UFO UpDates Mailing List

Voice Stress Analysis - a follow-up

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From: UFO UpDates - Toronto <updates@globalserve.net>
Date: Thu, 24 Jul 1997 03:42:02 -0400
Fwd Date: Thu, 24 Jul 1997 03:42:02 -0400
Subject: Voice Stress Analysis - a follow-up
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From: http://www.polygraph.org:83/voice.htm


Polygraph vs Voice Stress.


Department of Defense Polygraph Institute

VOICE STRESS ANALYSIS POSITION STATEMENT

September 11, 1996

Background

The polygraph measures predictable changes in a person's body
that are associated with the stress of deception. These changes
include alterations in heart rate, breathing, and electrodermal
activity (emotional sweating). Many other changes occur as well:
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the pupils get larger, digestion slows, the body's blood supply
is redistributed away from the skin and gastrointestinal regions
and toward the muscles, etc. The measures used by the polygraph
were selected in the 1920s and 1930s because they were simple to
record (as opposed to brain waves or gastrointestinal activity),
they were sensitive (even minor changes in stress levels caused
these physiological changes to occur), and they were accurate.

Starting about 25 years ago, serious efforts were made to use
the voice to detect deception. Many devices were marketed for
this purpose. The most widely advertised devices have been the
Psychological Stress Evaluator (PSE), the Hagoth, the Mark II
Voice Stress Analyzer (VSA), and the Computerized Voice Stress
AnaIyzer (CVSA). If effective, voice analysis offers many
advantages over current polygraph methodology. Voice samples can
be recorded without discomfort to the subject. Examinations could
be conducted remotely, both in distance, using a telephone or
radio link, or in time, using a tape recording. In rare cases, it
could even be conducted after a person's death, if a recording
made under proper technical, psychological, and investigative
conditions existed. The recordings could also be conducted
surreptitiously and would be of great benefit in intelligence and
counterintelligence investigations, international negotiations,
etc. If effective, voice stress analysis could significantly
improve the nation's security.

The Department of Defense Polygraph Institute has investigated the
scientific value of voice stress analysis. We reviewed the
research literature on voice stress analysis. Only one voice
stress device, the CVSA, is being widely marketed. We purchased the
CVSA, and sent two researchers to the CVSA school for training by
the manufacturer. We conducted several studies on voice stress
analysis, using standard laboratory voice equipment and software
and also using the CVSA device.

We solicited the manufacturer's advice in designing the CVSA
studies, and used both our own scientists and CVSA practitioners
recommended by the CVSA manufacturer to gather the research data.

Conclusions

1. To date, we have found no credible evidence in information
furnished by the manufacturers, the scientific literature, or in
our own research, that voice stress analysis is an effective
investigative tool for determining deception.

2. A very few studies have found that voice stress analysis worked
better than chance at detecting deception. Unfortunately, these
results are not consistent, nor are the reported accuracies nearly
as good as those normally reported for the polygraph. Hundreds of
studies have shown that when properly trained examiners use the
polygraph under controlled conditions, their decisions can be
highly accurate in discriminating between truthful and deceptive
people.

3. The preponderance of evidence indicates the polygraph is far
more accurate at detecting deception than is voice stress
analysis. No Department of Defense agency uses any form of voice
stress analysis for investigative purposes.

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From: http://legal.firn.edu/muni/palmbch/employme.html

The Palm Beach Police Department

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND REQUIREMENTS

The Palm Beach Police Department is a progressive organization
offering unique careers in law enforcement. New officers are
assigned to the Patrol Division, with the possibility of
transfer to specialty units after a one-year probationary
period. All patrol officers work five-day, forty-hour weeks.
The Department currently employs 69 sworn and 52 civilian
personnel.

Palm Beach is very unique in character and demands the
highest level of service and the utmost in professionalism
from its personnel. The Department emphasizes efficiency and

excellence in law enforcement.

[snip]

THE SELECTION PROCESS

PHYSIOLOGICAL PROFILE: Consists of a series of events assessing your physical abilities. A description will be provided by the Personnel Department.

SWIMMING SKILLS TEST: A skills test examining basic water survival skills, conducted by Palm Beach Lifeguards.

ORAL REVIEW BOARD INTERVIEW: The interview provides evaluation of employment and educational history; ability to relate well to others; reasoning and problem-solving skills in answering situational questions; and communication skills.

VOICE STRESS ANALYSIS: The voice stress analysis test will be used to verify information obtained from both the application and the Oral Review Board Interview.

[snip]

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From: http://www.chp.ca.gov/recruiting/selection.html

Selection Process for Cadet, CHP [California Highway Patrol]

[snip]

Candidates selected to continue in the hiring process are subject to the following:

Psychological Evaluation:
Includes a written examination and personal interview with a licensed psychologist

Background Investigation:
Determines the candidate's suitability to be a peace officer. As part of the Background Investigation, all candidates will be required to undergo a truth verification examination. A Computer Voice Stress Analyzer will be used to verify the veracity and accuracy of information submitted regarding the use of controlled substances, driving, criminal, medical and employment history and other job-related factors.

[snip]

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From: http://www.dps.state.mo.us/dps/msfs/dfsinvst.htm

Division of Fire Safety

Office of the State Fire Marshal [Missouri]

[snip]

Several Division investigators are also trained in the operation of Computerized Voice Stress Analysis equipment. This equipment has proven to be invaluable during follow-up investigations.

[snip]
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Learn about and download a Voice Stress Analysis lie detector from this page.

From: http://mypage.direct.ca/p/pbdennis/truthvsa.html

TruthVSA: Voice Stress Analysis Freeware.

This text is complete with links to referenced documents and web sites on the internet. Because it is intended for dissemination off of the internet as well as on, the convention of surrounding links with [square brackets] to denote them is used, with web addresses listed at the end. For convienience, both text and

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internet style "htm" copies of this document are included in
TruthVSA.zip. Load the htm into your browser for best viewing.

        1. All About VSA
        2. Download TruthVSA.zip
        3. TruthVSA Operating Instructions.

[snip]

We're the computer generation: VSA technology is now freely
available to millions of people! Spread it around!

                  [ Download TruthVSA.zip now: 50K ]

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