

TO : Chief, Security Research Staff, I&S  
FROM : Chief, Technical Branch, SRS, I&S  
SUBJECT: ARTICHOKE Conference, 22 January 1953  
(Informal Report).

DATE: 13 February 1953

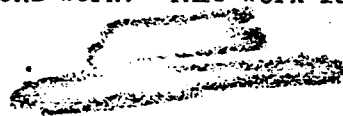
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1. On Thursday, 22 January 1953, between 2:00 and 4:00 PM, a general conference was held on the ARTICHOKE Project with the following individuals present: Messrs. [redacted] and [redacted] representing I&S; [redacted] and [redacted] representing OSI; [redacted] representing the Medical Staff; [redacted] consultant to the ARTICHOKE Project; [redacted] consultant to the Medical Division.

2. The conference was opened by [redacted] giving a progress report on the ARTICHOKE work since the last conference. [redacted] covered the following items:

- A. Recruitment problems for the overseas ARTICHOKE. [redacted] explained that ARTICHOKE believed they had obtained the proper individual to handle the interrogation-administrative end at [redacted] but the Personnel Division had not as yet made contact with the person under consideration for the Tokyo assignment.
- B. [redacted] stated that the report from [redacted] professional hypnotist and consultant to this Agency, has not yet been received.
- C. [redacted] stated that they had received a recent communication from [redacted] indicating the trip was progressing and requested some assistance. (This request was carried out and the necessary documentation was sent to [redacted] to arrive in [redacted] probably Thursday, 12 February 1953.)
- D. [redacted] then explained that hypnotic experiments were being continued and stated that [redacted] would give a more detailed report on hypnosis.
- E. [redacted] explained that we had recently concluded an agreement with Civil Defense involving one of their specialist's work in the field of instrument experimentation and work is progressing excellently on an automatic injection device related to the ARTICHOKE work. This work is being handled very



successfully by [redacted] of the Medical Division.

- F. [redacted]
- G. [redacted] pointed out that [redacted] had recently briefed certain key officials in the Contact Division on ARTICHOKA, including [redacted] Chief of CO, to enable them to more efficiently carry out liaison and contact work for ARTICHOKA in the future.

3. [redacted] then gave a statement on activities of OSI in relation to the ARTICHOKA work. He stated that [redacted] had heard from [redacted] and it appeared that the work of [redacted] in [redacted] was going more rapidly than had been anticipated. [redacted] and [redacted] mentioned the name of [redacted] an Army psychiatrist, who did special work in Germany and could possibly be used to do related ARTICHOKA work. He is described as a specialist in the interrogation field and [redacted] feels his services might be valuable. [redacted] also mentioned [redacted] and his possible use to the ARTICHOKA program. [redacted] is a trained hypnotist and, in addition, is regarded as a competent polygraph operator. His services could be made available on a part-time basis.

4. [redacted] discussed some information to the effect that teams were being trained in USSR and China concerning the use of drugs and hypnosis in interrogation. These teams are specially trained and do not use physical torture although mental duress is used. There is a report out of [redacted] on "Confession Gang" training in USSR and particularly use of special lights or techniques involving lights for as long a period as twenty-six days on certain subjects. [redacted] also mentioned there was a Swedish physician who had done remarkable work on fatigue. [redacted] and [redacted] then stated that the [redacted] organization had discovered some counter narcotic drugs recently but details were not given.

[REDACTED]

7. In continuing the discussion, [REDACTED] stated the position of ARTICHOKE and Security insofar as collection of information is concerned and stated he could see no reason why the medical doctors in the field could not be instructed to collect and pass on information of interest along ARTICHOKE lines. [REDACTED] stated he would prepare a paper on the general collection of information along ARTICHOKE lines.

8. [REDACTED] stated he felt that certain doctors could be given special briefings concerning ARTICHOKE but that this could only be done if all factors were settled and if they had FI (?) clearance.

9. Discussion then occurred as to what channels would be best to convey pertinent information back to Headquarters and [REDACTED] stated he saw no reason why the usual medical channel could not be used.

10. At this point, [REDACTED] introduced the memorandum of [REDACTED] dated 22 December 1952 concerning the possible teaching of the ARTICHOKE techniques to medical officers in the field and [REDACTED] stated he wanted to take this matter up with [REDACTED] separately upon his [REDACTED] return.

11. *a contractor* [REDACTED] was asked if he had any comments and he stated he had none. [REDACTED] was asked the same question and stated he was attending in the capacity of observer only.

12. At this point, there was a general discussion concerning work carried on at Edgewood Arsenal and at Camp Dietrich and the special use of [REDACTED]. The discussion also concerned [REDACTED] and Lysergic Acid.

13. Following this, [REDACTED] stated that the ARTICHOKE organization had been studying use of certain facilities in the United States as testing grounds for new ideas, experiments, etc. particularly using criminals and the criminally insane. He briefly touched on the work at the [REDACTED] and also the possible use of [REDACTED] and the [REDACTED]

14. [redacted] then discussed the matter of the possible briefing and training of our top personnel on how to resist interrogation by the enemy. A general discussion followed this and [redacted] made the point that there was a grave question whether any briefing along these lines would do much good. [redacted] felt a study could be made about ways and means for our people to be inconspicuous and not susceptible to exposure. [redacted] concluded by suggesting that all hands present any new problems that might come up at the next meeting for general discussion.

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15. [redacted] at this point stated he would like to know what all persons involved were doing in this work and suggested he thought it would be a good idea to place this on the agenda for the next meeting. He would also like to know the status of the [redacted] device (Project--OIR contract) and also what OTS and [redacted] are now doing.

16. The meeting was concluded by [redacted] giving a resume of the work in hypnosis that had been carried on to date by the ARTICHOKE Staff and particularly stressing the example of three good subjects and their capacity for doing advanced hypnotic work.

17. The next meeting was set for 19 February 1953 at 2:00 PM in the Conference Room of I&S.