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INDEXED

398 Document # 529
Master Agency

410

13 August 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Legislative Counsel

SUBJECT : Drug-Related Death of Harold Blauer

The Offices of the General Counsel, Inspector General, Security and Technical Services have searched their files for any evidence of a CIA association with the death on 8 January 1953 of Harold Blauer while a patient at the New York State Psychiatric Institute. The results of the search were negative except for the attached Memorandum for the Record, dated 29 January 1954. The Army Inspector General informed me that the Army's Special Operations Division, Fort Dietrick (the unit that Frank Olson was in) had a contract for two years with the Psychiatric Institute (1952-53) to test various mescaline-related and other drugs that the Army was interested in. Blauer died 2-1/2 hours after an injection of an apparent overdose of 450 milligrams of EA 1298. The estate sued New York State for \$500 K; it was settled out of court for \$125 K. If there is any Agency connection at all, it would involve possible Army use for the settlement of funds CIA transferred to the Army on an annual basis starting in FY 1953 in support of a mutual program. We did not require an accounting by the Army for the use of these funds. See the attached memorandum to the DCI from the IG, dated 20 May 1975.

Donald F. Chamberlain
Inspector General

Attachments a/s

DATE

76-3486

Age Doc. # 3211
marks Request 76-374-
with his identity per 2200-4110
(S)(U)(C)

SO 3-198
29 January 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Record
SUBJECT: Chemical Corps

1. On 19 January 1954, [redacted] received a telephone call from [redacted] Chemical Corps, Security Officer located in the Pentagon. [redacted] asked [redacted] if he had heard that the Chemical Corps was being sued? [redacted] answered, "No." He then asked [redacted] if the suit grew out of an incident that occurred a little over a year ago? [redacted] stated that it did.

3. Facts of the referenced incident as reported by [redacted]

Prior to DD/P/TSS taking both an active and financial interest in certain activities conducted by Chemical Corps relative to experiments involving the use of Chemical Compounds, the Chemical Corps had a contract with the New York Psychiatric Institute which is affiliated with Columbia University. A [redacted] was the Institute's principal investigator. He was carrying out experiments involving the injection of Mescaline derivatives into patients. In this particular case the patient died. Relatives of the deceased (name unknown) have brought the action.

4. [redacted] had been advised of these facts by [redacted] civilian employee of the Medical Laboratory, Army Chemical Center, Edgewood, Maryland.

5. [redacted] and [redacted] both advised "we had no funds involved nor were we involved in anyway"; however, the Chemical Corps was keeping TSS informed of their various activities along these lines. At no time had TSS requested this experiment. Chemical Corps' contract is for approximately [redacted] We took a [redacted] financial interest in this phase of research around 23 February 1953, after the referenced incident occurred.

6. [redacted] was contacted by [redacted] on the 20th and advised him we did not want the Agency's name mentioned in connection with the case since we were in no way involved. [redacted] advised he had been so informed and that he now knew the Agency was not connected or involved in this case. He further assured [redacted] that the Agency would not be mentioned and that he would keep us informed in the event Chemical Corps were to receive any undue publicity. Further information supplied by [redacted] was that the lawyer was a military man, (presumably a reserve officer) and had been advised the case involved military connections. The lawyer stated he would give the case no publicity. And finally the reason for [redacted] contacting the [redacted] was to see if we could help them in anyway to keep [redacted]