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SECTION: Washington Dateline

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HEADLINE: Committee Recommends Assessment of Parapsychology

BYLINE: By BARTON REPPERT, Associated Press Writer

DATELINE: WASHINGTON

BODY:

The esoteric world of parapsychology may now merit a "serious assessment" by Congress to help decide whether further research is warranted, according to a study prepared for the House Science and Technology Committee.

Parapsychology, which involves heavily disputed phenomena such as "remote viewing" and influencing people at a distance through mental powers, is among more than 150 science and technology issues included ...

... two years to compile the 530-page survey.

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The report's section on "the physics of consciousness" said recent experiments in remote viewing and other aspects of parapsychology "suggest that there exists an 'interconnectiveness' of the human mind with other minds and with matter."

Experiments on person-to-person phenomena have offered " ...

... other areas such as investigative work, education and "mind-initiated cures" in medicine.

The study observed that U.S. research in parapsychology has received relatively low financial backing "largely because the credibility and potential yield of such research is widely questioned, although less today than ever before."

"Given the potentially powerful and far-reaching implications of knowledge in this field, and given that the Soviet Union is widely acknowledged to be supporting such research at a far higher and more official level, Congress may wish to undertake ...