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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : FILE

DATE: 25 November 1953

FROM :

SUBJECT: Special Training Project, [redacted]
3 through 5 November 1953.

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1. [redacted] to the Technical Branch on hypnosis arrived in Washington at 11:05 AM, Tuesday, 3 November 1953. [redacted] He was met by Messrs [redacted] and [redacted] at the Airport and after checking [redacted] in at a hotel, he was taken immediately to lunch.

2. Between 1:00 and 5:00 PM, Tuesday afternoon, a general work session was held with Messrs [redacted] and [redacted] present with discussions aimed at development of plans for the remainder of Mr. [redacted] stay in Washington and at hypnotic work in general.

3. From 6:00 to 9:30 PM on Tuesday, a first work session was held by [redacted]. Present were Messrs [redacted] and [redacted] and [redacted] and [redacted]. In addition, the following subjects were present: [redacted] and [redacted]. By a process of observing and participating in the work, [redacted] demonstrated hypnotic methods and techniques with good results. The work, in general, was routine but [redacted] ideas and delivery techniques and mannerisms were carefully observed and noted by all present. [redacted] offered comments and some discussion as each test went along. The evening was devoted to having [redacted] and [redacted] do the bulk of the hypnotic work since [redacted] main effort in coming to Washington was to devote primary attention to [redacted] and secondary attention to [redacted] insofar as assisting them in hypnotic techniques.

4. On Wednesday, 4 November 1953, a general conference was held between 10:00 and 12:00 in the morning on the hypnotic work with Messrs [redacted] and [redacted] and [redacted]. Again in the afternoon of Wednesday, 3 November between 1:00 and 4:00 PM, a general conference and critique was held with [redacted] and [redacted] and [redacted] present. These conferences were of an informal nature and consisted of a more or less round-table discussion involving any and all subject matter and having to do with the practice of hypnosis and the relation of hypnosis to the ARTICHOKE program.

[REDACTED]

5. On Wednesday, 3 November 1953, between 7:00 and 9:30 PM, a special demonstration in hypnosis was conducted by Mr. [REDACTED] in Room 24, Building 13. Present at this demonstration were a group of representatives from [REDACTED]'s office; [REDACTED]; and in addition individuals that had previously participated in the hypnotic work. In addition, [REDACTED] attended. No official count was made of those present but probably 25-30 people attended.

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6. [REDACTED] talked for approximately 10-15 minutes at the start of the demonstration on hypnosis in general and then proceeded to give a series of demonstrations which he believed would be of interest to Security officers and the others present. In addition to answering many questions and demonstrating certain simple hypnotic processes, [REDACTED] gave three main demonstrations: A) [REDACTED] by the use of hypnosis, arranged with two good subjects, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], that if questioned in any way or manner on questions involving security, they would immediately go into a deep hypnotic state. This was very clearly and effectively demonstrated. B) [REDACTED] demonstrated a good regression with [REDACTED] with the subject going back to the age of ten. In this connection, it should be noted that [REDACTED] in writing as she did at the age of ten wrote her name as [REDACTED] which was her name before it had been changed by her family. [REDACTED] explained that security codes could be built around the process of regression and messages could be conveyed in this manner using a regression technique to conceal the message. C) [REDACTED] demonstrated the possible transfer of control of a subject by showing that unless certain code words were used a good subject could or would under no circumstances recall the words or give them to anyone else.

7. In general, this demonstration was successful and all hands expressed appreciation for [REDACTED] demonstration including [REDACTED] who stated to the writer that a demonstration similar to this or perhaps more advanced should be done for other Agency officials in the near future. In this connection, [REDACTED] was particularly impressed by security aspects of individuals operating under hypnosis and so commented.

8. On Thursday, 5 November 1953, [REDACTED] held a general discussion on hypnosis with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and Messrs. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] present although Messrs. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were unable to participate for part of this time owing to certain air raid duties which they had to perform.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

9. Between 2:00 and 3:00 PM, another general conference followed with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and Messrs. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] participating. Thereafter, from 3:00 to 5:00 PM, at the invitation of the writer, Mr. [REDACTED], Mr. [REDACTED], Mr. [REDACTED], Mr. [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] attended the round-table discussion with the above group in regard to the possible use of hypnosis in connection with the polygraph. The writer explained to all hands that this discussion must be kept at an absolute Secret level since ARTICHOKE research was in no way interested in "beating the polygraph" but only in assisting the polygraph system in detecting persons under hypnosis and obtaining technical information on the results of persons operating under hypnosis on the polygraph. This round-table discussion appeared very successful and M. [REDACTED] expressed his appreciation for the discussion to the writer later.

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10. Between 7:00 and 9:00 PM, another informal discussion was held with Messrs. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and Doctors [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] present. This discussion was in the nature of a roundup and resume of the work carried out and was entirely successful.

11. [REDACTED] left Washington at 11:00 AM. [REDACTED] had previously planned to fly to [REDACTED] the morning of 6 November but his plans were changed due to heavy snow fall at Washington.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]