SB7 Experiment 01

Problem or Condition: Voices received on the Spirit Box (model SB7) seem to answer investigator questions or are specifically relevant to the immediate location/investigative site.

Hypotheses: 1) Investigators are subconsciously manipulating the white noise through PK.
2) Investigators are misinterpreting words or partial words and sounds as direct answers (auditory pareidolia).
3) The device is functioning as a communication device with unseen sentient entities.

Experiment: Overall experimental plan – Using an SB7 with an external speaker, test subjects will pick one random word from a book and concentrate on that one word. The test subject(s) will not say anything during the experiment and will not inform any other test subject of the word they have chosen. If at any time during the experiment the SB7 says any word, each test subject will secretly write down what he or she heard.

Estimated time for the experiment: 15 min.
Documentation method: Video

SB7- PK Experiment 01
INSTRUCTIONS FOR TEST ADMINISTRATOR

Required materials:

1. SB7 equipped with speaker.
2. Digital Video Camera.
3. Moderately quiet environment (or suitable substitute: a quiet room free of electronic devices – no radios, cell phones, televisions, CFL bulbs)
4. One random book per test subject.
5. One pencil and piece of paper for each subject.

Directions for administrators:

1. Seat the subject(s) comfortably near the SB7.

2. Provide the subject with the following information: "Open your book to a random page and select one word from a page. For the duration of the experiment you cannot speak. You will only concentrate on that one word for approximately 15 minutes. If the SB7 broadcasts any word, including yours, simply write down what you heard on your scratch paper. When the experiment is over you may discuss your word and/or any SB7 responses."

3. After the instructions, start the SB7 with the antenna deployed on FM setting, forward scan, 150ms sweep rate.

4. Take note of the time and start recording on the video.

5. When the experiment has concluded, mark the time on the video camera and stop recording.

6. Discuss results with all participants.

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RESULTS

Test Date: 6 February 2013

Subjects: 3

Test Subject 1 (Administrator)	Test Subject 2	Test Subject 3
Word: Society	Word: Buffalo	Word: Yarn
Words heard during experiment		
Tape, object, double, crema, paper, sweater, Walmart, lunch, father, house, pig, one, fun, hair, movie, forget, preach, problem, cummerbunds, nine, there, thank you.	Broadway, boyfriend, house, experiment, laugh, hair, thank you.	**Yarn**, peak, amber, black chicks, mouth, double, Broadway, dammit, lemon, Walmart, Edward, mother, check out, trash, girlfriend, dollar, house, hey, seven, and, Patrick, brand new, couple, dibs, one, fuck, pair, who, birth, we'll talk, free, hoodlum, behind you, people, I cannot, where's my, got it, thank you.

Figure 1

Narrative: The experiment began with handing children's books from the 1930's to each participant. Each test subject opened to a random page and chose a word. Each subject concentrated on their chosen word for the duration of the test. After the experiment, the subjects took turns announcing their chosen word and noting the words that they had heard. In figure 1, common words are highlighted between subject 1 and 2 in green, between subject 2 and 3 in teal, between subject 1 and 3 in yellow, and between all 3 subjects in red. (Note: Of the 3 participants, one has tinnitus, and one has a known hearing loss.)

Analysis of the experiment was in three phases. The first phase consisted of a critique of the test itself and the outcomes. During the test, only one test subject thought the chosen word (yarn) was announced. Another subject heard what might have been the three syllables of the word, "buffalo" but since it was not clear, refused to acknowledge it as a legitimate response.

The second phase consisted of the test administrator watching the video of the experiment and then striping and analyzing the audio track in Adobe Audition. Scrutinizing the audio track there were responses that closely matched the phonetic sounds for the words, "yarn," and "buffalo."

The final analysis involved a test for suggestibility amongst the other two test subjects and then listening to the specific areas of the audio track for confirmation of the words, "yarn," and "buffalo." Test subjects 2 and 3 were told that those words were clearly announced by the SB7 and those specific audio tracks were examined. Both test subjects passed the litmus test for suggestibility noting that the words were not heard, even though one of them was close. Raising the volume and reducing the clutter for what was thought to be the word, "yarn," revealed that it was a partial word, "-yar." At that time we joked that we must have channeled Pirate Steve from the movie "Dodgeball."

Conclusions: Normal use of the SB7 would not receive the same scrutiny that this experiment required. In most instances, the SB7 would be turned on, questions asked, and the received answers or sounds would be accepted at face value. This particular situation, with one of the participants initially hearing the word "yarn," hypothesis number two (auditory pareidolia) is evident.

Based on team critique and results from this experiment, future experiments using the SB7 will:

- Test FM frequencies in reverse scan.
- Not deploy the antenna to reduce received station frequencies.
- Utilize other scan rates.
- Test AM frequencies in forward and reverse scan modes.
- Utilize "empty" frequencies.
- Position camera to read digital display of the SB7 so that any responses can be correlated to specific frequency channels.
- Direct questions will be integrated into the experiment at the end to test randomly chosen words. For instance, if the random word is "Buffalo" the first part of the experiment will be the subject concentrating on that word, and the second half of the experiment will be the subject asking for that word in a question (i.e. "What is another name for bison?")