

Rep. Downey Sees Army Cover-Up in Drug Death

By JOSEPH B. TREASTER

Representative Thomas J. Downey, who has been investigating the military's drug experiments with humans, said yesterday that there appeared to have been a deliberate effort to cover up the death of a patient in an Army-sponsored experiment at the New York

State Psychiatric Institute 22 years ago.

The Army disclosed last Tuesday the death of Harold Blauer, a 42-year-old tennis professional who had taught at the River Club in New York and the Piping Rock Club in Locust Valley, L.I. The disclosure came after the Army said

it had "discovered" his records as part of an over-all investigation it is conducting into the human experiment program.

Mr. Downey, a Democrat of Suffolk County, said, however, that members of his staff had been told by Lieut. Gen. Herron N. Maples, the Inspector General of the Army who is in charge

Joseph Laitin, the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs, refused to say whether the Army was investigating the possibility of a cover-up.

Instead, Mr. Laitin said, "The Inspector General of the Army is looking into the whole matter. Whatever details he comes up with will be made public."

General Maples refused to comment on the investigation.

In a telephone interview, Mr. Downey said that the envelope containing the Blauer records had not been "discovered" by members of the Inspector General's team, as Army officials had initially suggested, but had been taken from Dr. Sim's walk-in vault at the Edgewood Arsenal by his secretary and handed to Col. Claude McClure, Dr. Sim's military counterpart.

Motive Not Known

Mr. Downey said that he did not know what had prompted the secretary's action, but that it occurred Thursday, Aug. 7, a day after he and his staff visited the Edgewood Arsenal as a part of his investigation.

Mr. Downey said that he and staff members had been told in response to questions that there had been no deaths or serious reactions in any of the drug experiments, which included nearly 4,000 subjects since 1955, both at the Arsenal and in experiments sponsored elsewhere by the Army.

Newsman have repeatedly asked the same questions of Dr. Sim and military officers since the experiments first came to the attention of the public following the disclosure by the Rockefeller commission that a man who had surreptitiously been given LSD by the Central Intelligence Agency in 1953 plunged to his death from a 10th-floor hotel window in Manhattan.

He was later identified as Frank R. Olson.

DRUG DEATH DATA OMITS ARMY LINK

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City Records on '53 Fatality
Don't Cite Military Test

NYTimes

By JOSEPH B. TREASTER

The acting chief medical examiner of Manhattan said yesterday that the city's records on the death of Harold Blauer, who died in an Army-sponsored experiment with hallucinogenic drugs at the New York State Psychiatric Institute 22 years ago, made no mention of the fact that Mr. Blauer had been a participant in an experiment or that the Army had in any way been involved.

The medical examiner, Dr. Dominick DiMaio, said, however, that the records did confirm that the mind-altering drug mescaline had been a factor in the death of the 42-year-old tennis pro.

"Normally, if you were using a man in an experiment and he died you would call that to my attention," said Dr. DiMaio, who happened to be present when the autopsy was performed on Mr. Blauer on Jan. 9, 1953, the day after he died.

Dr. DiMaio said that although doctors from the institute apparently had not flatly stated that Mr. Blauer's death had occurred during an experiment, they had reported giving him derivatives of mescaline for "diagnostic purposes"—which he said could be construed as meaning experimental. He said he felt that, on balance, "they didn't hide anything."

Classified Secret

Dr. Sidney Malitz, the acting director of the New York State Psychiatric Institute, 722 West 168th Street, who was not at the institute when the experiment involving Mr. Blauer was conducted, said that the work had been classified secret by the Army and that those directly involved in the project "probably didn't give all the background facts because of the secret nature." The work was done at the institute under contract with the Army.

The Army said in a state-

ment Tuesday that Mr. Blauer had been given injections of mescaline derivatives four times with "mild or no effects," but that he died two and a half hours after a fifth injection was given.

Mr. Blauer's daughter, Elizabeth Barrett, who lives in Manhattan, said her mother had told her that her father had suffered bad reactions twice before the fatal dose had been administered and that he had become "very upset."

She insisted that her father had not volunteered or given his permission to be a subject in any drug tests.

Issue of Permission

Dr. Malitz said in an interview that he had been told by one of the doctors involved in the experiments that all the patients had given their permission but he said he wasn't sure "whether it was in writing or what."

Dr. DiMaio said the cause of the death in the autopsy performed by Dr. Benjamin Moran Vance had been given as "coronary arteriosclerosis, sudden death after intravenous injection of a mescaline derivative, Jan. 8, 1953."

Dr. DiMaio said that the medical examiner's office had not been able to detect the presence of mescaline in a series of chemical tests, but that doctors from the institute had reported that the drug had been given to Mr. Blauer.

Dr. Malitz said that in human experiments in the nineteen-fifties there was less supervision and control of researchers and that often subjects were given only a general notion of the effect or the potential danger of drugs given to them.

In the last 10 years or so, he said, the institute had pioneered in the establishment of medical research centers of committees on human investigation and other supervisory devices in an effort to insure that maximum safeguards were taken and that fully informed consent was obtained in writing from subjects.

In Albany yesterday, a review of records in the Court of 1953 the widow of Mr. Blauer had sued the State of New York for negligence in the

of the investigation, that the records had been read and initialed by an Army officer on at least two earlier occasions—in 1959 and 1967.

Furthermore, Mr. Downey said that, on the sealed manila envelope in which the records had been kept, someone had written, in effect, "Not to be opened without the authority of Dr. Van Sim."

Legend on Envelope

From 1956 until last month, Dr. Van M. Sim was director of the Biomedical Laboratories at the Edgewood Arsenal in Maryland, the center for the military's chemical warfare testing, and was in charge of the Army's human experiments.

He was reassigned to other duties at the Arsenal as the Army suspended the experiments on humans and began an investigation into the program and into allegations that Dr. Sim had misused the pain-killing drug Demerol a few years before he went to work for the Army.

A Defense Department spokesman said yesterday that Dr. Sim was on vacation, and several attempts to reach him by telephone at his home were unsuccessful.

Mr. Downey mentioned no names in reference to his charges of a cover-up, but he said that it was "obvious that the Army has systematically kept this information from being made public."

"Clearly," he continued, "this has got to be explained. The Army's investigation has got to go into not only how the whole drug program was conducted, but why this information was not made public."

death of her husband. She had asked for \$275,000 in compensation, the records show, but settled out of court for \$18,000.

In the records Mr. Blauer was quoted as saying that her husband has become "violently ill" after an "overdose" of "injections," but no drug name was given. There was also no mention of Army involvement in the court records.

Army Discloses Man Died In Drug Test It Sponsored

NY Times

AUG 13 1975

By SHEPHERD H. FREESTER

The Army disclosed yesterday that a 42-year-old patient at the New York State Psychiatric Institute died 22 years ago in an Army-sponsored experiment with hallucinogenic drugs.

It was the first death reported by the military in experiments with mind-altering drugs that were from the early 1950s. The patient, identified as a 42-year-old man, died in 1953. The Army continued to conduct experiments with mind-altering drugs until the late 1950s, when the Army's interest in such experiments waned. The patient had been in the hospital for several years before the experiment. The Army said that the patient died about 22 hours after receiving an injection of a mescaline derivative.

Dr. Sidney Maltz, the acting director of the New York State Psychiatric Institute, at 722 West 168th Street, said that records showed the patient "developed breathing difficulties and heart irregularities and suddenly stopped breathing and expired."

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"absolutely not" volunteered to participate in a drug experiment, said that he had said "he didn't" the drug he had been given.

Miss Barrett said that she had been told her father received the fatal drug on a Thursday and was to have been discharged on Friday, Aug. 9, 1953.

told that a resident had entered her father's room and said that he was going to administer a drug, and that her father replied, "I don't need any more medication. I'm going home tomorrow. I'm being discharged. I'm all better."

But, she said, the resident was quoted as saying, "You have to have it. The doctor ordered it." Later that day, she said, she and the rest of the family learned of his death.

Dr. Sidney Maltz, the acting director of the New York State Psychiatric Institute, at 722 West 168th Street, who was not at the institute when the experiment was conducted, said, "As far as we know, permission was obtained voluntarily" from the subject.

But, he said, "I'm sure he was not told all the ramifications of the drug. There was a feeling in those days if a patient was told too much about a drug it might influence the experiment. Today, that couldn't happen. There would be much

greater disclosure of all the pros and cons of the medication."

Miss Barrett said that her father had been in the New York State Psychiatric Institute and worked as a janitor. She thought \$12,000.

Dr. Sidney Maltz, the acting director of the New York State Psychiatric Institute, at 722 West 168th Street, said that records showed the patient "developed breathing difficulties and heart irregularities and suddenly stopped breathing and expired."

"Every effort was made to revive him, but this was unsuccessful," he added.

Both the Police Department and the Medical Examiner's office said that they would take some steps to check their files to see if they had records on the case.

Dr. Maltz said that the principal investigators in the Army-sponsored experiments, Dr. Paul Hoch, who eventually became the State Commissioner of Mental Hygiene, and Dr. Carney Landis had died more than 10 years ago. The Army said that it did not have the contract numbers or other details of the work.

But representative Thomas J. Downey, a Democrat of Suffolk

County, who has been critical of the Government's drug experiments, said that the Army paid for two experiments with psychochemical drugs on humans at the New York State Psychiatric Institute between Oct. 9, 1951, and Feb. 28, 1953. The total expenditure, he said, was \$32,251.90.

The Rockefeller Report

The Government's experiments on humans with mind-altering drugs was disclosed in June in a report by the Rockefeller commission, which investigated allegations of illegal domestic activity by the Central Intelligence Agency.

The commission said in its report that a civilian biochemist

working for the Army, later identified as Frank R. Olson, had surreptitiously been given LSD and subsequently plunged to his death from a 10th-story hotel window in Manhattan.

Numerous queries from the press and the public followed the publication of the Rockefeller commission report, and the military was initially refusing to comment, gradually disclosed a number of drug experiments that it had been conducting.

Until yesterday, the Army had said that it knew of no deaths or any serious reactions in the drug experiments that it conducted as the principal investigator in this area for the Department of Defense.

In a meeting yesterday morning with newsmen in his Pentagon office, Joseph Laitin, the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs, said that a file disclosing the death in the Army-sponsored experiments had been discovered among historical records of the Biomedical Laboratory at the Edgewood Arsenal, in Maryland,

where most of the Army's drug experiments were carried out.

He said that the file had been tuned up by investigators who had been looking into the Army's experiments with humans since about three weeks ago, when the experiments were suspended.

BREMER?
SIRHAN?

Timothy Leary, the former Harvard professor and L.S.D. advocate, is reported to be testifying before a federal grand jury in San Francisco. Pacific News Service reports that Leary has been seen in the escort of federal marshals and F.B.I. agents in the San Francisco federal building, going to and from the grand jury room.

Leary is reported to have put on weight, cut his hair and grown a mustache. According to Pacific News, he is staying in an expensive suite in a downtown hotel paid for by the government.

Sources close to the case indicate that Leary is implicating members of the weather underground — as well as former Leary lawyers — claiming they were responsible for his 1970 escape from prison. Indictments involving people allegedly participating in that escape plot must be handed down within the next two weeks since the five-year statute of limitations in the case will run out on September 10th.

For whatever it's worth, an Australian court has ruled that a man's testicle is worth exactly \$26,139. Qui magazine reports that the court handed down its decision in the case of Marijan Andjic, a Sydney opera house carpenter who lost his left testicle in an industrial accident.

The court found that the accident made Andjic "subfertile," saying that it was unlikely he would be able to father any more children. As a result, Andjic was awarded \$26,139 in cash.

That giant phallic-looking balloon which the Rolling Stones utilize as part of their act has now been bandaged and patched in four places. Rolling Stone magazine reports that the 15-foot stage prop is patched in such a way that it appears to have undergone a vasectomy.

The Stones' manager Peter Rudge explains the injuries by saying: "Every cop on the tour has gone underneath the stage to take a poke at it."

Chicago columnist Mike Royko reports that a recent protest in Chicago involving Playboy "bunnies" was a "fake." The protest took place last month when a group of waitresses picketed in front of the Chicago Playboy Club and told an "over-flow press conference that they were striking for the right to date club customers.

The "bunnies" claimed that rules against dating the Playboy key-holders were "discriminatory." Now, however, columnist Royko reports he has interviewed several of the protesters, and has learned that the whole thing was staged to promote business. According to Royko, the strike was staged to convince male customers that "the bunnies" are suddenly available.

Watergate burglar Frank Sturgis is quoted in a new book as saying that he was asked by the C.I.A. in the early 1960's to participate in an assassination plot inside the United States. The new book, entitled *Coup D'Etat in America*, is authored by Michael Canfield and A.J. Weberman.

A Maryland researcher has released a previously secret government document indicating that the Central Intelligence Agency has experimented with "mind control" techniques — to influence the behavior of individuals as well as mass populations. The researcher, Harold Weisberg, reports that the title of the three-page paper is "Soviet Research and Development in the Field of Direction and Control of Human Behavior."

That intra-agency study compares American and Soviet efforts at altering human behavior. According to the paper, some of the experiments have involved "L.S.D. 25, amphetamines, tranquilizers, hypnotics and similar materials." The study indicates that the C.I.A. is familiar with both "psychological" and "pharmacological" methods. It says: "For long-term control of large numbers of people, the former (psychological) method is more promising. For dealing with individuals, the U.S. experience suggests the pharmacological approach (assisted by psychological techniques) would be the only effective method."

The report also indicates that despite serious research into the mind control field by Soviet scientists, there was no reason to believe that the Russians were ahead of the U.S. government in these experimentations. Weisberg states that the study was prepared by the C.I.A. in 1964.

Would you believe a C&W song about the Symbionese Liberation Army? Why not, says 59-year-old San Antonio writer Dave Mcenery, who has penned a tune he calls "The Ballad of Patty Hearst." The song is sung to the tune of "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," and starts like this: "In the State of California in the year of '74, one of God's beloved daughters heard a knock upon the door; violent men with flaming weapons knocked her boyfriend to the floor; and kidnapped Patty Hearst."

The final verse tells us: "Then there came a final shootout in the city of L.A.; God is calling final judgement on the wicked S.L.A.; is she victim, is she willing, only God will ever know; sing her ballad soft and low."

Mcenery, who has already written tunes about Charlie Manson and Lieutenant Calley, says his next one will be about Marilyn Monroe.

The Drummer Bums play their first two-night double-header this Wednesday at Star Gardens. The first game, which starts at 5:45 sharp, is against the Dept. of Corrections. And the nightcap is against HELP, which will no doubt need much when they meet the Bums. The Drummer is now 10-0 and there is no reason to doubt that their winning streak will go on forever.