



AMERICAN ESPIONAGE.

SYNOPSIS

During the Cold War, the United States and the USSR were engaged in a high profile arms race. At the same time they were secretly racing each other to become the first to harness Extrasensory Perception (ESP) as a weapon or espionage tool.

In 1983, Major Paul Smith, was unexpectedly recruited into the US Army's operational psychic espionage program, called Stargate, where he served as a psychic spy for almost 10 years. He was taught an arcane skill called Remote Viewing, which was initially developed by the CIA and the Stanford Research Center.

Paul was trained as a Remote Viewer and participated in many ESP intelligence-gathering sessions against Cold War targets. At the time the targets were highly classified, but it has since been revealed that they were tasked with viewing everything from nuclear facilities to the Iranian Hostage Crisis. In one such session, the government's psychic spies accurately revealed the purpose and content of a secret Soviet building, a shipyard where a previously unknown class of nuclear submarines was under construction.

Now retired from active duty, Paul strives to present an honest narrative about the history of the government's Remote Viewing program, often pitting him against stubborn skeptics and 'true believers' alike. Late in the film, it's revealed that Paul is the filmmaker's father, thus propelling the film into a new direction.

By blending traditional documentary elements with archival recreations, stylized imagery, and a nonlinear narrative, *American ESPionage* will immerse audiences in a thought-provoking visual experience. The very form of the film reflects it's underlying thesis, that the government's Remote Viewing program indicates that human beings, time, and the physical universe might be more complex than we currently understand.

This film is not meant to convince the audience that ESP is real rather it challenges us to examine our own tightly held belief systems and reveals the risks and rewards that can come through the simple act of asking "what if?" It probes deeper themes about the nature of human potential, the philosophy of science, and the lengths at which governments will go to learn each other's secrets -- and keep their own.

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