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30 April 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director

SUBJECT : Follow-on Contract with

1. This memorandum contains a recommendation for your approval. The recommendation is contained in Paragraph 7.

2. The Galvanic Skin Response (G.S.R.), reflecting electrical changes in the skin, has been used traditionally as a stress indicator in the polygraph interview and is considered a primary psychophysiological indicator. Despite the emphasis placed upon this measurement, only recently has an explanation of its functional relationship to stress started to emerge. The electrical changes in the skin are complex in nature, being produced by several interacting physiological mechanisms. As a result, the interpretive usefulness of this measurement is limited. Prior work, for which this is a follow-on effort, was concerned with the analysis and organization of the physiological processes underlying the G.S.R. As a result of this work, new relationships have been developed which support the contention that the electrodermal system has two components which may function both synergistically and independently. As a result, a rationale for G.S.R. interpretation has been developed which has shown evidence of behavioral specificity. This follow-on study is directed primarily toward an adaptation of these new findings to the polygraph interview for the purpose of enhancing the utility of the G.S.R.

3. The research, detailed in the accompanying proposal, will be part of the Stress Measurement program and is goal-oriented toward the polygraph. As outlined, these investigations fall into the following areas:

- a. Development of behavioral correlants to new electrodermal measurements.
- b. Analysis of the relationship between the electrodermal system and skin blood flow.

These studies represent a natural extension and exploitation of earlier investigations into skin physiology. As a result of earlier work, the risk associated with this contract is considered small. The contractor will deliver a final report and such interim reports as may be requested by the Project Officer.

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4. _____ was selected as the most appropriate contractor because Dr. _____ the principal investigator, is the most active and informed investigator in this field and because of the unique approach offered in his proposal. The proposed contract is to begin 1 June 1968 and be effective for twelve months at a cost of _____. No concurrent supporting action on the part of the Agency or its offices will be required in the conduct of this study. Coordination has been achieved internally with Mr. _____ of Security, and externally with Dr. _____

5. At the level of effort proposed this may be the final year of this program. However, a one-year follow-on effort should be considered as a possibility pending results from this program. Should this study reach an end-point with this contract, recommendations concerning analytical or procedural changes will be written and submitted to _____ In the event of a follow-on effort, the cost should approximate _____

6. _____ with this work shall be considered the work and reports shall remain UNCLASSIFIED.

7. The _____ recommends approval of establishing a follow-on contract with _____ This contract will cover a period of twelve months at an approximate cost of _____

IS/
Project Officer

CONCURRED:

IS/

IS/
30 APR 1968
Date

APPROVED: