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More extensive CIA drug experiments told

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WASHINGTON — The Central Intelligence Agency's program of drugging U.S. citizens without their knowledge in the 1950s and 1960s was even more extensive than has been previously disclosed, a White House official announced Friday.

The new information, based on a recent search of CIA financial records, indicates the following activities were undertaken as part of the drug program, known under the code name "MK-ULTRA":

- Possible other cases involving drug testing on unwitting citizens, including drug addicts and alcoholics.
- Tests involving a knockout drug administered to patients suffering from the advanced stages of cancer. Research on this drug was performed in conjunction with work on development of pain killers for such patients.
- A possible improper payment to a private institution.
- Research on surreptitious methods of administering drugs.

As far as it is known, no deaths were involved in this newly disclosed CIA activity, said White House press secretary Jody Powell, who made the data public.

Previously, it had been disclosed that Dr. Frank Olson, a civilian biochemist for the Army, committed suicide by jumping out of a New York hotel window in 1953 while under the influence of a drug secretly administered to him by a CIA official as part of the MK-ULTRA program. Olson was fed LSD in a glass of Cointreau shortly before his death.

The new data were contained in a letter from CIA Director Stansfield Turner to Sen. Daniel K. Inouye (D-Hawaii), chairman of the Senate intelligence committee which monitors the agency's activities.

A committee spokesman said it probably will hold hearings on the disclosures next week, with Turner expected to be there.

Powell said President Carter, who learned of the new information Thursday in keeping with his campaign pledge to let the American people know of any CIA abuses of citizens' rights.

In his letter, Turner said that although the

CIA previously told Congress that most of the MK-ULTRA files had been destroyed, "our continuing search for drug-related, as well as other documents, has uncovered certain papers which bear on this matter."

Turner stressed the CIA had not attempted to conceal anything when asked for information on the program in 1975 by a Senate committee chaired by Frank Church (D-Ida.) then investigating agency abuses.

Turner said the new information made known to him Tuesday was found in "retired archives" files only "by using extraordinary and extensive research efforts."

The drug-related activities described in this newly located material began almost 25 years ago, he said. I assure you they were discontinued over 10 years ago and do not take place today."

Powell added that there is no specific information he knows of or could release that would further shed light on who the victims or the perpetrators of the program were.

In the final report of the Church committee,

it was disclosed during that the MK-ULTRA program first became known to those outside the program during a 1963 investigation by the CIA inspector general.

It was learned then that the program was the brainchild of former CIA Director Richard C. Helms, who at the time was the CIA's assistant deputy director for plans. The program proposal was approved in 1953 and it was an active project until its discovery by the inspector general 10 years later. After that, its budget was decreased markedly and the program was put under tighter controls. It was reportedly phased out about 1967. Allen Dulles was CIA director between 1953 and 1961. John McCone held the post between 1961 and 1966.

According to the final report, the program was designed to give the CIA "comprehensive