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DATE: 16 February 1953

TO: Security Officer
VIA: Deputy Security Officer
VIA: Chief, Security Research Staff, EAS
FROM: Chief, Technical Branch, SRG, LRS
SUBJECT: Report on ARTICHOKE by [redacted], Summary of [redacted] dated 2 February 1953

1. Reference is made to the report of the [redacted] on the general ARTICHOKE problem which was received by this Office on 9 February 1953.

2. The [redacted] report is broken down into three parts. The first covering existing techniques and agents of all types; the second containing comments on existing programs that are in some way related to the ARTICHOKE Project; and the third section containing certain recommendations made by the [redacted] group. The report itself also contains Appendices which list some projects of interest to [redacted], a roster of the [redacted] group, and a schedule of meetings.

3. The [redacted] group first discusses various known techniques and agents. They point out that all individuals can be broken under mental and physical assaults and by such techniques as denying sleep, exhaustion, permission, starvation, pain, humiliation, sickness, etc. They state that the capacity to endure assaults of all kinds varies in individuals.

4. The [redacted] group then points out that methods of seduction and persuasion as contrasted to the punitive methods can be very effective in obtaining information from an individual.

5. The third technique taken up is the usefulness of various chemical agents. They state in general terms that these agents do, in some ways, facilitate the obtaining of information from individuals but they also point out that these techniques are not perfect and that they do not necessarily prevent lying or withhold information and they also state that when individuals realize they are drugged, they tend to become doubly suspicious and often refuse them to talk which hampers the process. The [redacted] group lists only a few of the special chemicals and admits that others will be found to hasten and facilitate the process of persuasion.

[redacted]

3. Proper indoctrination in security matters.

4. The development of "high morals and discipline".

11 9. In the second main section of this report, the _____ group deals with a number of existing projects which are of interest to ARTICIONE. Most of their comments in connection with such programs as the

B+C _____ are negative and reflect that _____ does not believe there will be much gained from these efforts, at least in the immediate future—primarily because extensive psychological and psychiatric, as well as other types of research, is required.

H 10. The _____ group states that "although the present state of knowledge indicates little threat, if any, to National Security through special 'interrogation' techniques or agents, it is the considered opinion of the study group that the existing programs offer little hope of establishing the existence of, or of developing effective and practical techniques or agents."

11. The report concludes with their recommendations. These recommendations may be briefly summarized as follows:

H A. _____ urges use of skilled and experienced interrogators and those exposed to every interrogation to analyze and study the techniques and formulate procedures for instruction and protection.

H B. The _____ group recommends that exhaustive studies be made of individuals that have proven to be poor security risks.

H F C. _____ recommends that field study, particularly in _____ where numerous prisoners are available, should be carried out to improve methods of interrogation with research teams having freedom of action in this connection.

D. That research be carried out involving current polygraph methods and these methods be tied into the psychological-psychiatric approach to the overall program.

H E. _____ again stresses the importance of developing procedures for the utmost care in screening and selecting of persons.

H^F _____ also restates that careful, thorough, and intelligent indoctrination, including familiarity with persuasive methods, is vital.

H 10. The _____ group also recommends broad studies, particularly studies having to do with mental processes of individuals, studies of psychological effects of chemicals, studies of the underlying principles of human behavior, studies of persuasion, seduction, and resistance, and studies directly on the effects of chemical agents with psychotic-type individuals.

H 11. The basic report recommends that the _____ group hereafter not arrange any regular schedule of meetings but be called together when pertinent information is developed or special work is necessary. They estimate in this connection that two meetings a year will be sufficient.

12. The appendices attached are merely technical.

A _____