

THE BLACK VAULT

This document was obtained from The Black Vault, an online database of declassified government documents. This particular record is housed in the MKULTRA/Mind Control Collection, a compilation of more than 20,000 pages declassified by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). The entire collection is free to download and online at:

http://mkultra.theblackvault.com

		TRANSMI			/
-			27	ember 1953	.
TO:				DATE	-
	File		:		
BUILD	ING	•		ROOM NO.	
REN	ARKS:				
a In	view of	the atta	ched re	port from	
<i>S</i> 100		Which re	flects	death of	- {
Dr.	John	ane by cy	anide a	nd acetone	1
		<i>-</i>			
T whi	ch was	swallowed	, by dec	eased, further	
inv	.ch was restigat	swallowed in co	. by dec nnectio	eased, further n with this	-
inv	.ch was restigat	swallowed	. by dec nnectio	eased, further n with this	•
inv	.ch was restigat	swallowed in co	. by dec nnectio	eased, further n with this	
inv	.ch was restigat	swallowed in co	. by dec nnectio	eased, further n with this	
inv	.ch was restigat	swallowed in co	. by dec nnectio	eased, further n with this	
inv	.ch was restigat	swallowed in co	. by dec nnectio	eased, further n with this	
inv	.ch was restigat	swallowed in co	. by dec nnectio	eased, further n with this	
inv	ch was restigat oblem wa	swallowed in co	. by dec nnectio	eased, further n with this	
FROM	ch was restigat oblem wa	swallowed ion in co s believe	. by dec nnectio	eased, further n with this	
whi inv	ch was restigat oblem wa	swallowed ion in co s believe	by deconnection dunnec	eased, further n with this essary.	
FROM	ch was restigat oblem wa	swallowed ion in co s believe	by deconnection dunnec	eased, further n with this essary.	

TO : Chief, Security Research Staff

FROM : Chief, Special Security Division

onter, Special Security Division

SUBJECT: LANE, Dr. John - Information Concerning

H-BB

- 1. Reference is made to a memorandum dated 29 May 1953 prepared by a member of your staff requesting information concerning the death of captioned subject:
- 2. A check of the subject's name against the records of the Security Office disclosed the existence of a clipping from the NEW YORK TIMES of 18 October 1952. This article is dated 17 October 1952 at New Brunswick, New Jersey, and relates that subject, 36 years of age, died on 17 October 1952 after swallowing poison while sitting in his parked automobile on the golf course at Rutgers University. Robert H. JAMISON, coroner, Middlesex County (New Jersey), said that the scientist's death had been caused by swallowing a mixture of cyanide and acetone. Captain Matthew J. LUND, Police Department (New Brunswick), initiated an investigation. The results of the investigation are not indicated.
- 3. The article of the NEW YORK TIMES further points out that the subject, a native of Santa Monica, California; studied at Heidelburg University, Germany, in 1937 and 1938 after graduation from the University of California. He was engaged in research work at Princeton University on the Manhattan Project in 1944 and 1945. In 1945 he joined the staff at Rutgers University and specialized in Theoretic Organic Chemistry and was noted for his work in connection with the atom bomb.
- 4. The article was suffering from influenza prior to his death. His residence address is shown as 402 Lee Avenue (presumably New Brunswick).
- 5. In view of your request that this information be furnished to you prior to further action on the part of this division, no further inquiries are being made until so requested by you.



A/B 5: 180/3 29: Nay 1953 Request for Information in the Death of Dr. John LANC

"12" Lither late in October or early in Hovember 1952, Dr. John Lang of the Chemistry Repartment of Autgors University committed suicide apparently by the internal lise (intravenous injection) of a substance or substances which he had recently succeeded in isolating in lile laboratory. Exact details of whe substances are not known but the informant reported that the substance is found in some type of tropical dierbiland is known as "Anizet".

Onief. Decurity Research Synff

Clief Technical Branch

of Intera University.

Examination of hotenical records, phormoceutical directories, files, etc. Inila to establish any substance known as "Inizet" but this hamo may possibly be a local name or manufactured hame used in the chord cal laboratory at Ratgers University at the time of Dr. Lane's dbatic. The informant in the case stated that he believed Dr. Lans s resparch was the subject of a publication in the last year and that there possibly would be some additional information in the howeverer becounts of his death!

The original paper in connection with the above death of De Land Indicated that the cause of Dr. Lans's destir nes apparently "traceless" poteon. In an effort to socuto full details in this connection; the writer contacted restated to the writer that he had no will at a total there were three watated to the writor that he had no men who could possibly help in the matter . He stated that Givino him mountly become associated with a branch of and vine nor resides in the had given him the information on, Dknow while at Princeton University. Driedolin Lang, whom ho

falso referred the writer to m recently has become associated with the stated that a friend of Dr. Lane stand could possibly give additional information in commettion with Dr. Land & death.

In addition to stated that probably the best source of information of the Long would phonetic), a top flight research chemist with the



Bla

tatou that and and and a classmate of Dr. Mane of at both Princeton and the delabourg

problem, it is suggested that Mis Temorandon by referred by your office to the proper Security division with the request that a very cautious investigation be conducted in an effort be socure if possible all available details in this conjection.

In the limither suggested that the cormer or report at Butgers (Brundwick, Rev Versey), the statements of Jollan Instructors in the Charlets Department at Rutgers and the housepaper files of the local papers at the passibly indicate some clue is to what caused Dr. Lana's death. More specifically, this Office would like to Industriat substances plants here's chemicals site was Dr. Lana working on at the time of his suicide and why was the polyon described has traceless.

Office Memor indum • United STALES GOVERNMENT

M. M.Chief, Security Research Staff.

FROM Chief Technical Branch

SUBJECT: Request for Information in the Death of Dr. John Lane.

Lane of the Chemistry Department of Rutgers University committed suicide apparently by the internal use of a substance or substances which he had recently succeeded in isolating in his laboratory. Exact details of the substances are not known but the informant reported that the substance is found in some type of tropical herb and is known as "Anizet".

files, etc. fails to establish any substance known as "Anizet" but this name may possibly be a local name or manufactured name used in the chemical laboratory at Rutgers University at the time of Dr. Lane's death. The informant in the case stated that he believed Dr. Lane's research was the subject of a publication in the last year, and that there possibly would be some additional information in the newpaper accounts of his death.

heading that the cause of Dr. Lane's death was apparently a traceless poison. This original memorandum which was prepared by

ets out the above information. A check of OSI's personne re rds indicates that is now on leave and will not return until 11 May 1953.

problem, it is suggested that this memorandum be referred by your of office to the proper Security Office with the request that a very cautious investigation be conducted in an effort to secure if possible all available details in this connection.

建筑的图片,在设在自己的图像。1985

the statements of fellow instructors in the Chemistry Department at Rutgers, and the newspaper files of the local papers might possibly indicate some clue as to what caused Dr. Lane's death. More specifically, this Office would like to know what substances, plants, herbs, chemicals, etc. was Dr. Lane working on at the time of his apparent suicide and why was the poison described as "TRACELESS".



17 Fovember 1952

The following incidental information which I picked up

this last week-end may possibly be relevant to the subject. Department, Rutgera University, committed suicide within the last three weeks by the internal use of a substance, which he had recently succeeded in isolating at his laboratory at I understand that the substance is found in some type of tropical herb and is known as Anizet

3. My informant believes that Dr. Lane's research was the subject of publication in the last year and that there may be some additional information in the newspaper accounts of his

Distribution: E

Orig and 1 - Forward

(Chemistry) 清海子] - Daily reading file

l - Subject file

1 - Chrone