

As the chairman of the committee was advised on April 20, 1965, the Department of Defense has undertaken a coordinated program of research in this connection to include four major tasks:

1. A study of the validity of lie detection based on existing records of security and criminal cases where evidence independent of the polygraph is available.

2. An experimental study of interrogation methodology.

3. A study of interexaminer reliability and examiners' performance differences.

4. A study of the reliability of various physiological measures with actual or potential relevance to lie detection.

A Joint Service Group has been formed, made up of representatives of the Office of the Director of Defense Research and Engineering, Departments of the Army, Navy, and Air Force and a representative of the Institute of Defense Analysis. The Joint Service Group is composed of scientists from the research components of each service and experienced polygraph specialists. The group has been reviewing past and current polygraph research.

The group currently is exploring external polygraph validation criteria against which the validity of polygraph examinations may be judged. The group also is developing proposals for research on equipment reliability and exploring measures for judging examiner reliability.

Returning again to the directive, it permits exceptions to be made for cause by the Secretary of a military department, Assistant Secretary of Defense (Administration) acting in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, or head of the Department of Defense component concerned, as appropriate, with written notice of such exceptions including the basis therefore to be sent to the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower).

By way of general comment, it is recognized that the directive is a first step toward bringing polygraph examinations under appropriate controls. Over a period of time actual experience should indicate the desirability of amending its provisions to assure that the polygraph is used only under appropriate circumstances and then with adequate safeguards.

I welcome questions from the committee.

Mr. KING. Thank you very much, Mr. Skallerup.

The Chair would recognize the gentleman from Michigan, Mr. Griffin. I know you have some questions.

Mr. GRIFFIN. Mr. Skallerup, I notice in the directive that the authorization to use the polygraph is limited to situations in which information furnished by the individual cannot be checked through the use of other investigative methods. It seems a little odd to me that it would be used only in those situations.

If you are conducting a research program to determine the validity of the polygraph, wouldn't it be best to use the polygraph in cases in which you could check the information in other ways, rather than rely exclusively on the polygraph?

Mr. SKALLERUP. Well, the purpose of that provision is to require the use of, say, conventional investigative methods up to the time of the polygraph examination. After the polygraph examination, information may be disclosed which could be subsequently checked through normal investigative methods. This kind of information could be used to validate the effectiveness of the polygraph examination.