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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : Technical Assistance for Project Artichoke

1. THE PROBLEM:

To obtain technical assistance, essential to the development of Project Artichoke.

2. FACTS BEARING ON THE PROBLEM:

a. On 2 April 1951, Project Artichoke was discussed at an Executive Session of the Intelligence Advisory Committee attended by the members representing G-2, ONI, A-2, and the FBI. Except for the FBI which indicated no interest, the members agreed to assist and to appoint a representative to work with CIA on the project.

b. The designees have been meeting with the CIA representative as necessary, but all agencies have been handicapped by the non-availability of competent technical advice in certain highly specialized medical fields.

c. In a meeting of the designees on 24 January 1952, it was agreed that the Committee on Medical Sciences, Research and Development Board, is the only group with the requisite security clearance which has the technical competence to advise on this problem. It was agreed further that the best way of obtaining the services of the Committee on Medical Sciences would be through a memorandum from the Director of Central Intelligence requesting their technical assistance.

d. A draft of the proposed memorandum was prepared in O/SI; cleared with the appropriate offices and staffs in CIA; and circulated to the IAC designees on 28 January 1952. The designees were to brief their Chiefs and submit comment and suggestions by 4 February 1952. The Navy and Air Force representatives concurred by the date indicated subject to some minor substantive changes to be taken up when the G-2 representative was ready. After several requests for more time, the G-2 representative advised, on 15 February 1952, that his office had sent the CIA draft with slight modifications to the JIC for study by a

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Project Artichoke  
26 Feb 1952

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subcommittee of that Agency, rather than by the Research and Development Board.

o. On checking with the ONI representative, CIA was advised that the Navy and Air Force do not concur in the G-2 action and that the Director of Naval Intelligence will raise objections when the matter comes up in the JIC.

3. CONCLUSIONS:

a. The Committee on Medical Sciences, Research and Development Board is the only group with the requisite security clearances and the competence to provide technical assistance essential to Project Artichoke. This is concurred in by A-2, ONI and the G-2 designee for Project Artichoke.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. That the Director sign the attached memorandum to the Chairman, Research and Development Board, requesting the technical assistance of the Committee on Medical Sciences; and the memoranda to the Chiefs of the Military Intelligence Agencies advising them of the action taken.

b. That the JIC be provided with a copy of the memorandum to the Chiefs of the Military Intelligence Agencies.

c. That the Assistant for Special Security Programs, Office of Secretary of Defense be provided with a copy of the memorandum to the Chairman, Research and Development Board.

d. That all of the papers be hand delivered by the O/SI Project Coordinator, in view of the special security aspects of this problem.

Assistant Director  
Scientific Intelligence

Attach: Proposed DCI memo  
to RDB

CONCURRENCE:

Deputy Director (Intelligence)

Date