



# THE BLACK VAULT

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AB, 4-B/27  
25 July 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR FILE

SUBJECT: Meeting with IAC Representatives of Project Bluebird

PRESENT:

[REDACTED] CIA  
[REDACTED] CIA

A-C-1-B/3

1. [REDACTED] reviewed the development of the Project within CIA. This program was undertaken because it became evident that some measures must be taken to provide protection for our personnel against Soviet interrogation techniques. Recommendations were made to [REDACTED], therefore, that a high priority program be established on this subject. The program was accepted by [REDACTED] and approved by the DCI. At an executive session at the IAC on 2 April 1951, the program was explained to the heads of the other intelligence agencies and they were requested to nominate designers to work with the Assistant Director for Scientific Intelligence on the matter. Each one of the designers has been approached informally to determine his department's interests and programs existent. A final step in this process was the memorandum to each designer asking for the specific objectives of his department and for information on established or planned programs. The date of 20 July for submission of this information was established because of a meeting of consultants to the project scheduled for 23 July 1951.

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2. [REDACTED] outlined in detail the [REDACTED] program and his concept of the over-all objectives:

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H-B/3

a. Defensive aspects - An example of the action taken by the [REDACTED] in this regard is a briefing which [REDACTED] gives to CIA personnel which consists primarily of indoctrination or conditioning.

b. Offensive aspects - These break down into:

- (1) The use of drugs, etc.
- (2) Interrogation techniques:
  - (a) Mechanical aids
  - (b) Pharmaceuticals

H-B/3

The current [REDACTED] research effort started in 1947 at [REDACTED]. The [REDACTED] and the [REDACTED] were advised of this effort which proceeded rather slowly due to limitations in funds, etc. The next significant [REDACTED]

developments occurred at about the same time when in 1950 about a year ago.

A C  
a. CIA [redacted] approached [redacted] for support in connection with Project Bluebird (in this connection, [redacted] suggested that the code name for the CIA Project be changed since "Bluebird" referred to a specific operation which is now completed.) [redacted]'s project consisted primarily of the use of narco-hypnosis plus mechanical aids such as the lie detector. The CIA Project did not use some of the drugs offered by the [redacted] and the opportunity for testing these in that project was therefore lost. H-1/3

H-B/3  
C H-B/6  
C  
H-B/3  
b. At about the same time the [redacted] re-analyzed the [redacted] projects concerned with obtaining intelligence from interrogations and decided that there were limitations on capabilities within the [redacted] due to the difficulty of conducting tests on individuals, etc. The [redacted] took the matter up with [redacted] who was associated with [redacted] in the Office of the [redacted] and who knew of the [redacted] interest because of his previous position as [redacted]. At that time also, the [redacted] who was working on "motion sickness" problems. A project was established under [redacted] with [redacted] with \$300,000 allocated by [redacted] over a period of three years. [redacted] no data has expended \$50,000 for which they will ultimately be reimbursed by the [redacted]. The [redacted] and [redacted] were briefed on this project. Also joint meetings were held with CIA and the [redacted] but not the [redacted]. The [redacted] reaction was - no interest - nothing to contribute - could not admit interest in such a project anyway.

H-B/3 B  
c. Also at the same time [redacted] advised [redacted] of the [redacted] at the [redacted]. This project is in essence a search for valid indications of deception other than the mechanical indicators now being used. It also considered certain other known mechanical indicators such as eye motions, etc. This project is now financed [redacted] 50,000 [redacted] 25,000 each.

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H-B/3  
In summary, [redacted] stated that the specific objectives of these projects are the development of offensive techniques. They are coordinated [redacted] projects under the management control of [redacted]. All information on such projects will be made available to CIA. The [redacted] also has an intense interest in developing new techniques for resistance to interrogation (the defensive aspects).

H-B/3  
3. The [redacted] member advised that he would be forced to give a negative report on activities in his department until further information could be obtained.

4. The [redacted] member advised that he was in about the same position except that he had learned of a project at [redacted] under [redacted] B

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#B/3  
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[redacted] He believes that this project is in the psychiatric field, is unclassified, and was developed and is controlled by the [redacted]

5. [redacted] explained the mission of the medical unit in OSI. It is responsible for continued surveillance of foreign efforts in this field but is not briefed and has no responsibility for this project as such. He is handling everything under his personal direction with all individuals in CIA listed as to knowledge, etc.

#B/3  
6. The service members brought up the subject of manuals now in preparation in the [redacted] to serve as guidance as to the attitude to be adopted by members of the Armed Services when captured. There is a series of [redacted] (classification TOP SECRET) which when approved will be submitted through the DCI to the National Security Council. When finally approved, these will result in unclassified directives and manuals for the guidance of all service personnel. The primary purpose is to advise service personnel on:

a. How to avoid disclosing information when captured.

b. How to avoid beatings or other Soviet techniques because they are suspected of having such information. This is mainly a part of the defensive or resistance aspect.

7. [redacted] agreed to advise [redacted] when the [redacted] papers are ready for transmittal to the DCI.

8. [redacted] then described the program within CIA. There is an internal working group composed of representatives from the interested offices:

- CA  
A
- a. [redacted]
  - b. [redacted]
  - c. [redacted]
  - d. [redacted]
  - e. [redacted]
  - f. [redacted]
  - g. [redacted]
  - h. [redacted]
- A

These individuals meet regularly to insure continuing progress and full coordination with respect to each aspect of the project in which one or more components of CIA have an interest. The information on the existence of the project is limited to a few individuals in each of the interested offices and this list is on record here.

[redacted]

9. In addition, CIA has an outside working group composed of competent scientists as follows:

- a. [REDACTED]
- b. [REDACTED]
- c. [REDACTED]
- d. [REDACTED]

This is a group which will be briefed on 23 July at which time it is hoped to convince them that the project is worthy of their attention and as much of their time as they can spare from their other responsibilities. It is hoped that we can stimulate their thinking and obtain some constructive suggestions as to specific approaches to the various research aspects of the project. In this connection, there will be experimental programs which can be carried out in this country. There will also be programs which cannot be done here and may take the form of the original project Bluebird. The results of the latter type of experiment will probably be reported in two ways:

a. Substantive reports on the detailed information obtained from the individual. These are not our concern and will be issued through regular established intelligence channels.

b. Technical reports - These are reports which would be made by technical observers on the reactions of the subject with respect to the techniques used and would come back for review by the best scientific competence available. This would then suggest new approaches and generate further experimentation. [REDACTED] noted the difficulty which arose in connection with original Project Bluebird and asked that adequate notice of new CIA operations for research purposes in this field be given to the [REDACTED] representatives.

10. The subject of collation of information which is known to be available in great quantities on the techniques used on individuals who have been in the hands of the Soviets was considered. [REDACTED] noted that this breaks down into two main categories:

a. Information on interrogation of captured persons for the purpose of obtaining intelligence. There is practically no information available on the techniques used in this connection.

b. Information on interrogations to obtain confessions. There is known to be mountains of information on this subject all of which has been collated by interested officials in the [REDACTED] although no summary has been prepared and it is not believed that such a summary is necessary.

11. It was agreed that it would be constructive to bring together the designees and the CIA consultant panel at an early date. It would



also be constructive to bring the consultant panel and [redacted] and possibly [redacted] together with this group. B

12. A suggestion was made that since we will eventually meet the problem of obtaining funds for research from the various participating agencies, consideration be given to utilizing existing and established agencies for this purpose. The [redacted] member mentioned in particular the committee on medical services under the [redacted] H-B/3

13. [redacted] Briefed the group on our contacts with the [redacted] and [redacted] representatives in [redacted] and also our discussions with [redacted] in connection with this subject. In both cases, no indication of active participation in this matter either in CIA or the [redacted] was given. A H-B/3

14. Possibility of re-approaching the [redacted] which so far has indicated no interest in this project was discussed. Names suggested which might be useful in this connection were provided [redacted] and [redacted] H-B/6  
The former is probably the individual with the real knowledge while the latter is the [redacted] liaison officer with the [redacted]

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