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A/B, 1, 3/20

26 November 1951

[REDACTED]

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"Artichoke", Special Comments

1. Reference is made to the recent conference in which [REDACTED] [REDACTED], yourself, another individual whose name the writer does not recall, and the writer participated concerning the uses of "Artichoke" and special requirements necessary for "Artichoke" in the field. A

2. Set forth immediately below are certain items which are given for information purposes only and reflect current thinking regarding "Artichoke" insofar as Unit B, I & SO, is concerned.

I. When to use "Artichoke".

A. Heretofore it has generally been thought that "Artichoke" or the "Artichoke" techniques should only be used as a last resort or when all other means have failed in a particular problem or series of problems. The writer feels that this is not in any sense the only time that "Artichoke" can be used. It is the writer's opinion that "Artichoke" could be considered in three ways.

1. The "Artichoke" technique could successfully be used immediately upon the development of a case as a starting point for the obtaining of information or as a quick determinant as to what is necessary to be done in a particular problem.
 2. "Artichoke" could be used at any given point in the development of a case, either to establish new leads or new information or to cross-check or to verify information, names, etc. that have already been obtained.
 3. "Artichoke" can always be used as a last resort when all or nearly all the attempts at obtaining information have failed or when a subject is completely recalcitrant or particularly stubborn.
- [REDACTED]

II. What General Facilities Should "Artichoke" Have in the Field?

- A. Ideally, "Artichoke" could best be operated in a hospital or a hospital-type area. However, this is generally not possible in view of the present attitude of hospital authorities, military or otherwise.
- B. In the event that hospital-type facilities could not be procured, it would then be best to carry out "Artichoke" operations in a safe house or safe area, but not, in the opinion of the writer, in a military prison, concentration camp, barracks, or similar area.
- C. For technical reasons, it is best to have two adjoining rooms with a bath also adjoining or very close by. The best possible type of room to carry out the actual "Artichoke" techniques is a room in which there is a bed or studio couch or cot and, if possible, this room should be of fairly large size since a crowded room might produce confusion and hinder the development of the "Artichoke" technique.
- D. The adjoining room mentioned above is essential for the setting up of technical equipment, i.e. recording devices, transformers, etc. This room, of course, is also essential as an observation room and listening post for persons interested in the case to make notes and prepare questions as the interrogation develops.
- E. The bathroom is essential for two reasons. The first is that the "Artichoke" doctor in handling the case needs water for various purposes and second is that occasionally the "Artichoke" technique produces nausea, vomiting, or other conditions which make bathroom facilities essential.

III. Technical Facilities.

- A. In the opinion of [redacted] and the writer, technical facilities for assistance in the

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operation of "ARTICHOKE" in the field have been limited. Hence, it is planned that for the immediate future on any "Artichoke" operation, the "Artichoke" team going from headquarters will either carry with it or send by special shipment, the necessary technical equipment including electronic, chemical, and photographic equipment. However, it would be a valuable contribution to the operation of "Artichoke" if Agency personnel in the field contemplating the use of "Artichoke" would inform headquarters immediately as to exactly what technical equipment is available at that station. Included in this should be a statement as to what type of current is available; whether Variac transformers are available; whether or not the station has a working recorder and, if so, what type; (Wire recorders are not regarded as efficient for this type of work) and whether or not certain standard, hospital-type medical supplies can be procured on the scene without difficulty.

IV. Type of Information "Artichoke" Requires Prior to Examining any Given Subject.

- A. As a matter of policy and until "Artichoke" teams are based in field areas, it is essential that "Artichoke" Washington have in its possession all possible information concerning the subject, and other pertinent details prior to "Artichoke" teams leaving for the field.

Set forth below are a list of items that are regarded as essential to the case and exceptionally helpful in determining the necessary "Artichoke" technique to be applied to any individual case.

1. A full, detailed, physical description of the subject or subjects to be examined including age, medical history, psychiatric history, any known physical weaknesses, or mental weaknesses or peculiarities. Is he an alcoholic, drug addict, etc.?
2. A full biographical background on the subject or subjects in as complete detail as possible. (family, relatives, schooling, travels, jobs, etc.)

3. As much information as possible on the details of the case proper, including all collateral matters involved, all areas involved, and, if possible, photographs or descriptions of pertinent individuals, residences, buildings that may be involved in the case.
4. A list of, or a carefully worked out plan showing specifically, exactly and in detail just what information is to be obtained from the subject.
5. Any details whatsoever that are known of the subject's family, children, relatives, close friends, mistresses, etc., etc.
6. Exactly what is the present condition of the subject, i.e. has he been in prison or confinement? If so, for how long? Has he been in solitary confinement? Has he had standard prison fare? Has he been well-fed or has he been on restricted diet? Has he been subject to any third-degree treatment? Has he been subject to exhaustive interrogation in the immediate past? Has he been threatened with physical injury or worse? Has he ever escaped detention before? Should he be regarded as dangerous?

V. Has the Subject been Polygraphed?

- A. If so, how recent and what questions were asked with what results?

In connection with this, since the members of the "Artichoke" teams are backgrounded in polygraph operation, if possible, the polygraph questions and charts should be made available for their examination prior to employing the "Artichoke" techniques.

VI. Guards, Safety Precautions, Etc.

- A. The "Artichoke" team should not be required to be responsible for the guarding of the subject nor for their own physical protection while

operating. "Artichoke" team members under no circumstances should have to carry arms or defense weapons of any type. It should be remembered that no infrequently the use of certain chemicals on certain individuals produces results which may produce either extreme physical excitement (mania) or possible suicidal tendencies. These should be guarded against at all times.

In view of the above, competent guards should always be available for this type of work. However, these guards should not be, if at all possible, military personnel, but should in fact be trusted Agency people.

An inherent danger lies in using GI guards in these cases in view of the fact that the guard may overhear or observe the "Artichoke" technique and although GI guards could be warned, cautioned, and threatened not to disclose such matters, it would be extremely difficult to guarantee their complete silence.

VII. Personal Effects of the Subject.

- A. It is assured, of course, that all the personal effects of the subject will be carefully examined and be held available. This is essential since under certain of the "Artichoke" techniques, these personal effects may be very valuable in obtaining co-operation or making identifications and, of course, for general information purposes.

VIII. Special Points Concerning "Artichoke" Techniques.

- A. The ideal situation in regard to the use of "Artichoke" would be to create a complete and perfect amnesia in every subject. At the present time, this is regarded as impossible, although partial amnesia will follow.
- B. The best chance for obtaining a total or a nearly total amnesia follows the first use of the "Artichoke" technique. Hence, vital information should be in the hands of the "Artichoke" team from the

very beginning. Furthermore, it should be remembered that as the technique is prolonged, it naturally follows that the subject will become more and more conscious of the fact that he is being subjected to chemicals or other unusual processes. However, it is believed that over a period of time and by using the "Artichoke" technique, the subject's mind will become so confused and disorganized (fuzzy) that although he may remember answering questions, he may not be able to remember in great detail, accurately or totally.

- C. Recent technical information coming to the attention of the "Artichoke" team indicates that we have a better chance of holding a person under control for a much longer period of time than we had previously hoped would be possible. However, this has not yet been tried out by "Artichoke".
- D. It should always be remembered that some individuals do not respond in any way to chemical treatments or psychological attack. Some pass into a complete state of coma without reaching a twilight zone (talking zone), others more or less retain their faculties and can actually refuse to answer questions while, as mentioned above, chemicals, in some individuals produce nausea, vomiting, or perhaps manic conditions.
- E. While under "Artichoke" control, it should be remembered that in a certain number of cases, subjects are capable of drawing accurate pictures, writing legibly and easily, and reading written matter. These items may be important and should be considered in all cases. (It might be helpful to have the subject sign a compromising document, write a "useful" letter, or pose for a compromising photograph.)

IX. Miscellaneous Matters.

- A. Every effort should be made never to identify members of the "Artichoke" team by their true names in the presence of or in the hearing of the subject. "Artichoke" team members will use fictitious names in carrying out the "Artichoke" techniques.

- B. If the choice exists between pleasant, comfortable, clean surroundings for the application of the "Artichoke" technique or grim, prisonlike surroundings, the pleasanter surroundings should always be used.
- C. A room with rugs on the floor is always better than a room with bare flooring.
- D. A room that is more or less soundproof is better than a room where there are distracting sounds and disturbances. "Artichoke" techniques are best carried out under quiet and calm conditions and are in fact hindered by confusion, noise, etc., etc.
- E. A room that has both overhead and floor lighting is better than a room merely having overhead lighting. A single, glaring lightbulb is not advantageous. (If photographs are to be made, the "Artichoke" team will be prepared to take flashbulb pictures and, if necessary, infra-red photographs.
- F. The number of persons working on the "Artichoke" project should be as limited as possible and at all times the number of persons in the room with the subject after the "Artichoke" techniques begin should be carefully controlled and limited to as few as possible.
- G. The observation room (or the room adjoining the room where the subject is being given "Artichoke" treatment) should be kept as quiet as possible. Again rugs on the floor of that room will be a great help and all conversations carried on in that room should be held to the minimum and comments whispered or written.
- H. For general information, it should be remembered that for the maximum chance for success, "Artichoke" interrogation is best carried on directly in the language of the subject. The use of an interpreter is not too efficient and certain "Artichoke" techniques, it is believed, would be impossible if applied through an interpreter.
- I. During the course of the "Artichoke" technique, the subject should not, if at all possible, be

interrogated or even talked to by individuals interested in the case, except in a nominal manner only and certainly not along the lines of the "Artichoke" interrogation. This information should be thoroughly understood by the guards of the subject.

X. What can be Expected of "Artichoke".

- A. In the paragraphs above, there have been set out a number of items which, it is believed, should be useful in considering the use of the "Artichoke" technique. The writer has endeavored to show in some detail what is necessary from the field offices and what hazards and problems exist in the use of "Artichoke". Nothing has been said of the potentialities of the technique.
- B. Assuming that the field offices are able to furnish us with an operating area and that all other items are normal, Unit B is of the opinion that in most instances the "Artichoke" technique will produce worthwhile results. As mentioned above, we are now convinced that we can maintain a subject in a controlled state for a much longer period of time we heretofore had believed possible. Furthermore, we feel that by the use of certain chemicals or combinations, we can, in a very high percentage of cases, produce relevant information.
- C. As is well known and has been stated above, individuals react differently to different chemicals. It should always be borne in mind that whereas negative results may occur in some cases, a very good possibility exists that most subjects may furnish accurate, specific, and detailed information while under the influence of these chemicals. Certain recent experiments support this viewpoint.
- D. It should also be noted that nausea or violent reactions (as mentioned above) are not normal reactions, but are only set forth to call attention to certain possibilities that may occur

in the operations of the "Artichoke" technique. As a rule, individuals subjected to "Artichoke" techniques will be entirely co-operative, passive, and lethargic.

- E. Since veni-puncture is undeniably the most efficient and successful method for introducing chemicals into the subject, it is obvious that the subject will be aware that a needle has been used in his arm. However, our work and the work of others indicates that there is a strong possibility that total amnesia or an almost total amnesia will follow the use of our technique as a general rule. Again, as referred to above, this will apply primarily to the single "Artichoke" approach. With each succeeding approach there will probably be a decreasing chance that amnesia will be obtained although the subject's memory will, as a rule, be imperfect.
- F. Finally as we have mentioned above, there may be a very few subjects who will give us a negative reaction, but generally a normal subject under normal conditions will talk and should give valuable information.

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