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CIA chief admits mind control tests

WASHINGTON [AP]—CIA Director Stansfield Turner testified Wednesday that newly discovered documents disclosed that the Central Intelligence Agency sponsored 149 projects involving drugs, hypnosis, shock harassment, and even magicians as it experimented with controlling the human mind.

Turner told a joint hearing of the Senate Intelligence Committee and the Health Subcommittee that the project, known ultimately as MK-ULTRA, took place from 12 to 25 years ago.

"I assure you that the CIA is in no way engaged in either witting or unwitting testing of drugs today," he said.

Turner told the committee the documents, hitherto unreported to Congress, were found in seven boxes along with financial records in a records center near Washington.

THE DOCUMENTS, in the form of fiscal records, do not include status reports or progress analyses of the various parts of the project.

But Turner said the agency is "now in possession of the names of 165 nongovernment researchers and assistants who are identified in the recovered material dealing with the 149 subprojects."

"The names of 80 institutions where work was done or with which these people affiliated are also mentioned," he continued.

"The institutions include 44 colleges or universities, 15 research foundations or chemical and pharmaceutical companies and the like, 12 hospitals or clinics and 3 penal institutions."

TURNER DID NOT name any of the individuals or institutions.

"Most of the people and institutions involved are not aware of agency sponsorship," he said. "We should certainly assume that the researchers and institutions which cooperated with CIA on a witting basis acted in good faith and in the belief that they were aiding their government in a legitimate and proper purpose."

"I believe we all have a moral obligation to these researchers and institutions

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