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JAN 20 1952
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MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Director for Policy Coordination
Assistant Director for Special Operations
Assistant Director for Inspection & Security

SUBJECT : Proposed Memorandum for Secretary of Defense
(copy attached)

1. The attached memorandum for the Secretary of Defense is another step in the phase of Project Artichoke having to do with IAC interests. The Service Department representatives are reviewing the papers now in preparation for concurrence by their Chiefs.

2. Significant aspects of the attached papers of interest to CIA are:

a. The papers follow the theme already developed in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, RDB, and the Services that this subject requires study and research from the defensive standpoint.

b. Such study and research is similar to that necessary to develop an offensive program.

c. The RDB action does not affect any Department of Defense or CIA programs now going on. However, it will facilitate coordination of certain Department of Defense programs where unnecessary duplication now exists.

d. CIA can utilize the information from the RDB meetings and the resulting recommendations to insure our concentration on the most productive lines of approach and to avoid costly basic research projects. Therefore the need for complete coordination between the various CIA offices now attempting to evaluate Artichoke techniques and planning for their use is even more pressing.

3. Any comments or suggestions you may wish to make regarding the attached papers will be appreciated. Since it is expected that ~~interagency~~ coordination will be completed by 5 February 1952, receipt of your comments in this office on or before that date is solicited.

Assistant Director
Scientific Intelligence

(126)

DRAFT No. 1

28 January 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Secretary of Defense

SUBJECT : Evaluation of Certain Scientific Techniques of
Possible Concern to National Security

1. The Central Intelligence Agency, in coordination with the Military Intelligence Agencies, has had under study for some time a problem which may be of concern to national security on a government-wide level. The attached paper indicates the nature and scope of the problem and contains certain recommendations as to steps necessary before the full implications of this matter can be evaluated.

2. The Committee on Medical Sciences of the Research and Development Board has been suggested as the appropriate agency for this study. Informal conversations with representatives of the Research and Development Board indicate that they are aware of the possible seriousness of this matter and are willing to undertake the study if requested.

3. Should you agree that the Committee on Medical Sciences is the appropriate agency, I would appreciate your arranging for the consideration of the problem by that Committee along the lines recommended in the attachment. The Central Intelligence Agency and the Military Intelligence Services are prepared to provide guidance and assistance as necessary.

4. I am sure that you will recognize the implications which might be drawn should it become known, generally, that CIA or the Military Intelligence Agencies are directly concerned in this matter, even though this concern stems primarily from the defensive aspects of the problem. The matter is being handled on an individual "EYES ONLY" basis, therefore, and all reports or references to the project should be so protected. The code word "Artichoke" has been assigned and is unclassified when used in such a way that it does not reveal the nature or scope of the problem.

(DEPUTY) DIRECTOR FOR CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

THE PROBLEM

1. Whether or not, and to what extent, any agent or procedure can be used to cause an individual to become subservient to an imposed control; and subsequently that individual be unaware of the event.

BASIC ELEMENTS OF THE PROBLEM:

1. Medical Science, particularly in the fields of psychiatry and psychotherapy, has developed a variety of techniques whereby some control can be imposed on the will of an individual. The techniques include neuro-surgery, electric shock, drugs, hypnosis and others.

2. In certain cases after the administration of these techniques, the individual has amnesia with respect to the event.

3. The techniques have not been developed in the United States to the point where the results can be predicted with respect to the extent of control that can be achieved; whether or not and to what extent amnesia will result; and what undesirable physiological reactions may occur in addition.

CONCLUSIONS:

1. If these techniques were developed by a foreign government

to the extent that reliable results could be expected in the majority of cases, it is evident that a serious threat to U. S. National Security would exist.

2. Reports of Soviet interest and research in this direction, plus rumors, reports and evaluations of possible Soviet use of these techniques in interrogations, are sufficient to warrant careful investigation of the subject as a basis for evaluating the extent of the threat to U. S. National Security.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That a board of scientists with competence in the appropriate medical fields, and provided with the necessary security safeguards to insure access to material bearing on the subject, be requested to study the problem and make recommendations.
2. That the study include reference to all agents or procedures which might be considered in relation to this problem and eliminate those which U. S. science can establish as unfeasible.
3. That, in the case of agents or procedures or combinations thereof where a potential threat may exist which cannot be evaluated on the basis of the present state of U. S. science, recommendations be made for further research, if practical results can be achieved within a reasonable time.
4. That the recommendations include the scope of the research required, established facilities where such research might be undertaken, and the approximate cost of the research.

5. That the board submit an interim report within three months of the initiation of the study and further interim reports every three months until the study is completed.