

2 August 1977

NOTE TO: [ ]

SUBJECT: Project OFTEN (U)

(U) To the best of my recollection, Project OFTEN was in existence from about 1964 to 1972 under the direction of the Office of Research and Development. The program involved the identification and preliminary testing of drugs or chemicals which might fit the requirements established by the Technical Services Division. In the first stage, ORD identified substances of potential value from drug houses, Food and Drug Administration as well as other pharmaceutical sources. The chemical formula and properties were incorporated in a computer tape for initial screening. In the second stage, a few substances were selected (I would guess 20) for preliminary testing by [ ] This testing involved toxicological studies and animal screening. It did not involve human testing. The third stage was the selection from the screening of suitable substances for human testing through Edgewood Arsenal. Edgewood Arsenal was selected because it was, at that time, the primary federal laboratory authorized to undertake human experimentation through the use of volunteers (with their knowledge and consent and only after completion of the Phase II studies). I do not believe that any drug or substance was actually entered into Phase III and used in human experimentation.

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