

Government Secret Human Testing



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Declassified documents illustrates how the US government for years conducted secret experiments on the American public, such as: spraying zinc cadmium sulfide on St. Louis residents, injecting hospital patients with plutonium, submitting babies and mothers radioactive iodine, and giving mentally disabled children radioactive calcium.

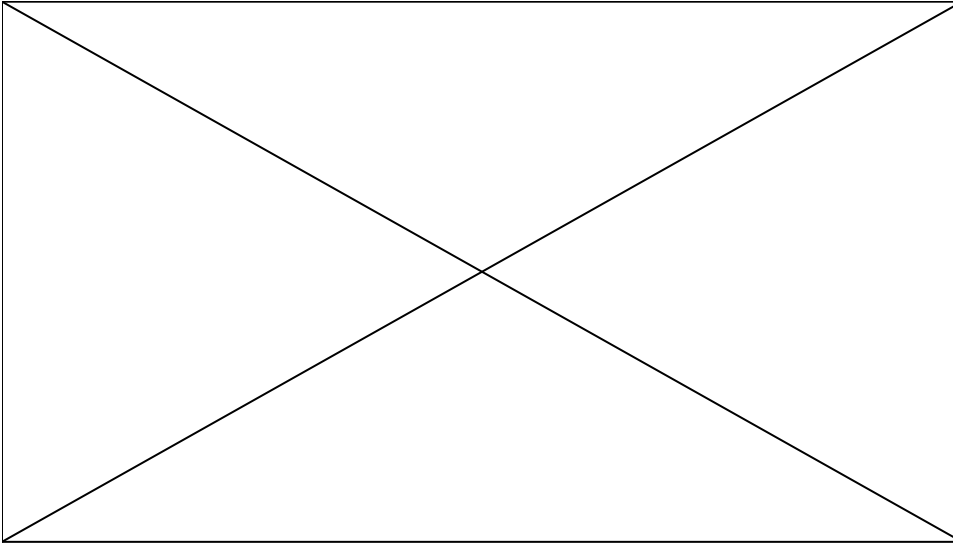
Recently St. Louis survivors, who have suffered from everything from skin lesions to degenerative bone cancer, have begun speaking out about the spraying that occurred in the 50s and 60s.

"They said we were living in the projects, but we were the project", states on victim.

18,591

Our government conducted these atrocities on it's own citizens by admission of these documents. We see today how the government has been stripping away our Constitutional rights and blatantly committing crimes.

So exactly when did we lose our government as an entity that serves the public to one that serves it's own criminal and sociopathic ends?



St. Louis (KSDK) – A recent I-Team investigation showing how the Army experimented on unsuspecting St. Louisans in the 1950s and '60s has been getting worldwide attention. Missouri's two U.S. Senators, Democrat Claire McCaskill, and Republican Roy Blunt, are demanding more information about the secret human testing. But so far, the Army remains silent.

The problem for the government is that survivors remember and for the first time are sharing their stories in hopes someone will listen and perhaps be held accountable.

In the early days of the Cold War, the Army arrived in St. Louis and began spraying zinc cadmium sulfide on children and families, who lived in and around the Pruitt Igoe housing projects located north of downtown St. Louis.

"They said we were living in the project, but we were the project," said former Pruitt Igoe resident Doris Spates.

At the time, no one questioned why the army placed chemical sprayers on the backs of cars and the tops of buildings. Many, like Leareon Burnett Hamer, thought they were killing mosquitoes.

"Why would you do that when you know you was not spraying for bugs, you were spraying for people," she said.

A group of people who were exposed to the zinc cadmium sulfide came to our studios to tell their stories. Most of them are now in their '60s.

"I remember the soldiers coming and taking chains and chaining the box, the black box to the light posts," said Patricia Williams.

Dorothy Johnson and her doctors never knew what caused blisters to boil up and cover her body when she was 18-years-old. The life-long emotional scars never healed and she wonders if there is a connection to the secret testing.

Through tears, Johnson said, "They isolated me and I stayed there about a month to recuperate. I lost my fingernails, my toe nails, the lesions on my body. They fed me intravenously. I couldn't see well. They kept me in the dark."

It doesn't sound possible, but Elaine Torez has vivid memories.

“We were playing and we ran in the house because we saw these guys in the alley in space suits and that’s what we called them. Now I know they were hazard suits,” she said.

These women, who never met, share similar stories, and illnesses.

“I remember the trucks coming by. I remember the men on the roof, squatting, and placing things on the roof,” said Nancy Waters.

In the ’90s the Army admitted to the Cold War spraying and even confessed to planting a cover story, that they were testing a smoke screen to protect cities in case of an aerial attack from the soviet union.

The Army insisted the spray was harmless.

That is not what St. Louis sociologist Lisa Martino-Taylor has uncovered after spending years researching and obtaining now declassified government documents.

“They (the Government) misled people and exposed them without their consent,” she said. “This was linked to the development and testing of weaponized radiation.”

Martino-Taylor says cadmium would have been toxic enough, but government documents show a link between the St. Louis testing and military-funded human radiation experiments.

The military now admits to some horrific Cold War human experiments around the country. A handful of hospital patients were secretly injected with plutonium. Babies and pregnant women unknowingly received radioactive iodine.

And, from 1946 through 1953 73 mentally disabled children in Massachusetts were fed oatmeal containing radioactive calcium.

Yet, much of what happened in St. Louis remains shrouded in secrecy.

“Not only was data missing, data has been deleted,” said Martino-Taylor.

In 1972, citing rampant crime, the government destroyed Pruitt Igoe.

“What was it that made the study so classified that they’re still not talking today about it,” asked Martino-Taylor.

Decades later, those questions haunt survivors. Could the chemical spray have caused their degenerative bone disease or the cancer that plagues them and their families?

Mary Helen Brindell has had four different types of cancer.

“One of the types of cancer I had was papillary carcinoma, which the surgeon said to me when at first I was diagnosed, he said, did you have any radiation exposure? And I said, no, not that I’m know of,” she said.

These women haven’t forgotten and they vow to keep talking about what happened now that someone’s listening. None say they trust the government.

“Its betrayal. I feel absolutely betrayed,” said Brindell.

“I know this has gone on in other countries, but I thought that our country was a litter bit better than that,” said Elaine Tomez.

Whether radioactive material was used remains open to question. What is not in dispute is that the Army selected the poor and powerless, and exposed them to potentially harmful chemicals without their knowledge or consent.

After our initial report aired last month, Missouri's U.S. Senators Claire McCaskill and Roy Blunt wrote to the Secretary of the Army demanding more information about the St. Louis testing.

The army has yet to respond. An Army official told the I-Team they would first respond to the senators before making any statement to the media.

To weigh in on this topic you can contact Senator McCaskill or Senator Blunt.

Click here to read Martino-Taylor's dissertation in its entirety. If you would like to contact Martino-Taylor, e-mail her at lmartinotaylor@stlcc.edu.

To contact I-Team reporter Leisa Zigman, e-mail her at lzigman@ksdk.com or call her at 314-444-5295.

COLD WAR ERA GOVERNMENT EXPERIMENTS IN ST. LOUIS & CANCER OUTBREAKS: PRUITT-IGOE & COLDWATER CREEK

By [Daniel Finney](#)

Unfortunately, St. Louis has been experiencing what some oncologists are calling "an event" in North County and North St. Louis. An unusually high amount of cancer cases has been uncovered over the past few years in small clustered areas, namely North County and North St. Louis. Mostly recently, there have been cancer outbreaks amongst residents and families near Coldwater Creek in St. Louis. Also, former residents of Pruitt-Igoe have been reporting an increased amount of cancer cases.

Interestingly, the two areas share a common trait: they were both subjected to some form of government testing or experiments during the Cold War Era, as well as during World War II.

As far as Pruitt-Igoe goes, it was subjected to some sort of government testing during the Cold War, according to a lawsuit filed. During that time, government workers from the Army Corps of Engineers would spray some sort of smoke or aerosol from the roof of the Pruitt-Igoe residences. The tenants of Pruitt-Igoe never gave consent to do such a thing. Then, apparently cancer incidents have increased amongst those who lived at Pruitt-Igoe. Initial findings report that the substance being sprayed was zinc cadmium sulfide. While city officials were kept in the dark, research into what happened shows that the Army placed these sprayers as an experiment into what they initially said was testing smokescreens to protect cities from Soviet attacks. However, the research into what truly happened in these experiments is much more sinister: evidence tends to show that included in the spray was radioactive particles and that instead of testing a smokescreen, was possibly testing in relation to biological weapons. Government documents show a link between the St. Louis projects, that took place at locations such as Pruitt-Igoe, and a company called US Radium. The problem is US Radium is notorious for lawsuits involving harm caused by radioactive contamination.

Lately, Coldwater Creek has been subject to an increased level of scrutiny as well. Coldwater Creek runs through parts of North St. Louis County. Coldwater Creek came into the spotlight as the subject of numerous lawsuits alleging that contamination of groundwater has caused a frightening level of cancer incidents among those who live or have lived near the creek. Research into the area initially seems to link the creek to various cancers, illnesses, and birth defects. In fact, the data shows there are 700 cases within four square miles: 62 brain cancer cases, 27 leukemia cases, 26 lung cancer cases, 24 multiple sclerosis cases, 15 lymphoma cases, 10 pancreatic cancer cases, and 3 conjoined twins. Some children were even coming down with brain cancer within the first 15 years of their lives. However, one of the things that began to tie the cases together was Coldwater Creek, where the residents used to play.

In the 1940s, Mallinckrodt Chemical Works in downtown St. Louis purified thousands of tons of uranium to make the first atomic bombs as part of government contracting. The problem was the process generated enormous amounts of radioactive waste. Sighting national security, the government quietly ordered the material moved to north St. Louis County in 1947. Twenty-one acres of airport land became a dumping site where a toxic mixture of uranium, thorium, and radium sat uncovered or in barrels. In the 1960s, government documents noted contents

from the rusting barrels were seeping into nearby Coldwater Creek. And by the 1990s, the government confirmed unsafe levels of radioactive materials in the water. Currently, Mallinckrodt is owned by Coviidian and is attempting to deny its involvement.

Unfortunately, those affected by Coldwater Creek must act with some haste because of a ruling from a US District Court Judge in Downtown St. Louis. The District Court judge dismissed some of the claims relating to Coldwater Creek because of statute of limitations problems. Under the claims asserted, a plaintiff must bring their cause of action within five years from discovering their [injuries](#).

It is important for those who may have been affected to make sure they have not suffered any injuries as a result from possible radioactive exposure from these two scenarios in which the government played a large role. If someone has been affected, it is just as important not to wait to hold those accountable who have caused that harm.

Revealed: Army scientists secretly sprayed St Louis with 'radioactive' particles for YEARS to test chemical warfare technology

By [EMILY ANNE EPSTEIN](#)

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The United States Military conducted top secret experiments on the citizens of St. Louis, Missouri, for years, exposing them to radioactive compounds, a researcher has claimed.

While it was known that the government sprayed 'harmless' zinc cadmium silicide particles over the general population in St. Louis, Professor Lisa Martino-Taylor, a sociologist at St. Louis Community College, claims that a radioactive additive was also mixed with the compound.

She has accrued detailed descriptions as well as photographs of the spraying which exposed the unwitting public, predominantly in low-income and minority communities, to radioactive particles.

Scroll down for video



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Test: Sociologist Lisa Martino-Taylor, right, a sociologist at St. Louis Community College, has spent years tracking down declassified documents to uncover the lengths which the US experimented on people without their knowing. At left, cadmium sulfide, the 'harmless' chemical sprayed on the public is pictured

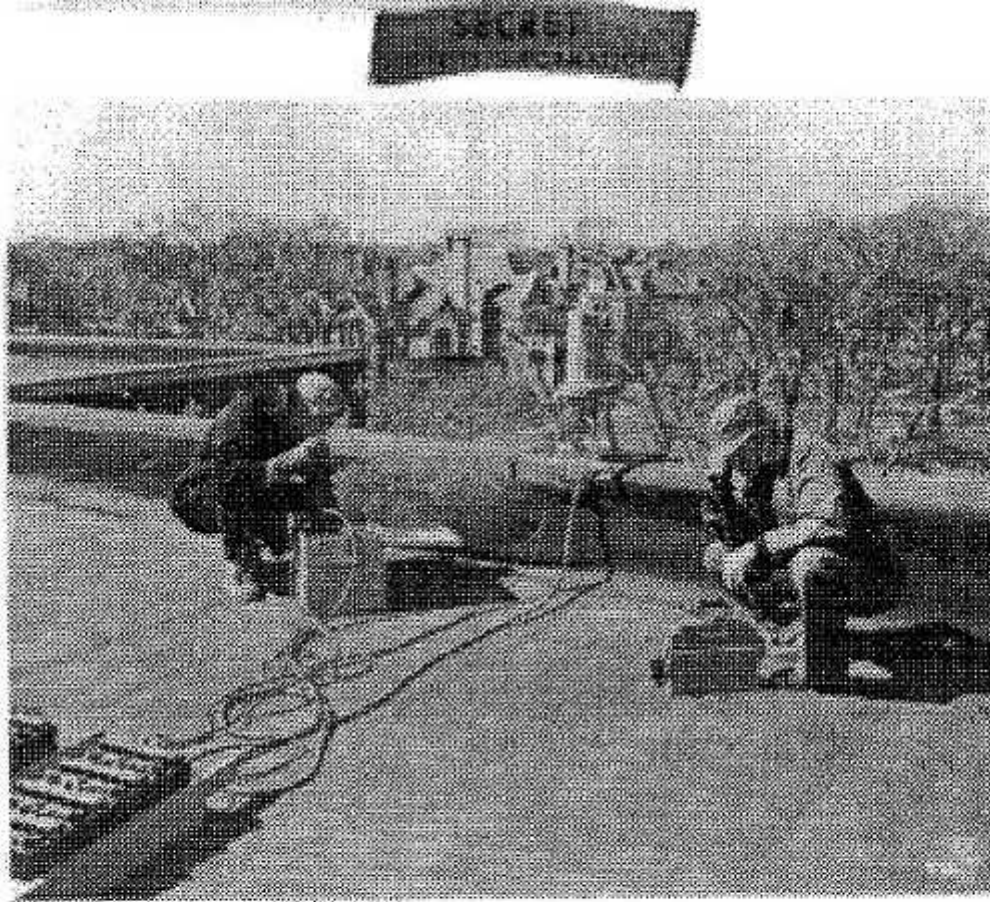


Fig. 7-7

Typical roof top location
of aerosol disperser.

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Spray: She has accrued detailed descriptions as well as photographs of the spraying, which took place as part of Manhattan-Rochester Coalition, which was an operation that dispersed zinc cadmium sulfide particles over the general population, a compound that was presented as completely safe

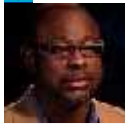
'The study was secretive for reason. They didn't have volunteers stepping up and saying yeah, I'll breathe zinc cadmium sulfide with radioactive particles,' said Professor Martino-Taylor to [KSDK](#). Through her [research](#), she found photographs of how the particles were distributed from 1953-1954 and 1963-1965. In Corpus Christi, the chemical was dropped from airplanes over large swathes of city. In St Louis, the Army put chemical sprayers on buildings, like schools and public housing projects, and mounted them in station wagons for mobile use.

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Despite the extent of the experiment, local politicians were not notified about the content of the testing. The people of St Louis were told that the Army was testing smoke screens to protect cities from a Russian attack.

'It was pretty shocking. The level of duplicity and secrecy. Clearly they went to great lengths to deceive people,' Professor Martino-Taylor said.



Fig. II-6

Inserting new membrane filters into
holders in the laboratory.

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Controversial: But Professor Martino-Taylor says that it wasn't just the 'harmless' compound, radioactive particles were also sprayed on the unwitting public. A woman refills the spray canisters in this archive picture



Fig. II-3

Flow rating the filters to be used in samplers prior to a test.

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Scope: In St Louis, the Army put chemical sprayers on buildings, like schools and public housing projects, and mounted them in station wagons for mobile use

She accrued hundreds of pages of declassified information, which she has made available online.

In her research, she found that the greatest concentration of spraying in St Louis was at the Pruitt-Igoe public housing complex, which was home to 10,000 low income residents. She said that 70 per cent of those residents were children under the age of 12.

Professor Martino-Taylor became interested in the topic after hearing independent reports of cancers among city residents living in those areas at the time.

'This was a violation of all medical ethics, all international codes, and the military's own policy at that time,' said Professor Martino-Taylor.

How To: Despite the extent of the experiment, local politicians were not notified about the content of the testing. In this picture, a man demonstrates how to spray the canisters

School: The people of St Louis were told that the Army was testing smoke screens to protect cities from a Russian attack. A canister is positioned on top of a school in this photo

'There is a lot of evidence that shows people in St. Louis and the city, in particular minority communities, were subjected to military testing that was connected to a larger radiological weapons testing project.'

Previous investigations of the compound were rebuffed by the military, which insisted it was safe.

However, Professor Martino-Taylor believes the documents she's uncovered, prove the zinc cadmium silfide was also mixed with radioactive particles.

She has linked the St Louis testing to a now-defunct company called US Radium. The controversial company came under fire, and numerous lawsuits, after several of its workers were exposed to dangerous levels of radioactive materials in its fluorescent paint.

Contaminated: The Army has admitted that it added a fluorescent substance to the 'harmless' compound, but whether or not the additive was radioactive remains classified

Exposed: In her research, she found that the greatest concentration of spraying in St Louis was at the Pruitt-Igoe public housing complex, which was home to 10,000 low income residents. She said that 70 per cent of those residents were children under the age of 12

'US Radium had this reputation where they had been found legally liable for producing a radioactive powdered paint that killed many young women who painted fluorescent watch tiles,' said Professor Martino-Taylor.

In her findings, one of the compounds that was sprayed upon the public was called 'FP2266', according to the army's documents, and was manufactured by US Radium. The compound, also known as Radium 226, was the same one that killed and sickened many of the US Radium workers.

The Army has admitted that it added a fluorescent substance to the 'harmless' compound, but whether or not the additive was radioactive remains classified.

Professor Martino-Taylor has not been able to find if the Army ever followed up on the long term health of the residents exposed to the compound. In 1972, the government destroyed the Pruitt-Igoe houses.

Upon learning of the professor's findings, Missouri lawmakers called on the Army to detail the tests.

'I share and understand the renewed anxiety of members of the St. Louis communities that were exposed to the spraying of (the chemicals) as part of Army tests during the Cold War,' Senator Claire McCaskill wrote to Army Secretary John McHugh.

'The impacted communities were not informed of the tests at the time and are reasonably anxious about the long term health impacts the tests may have had on those exposed to the airborne chemicals.'

Senator Roy Blunt called the findings 'absolutely shocking.'

'The idea that thousands of Missourians were unwillingly exposed to harmful materials in order to determine their health effects is absolutely shocking. It should come as no surprise that these individuals and their families are demanding answers of government officials,' Senator Blunt said.

Read more:

[I-Team: The Army's secret Cold War experiments on St. Louisans | ksdk.com](#)

[THE MANHATTAN-ROCHESTER COALITION, RESEARCH ON THE HEALTH EFFECTS OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS, AND TESTS ON VULNERABLE POPULATIONS WITHOUT CONSENT IN ST. LOUIS, 1945-1970](#)

Date: May 14, 1997

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Cold War Chemical Tests Over American Cities Were Far Below Dangerous Levels

WASHINGTON -- A series of secret tests conducted by the U.S. Army in the 1950s and 1960s did not expose residents of the United States and Canada to chemical levels considered harmful, according to a [new report](#) from a committee of the National Research Council.

The U.S. Army released the chemical compound zinc cadmium sulfide from airplanes, rooftops, and moving vehicles in 33 urban and rural areas as part of a Cold War program to test the way biological weapons might disperse under different conditions. Zinc cadmium sulfide, a fine fluorescent powder, was chosen because its particles are similar in size to germs used in biological warfare, and because its fluorescence under ultraviolet light made it easy to trace. It is not a biological weapon, nor was it thought at the time to be toxic. But residents in affected cities -- including Minneapolis; St. Louis; Winnipeg, Manitoba; Corpus Christi, Texas; and Fort Wayne, Ind. -- became concerned about possible health effects after details of the tests became widely known in the 1990s.

"After an exhaustive, independent review requested by Congress we have found no evidence that exposure to zinc cadmium sulfide at these levels could cause people to become sick," said committee chair Rogene Henderson, senior scientist, Lovelace Respiratory Research Institute, Albuquerque, N.M. "Even when we assume the worst about how this chemical might behave in the lungs, we conclude that people would be at a higher risk simply from living in a typical urban, industrialized area for several days or, in some cases, for months."

Information on how zinc cadmium sulfide affects human health is sparse, but data from animal tests indicate that the compound, when taken orally, has no short-term toxic effects; nor was it found to be a skin or eye irritant. Because limited laboratory research on the toxicity of zinc cadmium sulfide has been performed on animals, and no data exist on humans, the committee based its conclusions about the ability of the compound to cause cancer on what it called a "worst-case" assumption: that the compound is every bit as toxic as its most toxic component -- cadmium. High doses of cadmium over long periods of time could cause bone and kidney problems and lung cancer, but the Army's tests involved small doses of a less toxic compound over short periods of time, the report says. The committee estimated that the excess maximum lifetime cancer risk for the most heavily exposed residents of St. Louis is 1.5 in 1 million; in Minneapolis it is one in 2.5 million; one in 1 million in Winnipeg; seven in 100 million in Fort Wayne; and one in 100 million in Corpus Christi.

For non-cancer toxicity, the committee based its conclusions on what is known about cadmium sulfide, a compound that has some properties similar to zinc cadmium sulfide. The committee estimated that an average-size male could inhale as much as 500 micrograms of cadmium sulfide over a few days without causing toxicity in the lungs. Even in populated areas where exposures from the Army's tests were the highest, residents were exposed to far more cadmium in their normal daily contact with soil, water, food, and air (between 12 and 84 micrograms) than they were potentially exposed to from the Army's tests. The maximum estimated cadmium dose from all tests combined was 24.4 micrograms in St. Louis; 14.5 in Winnipeg; 6.8 in Minneapolis; 1.1 in Fort Wayne, and 0.1 in Corpus Christi. In Biltmore Beach, Fla. -- a remote unpopulated island location at the time of the tests -- the total may have been as high as 390 micrograms, but very few people if any were believed to have been exposed there.

The conclusions are based on data from the published scientific literature, information supplied by the Army and its contractors, and testimony from citizens in public meetings held by the committee in Minneapolis, Fort Wayne, and Corpus Christi. Some of the exposure data from the Army's tests have been lost or misplaced over the years since the tests were conducted, but the committee "feels confident in the large amount of data that it reviewed and does not believe it likely that the additional missing data would alter its conclusions."

Beyond looking at information on the toxicity, exposure data, and physical and chemical properties of the substance used in the experiments, the committee also evaluated whether it is feasible to perform a follow-up study to track the health status of those exposed. Three barriers would make such a study unfeasible, according to the report. Since the Army tests are now 30 to 40 years old, it would be extremely difficult to identify the people who were affected and to determine their past exposures to zinc cadmium sulfide. Even if they were found, there is a lack of data on their health before, during, and after exposure. And it would take a huge sample of exposed residents to detect even a small increase in health problems.

The Army should conduct studies to determine whether inhaled zinc cadmium sulfide breaks down into toxic cadmium compounds, which can be absorbed into the blood to produce toxicity in the lungs and other organs. Such research would strengthen the database needed for assessing the risk from the substance, the report says, and would eliminate the reliance on estimates of exposure to cadmium or cadmium compounds.

In some cities the Army dispersed microorganisms -- either alone or in combination with zinc cadmium sulfide. Recent research indicates that the microbes used do not produce disease in healthy people, but could produce disease in people with weak immune systems. The committee was not asked to assess the possible health effects of these tests, nor was it asked to address the ethical and social issues raised by the testing program as a whole.

A committee roster follows. This study was funded by the U.S. Department of the Army. The

National Research Council is the operating arm of the National Academy of Sciences and National Academy of Engineering. It is a private, non-profit organization that provides independent advice on science and technology under a congressional charter granted to the National Academy of Sciences.

Copies of [*Toxicological Assessment of the Army's Zinc Cadmium Sulfide Dispersion Tests*](#) will be available in late May from the National Academy Press at the mailing address in the letterhead; tel. (202) 334-3313 or 1-800-624-6242. Reporters may obtain copies from the Office of News and Public Information at the letterhead address (contacts listed above).

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[U.S. Army Dispersed Zinc Cadmium Sulfide Over U.S. Cities in the 1950s and 1960s](#)

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This is old news, but it was news to me. Some reports are [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#). Dispersion of this compound and other microorganisms were conducted in America and England without informing the public. The official rationale for these trials was that they were done to learn about germ warfare, but why the secrecy? Because people in the affected areas would have surely objected, and these areas included large cities like St. Louis, Corpus Christi, Winnipeg, and Fort Wayne.

The official bodies subsequently attempted to determine — after the fact — possible bad effects, such as lung cancer, on the health of the guinea pig people involved. I for one don't trust their studies because they did not examine the effects on longevity, or birth defects, or the additive effects when combined with exposure to other chemicals. I suspect the choices of scientists. I always suspect whitewash when it comes to government studies and assurances. I always expect sloppy and biased science in such cases. I always suspect government because, if it was stupid enough and callous enough to do this in the first place (just as it exposed millions to radiation using atomic tests) and if it did this in secrecy which suggests it couldn't make a case to the human guinea pigs, then why should I trust its studies?

In the English study, we find the following admission:

"Cadmium accumulates in the body, especially in the kidneys and to a much lesser extent in the liver. About 5% of cadmium is absorbed through the gut. When cadmium is absorbed through the lungs or the gut it becomes bound to albumen or to the cystine-rich protein, metallothionein. In the kidneys, the lysosomes of the proximal tubules degrade the metallothionein and so release the bound cadmium. Once there, the kidneys cannot make enough metallothionein and the free cadmium will damage them. The most sensitive indication of cadmium-

induced renal damage is an increased urinary excretion of low molecular weight proteins, and particularly of beta-2-microglobulin, as there is a decrease in renal tubular absorption. There is uncertainty about the fate of ZnCdS when it is breathed deep into the lungs. It is known that cadmium ions can enter the cell surface fluid and pass into cells in the lung. Like other transition metals cadmium participates in oxidation and reduction reactions."

In a report coming out of the National Academy of Sciences we learn that "The U.S. Army released the chemical compound zinc cadmium sulfide from airplanes, rooftops, and moving vehicles in 33 urban and rural areas as part of a Cold War program to test the way biological weapons might disperse under different conditions."

Isn't it obvious that no one in the U.S. Army or government can be held or is held or has been held responsible for such decisions and programs, and that such an arrangement done in secrecy violates both common sense and any reasonable ethical standard? To me it shows once again how bad our governing arrangements are.

This report also, in so many words, tells us that when this compound was dispersed, the effects on people were unknown. It says

"Information on how zinc cadmium sulfide affects human health is sparse,..."

This statement was made 30 years or more after the tests were conducted.

" Because limited laboratory research on the toxicity of zinc cadmium sulfide has been performed on animals, and no data exist on humans, the committee based its conclusions about the ability of the compound to cause cancer on what it called a 'worst-case' assumption: that the compound is every bit as toxic as its most toxic component — cadmium."

But everyone who has studied beginning chemistry knows that a compound doesn't behave like the elements that compose it.

"For non-cancer toxicity, the committee based its conclusions on what is known about cadmium sulfide, a compound that has some properties similar to zinc cadmium sulfide."

That's just great, fellas. You couldn't even or didn't even find studies of the actual compound used.

"In some cities the Army dispersed microorganisms — either alone or in combination with zinc cadmium sulfide. Recent research indicates that the microbes used do not produce disease in healthy people, but could produce disease in people with weak immune systems. The committee was not asked to assess the possible health effects of these tests, nor was it asked to address the ethical and social issues raised by the testing program as a whole."

Isn't this reassuring? They dispersed combinations of stuff, all with unknown effects, and all in secrecy. The microorganisms were likely to have been bacteria. From the Guardian article, we learn what some of that stuff may have been and was in England. It included in England "serratia marcescens bacteria, with an anthrax simulant and phenol." Also: "between 1961 and 1968 more than a million people along the south coast of England, from Torquay to the New Forest, were exposed to bacteria including e.coli and bacillus globigii, which mimics anthrax."

How reassuring is it to learn that the microbes do not affect healthy people. Who is healthy and who is not? This is not an all-or-none thing. Who can say that a toll is not taken on those termed healthy? And what difference does it make? Why should the less than healthy, whatever that means, be exposed?

And we also learn that the National Academy "was not asked to assess the possible health effects of these tests."

I thoroughly distrust the links of the National Academy and, thus, its studies to the government and U.S. Army:

"This study was funded by the U.S. Department of the Army. The National Research Council is the operating arm of the National Academy of Sciences and National Academy of Engineering. It is a private, non-profit organization that provides independent advice on science and technology under a congressional charter granted to the National Academy of Sciences."

But I will take what I can get as one source of information.