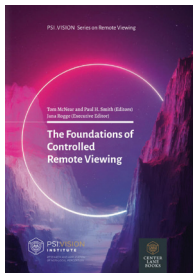


**BOOK AND
MULTIMEDIA
REVIEW**

The Foundations of Controlled Remote Viewing

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This book is a very useful historical document and is recommended for anyone with an intense interest in remote viewing. In fact, it is primarily a compilation of many articles that have been previously published in different venues. Some of the contributions have been published in the *Journal of Scientific Exploration (JSE)*. Further, most of the information contained in the book is available on the Internet. According to Paul H. Smith, this volume was designed as a reference book to preserve historical information that was not correlated in a central repository and was subject to being lost. The advantage of this text is that the material is concisely located in one handy place. It is so comprehensive that even if you think you know a lot about remote viewing and the history of the Department of Defense program best known as Star Gate, there are still nuggets to be learned.

As Hal Puthoff begins his eloquent foreword, "On the 6th of June 1972, I had no idea what I was about to do would herald the creation of a whole new research discipline." Thus began decades of scientific exploration that continues to this day. Notably, the JSE has been one of the key conveyances for publishing the results of such research. However, as cofounder of the remote viewing topic, Russell Targ, notes in his article, "This ability is not a 'new age' discovery. Psi experiences are described in detail by the Hindu sage Patanjali in about the fourth century BCE, the *Yoga Sutras*." Indeed, while this book focuses on the military applications of some psi phenomena, the true spectrum encompasses millennia of human endeavors.

In his preface, Paul Smith laments that "lack of knowledge leads to many needless repetitions of 'reinventing the wheel.'" He then adds, "It is that problem which *Foundations of Controlled Remote Viewing* is meant to solve, with its authoritative collection of foundational documents." Tom McNear, a coeditor, adds, "*Foundations* contains Ingo's (Ingo Swann) *Ideograms at the Master's Level*, which will help readers better understand Swann's concept of the ideogram, perhaps the greatest insight to the functioning of remote viewing..."

Both Paul Smith and Tom McNear include extensive commentary regarding the Army's *Controlled Remote Viewing Manual*. There are well over one hundred pages devoted to the topic and covers the formal stages from I through VI. McNear even makes suggestions for future research and application. Then there is a commentary written by the original master himself, Ingo Swann.

The book contains a very detailed account of the development of remote viewing. Despite the best efforts, a few important incidents were missing. As an example, under "Remote Viewing Timelines," (taken from the IRVA.org website), there is no mention of NASA participation. Before the declassification of most of the program information, NASA was thought to be the first to contract with SRI on such a research project. With 1972 CIA involvement still hidden, in 1973-1974, NASA did provide some funding that was unclassified and thus could be discussed in public.

Other possible missing critical events were the interactions between remote viewing, psi researchers, and the mainstream scientific community, namely the American



Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). These discussions/confrontations were monumental in the acceptance or non-acceptance of the scientific data being derived. The opposition was led by renowned physicist John Wheeler, who was extremely critical and believed the field was “scientifically indefensible.” That, despite substantial evidence supporting remote viewing being generated by credible scientists. There was an AAAS symposium in 1979 that led to a book, *The Role of Consciousness in the Physical World*, edited by R. G. Jahn (AAAS Selected Symposium 57, Westview Press, Boulder, CO, 1981). The compilation of papers included H. E. Puthoff, R. Targ, and E.C. May “Experimental psi research: Implications for physics.” Of course, Robert Jahn was a founder of the SSE.

There also is a lack of recognition for the related research conducted under Bob Jahn at the Princeton Engineering Anomalies Research Laboratory (PEAR Lab). The credibility that PEARL research brought to the field was critical in gaining a semblance of scientific acceptance. With an impeccable scientific record as the dean of the School of Engineering at Princeton, Robert Jahn became

one of the most important proponents for the study of psi phenomena.

This version of *Foundations* was created by the German-based PSI. Vision Institute, which published an earlier and shorter version as Volume 1 under the title *Von Star Gate bis heute-CRV nach 3 Jahrzehnten*. It may be worth noting that Center Lane Books, the publisher of this new book, is a derivative with advisors comprised largely of remote viewers and researchers from the former military project. In fact, while the general public thinks of the title Star Gate as the name of the remote viewing program, Center Lane was one of many names ascribed as the project evolved and was transferred from one agency to the next over time. Star Gate was the last name before the program was terminated, and the first elements became known to the public.

For full disclosure, I know many of the authors and participants involved and consider them friends. That said, I believe I can render an unbiased review and stand by the recommendation.