very impressive and, if I ever finish my next book, would certainly invite Dale to do a review of it as well, with just as keen and discerning an eye towards perfection.

Lyn Buchanan
Alamogordo, New Mexico



Letter to the Editor

To the Editors:

After reading Dale Graff’s review of Lyn Buchanan’s “The Seventh Sense” (*Aperture* 2:1), I must admit that I was disappointed. Mr. Graff’s caveats of “subjective memories” and stories that have “grown with the retelling” do not veil his personal dislike of the author. Nor did his attempt at scientific posturing conceal his frequent self-serving criticism of Lyn Buchanan’s attitudes, beliefs, and verbiage when they differed from his own.

I also wonder if Mr. Graff understood the possible implications of his comment, “I can only wonder what influence the editor of this book may have had, since she also served as [Psychic Warrior author David] Morehouse’s literary agent.” In light of Mr. Morehouse’s reputation with the fairer sex, it was in poor taste, to say the least.

Perceptions and memories invariably change with time, and I am not opposed to Mr. Graff challenging Lyn’s (or anyone else’s) assertions and/or historical recollections by offering differing dates and circumstances. Over the years, I have read many conflicting facts and opinions from military-unit members who are still on a cordial basis—including those who have questioned statements made by Joe McMoneagle.

It’s unfortunate that Mr. Graff was not more circumspect, and less emotional, while attempting to convey his views.

Cheryle Hopton
Las Vegas, Nevada

This issue’s Website Quick-Reference Guide

International Remote Viewing Association
Edgar Cayce’s Association for Research and Enlightenment
Captain Of My Ship, Master Of My Soul, by Skip Atwater
Institute Of Noetic Sciences (IONS)
Remote Viewing Instructional Services, Inc.
The Monroe Institute
Remote Viewing Through Time and Space seminar

www.irva.org
www.edgarcayce.org
www.skipatwater.com
www.noetic.org
www.rviewer.com
www.monroeinstitute.com
www.atlanticuniv.org

Science, Not Magic, continued from page 1

of a symposium sponsored by the American Association for the Advancement of Science on the then state-of-the-art parapsychology research.

These proceedings featured a lengthy scientific report by Puthoff, Russell Targ, and Dr. Edwin May demonstrating that electromagnetism cannot account for remote-viewing effects (some of this material was published earlier in the popular book, *Mind Reach*). Using electrically shielded rooms, long-distance remote-viewing experiments (because EM signal strength falls off dramatically with distance), and even experiments from deep under the ocean (because large quantities of seawater shield out the longest-wave radio signals that penetrate most other materials), Puthoff and associates were able to eliminate virtually the entire electromagnetic spectrum as a plausible carrier for remote-viewing “signals.” For more than two decades, therefore, it has been known that remote viewing does not depend on radio waves or any other electromagnetic effect.³

Claim: *In late 1987, the National Research Council (NRC), an arm of the National Academy of Sciences, published a study that had been commissioned by the U.S. Army.⁴ The study reviewed sleep-learning, neurolinguistic programming, and other “human potential” technologies, and claimed to find most—but not all—lacking for the most part. They also examined parapsychology, remote viewing in particular, and re-*

ported it all to be of no use. But the government continued to spend money anyway!

Unfortunately, the 1987 NRC study cited approvingly above was fraught with controversy, brought on by the revelation that evidence supporting demonstrated psi effects was deliberately suppressed by the report’s anti-paranormal drafters. Further, the NRC researchers

were *never given access* to the U.S. government’s operational remote-viewing program, and therefore could not possibly have detected whether it had merit (as has been suggested by some). In the report as written, the reviewers ignored important replications of the SRI research. They also objected that, because remote-viewing results could not be explained by current formulations of the laws of physics (and, in some cases, were not easily analyzable statistically), such results should not be taken seriously. It would seem that all of this, taken together, renders at least the parapsychology portion—if not the entire report—of the NRC study flawed and unreliable.⁵

A fact that is lost on many critics is that some of the best and most convincing parapsychology research has been performed in the past 20 years. Unfortunately, many of them still believe that RV results are not replicable or even modestly predictable. Interestingly, though, one of the most prominent anti-paranormal

skeptics today, Dr. Ray Hyman of the University of Oregon, has publicly admitted that the latest parapsychology research shows a persistent statistical effect



An historical look at ESP, George Cruikshank’s satirical etching “Clairvoyance” (1845, 22 x 15 cm.) shows six vignettes: people under hypnosis are treated to glimpses of their future lives, such scenes as a soldier mutilated; a drunkard wracked by gout; a woman with large inheritance courted; husbands as compulsive gamblers and eaters; drinking companions.

continued on page 14

Science, Not Magic, continued from page 13

beyond chance that he can neither account for nor refute.⁶ Hyman has not gone so far as to acknowledge that psi effects are real, but his admission is still a milestone in the debate.

Claim: *The CIA ran the Star Gate program from 1972-95 and allegedly spent \$20 million in taxpayers' money on it. But there seems to be little to show for that time and money. I see no persuasive evidence that it works. After all, "Extraordinary claims logically require rigorous and robust standards of proof."*⁷

My interlocutor claims that the CIA ran the remote-viewing program from 1972 until 1995. Actually, the CIA abandoned the program in 1975, and not until 20 years later (at the end of June 1995, when the program was deactivated) did Congress require the CIA to take charge of the program's remnants. Interestingly, during the twenty-year period when the CIA did *not* manage the remote-viewing program for the U.S. government, the Agency nonetheless asked the operational remote-viewing unit at Ft. Meade to collect against intelligence questions *at least* 33 times (it may be more; some CIA taskings may have been routed through DIA analysts after 1986).⁸ Evidently, the CIA must have felt that it was getting *some* bang for its buck.

The further observation that "extraordinary claims logically require rigorous and robust standards of proof" merits examination. The observation is true, of course—but in this case only trivially so. Science's goal is to make *every* scientifically grounded claim a logical consequence of a rigorous and robust standard of proof. The article's author no doubt really meant to refer to the now well-worn formula: "Extraordinary claims require extraordinary proof," which was coined years ago by the IRVA's late advisor Dr. Marcello Truzzi. However, there is no logical entailment between the two terms of *this* statement. The connection here is really a psychological one—we emotionally (not logically) feel the need for greater-than-normal certitude when facing a seemingly extraordinary claim. If we look at it from a logical perspective alone, proof is proof is proof—neither the scientific method nor logic can discriminate between proof and "extraordinary proof." "Extraordinary" is a qualitative, and hence subjective, valuation.

But even this is really beside the point, for there is in fact a great deal of credible evidence for the existence of certain kinds of psi phenomena. As only one example, one of America's most respected statisticians, Dr. Jessica Utts of UC-Davis, recently published a peer-reviewed paper showing that statistically analyzed data

from remote-viewing and related experiments demonstrate much better-attested results than, for example, the effect of aspirin therapy on the prevention of heart attacks.⁹ No doubt many readers have, like me, been directed by their doctors to take a daily dose of aspirin based on evidence more "tenuous" than that for ESP. What would our doctors say if we were to give up our aspirin therapy because it had not been "proven" to have a real effect?

Claim: *"Research methods adequate to identify psychic information transfer have been known for at least 50 years, and studies have been attempted by a large number of investigators. [But most] have reached the conclusion that no such channel can be identified. Dissenters argue...that there may be phenomena so subtle that our instruments are inadequate [to detect them]."*¹⁰ *But that seems highly implausible on the face of it.*

The reference to "research methods adequate to identify psychic information transfer" having been available for half a century is puzzling. No such methods have yet been developed, unless the reference is to means for detecting subtle levels of electromagnetic energy. If so, then this seems to be another case of mistaken belief that remote viewing and other psi effects can only be accounted for by appeal to conventional energy transfer—a belief long ago dismissed, as already mentioned.

Claim: *Established principles of physics and biology leave no room to explain the purported claims of parapsychological successes. If we accepted these claims, we would have to dramatically change our concepts of science and the universe. Frankly, the evidence is not there to justify such changes.*

This argument is an appeal to the prevailing scientific status quo: Because remote viewing fails sometimes to follow the rules of physics and biology *as currently understood*, it must therefore be rejected. Unfortunately, this is not a particularly sound argument. Although we certainly should be *cautious* of accepting phenomena that seem to fall outside the science mainstream, it is vacuous to argue against them merely because they do so. When there is rigorous, empirical evidence supporting a controversial claim (as there is with remote viewing and related phenomena, despite skeptics' assertions to the contrary), it is scientifically irresponsible to reject that claim as unresolved just because it does not fit within boundaries drawn by premature certitude. To do so is, in principle, to risk missing important scientific discoveries that might not make sense to us *now*, but will *later* when we know more about the universe—as we inevitably will.

Of course, some think the issue *has* been resolved. One writer of the *Intelligencer* articles in question concluded that “the hypothesis of paranormal information transfer fails for lack of evidence,”¹¹ which other skeptics have asserted as well. On close questioning, however, it often turns out that they have taken someone else’s word for this lack of evidence, and have themselves not bothered to check. In fact, there is a large and significant body of such evidence, as a scan of Dr. Dean Radin’s book, *The Conscious Universe*,¹² would show.

Yet despite all this presumed lack of evidence, one of the writers I responded to still felt the need to explain the rather glaring fact that the program continued for more than 20 years at the cost of (perhaps) \$20 million. He offered four possible scenarios to account for this circumstance (the first two of which are lumped together because they are somewhat related), which I list below along with my rebuttals:¹³

Claim: (1) All the fuss over remote viewing was just a ruse to fool the Soviets into wasting money; or (2) Remote viewing was maintained as a cover to protect other sources and methods of intelligence-gathering that were more sensitive. Perhaps it *was* either one or both of these; on the surface, at least, it could appear that way. But, on the other hand, how could the program have been meant to fool the Soviets when (as now declassified DIA studies show) our worthy adversaries were themselves already heavily (and expensively) involved in psi research, well *before* America’s belated entry into the field?¹⁴ How does one account for the dozens of peer-reviewed science papers produced in the United States and elsewhere during the course of two decades of remote-viewing research, and published in respected journals and various books? What about the program’s now-public alumni (myself among them) who passionately and insistently proclaim remote viewing’s existence and value, despite our being no longer tied to the government in any relevant way? These are questions that must be answered in full before any claim of “disinformation” can be made to stick.

Claim: (3) Despite lack of evidence for remote-viewing success before 1975, it was worth continuing the program for a while to make sure there was nothing to the claim of psi phenomena. This might explain everything, were it not for the fact that there *was* significantly promising evidence turned up during the period 1972-75, which served to stoke the interest of various agencies—the Air Force, the Defense Intelligence Agency, the Army, the Navy, and ARPA/DARPA among them. Some of this material has been published

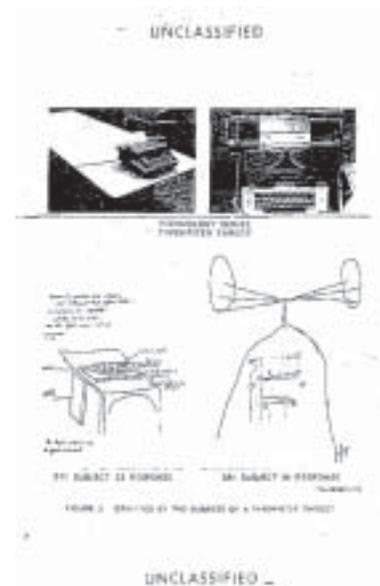
over the years, but much of it—several hundred pages, in fact—has been released only since the program’s existence was declassified.¹⁵ And many more findings were produced over the ensuing years since 1975. Some of these are published, some remain secret.

Claim: (4) Bureaucratic inertia: it is much easier to begin a program than to end one. This rationale is the least plausible of all.

For long periods of the remote-viewing program’s existence, funding had to be renewed—and justified—nearly every year by Congress. In fact, government involvement in remote viewing did not constitute just one monolithic program that stretched over the two-and-a-half decades, but actually a series of them, sometimes run concurrently, sometimes successively, by different agencies, with each separate program having to be first justified and then maintained in the face of considerable resistance from naysayers. There were ongoing requirements for legal and scientific oversight, provided by panels that often harbored skeptics who wanted nothing more than to see the program(s) terminated. The history of remote viewing in the government is one of usually precarious existence accompanied by infighting between fervent supporters and equally fervent detractors. This is hardly the stuff of bureaucratic malaise.



The cover of SRI’s “Perceptual Augmentation Techniques (Part 2),” edited by Targ and Puthoff. This document covered the early SRI research extensively.



One of the interior pages of SRI’s “Perceptual Augmentation Techniques (Part 2).”

Science, Not Magic, continued from page 15

Hovering in the background of the two *Intelligencer* articles I targeted are the conclusions reached in the CIA-commissioned study and report executed by the American Institutes of Research (AIR, which included some of the same people involved in the contentious 1987 NRC study) and publicly released in the fall of 1995. In it, the CIA purported to find justification to cancel the Star Gate program on the basis that remote viewing had not been proven to be a real phenomenon, and that it had never been of any use as an operational intelligence-collection tool. Having already touched briefly on the first allegation, I now turn to the second. The truth of the matter is that, despite its claims, the AIR report never adequately addressed the question of whether remote viewing was useful, for the following reasons:

1) Co-author Ray Hyman, once again representing the skeptics community (as he had for the NRC study), admits both in the AIR report and in a later-published article that the AIR participants agreed, even before launching their study, that they would neither consult nor evaluate the historical operational record of the remote-viewing effort, because of the presumed “difficulty” in objectively analyzing the data. This decision was reached in apparent obliviousness of the fact that complex and sometimes-conflicting intelligence data, often collected under circumstances that would not always satisfy scrupulous scientific criteria, are successfully assessed and evaluated all the time. (Similarly, it was also agreed to review only the last ten of the hundreds of experiments conducted by the research arm of the remote-viewing effort.)¹⁶

2) Between 1979 and 1994, the operational RV program at Ft. Meade conducted approximately 250 projects involving thousands of individual remote-viewing intelligence-collection missions.¹⁷ Because of the previously mentioned agreement, the AIR team *never examined any of these reports or any of the project evaluations* provided by dozens of intelligence-community consumers of the remote-viewing data over the 16 years that the Ft. Meade operation was in business. It also declined to examine any of the operational projects con-

ducted at the Stanford Research Institute (later SRI International) over the years.

3) The AIR researchers spent a token hour-long, joint-interview session with *only* the three remote viewers remaining with the unit in 1995, plus another, equally brief interview with the then project manager (who had been assigned to the unit for only a relatively short time). None of the nearly forty other soldiers and government civilians who had previously served with the operational unit—some for as long as a decade—were ever contacted, much less interviewed, although several of them were still on active duty and had high-level security clearances at the time. None of the unit’s former customers were interviewed.

In its sole attempt to assess remote viewing’s operational worth, the AIR team directed the STAR GATE project manager to solicit five operational intelligence organizations to contribute a few tasks that would be performed over a 12-month period toward the end of STAR GATE’s existence. The project

manager—little experienced in remote-viewing operations—was directed to manage the three remaining, war-weary viewers in performing a handful of remote-viewing sessions (of which only about forty were evaluated for the final report) to try to answer the intelligence questions posed. Unsurprisingly, the results were of little significance. No matter if the outcome had been good instead of bad, this was hardly a fair or thorough evaluation of an effort that had performed literally thousands of individual intelligence-collection missions and hundreds of experiments over a total of some 23 years.

Until very recently, those seeking to defend the operational use of remote viewing and the various governmental initiatives that supported it were hamstrung. The necessary data was embargoed by the CIA. “Embargoed” is used intentionally. When the existence of the remote-viewing program was declassified in 1995, the Agency publicly announced that the archives would also be declassified and released within six months. This deadline was missed and another substituted, promising release in 1998. As far as I know, no further statements were made. However, in a National Public Radio



A member of a Coast Guard law enforcement detachment inspects possible contraband seized on a Joint Task Force 4 drug interdiction mission. (U.S. Coast Guard photo)

report in late 1999 on the CIA's declassification program, correspondent Steve Inskeep reported that 100,000 pages of the total 120,000-page "Star Gate Archives" had allegedly been redacted and declassified, and were only awaiting transport to the National Archives. Yet it was not until 2003 that these documents became available. Even at that, though, they are inaccessible to the average person, as one must travel to the National Archives in College Park, Maryland to call them up, one at a time, from a CD-ROM carrel.

Despite the difficulties in accessing STAR GATE documentation over the past years, there has been some information about remote viewing's operational effectiveness that either managed to leak into the public domain or which I was able to uncover during research for my own, forthcoming book. Much of this information is anecdotal, reminiscences of those who were directly involved. This hardly amounts to "extraordinary proof," yet it still has *some* value as evidence.

But there are a few more objective facts and figures also available. For example, for a project involving four remote-viewing sessions worked between September - December 1980, the remote-viewing unit was credited by the Army's Intelligence Threat and Analysis Center with an "intelligence-community first" for reporting a development in Cuba before any other intelligence discipline became aware of it.¹⁸ This sort of result cannot be faked or attributed to cheating by the people involved, as critics often try to claim.

In counter-narcotics operations supporting Joint Task Force-4 (JTF-4) in Key West, Florida, of 32 evaluated projects conducted from January 1 - August 10, 1990, strong correlations were found in 11 of the

projects—or 34.4%; some correlation was found in 10, or 31.2%; and only in another 11 was no correlation seen (again, 34.4%). These statistics were generated by the operations and intelligence staffs of JTF-4, not by anyone associated with the remote-viewing program. In that same report, the 34.4% "strong correlation" was equated with an approximate 35% operational effectiveness for the remote viewers in the counter-narcotics effort.¹⁹

To the uninitiated, this may not seem impressive. But this rating is higher—sometimes much higher—than the effectiveness ratings for other, more conventional intelligence disciplines in the same study. A better comparison, unfortunately, cannot be given due to classification issues. Hopefully that will change in the future. As a member of the program during this time, though, I can attest that the JTF-4 staff reported to us that a number of interdictions, contraband recoveries, and apprehensions of traffickers resulted directly from our work.

Of course, operational remote viewing had its failures. But what intelligence discipline *hasn't*? There is much more evidence that is yet to be disclosed about both the successes and failures of remote viewing as an intelligence-collection tool. In the meantime, there is also a large body of responsibly performed, scientifically grounded research about the phenomenon itself. Most of the protests against the notion of ESP in general and remote viewing in particular are grounded in ignorance of recent data and research. Certainly, neither psi nor remote viewing has yet been "proven" in a scientific sense. But that is also the case with other phenomena that humans have used—and even exploit today—to their benefit. Although these "extraordinary claims" may not yet have the answering "extraordinary proof" for which many folks long, the evidence for remote viewing is nonetheless robust and deserving of serious consideration, rather than the giggles and smirks that detractors often substitute for careful analysis and argument.

Paul H. Smith

Major, U.S. Army (ret.)

Paul H. Smith is Vice President of IRVA and President of Remote Viewing Instructional Services, Inc. He is a 7-year veteran of the military remote-viewing program, and is now working towards candidacy in the University of Texas at Austin's Ph.D. program in



Members of a Coast Guard law enforcement detachment on a Joint Task Force 4 drug interdiction mission take a suspect into custody, July 11, 1990 (U.S. Coast Guard photo)

Science, Not Magic, continued from page 17

philosophy. Material for this article came from research for the author's book, Reading the Enemy's Mind, to be published this fall by Tor Books, a division of St. Martin's Press.

(Endnotes)

1. Michael A. Aquino, "Project Stargate: \$20 Million Up in Smoke (and Mirrors)," pp.31-35; and Dr. William H. Anderson, "Science or Magic?" pp.84-86, *The Intelligencer: Journal of U.S. Intelligence Studies*, Vol. 11, No. (Winter 2000). Aquino's article is available online at <http://www.xeper.org/maquino/index.html>
2. Both Dr. Puthoff's paper and mine were published in Vol. 12, No. 1 (Summer 2001) of *The Intelligencer*.
3. Harold E. Puthoff, Russell Targ, and Edwin C. May, "Experimental Psi Research: Implications for Physics," *The Role of Consciousness in the Physical World* (AAAS Selected Symposium 57), AAAS/Westview Press, 1981, pp.37-86.
4. Daniel Druckman and John A. Swetts, eds., *Enhancing Human Performance*, Washington, DC: National Academy Press., 1988.
5. John S. Palmer, Charles Honorton, and Jessica Utts, *Reply to the National Research Council Study on Parapsychology*, Parapsychological Association, Inc., 1988.
6. Ray Hyman, "Evaluation of Program on 'Anomalous Mental Phenomena,'" in *An Evaluation of Remote Viewing: Research and Applications*, The American Institutes for Research (AIR), Sept. 29, 1995. pp.3-59. Hyman also made a remark to this effect in a public debate with Dr. Jessica Utts at a CSICOP conference held sometime later. Time has not been taken to track down the details, since his statement in the AIR report is sufficiently explicit.
7. Anderson, p.84.
8. This information is taken from the official Operations Officer's Project Log maintained in the Ft. Meade remote-viewing unit from September 1979 through December 1989.
9. Jessica Utts, "The Significance of Statistics in Mind-Matter Research," *Journal of Scientific Exploration*, Vol. 13, no. 4 (Winter, 1999).
10. Anderson, p.85.
11. Anderson, p.86.
12. Dean Radin, *The Conscious Universe*, San Francisco: HarperEdge, 1997.
13. Anderson, pp.85-86.
14. Defense Intelligence Agency, *Paraphysics R&D - Warsaw Pact*, (DST-1810S-202-78), 30 March 1978. Defense Intelligence Agency, *Soviet and Czechoslovakian Parapsychology Research*, (DST-1810S-387-75), Sept. 1975. Both documents discuss Soviet research dating back as early as the 1940s. While *Paraphysics R&D* is the more useful document, it is not a declassification of a Secret/NOFORN document so much as a document from which all classified paragraphs have been excised, leaving only material that was always unclassified. Much of the excised material comes from the heart of the most relevant sections. Nonetheless, the case is still made for a much stronger and earlier Soviet commitment to parapsychology research than prevailed in the United States. (Both documents are available as .pdf files at www.dia.mil.)
15. Stanford Research Institute, *Perceptual Augmentation Techniques (part 2)*, (ed.) Harold E. Puthoff & Russell Targ, 1 Dec. 1975 (covers the period Jan. 74 through Feb. 75).
16. Ray Hyman, "Evaluation of the Military's Twenty-year Program on Psychic Spying," *The Skeptical Inquirer*, Vol. 20, no. 2 (March/April 1996), pp.25-26.
17. Approximate count of projects and sessions tabulated in Operations Officer's Project Log, plus estimates of RV project workload from 1990 on.
18. Operations Officer's Project Log, p.7.
19. This information was contained on an unclassified page in the Report to the Military Intelligence Board, Project SUN STREAK, Control No. SWP-HDA-005-90, ODCSINT, HQ, Department of the Army, 1990. The document has not been declassified and released to the public.

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The opinions and views expressed in **Aperture** are those of the writers. They do not necessarily reflect the position of the International Remote Viewing Association. We invite your letters and comments on all matters discussed herein.



Taskings & Responses

Q: In various discussions of remote viewing I hear a lot of jargon and many acronyms. How about defining a few of these remote viewing terms to help a lay person or novice remote-viewer better understand them?

A: Keep in mind that some of the more technical words and abbreviations have to do with specific remote-viewing methods, such as Controlled Remote Viewing (CRV) or its offshoots. Except where noted, however, most of the terms below can apply to any remote-viewing method. Here is a brief glossary of some of the more commonly used remote-viewing terms. If you are curious about some other word, phrase, or acronym, please forward it to Janet at janet@irva.org, and it will be explained in a future issue of *Aperture*.

Session ~ The period of time during which a remote viewer performs remote viewing. A session is usually bounded by start and end times chosen by the viewer. Whenever possible, there should always be a permanent record of what goes on during a session, either a written or recorded transcript.

“Blind” ~ The state of having no foreknowledge of the nature or identity of a remote-viewing target. The viewer should always be “blind” when doing a remote-viewing session. In most cases, anyone associated with the viewer before or during the session (such as the monitor—see below) should also be blind, creating what is known as a “double-blind” condition. The exception to the double-blind requirement is during RV training, when it is helpful to the trainee for the instructor to know what the target is. Doing RV sessions double-blind is recommended because it prevents non-RV-derived information from being inadvertently passed to the viewer via verbal or non-verbal cues or communication.

Monitor ~ A person who helps the viewer during an RV session. Monitors may provide the tasking (see below) and do their best to ensure their viewers work to their best abilities. A monitor will usually also be “blind” to the intended target.

Tasker ~ A person who chooses the target for the remote viewer, and associates with it a means of tasking the session, such as a coordinate or sealed opaque

envelope. Usually the tasker will not have any interaction with the viewer before or during the session. Instead, the tasking is passed along to the viewer by the monitor or other person also “blind” to the target.

Analytical overlay (also known as “AOL”) ~ The mental “noise” that is contributed during an RV session by the logical-processing part of the viewer’s mind. AOL (also known as a “Stray Cat” to students of Lyn Buchanan’s P > S > I training) is a frequent cause of derailed RV sessions because it misleads the viewer into believing and reporting wrong information about the target.

Gestalt ~ The basic, overall nature of a target, as typically reported by a remote viewer in the initial stage of an RV session. Some basic gestalts are structure (or “manmade”), land, water, event, life-form, etc. Gestalts can also be more specific, such as mountain, river, building, person, etc.

Aesthetic impact (or “AI”) ~ The name for “how the target makes the viewer feel.” AI is the subjective or emotional reaction a viewer may have to a given target. AI is usually due to cognition at the subconscious level, which does not at first carry over into conscious awareness. In other words, a viewer might suddenly feel sad, excited, claustrophobic, or any other subjective experience about the target and not know at first why she is feeling that way. As more information subsequently moves from the viewer’s subconscious to conscious awareness, though, what it is about the target that has affected the viewer may become clearer.

Ideogram ~ An ideogram is a squiggle or line made by the viewer’s pen when the viewer first connects with the RV “signal” or “input” in the beginning stage of an RV session. (Although ideograms can be encountered in all forms of remote viewing, they are usually involved with CRV or its derivatives, such as TRV, SRV, etc.). Ideograms are largely spontaneous and reflexive, in that the viewer does not at first know what, if anything, about the target the line thus produced represents. As such, ideograms are an indicator that target contact has been made, and may provide a modicum of basic information (including gestalts—see above), about the intended target of the RV session. (Note: Some derivatives of classic CRV, such as TRV and SRV, teach their viewers to create a lexicon of archetypal ideograms that presumably can immediately communicate to the viewer whether the target is water, structure, land, etc.) ☉

About The International Remote Viewing Association

The International Remote Viewing Association (IRVA) was organized on March 18, 1999 in Alamogordo, New Mexico, by scientists and academicians involved in remote viewing since its beginnings, together with veterans of the military remote-viewing program who are now active as trainers and practitioners in the field. IRVA was formed in response to widespread confusion and conflicting claims about the remote-viewing phenomenon.

One primary goal of the organization is to encourage the dissemination of accurate information about remote viewing. This goal is accomplished through a robust website, regular conferences, and speaking and educational outreach by its directors. Other IRVA goals are to assist in forming objective testing standards and materials for evaluating remote viewers, serve as a clearinghouse for accurate information about the phenomenon, promote rigorous theoretical research and applications development in the remote-viewing field, and propose ethical standards as appropriate. IRVA has made progress on some of these goals, but others will take more time to realize. We encourage all who are interested in bringing them about to join us in our efforts.

IRVA neither endorses nor promotes any specific method or approach to remote viewing, but aims to become a responsible voice in the future development of all aspects of the discipline.

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