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23 January 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director

SUBJECT : Materials Analysis, Project OFTEN

1. Due to the special sensitivities concerned with this project, a separate and early review of current activities and plans was requested in order to coordinate this joint effort in preparation for the CPC and to keep it out of the mainstream of discussions involved in the CPC plans and budget exercises.

2. It should be noted as a matter of record that during the past year a joint security review of the Materials Analysis program was conducted and that one minor alteration in procedures was recommended to the Control Group. This recommendation has now been put into effect. Also, I would like to point out that the Control Group has functioned as a smooth and efficient working entity over the past year. All plans and activities have been fully coordinated. It is my judgement that the project is being handled in strict accordance with the Director's instructions. Furthermore, important advances have been made in the program, notably acquisition of the EARL data base, analysis of EARL clinical reliability data, initiation of work on natural toxins and on secondary screens.

3. Plans for FY 71 call for continuation of the current program plans, development of software programs to handle, on an in-house basis, the EARL data base, and to undertake the first of several customs synthesis tasks essential to the project. Plans also call for consultative backup and review of the program by two highly qualified experts specially selected by the Control Group.

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4. It is my view that the program as outlined and the level of effort planned are entirely appropriate. Funding at the [] level for FY 71 also is appropriate and is strongly endorsed as the minimum necessary to support the program.