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AB II 1/1

12 March 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: CIA Facilities for Research Re Project Artichoke

1. In October 1951, RDD and OSI agreed that limited laboratory facilities are essential to the development of certain specific items which will be available within six months. OSI agreed to take action, either to set up the facilities within CIA or to obtain appropriate facilities outside the agency. After discussion with [redacted], it was concluded that the sensitive nature of the work involved made the establishment of laboratory facilities under our direct control advisable.

2. At a meeting of the AD's concerned with Project Artichoke on 30 November 1951, [redacted] brought up the problem of the establishment of a laboratory within CIA. [redacted] asked that the matter be deferred in view of the many details which must be considered before we agree to set up such a facility. [redacted] noted the fact that he was working with the Medical Department of the agency in connection with "Artichoke" work and would like to explore their interest on the subject.

3. As of this date, no conclusive action has been taken by [redacted] and the items under development are now ready for laboratory testing. It is essential, therefore, that the agency either establish a small facility for such testing, or eliminate this possibility in order that we may go ahead with outside facilities and accept the security risks involved.

4. Informal discussion on the subject with personnel in I&S and the other offices concerned indicate that the personnel required for the laboratory testing involved are now available within the agency and the only problem is the obtaining of two or three rooms where we may go to work. The type of testing planned will not include any items which will endanger or seriously effect the subjects used and in fact, initially, we would do the testing on each other.

5. A meeting has been scheduled for 11 a.m., 13 March 1952 to explore the matter further. It is hoped that from this meeting we can come up with specific suggestions regarding the work involved and the facilities required in order that the laboratory question can be resolved.

OSI [redacted]

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