

Probe Clears Army In LSD Suspicion

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8/21/75

A U.S. Army spokesman said yesterday that a thorough search of Army archives produced no record indicating that a hallucinogenic drug was given to a former Army instructor in 1964 during a voluntary army drug experiment program at the Edgewood Arsenal.

The instructor, Wendell L. Queen Jr., now a District jail guard, has said he suffered "flashbacks of paranoia" for two to three months after an hallucinogenic experiment. He had a five-day physical examination at the Walter Reed Hospital last week, that determined him to be normal, an Army spokesman confirmed.

"I'm truly satisfied with the results of the examination. They tested me from top to toe and treated me like a king," Queen explained yesterday, "but I'll keep pushing to find out what they gave me in 1964. . . it's kind of a mystery why they haven't got the records."

After Queen's account of his drug experiences was widely publicized in newspaper and on television, the superintendent of the District jail temporarily transferred him to theorton Reformatory. Queen has been training new officers and on television, the act- ficial report of his examina- tion so that he can return to the jail.

"Our correctional officers are required to be in full control of themselves, of their faculties, their mental processes so we put Queen on temporary duty until we could get the drug questions cleared up," said District jail Capt. William Long, supervisor of the swing shift that Queen normally works at the jail.

"It was a mutual agreement," Long continued. "The man works on my shift and I hope to get him back soon, he's a very good correctional officer."

Queen, a former Army instructor in biological warfare volunteered in 1963 to take part in drug experiments.

"I was curious, real curious and I liked it so much that I volunteered again in 1964 for the program," Queen said.

The temporary drugs he liked in the spring of 1963 — atropine and glycolate — were not the same drugs he says he received in a similar two-month program at Edgewood Arsenal in 1964. Then, Queen claims, a potent liquid was dropped on his wrist, which sent him into a four- to six-day hallucinogenic trip filled with paranoia.

"They had to strap me to a hospital bed because I thought everyone was trying to strangle me, coming to shoot me or kill me," he said. "This made me want to escape from everything that was after me."

Queen said he continued to suffer from this feeling of paranoia when he returned to duty at Ft. Knox. About once or twice a week for a few months, Queen says he would be struck with "flashbacks" when he felt drowsy in the evening.

Army spokesmen, who have found records to validate the account given by Queen of his 1963 experience, say that Queen was given only two drugs in 1964 — atropine and "C-S," a strong tear gas — neither of which can cause hallucinations.

This search for Queen's records was prompted by his concern when he read accounts of the army's LSD program in the newspapers over a month ago. Queen says the articles frightened him and he asked for the Army medical examination to test whether he had any traces of a drug left in his body.

The test was administered last week. For five days Queen took neurological, psychological, eye, nose, throat, heart, and brain wave tests at Walter Reed Hospital.