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The complexity of the battlefield is constantly increasing. Introduction of new and sophisticated technology requires commanders to be fully aware of the nature of a potential threat as well as countermeasures and counter-countermeasures. In addition to more widely known technological advances, a new battlefield dimension that may defy our generally perceived concepts of time and space looms on the horizon. This field is sometimes called psychotronics or bioenergetics.



The New
Mental
Battlefield:

“Beam Me Up, Spock”

Lieutenant Colonel John B. Alexander, US Army

PSYCHOTRONICS may be described as the interaction of mind and matter.¹ While the concepts may stretch the imagination of many readers, research in this area has been underway for years, and the possibility for employment as weaponry has been explored. To be more specific, there are weapons sys-

tems that operate on the power of the mind and whose lethal capacity has already been demonstrated.²

Two subdivisions of this field have also been investigated. Mind-altering techniques designed to impact on an opponent are well-advanced. The procedures employed include manipulation of human

The photos on the cover and throughout this article, showing the existence of various energy emanations, are examples of Kirlian research performed at the University of California at Los Angeles.

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behavior through use of psychological weapons effecting sight, sound, smell, temperature, electromagnetic energy or sensory deprivation.³

The other area of experimentation involves parapsychological phenomena known as the out-of-body experience (OOBE), remote viewing, extrasensory perception or bioinformation, depending on the source and technique employed. It has been demonstrated that certain persons appear to have the ability to mentally retrieve data from afar while physically remaining in a secure location. It may sound fantastic, but consider the available unclassified data.

Soviet Research

It is generally believed that the Soviets and their allies are well in the lead in parapsychological research. This belief is supported by a number of popular books that have been on the market for the past 10 years. Not as well-known are two Defense Intelligence Agency reports that

were released through the Freedom of Information Act. The reports were prepared by the Office of the Surgeon General and are titled, *Controlled Offensive Behavior-USSR (Unclassified), 1972*, and *Soviet and Czechoslovakian Parapsychological Research (Unclassified), 1975*.

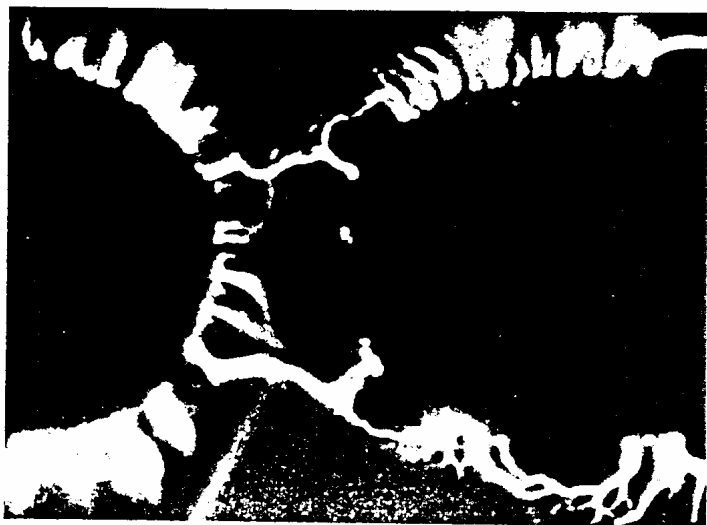
The reality of paranormal events has been accepted by Soviet researchers, and theories have been developed to explain and study those events. The Soviets have further developed techniques to control and actively employ their knowledge of parapsychology.⁴ Included in the research has been investigation into areas such as telepathy (the mental awareness of information over distance), precognition (the knowledge of future events), telekinesis (movement of matter with the mind) and the transfer of bioenergy from one body to another.

The amount of information scientifically verified by the Soviets is voluminous and beyond the scope of this article. However, several examples will demonstrate areas in which progress has been made:

- The transference of energy from one organism to another. The ability to heal or cause disease can be transmitted over distance, thus inducing illness or death for no apparent cause. While this has been demonstrated on lower organisms, flies and frogs, the present capacity for human death is still debated.⁵

- The existence of energy emanations from the body has been repeatedly demonstrated through radiation field photography known as the Kirlian effect. This phenomenon, which has been widely replicated in the West, reflects changes in emotional condition.⁶

- Telepathic behavior modification, which includes the ability to induce hypnotic states up to distances in excess of 1,000 kilometers, has been reported.⁷



Two persons (attraction)

- The ability to mentally move objects has also been repeatedly demonstrated under scientifically controlled conditions. Movement of selected objects intermingled with others has also been accomplished.⁸

American Research

The extent of parapsychological research in the United States is not well-known nor is it centrally organized. The US government is reported to have funded some research projects, but these have not been published. Frequently, the data are anecdotal in nature and are not well-accepted in the scientific community.

Unlike the Soviet research, US efforts have frequently been attacked as inconclusive. Since the phenomena being examined are frequently beyond explanation in known scientific terms, they are often discounted as nonexistent.

Russell Targ and Harold Puthoff at Stanford Research Institute have conducted some of the best known US experimentation on the ability to collect data from afar, or "remote viewing" as they call it. Their evidence tends to support claims that relatively accurate information can be obtained through employment of these methods.⁹ During experiments, the tested subject was required to mentally visit a remote area and then later draw or describe the target site in detail. This was satisfactorily accomplished on several occasions although neither the subject nor the experimenter had prior knowledge of the target.

The bulk of out-of-body data from US research is anecdotal. Literally thousands of people have reported the experience of being discretely and consciously located outside of their physical bodies and yet

able to view themselves from that perspective with a total awareness of activities in that area. This phenomenon is frequently associated with life-threatening circumstances such as accidents, illness or extreme danger. Many soldiers who have had "close calls" in combat have reported being in the OOB state of consciousness. Many physicians have been embarrassed by patients who, after being revived from an unconscious state, were able to repeat conversations and events that had occurred while they were unconscious.

Scientific experimentation has also been conducted with OOB. Test subjects have induced OOB states while being physiologically monitored and have retrieved data that was not available through normal means. Experiments frequently include identification of random numbers either placed out of sight nearby or at a more distant location. A distinct electroencephalogram (EEG) pattern called Alphoid has been isolated during tests, thereby indicating that this state is detectable through accepted physiological monitoring methods. Although some tests



Two persons (repulsion)



Liquid crystals (blood)

were successful, others were not, leading to the conclusion that an extremely complex phenomenon was involved.¹⁰

Another phenomenon that has attracted the attention of US researchers is that of psychokinesis (mind over matter), particularly the distortion of metal objects by mental and nonforceful physical techniques. The most common, and least practical, application probably has been the bending of forks and spoons by gentle stroking of the object. Microscopic examination of the bent or broken items has revealed a different form of fracturing than is experienced when metal items are ruptured by physical force.¹¹

The most likely explanation for this phenomenon is that the subject is mentally generating an electromagnetic force capable of distorting or rupturing the target object. The existence of such a force has been established through the Soviet-

developed means previously described as Kirlian photography.

Further testimony concerning the existence of electromagnetic emanations from the physical body may be found in the medical concepts of acupuncture. Despite common use of acupuncture in the East for thousands of years, Western medicine is only now accepting the premise that the human body can be treated for physical ailments through adjustments in "Ki," the minute electromagnetic life force that flows through us.

The ability of the mind to control our physiology is being explored medically and in other areas through the medium of biofeedback. It has been determined that the functions of the autonomic nervous system, previously thought to operate independently of the conscious mind, can be controlled. This indicates that we can internally direct our physiological systems that produce anxiety and stress. With training, a subject can learn to control fear and even bleeding. The day-to-day benefits of stress reduction in modern life have been widely touted.

A similar field, that of meditation, has also been examined. Massive amounts of data are available addressing the mental and physiological benefits that may be derived through the practice of meditation. These reports are commonly accepted and will not be discussed here. What is not as well-known is the research done on the Transcendental Meditation Sidhis Program. Though considered controversial by some, this program has produced evidence that individuals can be taught to physically levitate or "fly" and manifest other physiological phenomena.

To support this evidence, Dr. David W. Orme-Johnson has monitored brain functioning on the EEG and found high coherence of the right and left hemisphere.¹² This data supports the supposition that

people can be trained to employ their minds to produce physical phenomena that extend our bounds and concepts of reality.

Other areas, too numerous to mention, have also been explored. The major problem has been the lack of funding or coordinated effort. It has been easier to ignore paranormal considerations than to address the sticky questions raised through examination.

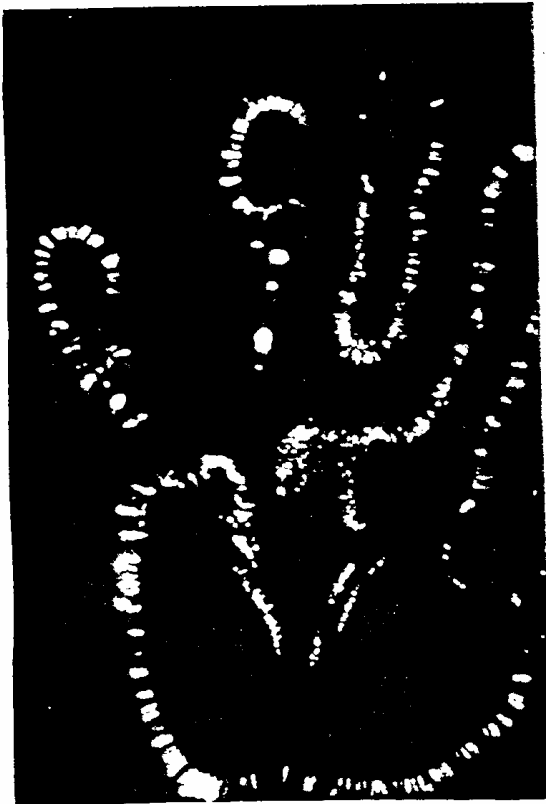
Military Application

The intelligence-gathering capability available through remote viewing or OOB travel is obvious. Henry Gris and

William Dick report that test subjects, targeted against strategic sites in both the USSR and the People's Republic of China, were able to penetrate secured areas to retrieve desired data via out-of-body travel. They further claim the results were verified by independent agents.¹³

The strategic and tactical applications are unlimited. When finally developed, this capability could ultimately allow an operator to enter an enemy headquarters at will to observe plans and dispositions. On the battlefield, one could reconnoiter an area from the physical safety of his own chosen location.

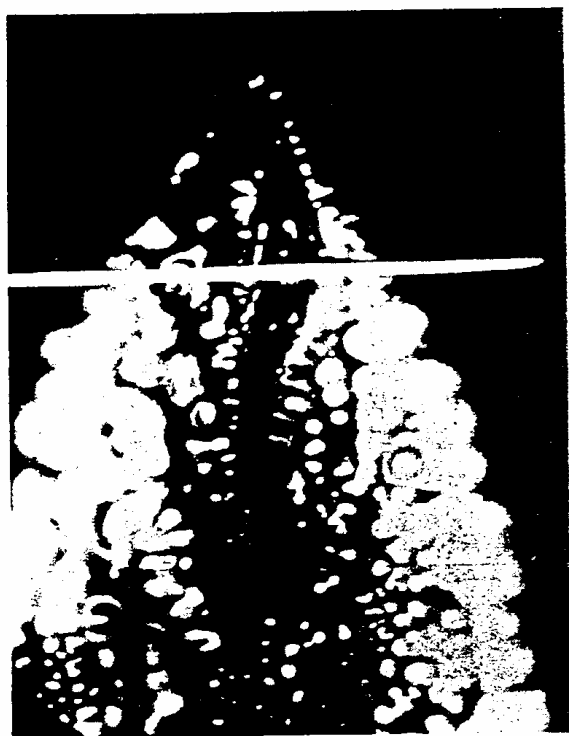
Two major problems presently exist in the implementation of this program: Only certain individuals have demonstrated



Hand of "healer" at rest



Hand of "healer" sending energy



Leaf has been cut where white line is. Everything above the white line is invisible to the eye.

innate skills of controlled OOB, and data reliability is uncertain. These problems can be attributed to lack of observation skills of the subject as well as the complexity of the phenomena involved.

The use of psychotronic weapons has already been mentioned. Certainly, with development, these weapons would be able to induce illness or death at little or no risk to the operator. Range may be a present problem, but this will probably be overcome if it has not been already. Inventor Robert Pavlita claims that no special psychic ability is necessary to charge the generator. The psychotronic weapon would be silent, difficult to detect and would require only a human operator as a power source.¹⁴

Soviet researchers studying controlled behavior have also examined the effects of electromagnetic radiation on humans

and have applied those techniques against the US Embassy in Moscow. Researchers suggest that certain extremely-low-frequency (ELF) emissions possess psychoactive characteristics.¹⁵ These transmissions can be used to induce depression or irritability in a target population. The application of large-scale ELF behavior modification could have horrendous impact.

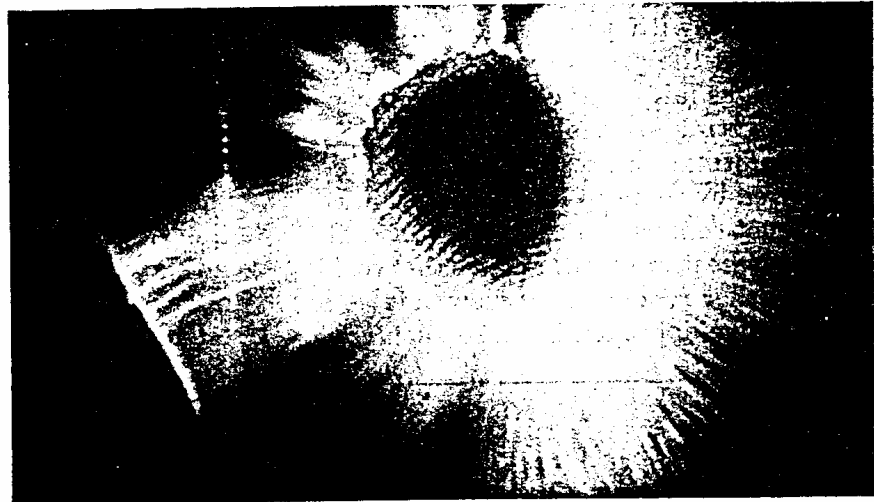
The use of telepathic hypnosis also holds great potential. This capability could allow agents to be deeply planted with no conscious knowledge of their programming. In movie terms, the Manchurian candidate lives and does not even require a phone call.

Other mind-to-mind thought induction techniques are also being considered. If perfected, this capability could allow the direct transference of thought via telepathy from one mind, or group of minds, to a selected target audience. The unique factor is that the recipient will not be aware that thoughts have been implanted from an external source. He or she will believe the thoughts are original.¹⁶

Conclusions

The impact that psychotronic weaponry and other paranormal applications will have in the future is difficult to determine at this time. It has been suggested that whoever makes the first major breakthrough in this field will have a quantum lead over his opponent, an advantage similar to sole possession of nuclear weapons. Clearly, advances in any of the aforementioned areas will add new dimensions to the battlefield.

The Soviets and their allies have been working in this field for many years. Their conviction that this area has mil-



Interaction between fingertip and magnet (lower left)

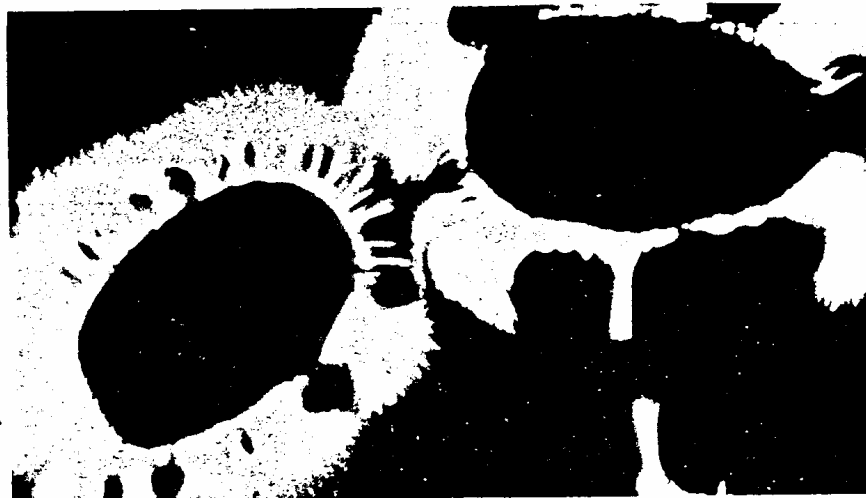
itary application is evident. They continue to fund this program and operate research centers such as those at Novosibirsk. If there were no perceived military advantages, it is doubtful they would provide financial and scientific backing.

Another indicator is the degree of secrecy that was invoked by the Soviet government on parapsychological research. The arrest in 1977 of American correspondent Robert Toth on charges that he had received secret parapsy-

chological data from a Soviet scientist is indicative of the sensitivity in that area.¹⁷ There is sufficient concern about psychic intrusion to cause work to begin on countermeasures such as bioenergy detectors.

Available evidence supports the thesis that paranormal phenomena do occur and, under some circumstances, can be controlled. The military potential for such controlled resources has already been examined. Clearly, psychotronic weapons already exist; only their capabilities are in doubt. That is not to say that problems

Photos courtesy of Dr. Thelma Moss,
University of California at Los Angeles



Two persons' fingertips showing attraction (merging of emanations)



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do not exist with the weapons and the concepts. At the present time, unpredictable systems failure and difficulty in controlling testing are major weaknesses.

The information presented here will be considered by some to be ridiculous since it does not conform to their view of reality, but some people still believe the world is flat. Other readers may view this as a conservative approach because such con-

troversial areas as hyperspatial transmitters or Tesla wave generators have not been addressed.

The intent here is to emphasize the need for more coordinated research in the realm of the paranormal. Additionally, there is a need to provide leaders at all levels with a basic understanding of weapons systems they may encounter in the not too distant future.

NOTES

- 1 A good basic comprehension of psychotronic theory and technology is provided in *Future Science: Life Energies and the Physics of Paranormal Phenomena*, edited by John White and Stanley Krippner, Doubleday & Co. Inc., N.Y., 1977.
- 2 Louis F. Maire III and J. D. LaMothe, *Soviet and Czechoslovakian Parapsychology Research* (Unclassified), Defense Intelligence Agency, Washington, D.C., 1975, p 58.
- 3 John D. LaMothe, *Controlled Offensive Behavior-USSR* (Unclassified), Defense Intelligence Agency, Washington, D.C., 1972, p 15.
- 4 Maire and LaMothe, *op. cit.*, p 57.
- 5 Tom Bearden, "Soviet Psychotronic Weapons: A Condensed Background," *Specula*, March-June 1978, pp 20 and 27.
- 6 Sheila Ostrander and Lynn Schroeder, *Psychic Discovers Behind the Iron Curtain*, Prentice-Hall Inc., Englewood Cliffs, N.J., 1970, p 209.
- 7 *Ibid.*, p 13.
- 8 Henry Gris and William Dick, *The New Soviet Psychic Discoveries: A First-Hand Report on the Latest Breakthroughs in Russian Parapsychology*, Prentice-Hall Inc., Englewood Cliffs, N.J., 1978, p 39.

- 9 Russell Targ and Harold Puthoff, *Mind-Reach: Scientists Look at Psychic Ability*, Delta Books, N.Y., 1978, p 31.
- 10 Charles T. Tart, "Out-of-the-Body Experiences," *Psychic Exploration: A Challenge for Science*, edited by Edgar D. Mitchell and John White, G. P. Putnam's Sons, N.Y., 1974, p 359.
- 11 John Taylor, *Superminds*, The Viking Press Inc., N.Y., 1975, pp 93-101.
- 12 David W. Orme-Johnson, Geoffrey Clements, Christopher T. Haynes and Kheirredine Badaoui, "Higher States of Consciousness: EEG Coherence, Creativity, and Experiences of the Sidhis," *Scientific Research on the Transcendental Meditation Program*, edited by David W. Orme-Johnson and John T. Farrow, Maharishi European University Press, 1977, Volume 1, p 706.
- 13 Gris and Dick, *op. cit.*, p 292.
- 14 Maire and LaMothe, *op. cit.*, p 34.
- 15 Andrew Michrowski, "Covert ELF (Extremely-Low-Frequency) Warfare," *Specula*, January-March 1980, p 27.
- 16 LaMothe, *op. cit.*, p 40.
- 17 Gris and Dick, *op. cit.*, p 286.

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