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CIA reportedly tested drug on Pennsylvania inmates in '71

Philadelphia (AP)—The Central Intelligence Agency secretly tested a mind-control drug in 1971 on 20 persons, including five inmates at Philadelphia's Holmesburg Prison, the Philadelphia Inquirer reported yesterday.

According to a 1973 CIA memo obtained under the Freedom of Information Act by an organization affiliated with the Church of Scientology, the drug, identified only as a glycolate dubbed EA (Experimental Agent) 3167, produced prolonged psychotic effects.

The CIA's director, Adm. Stansfield Turner, testified before a Senate subcommittee last year that most of the CIA's mind-control programs ended in the 1960's, with the exception of a few scattered projects.

The tests were undertaken at the Edgewood (Md.) Arsenal Research Laborator-

ies to counteract Soviet efforts to develop an undetectable drug that could incapacitate a victim's mind.

The program was part of a larger drug project whose code name was OFTEN, according to the CIA documents.

The 20 paid volunteers, 15 from the military services and the 5 prisoners, were not coerced into participating in the project, a CIA memo said. The drug produced "delirium and other psychotic behavior lasting from three or four days with subsequent amnesia," a memo said. Some symptoms lasted as long as six weeks.

But a report on the experiment said, "The results are inconclusive. Apparently, the drug is not reliable at the dosage levels tested."

There was no indication in the memos what happened to the subjects.