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ARMY'S CHEMISTS HALT HUMAN TESTS

Edgewood Program Stops
—Check Ordered on Chief

WASHINGTON, July 28 (AP)

—The Army suspended today the testing of chemical compounds with human volunteers at its Edgewood, Mr., Arsenal.

At the same time, the army said its inspector General had been ordered to check on what it called "some possible adverse information" about Dr. Van M. Sim, who has headed such testing programs for 19 years.

The statement did not give any details on the information about Dr. Sim, and Army spokesmen refused to elaborate.

In a statement, the Army said that temporary suspension of the program for testing chemical compounds on human volunteers at Edgewood Arsenal "will permit the Army to determine all the facts connected with the test programs which were initiated in the nineteen-fifties."

It said that 36 military volunteers now at Edgewood to participate in planned tests would be sent back to their home bases.

The Inspector General was ordered to report to the acting Secretary of the Army, Norman R. Augustine, and the Army said its findings and actions, if any, would be announced after that.

Attention was recently focused on the testing of chemicals on humans at Edgewood by publicity given such tests with the drug LSD conducted with 585 officers and enlisted men between 1956 and 1967.

The Army says it is not ex-

perimenting with LSD any longer.

Dr. Sim, who defended the testing program at a Pentagon news conference last week, said that he and his organization were awaiting approval from the Army Surgeon General before conducting further experiments on a number of other drugs.

No experiments were under way, pending this approval, Dr. Sim said.

Mr. Augustine's action suspends any further tests along these lines for the time being.