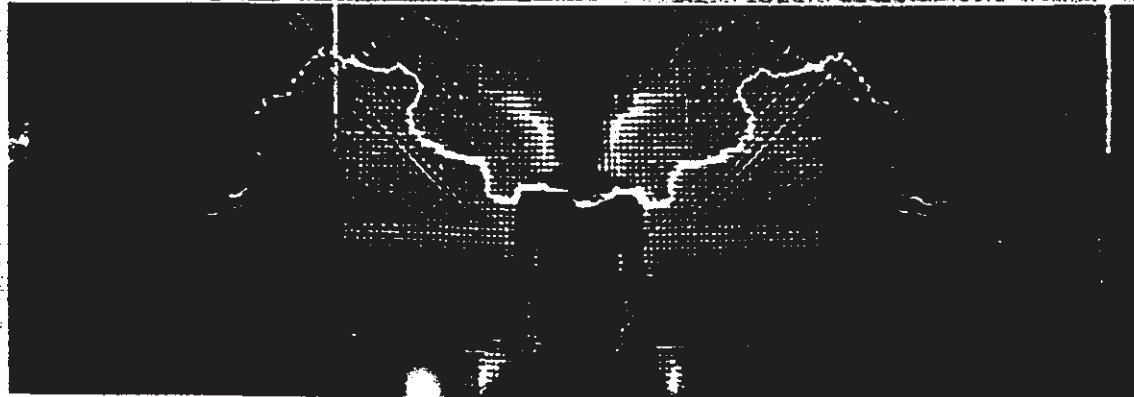


JOURNEY INTO MADNESS



THE TRUE STORY
OF SECRET CIA MIND
CONTROL AND
MEDICAL ABUSE
GORDON & THOMAS

Before setting up their own program, the ORD scientists evaluated the results achieved by Dr. Jose Delgado, a Yale psychologist. He had faced a charging bull, fitted with electrodes in his brain, and with no other protection save the small black box in his hands, Dr. Delgado had deliberately goaded the bull by activating the implant that provoked the animal to become further enraged. Then, with the bull almost upon him, the psychologist had pressed another button. The animal promptly stopped in its tracks, the result of a signal transmitted to the electrode implanted in the part of the bull's brain that calmed it.

Dr. Delgado freely admitted that his method of remote mind control was still crude and not always predictable. But Dr. Gottlieb and the behaviorists of ORD shared the psychologist's vision that the day must come when the technique would be perfected for making not only animals, but humans respond to electrically transmitted commands.

Dr. Robert G. Heath, a neurosurgeon at Tulane University, had brought that prospect closer through his experiments with electrical stimulation of the brain (ESB) to arouse his patients sexually. Dr. Heath had actually implanted 125 electrodes in the brain and body of a single patient—for which he claimed a world record—and had spent hours stimulating the man's pleasure centers.

Like Dr. Delgado, the neurosurgeon concluded that ESB could control memory, impulses, feelings, and could evoke hallucinations as well as fear and pleasure. It could literally manipulate the human will—at will.

Late in June 1972, Dr. Gottlieb had jiggled back and forth on the carpet of the director's office, and his carefully controlled stammer had surfaced as he enthused that at long, long last, here was the answer to mind control, that ESB was the key to creating not only a psychocivilized person but an entire psychocivilized society—a world where every human thought, emotion, sensation, and desire could be actually controlled by electrical stimulation of the brain.

The possibilities, said Dr. Gottlieb, were far beyond the neurological masturbation of the pleasure centers. Not only could a rampaging bull be stopped in full charge, but humans could finally be programmed to attack and kill on command. Another

step forward was about to be taken in the Agency's search for the "Manchurian Candidate."

Helms agreed that research into ESB should come under the direct control of Dr. Stephen Aldrich. A former medical director of the Agency's Office of Scientific Intelligence, Dr. Aldrich was widely regarded among his CRD colleagues as a pathfinder. From dawn to dusk he spent his time speculating, theorizing, and experimenting with the possibilities of harnessing ESB for intelligence work. Using the latest computer technology, he developed Rubenstein's earlier work on radio telemetry, and the unfulfilled dream the English technician had shared with Dr. Cameron of a world of electrically monitored people became that much more of a reality.

In the safe house where Yuri Nosenko had been brutalized, Dr. Aldrich supervised infinitely more sophisticated research. Included in the equipment he used was a piece not even Orwell had dared invent for his 1984. Called the Schwitzgebel Machine, the boxlike construction had been developed by Ralph K. Schwitzgebel in the Laboratory of Community Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School. His brother, Robert, had subsequently modified the prototype so that the final product was something Rubenstein would have taken pride in; indeed, in many ways it resembled a smaller version of the cumbersome transducer the technician had built in the Montreal basement.

The Schwitzgebel Machine consisted of a Behavior Transmitter-Reinforcer (BT-R) fitted to a body belt that received from and transmitted signals to a radio module. In the official description of the machine the module was "linked to a modified missile-tracking device which graphs the wearer's location and displays it on a screen."

The Schwitzgebel Machine—its very name suggested something designed to make people enjoy their servitude—was able to record all physical and neurological signs in a subject from up to a quarter of a mile—an impressive improvement over the distance between the Grid Room and the cubbyhole where Dr. Cameron had monitored Madeleine Smith and other patients.

By August 1972 other proponents of the Schwitzgebel Machine were voicing their enthusiasm. They were led by Professor Barton L. Ingraham, a criminologist at the University of Mary-

land, and Gerald W. Smith, professor of criminal studies at the University of Utah.

In a joint paper, Ingraham and Smith painted a vivid scenario of how the machine could be used to keep track of known criminals. He or she would be fitted with a brain implant and would be tracked, with the psychological data being transmitted from the implant to the machine. The machine, using probabilities, would come to a decision and alert the police if necessary.

Adapting that frightening vision of tomorrow's world formed part of ORD's concept of the New Jerusalem of intelligence.

On September 20, 1972, the station chief in the U.S. Embassy in Ottawa reported to the directorate of operations in Langley that Dr. Morrow was still actively pursuing her legal action against the Allan Memorial Institute and Dr. Cameron's estate. The intelligence officer regularly reviewed what, if any, progress Dr. Morrow had made. Previously his reports on the matter had gone unremarked. For some reason—Buckley thought it the surprise of one of the keen young officers who regularly passed through the DDO that after so long and so many setbacks Dr. Morrow was still pursuing her claims—the Ottawa report had been sent to the seventh floor.

Within hours the order came winging back to the DDO that a full check should be run on the status of every patient known to have been used in Dr. Cameron's research. Was there any way—any way at all—that what had been done to them could be traced back to the Agency? Six weeks later, on November 15, the DDO reported to the director that, as far as it could establish, there was no way the Agency could be implicated—except through the material in its own archives.

On December 10, 1972, Helms ordered Operation Often—all of it—cancelled. The probe into the occult, Dr. Aldrich's work, almost a score of active subprojects, were halted forthwith. In a terse, one-line memo—marked READ, DESTROY—the director offered Dr. Gottlieb no explanation. The senior scientist was mortified. He made several trips to the seventh floor to argue, and finally plead. Helms remained unmoved.

Buckley—once more back in the field, this time working in Cambodia—would recall that, on one of his visits to Langley around that time, "there was just a very unhappy air about ORD. Like everyone was in mourning."

Early in January 1973, Dr. Gottlieb resigned from the Agency. No effort was made by Helms to persuade him to stay. In the days before his departure, and acting on the director's order, Dr. Gottlieb shredded records of M-K-Ultra/M-K-Search.

On February 2, 1973—again without an explanation—President Nixon replaced Helms as director. In a farewell luncheon with his successor, James R. Schlesinger, Helms was asked if there was anything in the Agency's recent history that could cause problems.

Helms replied, "Nope. Not a thing."

Several floors below where the two men sat in the executive dining room were one hundred and thirty boxes in the archives, which contained incriminating material that Dr. Gottlieb, inexplicably, had failed to destroy.

Schlesinger soon realized he had inherited an Agency that had been on the rampage, riding roughshod over the Constitution and virtually acting as President Nixon's private security force. Since May 12, 1969—when members of Division D, the specialized unit that burgled and placed listening bugs, had planted seventeen wiretaps in the offices and homes of White House aides and newsmen following publication of the secret bombing of Cambodia—the Agency had routinely operated outside the law.

It had become involved in domestic intelligence-gathering, spying against Americans opposed to the Vietnam War. After *The New York Times* published the Pentagon Papers in 1971, fed to it by Daniel Ellsberg, the Agency provided backup support for a team of burglars, supervised by Howard Hunt and G. Gordon Liddy, to break into the offices of Ellsberg's psychiatrist looking for evidence that could discredit the newspaper's informant.

Time and again the Agency had carried out other break-ins—what were called surreptitious entries in the files marked TOP SECRET that Schlesinger had found in his office safe. It interfered with the mail and, after five men were arrested for breaking into the Democratic headquarters in the Watergate Building in Washington, the Agency did everything it could to hamper the FBI's investigation.

Schlesinger realized why Helms had been consigned to the other end of the world as U.S. ambassador to Iran. Removing