

Mind-control cults, the Soviet KGB, and the friends of Danny Graham

by Ira Liebowitz

According to latest reports in Washington, Gen. Daniel Graham is being pushed by the American Security Council and others as the man who should assume control of the now-forming Pentagon beam-weapons agency, the Office of Strategic Defense. Reagan campaign chief James Baker III is reported to support this move.

If it occurs, such a development should be viewed as further confirmation of Henry Kissinger's consolidation of control over the Reagan administration. Graham's proposal for strategic defense by means of space satellites armed with slow, small conventional rockets—in addition to being obsolete and unworkable for the United States—is explicit in ruling out defense of Europe. It would therefore coincide with Kissinger's recent proposal to “decouple” the United States from its European allies. Graham's appointment would be read accordingly by Europe, and by the Soviet Union.

This danger also has to be viewed in light of Graham's association with a network of cults in the U.S. military and scientific community which are linked to the Soviet Union.

Launching the counterculture

During the pilot stage from 1951 to 1955, the project that launched mass-scale drug usage and associated cults—the counterculture—was laundered into the United States with the assistance of Allen Dulles and sections of the U.S. military by a group of high-level British and Swiss intelligence specialists. An early oversight committee was established for the project, including Dr. Gregory Bateson, Aldous Huxley, Isis priestess Dr. Margaret Mead, and Jean Piaget of Unesco's Geneva-based International Bureau of Education, among others, which met annually at the Princeton Inn in New Jersey to review experimental programs that are probably best known for their CIA code-names: “MK-Ultra, MK-Naomi, MK-Artichoke.” The experiments studied the effects of mind-control techniques in association with drugs including heroin, LSD-25, psilocybin, and synthetic cannabis. Experiments were conducted at 12 U.S. centers, including:

The Addiction Research Center at the Lexington, Kentucky U.S. Public Health Service and Veterans' Administra-

tion (VA) Hospitals under Drs. Harris Isabell, Joel Fort, and Sherman Kieffer; a program at Mt. Sinai Hospital and Columbia University under Dr. Harold A. Abramson; the University of Illinois under Dr. Carl Pfeiffer; Cornell University; the Boston Psychopathic Hospital under Dr. Robert Hyde; and the Palo Alto, California VA Hospital under Gregory Bateson. Proceedings of the Princeton committee's meetings have been published in a five-volume series called *Problems of Consciousness*, edited by Dr. H. A. Abramson.

The experiments “studied” drug addiction, lobotomies, and sensory deprivation combined with LSD. But more important for Bateson, Mead, Huxley, et al., the project developed “group therapy” and what later became known as “humanistic psychology” techniques, for creating religious and psychiatric cults applying techniques of the London Tavistock Psychiatric Institute, the Zürich-centered Jungian psychiatry network, the National Training Labs connected with the National Education Association, and, later, the Washington-based A. K. Rice Institute. One objective of the project's experiments was discovering methods for creating cult formations among ex-addicts, social formations susceptible to mystical and “post-industrial” outlooks.

This project of narco-cultural warfare was escalated stepwise up to the 1964-66 launching of a “cultural paradigm shift” that was signaled by large-scale dumping of mind-altering drugs on U.S. campuses, and the promotion of “rock-drug” music in society at large. The project was heralded at that point as the “sociological phenomenon” of the counterculture and, in Margaret Mead's term, “the generation gap.”

This cultural project has functioned as a “forcing medium” for a set of institutions that have burrowed deeply into the U.S. military and scientific community.

In 1961 the *Journal of Humanistic Psychology* was established to proliferate group-control techniques. The *Journal* was closely linked to the founding that year of the Esalen Institute in Carmel, California, under Stanford University graduate Michael Murphy, and Gregory Bateson—the first large-scale human experimental laboratory. Esalen has been replicated today in literally hundreds of similar Aquarian

centers in U.S. cities, many staffed by "trainees" turned out by Esalen at the rate of about 3,000 annually since 1961.

Leaders of the *Journal* in 1980 included:

Willis Harman, the Sufi-connected director of Stanford Research Institute; Marilyn Ferguson of SRI's "Mind Brain Institute" and the U.S. Army's Delta Force-First Earth Battalion; Dr. Abraham Maslow; Dr. Thomas Szasz; Hazel Henderson of the Center for Alternative Futures of Princeton University; Dr. Warren Bennis of the Tavistock Institute and University of Southern California; and Aldous Huxley.

One of Szasz's and Bateson's collaborators in this network, Stewart Brand, became the publisher of the Ecology-Movement shaping *Co-Evolution Quarterly* with Timothy Leary, as well as the *Whole Earth Catalog*. Brand and Bateson play a role in launching a science fiction and space cult, currently interfaced with Gen. Daniel Graham's High Frontier, the "L-5 Society." (See *EIR*, March 20.)

From its founding, Esalen has been closely linked to Harman's SRI International and to a network of Veterans Administration Hospital brainwashing centers connected to Bateson's Palo Alto VA hospital, from which the California LSD counterculture was launched.

SRI and Esalen's "Psychic Connection"

Following consultations with Rome's Roberto Assagioli and Tavistock's Dr. R. D. Laing, in 1971 Murphy and Esalen co-director James Hickman were brought to Moscow for meetings with Dr. Edwin Naumov and a group of parapsychologists connected to the Moscow branch of the Soviet Academy of Sciences. Esalen subsequently established a "U.S.-Soviet Exchange" program, which has run a heavy East-West traffic of psychic kookery. Hickman and Murphy themselves have made extended visits to the U.S.S.R.

Esalen's contacts in Russia include Vlail P. Kaznacheyev, head of the Novosibirsk, Siberia Academy of Medical Sciences; Joseph Goldin, a "journalist" subordinate; Viktor Inyushin; Alexander Romen, pioneer of "psychic self-regulation" at Kazakh State University; and personnel at numerous institutes in Moscow involved in study of the paranormal. Murphy has also worked closely with the head of the Soviet State Sports Commission, Kuznetsov, and has authored *The Psychic Side of Sports*, dealing with paranormal aspects of sports training.

In the early 1970s, SRI's interface with branches of the U.S. military was activated to conduct so-called research into "ESP, the paranormal, distant viewing" and related kookery to study potential military applications. It served to legitimize kookery which has proliferated in sensitive U.S. military areas.

One such program, for example, involved a \$50,000 contract from the Office of Naval Intelligence for an SRI study to "determine whether psychics could detect remote electromagnetic sources" i.e., track submarines. According

to a critical study on such Pentagon funding, *Mind Wars: The True Story of Secret Government Research into the Military Potential of Psychic Weapons* by Ronald M. McRae, over \$6 million per year has been spent by the Pentagon in such "research."

According to McRae, during the period when Gen. Daniel Graham held leading positions at the Pentagon Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), "equally astounding, however, were conclusions of a 1972 DIA study, originally classified top secret but released in 1978. Soviet efforts in the field of [psychic] research," the agency predicted, "sooner or later might enable the Russians to do some of the following:

"A. Know the contents of top-secret U.S. documents of our troops and ships, and the locations and nature of our military installations.

"B. Mold the thoughts of key U.S. military and civilian leaders at a distance.

"C. Cause the instant death of any U.S. official at a distance.

"D. Disable, at a distance, U.S. equipment of all types, including spacecraft."

Delta Force and est

One Esalen-SRI subsidiary of concern, wholly operating within the U.S. Army, is the "Delta Force-First Earth Battalion," directed by Frank Burns from the U.S. Army Carlisle Barracks in Pennsylvania, and the Army Research Institute of Alexandria, Virginia. The group was formed in 1976 at the Fort Ord Military Stockade, California, in a project involving Marilyn Ferguson, Werner Erhard, and Dr. Morris Parloff of the National Institute of Mental Health. It traded on the name of the Delta Force secret multiservice military operation under the President's sole control. The Battalion trains personnel in "self-empowerment, self-enrichment" and similar group brainwashing projects. At a Delta Force conference held in March 1983 at the U.S. War College in Washington, participants included a deputy assistant Secretary of the Navy for manpower, a civilian deputy assistant Secretary of Defense (expertise: holistic approaches to development, gender, and race), and numerous command staff personnel.

According to Owen Jacobs of Delta Force, controllers of the command are Marilyn Ferguson and Dr. Elliott Jacks of the Tavistock Institute and Brunell College in London.

The Esalen network also operates unofficial recruiting channels in the military, through private, financially self-sustaining cults spun off as businesses that sell "self-improvement, empowerment," and other group therapy. Two of these channels are est of San Francisco, and Lifespring, based in San Rafael, California.

In 1975 a California Attorney General's fraud investigation led to the closing of a series of companies loosely associated with Esalen and SRI, "Mind Dynamics" and "Holiday

Magick,” of San Rafael, California. Company officials John P. Hanley, Randy Revell, and company employee Werner Erhard had been trained in “group techniques,” “self-awareness,” and so forth at Esalen and SRI.

By 1976 Erhard established his own outfit, est, with assistance of trainers from Scientology, and went on to process well over 100,000, many holding positions in government, business, and the scientific community. In 1976, Erhard, working with Dr. Peter Bourne and Dr. Roy Prosterman of the University of Washington, also established a front organization, the World Hunger Project, which was brought into the Carter White House as the “President’s Commission on World Hunger.”

In 1982 Erhard’s est network was put in touch with the Moscow Academy of Science’s U.S.-Canada Institute by Esalen, and Erhard himself was brought for a year to Moscow for lectures at the Institute by Drs. Yuri Fishevski and Vladimir Savalev. In 1983 est affiliated with the “All Russian Knowledge Society,” another name for Murphy’s psychic networks. In 1983 Fishevski, Savalev and others began travelling to est facilities in the United States.

Lifespring

In the same period, Hanley and Revell founded a sister cult, Lifespring, headquartered in San Rafael, California, which is also estimated to run a U.S. network of over 100,000 and to operate within at least 21 military and scientific facilities and government agencies. These include:

The Washington Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), the Naval Weapons Center, the Airforce Strategic Air Command, the Naval Air Systems Command, the Defense Communications Command, the U.S. Navy Human Resource Management Center in San Diego, the Department of Justice, the House Select Committee on Intelligence, and others.

During an exposé of Lifespring in 1980, broadcast on ABC-TV’s “20/20,” Boston psychiatrist Dr. John Clark was asked if the processes used by Lifespring in training over 300 Airforce personnel at Vandenburg AFB were brainwashing. He answered, “Yes. This process is a very complex one, but they have brought it to a very [high] level of excellence.”

Evidence points to the Defense Department’s research and development program to develop directed-energy beam weapons, as a top target of the Lifespring operation.

According to reports in the Feb. 26 *Baltimore News-American* published by the Hearst chain, the Pentagon’s sensitive Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) is badly compromised by Lifespring. Reported the *News-American*, “a source in DARPA estimated that 25% of the 140-man department has gone through the Lifespring program. ‘It starts from the top down,’ he said.” Dr. Robert Cooper—the current chairman of DARPA who is reported to be a member of Lifespring—is, along with Danny Graham,

currently being pushed as a candidate to assume chairmanship of the Pentagon’s now-forming Beam Weapon Office.

On March 9, Cooper testified at hearings of the Senate Armed Services Committee with Undersecretary of Defense Richard DeLauer and Assistant Secretary Fred Iklé, where all three were attacked by committee members for verbal testimony contradicting the administration’s enthusiastic study of beam weapons, the Fletcher Committee report.

In the *News-American* article Pamela Munter, an Oregon psychologist, is quoted: “Those who have undergone Lifespring training would be vulnerable to leaking information ‘if a hypothetical KGB agent would identify himself as an ex-Lifespring person, because they are taught to bond to one another.’”

Gen. Albion Knight of the High Frontier organization is also connected with a Lifespring network operating at the Lawrence Livermore Laboratories in California, who has followed the Moscow line against beam weapons.

The L-5 Society

In 1975, Princeton’s Dr. Gerard O’Neill established a society to promote the “High Frontier” of space exploration (see *EIR* March 20, 1984). The society’s formation also involved Gregory Bateson and Stewart Brand of the *Co-Evolution Quarterly*, and Timothy Leary, who later joined the L-5 board of directors.

The chief organizer of L-5, Carolyn Henson-Bosma, is also currently associated with Graham and several others at the High Frontier organization in Washington. Her husband, John Bosma, is a consultant and former employee of High Frontier and the Heritage Foundation. Earlier in his career Bosma was a protégé at the University of Washington of Dr. Roy Prosterman, a co-founder of Erhard’s “World Hunger Project.” According to Bosma, he was at that time associated with the Maoist “Anti-Bangor Coalition,” a political group opposed to the building of a Trident submarine base in Bangor, Washington. Bosma is also a former chief congressional aide to Rep. Ken Kramer (R-Colo.).

The Bosmas are currently closely associated with a well-known opponent of U.S. development of space-based defense programs, Carol Rosin of the Institute for Security and Cooperation In Space. Rosin is described as a controller of Robert Bowman, the spokesman of the Union of Concerned Scientists in opposition to the policies of Dr. Edward Teller for a space defensive beam weapons system for the United States.

Through links to Graham, the L-5 network, which includes Timothy Leary, former California governor Jerry Brown, Robert Anton Wilson, and Frank Haig S.J., has established significant power over U.S. space defense policy. Were General Graham to secure control over the Pentagon’s new Office of Space-Related Beam Weapon Defense, the inmates may have gained control of the asylum.