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Department of Defense  
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
COMMITTEE ON MEDICAL SCIENCES  
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BAW 16/1

10 November 1950

I. ASPECTS

1. Psychology of Panic.

Studies of effects of strategic bombing on morale have been made in Germany and Japan.

Present activity in the field is in the Chemical Corps. Its Medical Division Report No. 237 reports Conference 30 January 1950, Pioneer disaster team in Canada reported by Dr. J.S. Tyhurst. Chemical Corps has a contract with National Opinion Research Center of University of Chicago, for (questionnaire) observational study on civilian disasters.

2. Screening and Selection of Personnel.

Estimated Obligations

A. <u>Army</u> - FY 1952	<u>Thousands</u>
6-60-10-07 Objective aids in assessing personnel	40.0
6-60-10 * Officer personnel over 40 years of age	40.0
6-60-10 * Class, assign and reclass	30.0
B. <u>Air Force</u> - FY 1952	
Evaluation, screening, diagnosis and discovery (1st part of \$77,000)	77.0

3. Preventive Psychiatry.

3.1 In Training. No specific assignments in this field are to be found in the Medical and Hospital classifications. What there may be in training and indoctrination is not known.

\* Proposed

BAW 16/1

Date 6 MAR 1981  
Declassified  
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FILE NAME: A 9 m 18th CAE Meeting Held 07 December 1950

3.2 In Theater of Operations. No specific assignments to neuro-psychiatric and morale aspects of homesickness, sexuality, alcohol.

3.3 In Battle.

Estimated Obligations

A. <u>Army</u> - FY 1952 (applying to 3.1 and 3.2 as above)	<u>Thousands</u>
6-60-10 * Unnecessary traumatic experiences (? 3.3 as above)	21.4
6-60-10 * Group functions	24.6
6-60-10 * NP Aspects of accident prevention	30.0
(applying to 3.3 as above)	
6-60-10 * Thermal burns and psych.problems	50.0
6-60-10 * Effectiveness in relation to combat attrition	30.0
6-60-10 * Psychiatric changes due to fatigue and stress	45.0
B. <u>Navy</u> - FY 1952 (applying to <u>3.1-3.2-3.3</u> as above)	
NM 000 019 Fundamental studies in psychological scienses (seems to be for a literary survey)	20.0
C. <u>Air Force</u> - FY 1952 (applying to 3.1 as above)	
21,02,176 Irradiation injuries to sensory, learning retaining activities	19.0

4. Diagnosis, Treatment, and Rehabilitation

Estimated Obligations

A. <u>Army</u> - FY 1952	
6-60-10-02 Neuro-circulatory asthenia	12.0
6-60-09-07 Pantothenic acid	19.2
6-60-10 * Rest and relief	35.0
* Personality studies in anxiety states	56.0
* Physiological and biochemical studies in fatigue	30.0
B. <u>Navy</u> - FY 1952	
* Studies in the prevention, treatment & rehabilitation of casualties	85.0

\* Proposed

C. Air Force - FY 1952

Thousands

Evacuation, screening, diagnosis  
and discovery (2nd part of \$77,000)

77.0

\* Proposed

II RECOMMENDATIONS

Because we can anticipate that modern weapons will be able to reach further and do more destruction in greater concentration, we can predict an increasing possibility of destructive panic and loss of morale at home. It appears advisable to continue present project for study of psychology in disasters and to set up new projects to study morale in relation to organization in urban life as fast as technics of attacking the problem can be devised.

The research effort in field of personnel selection appears more nearly adequate to the needs, when one includes the proposed additions in the Army program.

It is in the field of preventive psychiatry that the greatest need and opportunity appear.

Fundamental studies should be initiated in the physiology of emotional states, the structure of morale and the pharmacology of drugs and hormones capable of affecting personality.

The project for identifying and eliminating traumatic experiences is a good proposal and should be expanded to cover the diverse situations of training and mobilization as well as battle. Particularly promising areas in this field are homesickness, sexuality, hazing, drunkenness, (drunkenness may also be therapeutic).

The project for studying group functions seems especially promising. This needs application to the development of morale in individuals and combat units in training and its preservation in mobilization and in inaction as well as action.

The present titles under 3.3 (battlefield conditions) appear well chosen.