

Army Tested Biological War in S.F.

New York [Newsday]

At least eight United States cities and military installations were subjected to simulated biological warfare attacks by Army scientists between 1950 and 1966.

After an outbreak of infection that killed one man [Edward Nevins] in San Francisco within weeks of the initial test, the military continued to use a bacterium that was implicated in the death.

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On the afternoon of Sept. 26, 1950, the U.S. Army conducted an experiment to test San Francisco's vulnerability to a germ warfare attack.

The so-called "vulnerability test" involved the release into the air of *Serratia marcescens*, to see whether winds in the Bay Area would carry germs into the city. The military had monitoring stations taking air samples around the city to see where the bacteria appeared. The experiment was repeated the next afternoon.

Within a week, patients in the old Stanford University Hospital in San Francisco began to develop infections of a tupe that was so rare then that three medical researchers were moved to write about the outbreak in a prominent medical journal.

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Later clippings will be filed CIA (d). See also that file 27 Nov 76 concerning Plum Island, Long Island, "Disease Lab 'Leak' Reported."

See also SFC [Newsday] 10 Jan 77, "1971 Mystery - CIA Link to Cuban Pig Virus Reported." Filed CIA (d).