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VIA: AIR

DISPATCH NO. [REDACTED]

SPECIFY AIR OR SEA POUCH

[REDACTED]
CLASSIFICATION

GA

DATE:

JAN. 22. 1954

TO :

ATTN :
FROM :

Senior Representative [REDACTED]

54-10

SUBJECT: GENERAL Security

SPECIFIC ARTICHOKE Report

1. Herewith report of ARTICHOKE Team on first assignment. Considering the speed with which we had to operate, I believe it went extremely well. We were ready when called upon for support, even though the operation did not materialize.

2. I have left blank certain identifying information which is known to [REDACTED] A

[REDACTED]

ENCLOSURE:

Report of ARTICHOKE Team (3 copies)

22 January 1954

Distribution:

1, 2 & 3 - Addressee

[REDACTED]
CLASSIFICATION

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Attachment # /

ARTICHOKE

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1. The ARTICHOKE Team visited [redacted] during period 8 January to 15 January 1954. The purpose of the visit was to give an evaluation of a hypothetical problem, namely: Can an individual of ***** descent be made to perform an act of attempted assassination involuntarily under the influence of ARTICHOKE?

2. PROBLEM:

a. The essential elements of the problem are as follows:

(1) As a "trigger mechanism" for a bigger project, it was proposed that an individual of ***** descent, approximately 35 years old, well educated, proficient in English and well established socially and politically in the ***** Government be induced under ARTICHOKE to perform an act, involuntarily, of attempted assassination against a prominent ***** politician or if necessary, against an American official. The SUBJECT was formerly in [redacted] employ but has since terminated and is now employed with the *** Government. According to all available information, the SUBJECT would offer no further cooperation with [redacted]. Access to the SUBJECT would be extremely limited, probably limited to a single social meeting. Because the SUBJECT is a heavy drinker, it was proposed that the individual could be surreptitiously drugged through the medium of an alcoholic cocktail at a social party, ARTICHOKE applied and the SUBJECT induced to perform the act of attempted assassination at some later date. All the above was to be accomplished at one involuntary uncontrolled social meeting. After the act of attempted assassination was performed, it was assumed that the SUBJECT would be taken into custody by the *** Government and thereby "disposed of." Other than personal reassurances by [redacted] means of security involving the

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[redacted]

project, techniques, personnel and disposal of the SUBJECT were not indicated. Whether the proposed act of attempted assassination was carried out or not by the SUBJECT was of no great significance in relation to the overall project.

3. CONCLUSIONS:

a. In answer to the hypothetical question, can an individual of ***** descent be made to perform an act of attempted assassination, involuntarily, under ARTICHOKE, according to the above conditions, the answer in this case was probably "No" because of the limitations imposed operationally as follows:

(1) The SUBJECT would be an involuntary and unwitting SUBJECT.

(2) We would have none, or, at most, very limited physical control and custody of the SUBJECT.

(3) Access to the SUBJECT is strictly limited to a social engagement among a mixed group of both cleared and uncleared personnel.

4. The final answer was that in view of the fact that successful completion of this proposed act of attempted assassination was insignificant to the overall project; to wit, whether it was even carried out or not, that under "crash conditions" and appropriate authority from Headquarters, the ARTICHOKE Team would undertake the problem in spite of the operational limitations.

ADDENDUM:

Two main problems presented itself in relation to answering the above hypothetical question.

a. Security: Insufficient consideration was given to the fact that any leakage of ARTICHOKE through performance of the proposed problem would jeopardize the entire future application and proposed activity of the ARTICHOKE Team in the area.

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Attachment # 1

b. It was the unanimous opinion of all ARTICHOKE members that unless the ARTICHOKE Team had more detailed access to the operational plan it would be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to carry out the assigned mission. E

* simulated only

E This would be made available when and if required - A