Haemophilic’s death from Aids after transfusion

By Sarah Boscley

A man suffering from haemophilia died from Aids after receiving a blood transfusion at a Newcastle hospital. It was disclosed yesterday.

Mr Terence McStay, aged 33, was treated with blood plasma from both Britain and the United States. But authorities at Newcastle’s Victoria Infirmary do not know whether he developed Aids (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) from contaminated imported plasma or plasma donated here.

Mr McStay is the second British haemophiliac to have died of Aids. In August last year, a middle-aged man who had been taking Factor 8 died at Bristol Royal Infirmary.

Factor 8 is an American-produced blood-clotting product, but the Haemophilia Society has urged its members to continue its use.

Victoria Infirmary’s hospital chaplain, Mr Ray Birkeswell, said yesterday: “All we can say with certainty is that Mr McStay received treatment from us, and his haemophilia was treated with Factor 8, a blood plasma product.”

“The transfusion was the last, and it is now too late to identify the cause of his illness. But it is suspected that the problem was caused by a virus that is transmitted by blood transfusions.”

Women say they were held in pit by troops

By Sarah Boscley

Protesters demonstrating outside an Army base in Hampshire claim they were detained by armed soldiers.

Some of the demonstrators outside Longmoor Camp, near Liss, Hampshire, have been arrested by police for obstruction, and others have been processed on Ministry of Defence artillery ranges which are part of the base, and finally given themselves up to soldiers.

Many local people have been involved in the demonstrations, which have been continuous since a cruise missile convoy was tracked to the base by members of the protest movement in the early hours of Thursday.

Among those who went to the base to lend their support on Friday night were a mother and her 13-year-old daughter, who were both arrested, they say, while walking on land where villagers from Otham, daily take their dog.

Mrs Tessa Babcock said: “Two soldiers came towards us and said we shouldn’t be there. I pointed out that I was a local resident and had been using this patch of land as a walking area for eight years.

“We were about to go back when a policeman who had been watching came up. We were guided back to the road and put in a police van with mesh on the windows.”

Mrs Babcock said she and her daughter Zoe and several other women with her were not charged or cautioned, but driven back to the range inside the base. They were taken out of the vehicle beside a shed and sat at one end of the range a deep pit. It was about 15 feet deep.

“It was like an empty swimming pool, dirty and filled with dead fish,” said Zoe. “We were not allowed to eat anything and had to use the toilet lorries. We were then taken through a line of lorries and the course.”

Quagga gene finally identified

By Anthony Tucker

Science Correspondent

THE dodo may not be quite dead, the great mammoth might be stirring, and a reptile-like horse, the quagga — which became extinct just over a century ago when the last one died in Amsterdam Zoo — is still here.

Scientists in the US and Britain have succeeded in cleaning preserved fragments of genetic material from preserved fragments of amber, long dead.

It turns out that under the right conditions the genetic blueprint DNA is tough enough to last and so the genebank material.

Dr Jagjit Singh Chohan, the London alert off

South Coast 123
Newcastle patient dies of Aids

AIDS patient at North of England City Hospital, it was revealed yesterday, had been visiting the United Kingdom. The man, aged 35, developed the disease after receiving a transfusion at a Newcastle hospital. He is the first patient in Britain to die of Aids. The Government has now been asked to assess the risk to other patients of similar transfusions.

FitzGerald arrives for summit

JULIAN Fitzgerald, the British Foreign Minister, arrived in Washington today for a two-day visit. The visit is part of an effort to improve relations between the two countries. The Foreign Secretary also commented on the recent Aids crisis in Britain.

Briton held for Cairo plot admits Libya ties

By Michael Horsnell, London, and Alice Brinton, Cairo

One of two Britons arrested in Egypt after the discovery of a bizarre plot to assassinate a former Libyan prime minister said on Cairo television last night he had been cooperating with the Libyan regime of Colonel Gaddafi since last July.

In a brief interview, Mr Anthony Gill, aged 48, the owner of a car parts firm in London, said he arrived in Egypt on October 19 but made no comment about his alleged role in the death plot.

The $400,000 (£137,000) plot was uncovered by the Egyptian intelligence service, which elaborately faked the killing to draw the Libyans into a public admission of involvement - a ruse Tripoli fell for....

British 'consult' officials in Cairo last night were seeking access to Mr Gill 48, and Mr Godfrey Chinner, 47, also from London.

With two Maltese subjects, whose interests the British Embassy are also responsible for, they allegedly formed a "hit squad" forhanced by Colonel Gaddafi, which aimed at hiring Egyptians to murder Mr Abdul Hamid Bakouch, a prime minister of King Idris and how leading an anti-Gaddafi organization in Cairo.

Mr. Ahmed Ghamdi, the
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