

State health *FPMA*
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agency to probe
Detrick deaths

The deaths of three germ warfare workers at Ft. Detrick which were covered up by the Army will be investigated by the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

Health Secretary Dr. Neil Solomon has ordered his staff to look into possible irregularities in connection with the treatment, disease reporting and death certificates of the three men who died at Ft. Detrick between 1951 and 1964.

Last Friday, the Army revealed that two workers had perished from anthrax and a third worker died of Bolivian hemorrhagic fever at the fort during the 13-year time span and that their deaths were officially listed as being caused by some other source.

Solomon said that he wants an investigation to determine if medical care for the victims was delayed and their death certificates falsified.

Assigned to conduct the probe were an assistant state's attorney general and the heads of the state health statistics department and communicable disease division.

Solomon said that should the study reveal illegal actions, proper authorities will be notified. He added that any evidence of improper medical procedures will be called to the attention of an appropriate medical panel.