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DOCT 78

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Science and Technology

FROM: John F. Blake
Deputy Director for Administration

SUBJECT: Records About Drug Experimentation

REFERENCE: Multiple adse from DDA, dtd 16 Aug 78
Subject: MKULTRA - Program to Identify
Subjects of Agency-Sponsored Drug Testing

1. The Agency is committed to identify, find, and notify persons who may still suffer adverse effects from drugs that were administered to them without their knowledge as a part of Agency sponsored drug testing programs. People who have been involved in searches pertaining to known projects (MKULTRA/MKSEARCH, BLUEBIRD/ARTICHOKE, and OFTEN/CHICKWIT) are confident that all records relating to those projects have been found. Nevertheless, a nagging uncertainty lingers in some quarters that there may yet be some unidentified project buried somewhere in the archives that no one knows anything about. To begin with, we need to be as certain as it is possible to be that all records pertaining in any way to any drug testing programs sponsored by the Agency have been surfaced.

2. During the past year or so, for one reason or another, components of the Agency have conducted exhaustive searches through all of their records, in their offices as well as at the Agency Archives and Records Center. In order to avoid repeating research that has already been done, we need to know what has been done and how confident we can be that all records pertaining to drug related activities have been found. Accordingly, you are requested to submit to the Deputy Director for Administration by 18 October 1978 a report describing the records search as it has been, or is being, conducted in your Directorate. We are particularly interested, of course, in the attention given to drug

related activities and the degree of certainty you feel that, if there were any records pertaining to such activities, they would have been found. It is requested specifically that you include in your report a statement of the degree of confidence you feel that no records pertaining to drug activities remain undisclosed. If you feel further search is required to give comfortable assurance, your estimate of the volume of records that will have to be reviewed and the man-hours that you will need to be devoted to such a search should be included in your report.

3. Exploratory discussions with representatives of components in your Directorate have given the impression that they are as confident as they can reasonably be, excepting only the inescapable possibility of human error, that all records relating to MKSEARCH, MKULTRA, and OFTEN/CHICKWIT have been found. We understand that:

a. CHICKWIT was a program to acquire information about foreign pharmaceuticals; no testing was involved. If you will verify the accuracy of this understanding, CHICKWIT can be excluded from further consideration.

b. Most of the testing in the OFTEN project was done on animals. The CIA position is that the project was terminated in January 1973, before any tests on humans were conducted. The Department of Defense takes a contrary position to the effect that final tests were conducted in June 1973. These tests apparently involved the adhesive application to the skin of human volunteers of a substance identified as EA-3167. Both CIA and DOD disclaim responsibility for the June tests. Regardless of which agency may be responsible, if the drug used had a potential for causing long-term aftereffects from which the subjects may still be suffering, and if the volunteer test subjects were insufficiently informed of the potential consequences, there is an obligation on the part of the Government to find and inform the subjects. You are requested to obtain a pharmacological evaluation of EA-3167 to determine its potential for the creation of long-term aftereffects, consulting with the Director of Medical Services for his professional confirmation of the findings. Please include a statement of the confirmed findings in the report requested in paragraph 2 above. If such a potential exists, please undertake to learn the extent to which the volunteer subjects were made aware of the possibility of aftereffects.

c. There are no MKULTRA records that reveal the drugs used or the identities of unwitting subjects of tests conducted in the safe houses in New York and San Francisco. There is no prudent or practical initiative the Agency can take to find and inform them. If you will verify the accuracy of this understanding, we can exclude the safe house operations from further concern and concentrate our efforts on the remainder of the MKULTRA records.

4. The coordinator of the MKULTRA locator program will work with your representative, [REDACTED] to complete a review and analysis of the remainder of the MKULTRA records.

John F. Blake

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