



# THE BLACK VAULT

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Chief, Security Research Staff

16 November 1953

Chief, Technical Branch

ARTICHOKE Conference, 22 October 1953.

1. On Thursday, 22 October 1953, between 2:00 PM and 3:25 PM, an ARTICHOKE Conference was held in the SO Conference Room, 2065 I Building. Present at this Conference were i.r. [redacted]

[redacted] and [redacted] representing SO; [redacted] representing OSI and LCI; [redacted] and [redacted] representing TSS; [redacted] representing the Medical Staff and [redacted] representing IDP.

2. [redacted] opened the Conference by introducing [redacted] who is to represent DEP in the future, replacing [redacted] who is leaving the United States.

3. Mr. [redacted] then pointed out the known facts in the alleged offer of [redacted] to sell ten (10) kilos of LSD. A general discussion followed which resulted in an agreement of all hands that:

- 1) The Agency should purchase the LSD if possible and as soon as possible.
- 2) Purchase price estimated to be \$240,000 or less.
- 3) [redacted]
- 4) [redacted] to present the purchase plans to the proper Agency officials and obtain necessary support (fiscal or otherwise) and authorization for the operation.
- 5) [redacted] offer to assist in any way possible in connection with 4) above was accepted and [redacted] and [redacted] agreed to work out details in the immediate future.

For matter of record, it should be noted that it was agreed by all hands that the purchase of this material was a risky operation but since the dangerous potentials of the chemical were known and the

[redacted]

Cached  
LSD  
[redacted]

amount offered of such size the purchase was regarded as sound if for no other reason than a preclusive situation.

4. [redacted] then pointed out that [redacted] was leaving for [redacted] the following week on personal business and had volunteered to visit some manufacturing firms and noted European specialists in connection with ARTICHOKES. [redacted] had offered to make these visits on his own time and if necessary at his own expense, provided he had prior approval from Security and the ARTICHOKES Conference. [redacted] read a list of the firms and individuals that [redacted] had proposed to visit. After some discussion, it was decided in view of the pending LBD transaction in [redacted] that it would be unwise to permit [redacted] to conduct any business along ARTICHOKES lines in [redacted] or elsewhere in [redacted] at the present time although his generous offer was greatly appreciated. [redacted] stated that if it was later decided that the contact of these firms and individuals appeared essential to the ARTICHOKES problem, [redacted] could be sent officially on this business from Headquarters, Washington.

Note: [redacted] was informed of the ARTICHOKES Conference decision in this matter on Friday, 23 October 1953 by [redacted]

5. [redacted] then briefly re-introduced the subject of the aims and the functions of the ARTICHOKES program and announced that drafts of a paper in this connection would be given to all ARTICHOKES Conference members for their study prior to the next ARTICHOKES Conference. In addition, [redacted] stated a draft of the proposal for an experimental project using specially screened trainee volunteers would also be given to the ARTICHOKES Conference members at the same time. [redacted] requested all members to examine the drafts, make any notes, corrections, additions, etc. and be prepared to discuss the proposals at the following ARTICHOKES Conference.

6. [redacted]

B. [redacted]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] also discussed the urgency of discovery of techniques and methods that would permit our personnel, in the event of their capture by the enemy, to resist or defeat enemy interrogation. Mr. [REDACTED] stated this was a true AFRICANS problem and any technique or method that could further this should be explored. [REDACTED] added that any method of "buying time" was essential in an evacuation and withdrawal problem.

7. The meeting adjourned at 3:25 PM with the agreement that the next meeting would take place at 2:00 PM on 19 November 1953 at the same place.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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