

MEMORANDUM

11 May 1954

TO : Chief, [REDACTED] G  
ATTN: [REDACTED] B13  
THRU : Chief, Security Staff [REDACTED] G  
FROM : [REDACTED] A

SUBJECT: General - ARTICHOKE PROGRAM

Specific - Proposed Research and Development  
Program to be Conducted at [REDACTED]

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1. The following program, the ARTICHOKE Research and Development Program, with the tentative concurrence of the [REDACTED] is proposed for application at [REDACTED]. This presupposes and is based on the fact that the proper ARTICHOKE methods and techniques applicable to the different racial groups in the [REDACTED] have been developed according to the peculiar requirements related to the language, racial and cultural background and philosophy of each group, with emphasis placed on the [REDACTED].

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2. Operational experiments and exercises can be performed at [REDACTED] on selected indigenous groups to determine the feasibility of the following objectives:

a. Use of ARTICHOKE as an offensive weapon; that through the use of hypnosis and post-hypnotic suggestions, the subjects, whether voluntarily or involuntarily, would preform acts as indicated and/or desired with complete amnesia of the procedures and techniques involved in obtaining that goal.

b. Use of ARTICHOKE as a defensive weapon; that through the use of hypnosis and post-hypnotic suggestions, a suitable and effective security measure can be instituted beyond the control of the individual to safeguard the disclosure of classified information. For example: having a key word or thought containing information pertaining to a particular sensitive project act as the stimulus to induce unconsciousness. Or, to have classified information erased

from a courier's memory until it is recalled at the appropriate time of delivery by a prearranged verbal, auditory, visual or physical stimulus acting as the key.

✓ G 3. The proposed program of ARTICHOKE research and development at [REDACTED] is divided into two operational phases as follows:

PHASE I

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B/3  
G At present, all medical patients, both indigenous and Americans at the [REDACTED], are seen and treated by [REDACTED] doctors at the [REDACTED]. It would be no problem to have all the indigenous patients be assigned to ARTICHOKE doctors in the [REDACTED] for medical care. After the proper [REDACTED] is established and rapport obtained with the indigenous patients, it is but a short step toward applying hypnotic techniques to unwitting subjects in the course of medical therapy. Only hypnotic techniques and no drugs will be utilized during this phase. Once the maximum benefits have been reaped from unwitting subjects, attention can be directed toward witting subjects by means of planned operational experiments and exercises as outlined in Phase II.

✓ PHASE II

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F The [REDACTED] has very close [REDACTED] with the [REDACTED]. It is the considered opinion of the [REDACTED] that the [REDACTED] would fully cooperate in the ARTICHOKE research program in return for any operational data obtained from cases conducted. When the general broad outlines of the ARTICHOKE program are presented to the [REDACTED] it is felt that more than sufficient subjects would be furnished by them. Then, hypnosis, drugs, and/or a combination of the two can be carried out on a fairly large scale to determine the feasibility of ARTICHOKE as a defensive and offensive weapon.

4. By conducting basic research on unwitting subjects under the guise of medical dispensary practice, the security hazards are reduced to a bare minimum, if not nil. Should the basic application and research in Phase I on unwitting subjects become unproductive in its initial stages, the problem of termination of the program would be minimal. On the other hand,

should the basic research and application of ARTICHOKE methods and techniques in Phase I become productive, the results can be applied towards conducting Phase II as presented above.

5. Working with the [REDACTED] would necessitate "cutting in" one, if not several, members of the [REDACTED] into the broad general aspects of the ARTICHOKE program. Subjects furnished by the [REDACTED] would consist of criminals, defectors, refugees and others under [REDACTED] control or custody. It must be presumed that [REDACTED] may be present as interpreters and/or observers during ARTICHOKE operations in Phase II. However, the technical aspects of ARTICHOKE would definitely be withheld from the [REDACTED] for obvious security reasons. F

6. To insure better security, no [REDACTED] contacts with the [REDACTED] in reference to ARTICHOKE will be made by any ARTICHOKE Team member until Phase II is contemplated. F

7. Reports of the clinical phase of this proposed program on [REDACTED] would be limited to progress reports and compiled statistics rather than detailed individual case reports, with the exception of operational cases in Phase II of sufficient merit to warrant a separate report. G

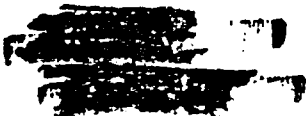
8. In order to conduct ARTICHOKE activities on [REDACTED], the following conditions were stipulated by the [REDACTED] G

a. Should complications arise during the implementation of the ARTICHOKE program at [REDACTED] and personnel become jeopardized, the [REDACTED] desires the prerogative and authority to evacuate the ARTICHOKE Team members at his discretion. G

b. ARTICHOKE reports to Headquarters, namely [REDACTED] B/3 will be limited to non-operational aspects of the cases conducted as set forth by the [REDACTED] G

c. While assigned to the [REDACTED] administrative control of the ARTICHOKE Team will be vested in the [REDACTED] G

d. Other questions such as channels of communication,

  
support channels, operational direction, command channels and operational procedures will be determined at a later date, provided this proposed program is initiated.

e. Should operational cases arise in other stations requiring the services of the ARTICHOKE Team, the operational cases will have priority and decisions relating to them will be established by higher Headquarters.

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