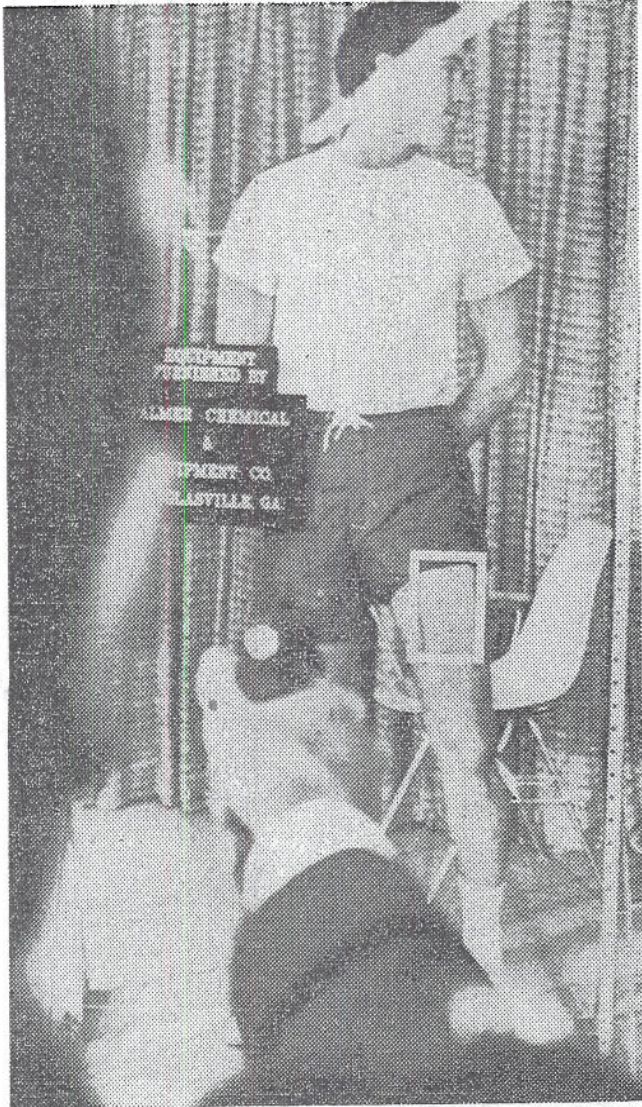


THE NEW YORK TIMES, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Tranquilizer Gun Fells Man in Test



Associated Press

Demonstrating a device to subdue violent persons, Peter Williams offers his thigh as a target for a hollow dart containing drugs. The law student stands behind a transparent screen with only the area outlined open to the dart. The demonstration was held in Atlanta yesterday.

ATLANTA, Feb. 26 (UPI)—A short, stubby dart tipped with a needle three-fourths of an inch long flashed through the air and struck the man in the leg.

Within 75 seconds the victim felt a chill and began to get glassy-eyed. His blood pressure dropped. In two minutes 45 seconds he felt nauseated. Five minutes later he was acutely ill. For an hour, he was helplessly stretched out on a mattress.

Law enforcement officials, Federal and local, were among the persons watching this demonstration of a new long-barreled tranquilizer gun and of the potency of the drug carried in the hollow tip of its needle. Its inventors hope eventually it will be widely used in place of bullets to subdue violent persons, such as psychotics, and possibly in riot situations.

The demonstration, held over the weekend in the Em-

ory University Hospital, was conducted by Dr. William C. Conner, a psychiatrist, and representatives of the Palmer Chemical and Equipment Company, Douglasville, Ga.

The pistol-shaped gun is powered by a carbon dioxide cartridge. It fires an 18-gauge needle, about the size used in blood tests. The needle is attached to a cylindrical projectile syringe that forms the main body of the missile and injects automatically on contact. Its effective range is 10 to 12 yards, but research is under way on a longer-range, faster-firing weapon.

Animals Silenced by Darts

Drugged darts have been used for a number of years in subduing animals for capture, identification tagging or medical treatment. Dosages are tailored to the size of the animal involved, be it a grizzly bear or a small stray dog.