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19 July 1955

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MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Project "Artichoke"

*Chief, Med. Div. in the of/1
representation*

1. A few weeks ago, ~~Mr. [redacted]~~ 1955, informed me of an incident which disturbed him and which he believed called for remedial action. In the course of a meeting in the Pentagon which he attended dealing with coordination of external research, he was asked certain questions which indicated that several Defense officials were aware of CIA activities related to "Artichoke". ~~Mr. [redacted]~~ evaded or professed ignorance with regard to the questions, but was placed in a position where it was desirable that some reply be made to these questions. It occurred to ~~me~~ that it would be desirable to create some kind of informal group composed of representatives of the various CIA components concerned with "Artichoke", so that problems of the kind he had encountered could be considered and a consistent policy adopted by all concerned. He envisaged this group as informal and flexible, called together when problems arose, and not necessarily all members being present, but rather those whose offices had an interest in the problem. He asked my views on this idea.

2. I told him it seemed to me it would be a step forward in the right direction, and that we in the Support Staff had recently been aware of a lack of coordination among the various activities relating to "Artichoke", and had also encountered a Defense interest in "Artichoke", which might have had embarrassing consequences.

3. In a conversation last week, ~~Mr. [redacted]~~ informed me he had been working on his idea, and that arrangements were now completed for the informal group, on which OSI would be represented. I assume such representation was arranged through AAD/SI or Chief, Medicine Division.

*1- Subject: Project ARTICHOKE
1- [redacted]*

20 July 55.

This matter was discussed in [redacted] w/ [redacted] some days ago.