Army Seeks 1,500 to Check Aftereffects of LSD Tests

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WASHINGTON, July 18 (AP)—The Army said Friday that it would try to find nearly 1,500 persons who were subjects of LSD experiments it conducted in the nineteen-fifties and nineteen-sixties and have them undergo medical evaluation to determine whether there have been any aftereffects.

The tests, which involved both soldiers and civilians, began in 1956 and did not end until 1967 according to the Army's statement. The statement indicated for the first time the extent of the Army testing, which became known this week.

As before, the Army said that only volunteers had been used in the experiments, which were aimed at determining the effects of the mind-altering drug on military performance.

Test Locations

A total of 585 persons, mostly soldiers, were tested directly by the Army at the Edgewood Arsenal in Maryland, at Fort Bragg in North Carolina, Fort McClellan in Alabama, Dugway Proving Ground in Utah, and Fort Benning in Georgia.

The soldiers who were tested ranged from enlisted men through colonels, the Army said. In addition, according to the statement, about 900 civilians were tested under Army-sponsored studies at the University of Maryland Psychiatric Institute, the New York Psychiatric Institute, the University of Wisconsin, the University of Washington Medical School, and the Tulane University Department of Neurology and Psychiatry.

A spokesman said that the Army knew the names of the 585 persons tested directly by the Army and that efforts were under way to reach them for medical evaluation.

However, the spokesman said, the Army does not have the names of the 900 persons who had been tested by the universities and civilian hospitals working under Army contracts. The Army will rely on these institutions to come up with the names, he said.

Plans Incomplete

The Army indicated that it had not completed plans for the medical checkovers, but it said that the load would be so great that the examination would have to be done at a number of locations. The Army said the National Academy of Sciences-National Research Council Medical Followup Agency and the be asked to help out.

Evaluation has already started in a limited way, the Army said, with an effort to examine 34 soldiers who took LSD in tests at Fort Benning in 1960.

A total of 19 of those have been examined at Walter Reed Army Medical Center during the past 12 months, the Army said. The results of these examinations are expected this fall after analysis is completed.

The Army said that seven men who were soldiers at Fort Benning at the time of the experiments have reported that they are in good health, that seven have not been located, and that one was killed in action in Vietnam.