



THE BLACK VAULT

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, Technical Research Staff

DATE: 15 July 1952

FROM : [REDACTED] A

SUBJECT: Artichoke Cases, June 1952, Technical Problems Involved

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1. Upon arrival in [REDACTED] the technical facilities which could be made available to our Team were explored. This exploration was necessitated by the delay in shipment of our own supplies, caused by an embargo on air freight. [REDACTED] was very obliging and assisted in every way possible in assembling everything that was readily available within the local operation. A

2. As a result of the shipping delay, the first case was handled entirely with equipment made available locally. Complete recordings of the entire case were made. The recordings were satisfactory in that case officers and others concerned were able to gain what confirmations they required. Technical operations were somewhat hampered by the lack of equipment nonetheless. Monitoring facilities were non-existent for interested observers. Photographic records were likewise non-existent since there was no equipment available locally.

3. Our shipment was received prior to setting the scene for the second case. Extensive microphone coverage was installed and recordings throughout, with the exception of [REDACTED], were continuous and of excellent quality.

4. An item of interest for present and future consideration is one which we have many times agreed is that the technical member of such teams be well prepared to improvise and handle unusual requests and needs. In the handling of the second case, there were, in addition, two complete recording facilities, complete monitoring facilities, intercommunication setups, all interchangeable and, for the most part, all made up and put into working order immediately preceding the interviews. Another interesting request that was handled was that of the psychiatrist. The psychiatrist requested that conversation by the subject in [REDACTED] be interpreted by a [REDACTED] interpreter outside the room and then transmitted through headphones to the psychiatrist in the room with the subject. This was accomplished giving the psychiatrist almost immediate answers, etc. in English very soon after they were spoken [REDACTED]

5. Still another item of interest was another request from the medical members of the Team. It was decided that for the proper cover to be maintained, an examination by an electro-encephalograph

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was necessary. Since there were no such apparatus available and since the results were of no importance, a "dummy" machine was improvised by using a wire recorder and some head electrodes that were made from available material. The [redacted] of the Team were quite pleased and requested photographs of the device, which were taken.

6. Photographic coverage of the second case was complete and adequate. Shots were made of the subject, examining rooms, and various other locations. It was felt that such a pictorial record would be valuable for presentation and future training programs.

7. The following comments are from observations made in the field and are roughly some of the facts we should bear in mind when considering future trips or training programs:

1. Operations abroad are either not being trained in the use of technical equipment or are not recognizing the value of such equipment.
 2. Requests for requirements are not being filled.
 3. There is not enough standardization in both training and equipment to make a training program work.
 4. More planning and consideration to future needs and uses should be exercised.
 5. In overseas security operations, our people should be furnished with good, standardized equipment and trained in its use thoroughly.
- A [redacted]
- [redacted]