

**Army Denies Developing  
Poison Dart Gun in Secret**

WASHINGTON, May 27 (UPI)—The Army denied today a statement attributed to Representative Richard L. Ottinger, Democrat of New York, that it had developed a "secret poison dart gun-type weapon."

A spokesman said there was a dart-firing gun known as the SPIW (special purpose individual weapon) but it was not secret and there were no plans to use poison.

"The Congress has published

testimony on the subject since 1962," the spokesman said. "It is still a development item and there has been no request for procurement. Legal considerations were reviewed and it was determined that the weapon would not violate the rules of warfare."

An annex to the Hague Convention No. IV on "laws and customs of war on land," dated Oct. 18, 1907, says: "It is especially forbidden . . . to employ poison or poisoned weapons."