



# THE BLACK VAULT

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A  
A/B, 7, 5/31

TO: Director of Security  
VIA: Deputy Director of Security  
VIA: Chief, Security Research Staff  
SUBJECT: ARTICHOKE — Views of Cleared Contacts Re ARTICHOKE Research

1. Set out below is a list of individuals who have been cleared by Security to the SECRET level and who have been briefed by the writer and/or associates of the writer in the ARTICHOKE program. Each of these individuals is a specialist or an authority in a given scientific field selected after a careful screening and based upon the individuals background and reputation. Each contact was interviewed <sup>at length — some of the individuals continuing</sup> ~~from anywhere between two hours and~~ several days. In general, after being thoroughly briefed on ARTICHOKE (and cautiously tested as to their interests, motivations and loyalty) <sup>these men</sup> ~~they~~ were asked three questions:

- A. All information they could give pertinent to ARTICHOKE.
- B. Names of outstanding men <sup>known to the interviewee</sup> who could be contacted for ARTICHOKE information.
- C. Their views and recommendations as to whether <sup>to include</sup> ~~this~~ type of research and experimentation was worthwhile and what, <sup>in their opinion,</sup> should be done.

2. No pressure was exerted on any of the men interviewed -- only their advice and views were solicited. None of the men interviewed received any material benefit from the contact or possible future contact, and without exception each individual interviewed could only assist the ARTICHOKE program at his own inconvenience and at loss of his own (and valuable) time.

C

[Large redacted area]

[REDACTED]

C [REDACTED] the ARTICHOKE program felt this work was extremely <sup>NECESSARY</sup> and <sup>to support work</sup> set up means whereby botanicals coming from countries outside the United States for this work could be easily passed through Customs and quarantine with the minimum delay and effort.

C [REDACTED] displayed great interest in the ARTICHOKE work and stated he felt so strongly in the matter that he would offer assistance of his specialists and laboratories to assist chemical and drug research along ARTICHOKE Lines. [REDACTED] urged work be expanded and continued.

C [REDACTED] who is <sup>not a scientist but</sup> essential to any operation having to do with the importation of botanicals and related items into the United States volunteered full assistance in support of the ARTICHOKE work and arranged special methods whereby incoming botanicals for ARTICHOKE ~~work~~ <sup>and other</sup> would be given absolute protection and would not be subject to normal fumigation processes that might possibly destroy the usefulness of the plant for propagation purposes. [REDACTED] inserted here because of his key position in one of the ARTICHOKE programs (*importation of narcotic and medicinal plants for testing and experimentation*).

C [REDACTED] is a specialist in the growing and propagation

~~SECRET~~

*outstanding*

of plants of all types and has done ~~very~~ excellent work in growing certain narcotic plants to assist the Nation in stockpiling drugs during the past war ~~██████████~~ offered full assistance, endorsed the work and opened up for ARTICHOKE inspection a very remarkable file of rare plants which is held at ~~██████████~~ and which is not open to normal inspection.

~~██████████~~ He enthusiastically supports this type of work and offered his services in lining up contacts in all pharmaceutical houses in the United States and promised that he personally would make a study of specialists in the ARTICHOKE work who should be contacted by us. ~~██████████~~ is in charge of the ~~██████████~~ and offered full assistance of his <sup>labor</sup> laboratories which include ~~██████████~~ over ~~██████████~~ animals and a staff of trained & experts numbering over ~~██████████~~ individuals.

~~██████████~~ *Also add*  
~~██████████~~ *at an opportu*  
~~██████████~~ *time*

~~██████████~~ very enthusiastically supported ARTICHOKE-type research and has already <sup>added</sup> supported this program by giving ~~us~~ <sup>medical</sup> information concerning several new discoveries and personally offered to clear the way for discussions with top scientists whom he knew personally *and thought would be helpful*.

~~██████████~~

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] is an outstanding authority on guns, ammunition, ballistics, etc.; and is a criminologist and crime laboratory expert of considerable reputation. [REDACTED] emphatically believes research along ARTICHOKE lines should be carried out and gave us many leads and promised additional information in the immediate future. He particularly gave assistance in connection with certain peculiar weapons which are of possible interest to the ARTICHOKE program.

[REDACTED] is regarded as an authority on basic organic chemistry and according to his associates in [REDACTED] continuously works in advanced research in the discovery of new drugs, chemicals, etc. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] urged research along ARTICHOKE lines and supported this by offering to do special research in connection with certain elements of interest to ARTICHOKE in his own laboratory and on his own time. In addition, [REDACTED] has furnished information on many drugs which he has investigated and in numerous ways touched those of interest to ARTICHOKE.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] According to [REDACTED] of the Technical Branch, [REDACTED] who interviewed [REDACTED] he was extremely co-operative and gave much useful information in connection with the ARTICHOKE program. [REDACTED], who is an authority on [REDACTED]

hypnosis as well as an outstanding neurologist gave information along lines of general interest to ARTICHOKE.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] is extremely co-operative and felt that research along ARTICHOKE lines is extremely important, [REDACTED] offered to co-operate with this Agency in any way possible, particularly the <sup>in preparation</sup> growth of mushrooms and in conducting <sup>special</sup> research through the so-called [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] is the first <sup>individual</sup> individual contacted in connection with the ARTICHOKE program. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] is one of the earliest workers in the so-called "truth serum" techniques and he enthusiastically endorsed research along ARTICHOKE lines. [REDACTED] turned over his entire library to the writer and contributed a number of papers and manuscripts for information on ARTICHOKE research. [REDACTED] recommended many individuals and very specifically urged that this Agency support a carefully controlled long-range research in drugs and chemicals <sup>for special purposes</sup>.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] who is extraordinarily co-operative very enthusiastically endorsed ARTICHOKE-type research and <sup>has</sup> made numerous recommendations and suggestions along these lines. [REDACTED] has been contacted upon other occasions since the initial interview by members of the Technical Branch and on each occasion [REDACTED] has offered suggestions, comments, and encouragement.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] is an authority on plants and shrubs and ~~has~~ <sup>is</sup> ~~is~~ <sup>one</sup> ~~of~~ <sup>the</sup> is known to be in contact with individuals in his work throughout the world. [REDACTED] was extremely co-operative and enthusiastically supported research along ARTICHOKE lines, particularly in the discovery of new and unusual drugs that would arise from plants and shrubs, etc. He offered valuable information regarding personalities in the botanical field and offered full co-operation insofar as the facilities of his organization were concerned.

[REDACTED]

C  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] has remarkable knowledge of the mushroom industry and individuals who work in the industry. [REDACTED] felt that the field of narcotic and poisonous mushrooms should be carefully <sup>with Council</sup> expanded by this Office. He offered laboratory ~~facilities~~ and growing facilities and consultation with mushroom experts without cost.

C  
[REDACTED] and an outstanding medical doctor according to [REDACTED] the Technical Branch who has known [REDACTED] for many years. [REDACTED] was very enthusiastic in connection with ARTICHOKE-type work and urged that the research be carried on. [REDACTED] himself was particularly enthusiastic about LSD research and admitted the [REDACTED] organization had supplied him with the chemical for research and experimentation. [REDACTED] volunteered to assist in any way he could in connection with this work.

X-813  
C  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] who is an expert on animal experimentation and is regarded by his associates as extremely capable and intelligent with an inventive mind, very enthusiastically supported



ARTICHOKE-type research and volunteered to carry out experimentation with chemicals on animals in support of ARTICHOKE work. He himself gave valuable information and offered to conduct personal research along lines of interest to us whenever requested.

*C*

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] He had conducted numerous tests and actual cases <sup>(as late as mid Dec 1957)</sup> using chemicals and drugs along ARTICHOKE lines. Many contacts of this Office, <sup>Referred</sup> referred to his work as outstanding and his results have been widely published. [REDACTED] has very earnestly urged that research and experimentation be carried out along these lines and to this end he has maintained contact with this office continuously since he was initially interviewed several years ago.

\* \* \*

In addition to the individuals whose names are listed above who have supported and urged ARTICHOKE experimentation and research, the views of two men who are closely related to the ARTICHOKE problem are appended here:

A. [REDACTED]

*C*

[REDACTED] and regarded by many individuals as a <sup>top</sup> criminologist and authority on delinquency, etc. and who is a fully cleared consultant to the Agency, has continuously urged a broadening and deepening of the

e. Analysis of the needle:

(1) It is similar to a standard U. S. 19 gage hypodermic needle, ordinarily used for venipuncture. Dimensions are:

Outside diameter - .040 inches

Inside diameter - .027 inches

Length - .792 inches

The outside diameter is significantly smaller than the U.S. surgical needle of the same type which has a diameter of .042 inches. This may assist in determining the place of manufacture. Conversations are being arranged with the principle U.S. manufacturer of surgical needles to explore this possibility.

(2) The needle, which apparently had been broken from its brass hub in shipment, was positively identified by spectrographic analysis as having been attached to the hub. Further spectrographic analysis revealed that the needle is made of high carbon tool steel such as is usually used for hypodermic needles. The needle is composed of scattered spheroids of cementite in a matrix of tempered martensite with traces of impurities of Ni, Al, Mo, Sn, Cu, Ca, Cr, Si, Mg, Mn. It may be possible to locate the place of manufacture of the needle from this information.

Sn  
f. Analysis of the tube:

(1) This is a well constructed collapsible aluminum tube, lacquered on the inside and with an outside coating of dull white paint. There are no identifying markings of any kind on the outside and ultra-violet examination revealed no evidence of invisible markings or labelling.

(2) The top of the tube consisted of a brass neck, machine threaded to receive the brass hub holding the needle.

(3) Significant differences in the tube, as compared to similar U.S. manufactured items were noted. Most U.S. tubes are made of tin with no inside or outside coating. Needles are usually fastened to the tube by ground glass or plastic joints. The brass cap and machine-thread technique is an expensive and non-standard method which could not be explained by any of the prominent medical and pharmaceutical exports consulted.

g. Analysis of the Plastic container:

(1) The container is made of Polymethyl Methacrylate (trade name "Plexiglass" or "Lucite") which is manufactured in large quantities in the U.S. (DuPont as "Lucite") and Germany (Rohm and Haas, Darmstadt, American Zone, as "plexiglass"). To our knowledge Rohm and Haas is the only manufacturer of this material

[REDACTED]

in either East or West Zones of Germany although it is known to be produced in the USSR.

Actually this information is not too significant since any small manufacturer could have machined out a container of this type from a cylindrical bar of plastic manufactured by any of the companies in the U.S., Germany, or the USSR. Certain features of the casting, its composition and appearance, tend to indicate that it is of German origin but this is not conclusive. Further progress in tracking down the origin of the container from the information noted herein is not expected.

k. General observations:

a. Analysis of the information and material available in the U.S. has reached the point of diminishing returns. With the receipt of a final report on the scrapings from the tube; the benzidine test for blood, and whatever information can be obtained on the source of manufacture of the needle, the case will have to be closed with a question mark unless further information can be developed in the field. Assumptions which may be drawn from the sketchy information available are:

(1) Since the plastic container is not designed either for most efficient protection of the tube and needle nor for concealment of the item, it was probably made out of available materials as the best container that could be obtained under the circumstances. However, the possibility that the container was deliberately manufactured in this form and shape to permit concealment with ordinary items should not be overlooked. Otherwise, given facilities and time, a simple syringe with ground glass or plastic connector and with a plastic cap to protect the needle would have served the purpose and would be much easier to conceal.

(2) The tube and brass hub with needle attached are subject to the same speculation as above.

(3) The contents of the tube are unidentifiable and could range anywhere from a substance for use in rendering a person unconscious to a raw compound with narcotic-hypnotic properties. The circumstances favor the former possibility and suggest an aid to kidnapping rather than more eclectic purposes.

[REDACTED]

A

[REDACTED]

A

[REDACTED]

AB, 7, 5/1

The following information is desired concerning the sample delivered:

1. Analysis of contents of tube.
  - a. Saving one-half, if possible, for confirmatory, independent test.
  - b. Bearing in mind the report which can not be vouched for and the list of possible chemicals delivered to the company.
  - c. Verification of the assumption that this is a drug rather than a vaccine or bacteria.
2. Examination of the label by ultra-violet, infra-red, or other means.
3. Description with measurements and photograph.
4. Statement as to possible origin:
  - a. Place - Possibly Eastern Europe
  - b. Time - Time of preparation if the drug has a fugitive character which would aid in this deduction.
5. Please return all unused portions of the sample.

Two copies of this were given to

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~

C