



THE BLACK VAULT

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A/B, 5, 52/1

Chief, Security Research Staff, IAS

28 January 1953

Chief, Technical Branch, SMS, IAS

Request for Covert Investigation

1. Approximately ten days ago, the writer was informed of the following facts by [redacted] of the Medical Staff:

2. Recently [redacted] giving a lecture before a training class in the Training Division of the Agency on field medicine, stated that he was talking about the handling of wounds and emergency situations and was discussing the use of sedatives particularly the barbiturates when he was interrupted by a gentleman in the class who asked [redacted] about a problem such as that of "Artichoke". These are not the exact words but the individual who interrupted [redacted] clearly asked about Artichoke and used the word in the classroom. [redacted] stated that he was somewhat shocked at the use of the word Artichoke but turned the conversation by saying that he felt that the individual had misspoken and he was talking of barbiturates and denied knowledge of Artichoke.

3. When [redacted] reported this to the writer, the writer asked [redacted] if he could ascertain the name of the individual who interrupted and used the word Artichoke. [redacted] agreed to do this and subsequently was able to determine that the individual who asked the question is using the name of [redacted] [redacted] could furnish no other details.

4. It is suggested that your Office obtain the security file on this individual and an examination be made of it to ascertain whether or not [redacted] should have knowledge of Artichoke either directly or indirectly. In the event that the security file or personnel records do not indicate a substantial reason for [redacted] to have knowledge, it is suggested that a very covert investigation be made of the case to find out why this word should be used openly in a training classroom by an individual whom, as far as is known, should not be acquainted with the word Artichoke.

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