

Anomalous Entity Report

"I am Happy"

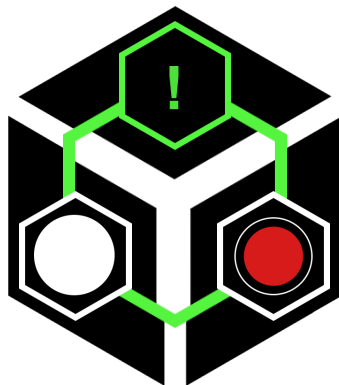
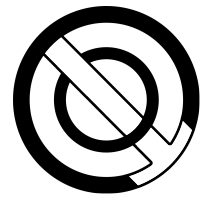
Subject - 0056¹

¹Department for Classification of Non-typical Phenomena

768 Words

Document ID:1111766889

Memorandum: Too much joy can kill



Containment Class: Stuia



Recontainment Class: Minimal



Ethical Class: Oxalis



Market Class: Opulent



Motivation Hazard



Cognitive Hazard



Emotional Hazard

1 Specification

S-0056 presents itself as a vinyl record with the same physical properties as any standard vinyl record. When played on a record player, it creates different sounds depending on who is listening so there has not been a way to objectively establish what is actually being played. When analysing the grooves on the record, they appear random and superficial, seemingly incapable of producing sound - despite the contrary.



Fig. 1. Image of S-0056 in containment.

2 Containment Procedures

S-0056 is not a threat, animate, or hostile. Therefore, it can be contained with specialised equipment. The sound created by S-0056 does have psychological impacts so the vinyl must always be stored separately from any record players, or other vinyl records to avoid confusion. Due to the addictive nature of the sound created by S-0056, researchers accessing it must do so in moderation. When listening to sounds created by it, one should not listen to them for more than five minutes to avoid potentially irreversible psychological damage.

3 Behaviour

While S-0056 does not have any sentient behaviour itself, it is capable of altering behaviour in those who interact with it. Anyone who listens to the sound produced when S-0056 is played on a record player cannot stop expressing how 'happy' they are and grateful for being alive. They will often mention a day of joy that they will supposedly be experiencing soon. The perceptions created by S-0056 are completely unfounded and never come to fruition often leading one to feeling an immense depression after being subject to the bliss created by S-0056.

In some cases, the feeling of happiness and euphoria created by S-0056 can be so extreme that it dampens people's perception of danger, similar to the effects of alcohol intoxication. Subjects have been so 'happy' that they engage in extremely hazardous activities without realising the threat they are putting themselves in. [See addendum 2]

S-0056 also has an addictive nature to it akin to addictive drugs. When listened to in moderation one can successfully recover from the effects it has. However prolonged use can create a dependency on it that induces withdrawal symptoms when no longer exposed to it. The main symptom of withdrawal is a deep depression and melancholic outlook on life. This depression can be cured using conventional therapy, although it is much more difficult and less successful to do so.

4 Origination

A vintage record collector was unknowingly holding the vinyl record that is S-0056. The collector would often put these records up for sale in a yard or car boot sale. Dr Harris being an intrepid collector of vinyl records purchased S-0056 out of curiosity. When he first listened to it, he experienced the mental effects it causes but managed to resist the urge to keep listening. Following from this, he took it back to the Corporation so it could be analysed.

5 Postscript

5.1 Addendum 1

An extract showcasing the lucrative nature of S-0056:

"Some of The Corporation's marketing experts have recommended ways to monetise S-0056. Due to the addictive nature of the sound made by it, recorded excerpts of the record could be sold as a way to induce happiness - potentially a very profitable idea. From this, the Corporation could then monetise the ways to cure the depression, in order to keep consumers trapped in purchasing these services from the Corporation exclusively."

5.2 Addendum 2

This is an interview of a subject who has been exposed to the sounds of S-0056 for a prolonged period through headphones. Halfway through the interview, the sound is cut off to induce a withdrawal reaction.

[START OF TRANSCRIPT]

[16/02, 14:23] Dr. Harris: So, can you tell me about how you feel?

[16/02, 14:23] C-4331: Isn't it wonderful, I mean I couldn't really feel any better, what's not to like about life? I'll surely have the most joyous day of my life soon.

[16/02, 14:23] Dr. Harris: Can you tell us about the severe injuries on your feet?

[16/02, 14:23] C-4331: What, these scratches? They're nothing. Just a small price to pay so I can be on my way as the happiest person in the world.

[16/02, 14:24] Dr. Harris: How did you get those injuries?

[16/02, 14:24] C-4331: You are a spoilsport always trying to dampen the mood. Fine, I stepped on a number of sharp industrial tools while dancing. But it was worth it because the dancing was so fun.

[The sound was turned off.]

[16/02, 14:24] C-4331: What happened? What is wrong with me? I don't want to do this anymore. Can you just leave me be?

[END OF TRANSCRIPT]

A Designations

A.1 S-0056

"I am Happy"

A.2 Dr. Harris

Researcher who discovered and has led the study of S-0056.

A.3 C-4331

Category-C personnel who had the effects of S-0056 tested on them.