

Mr. Dwyer On the main Factor VIII file? *6/2/78* *36A*
Reference.....
What happened to the paper on production in Europe? **GRO-C**
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Mr Parrott

LETTER FROM SPEYWOOD LABORATORIES LTD OFFERING TO FRACTIONATE
PLASMA ON BEHALF OF THE NBS.

It has been agreed that the letter opposite at 53A should be dealt with officially although it was addressed to Mr Ennals (telephone conversation with MR D J Clark).

Letters on this and related topics have been dealt with in the past by referring to the UK's determination to abide by the WHO resolution on the advantages of the voluntary donor system or - more relevant in this case - the decision to aim for NHS self-sufficiency in blood products (examples at 42A and 49B).

The proposal by Speywood offers no solution to the problems of the NBS. At present SPL can fractionate all the plasma it can get from Centres and it is generally felt that gearing up the NBS to produce more plasma is going to be a bigger job than building up fractionating capacity at Elstree. Even if there was a large surplus of plasma awaiting fractionation, it would be difficult to defend publically a decision to send it to America to be fractionated. It would be a blow to national prestige and it might be difficult to convince the public that all the components were duly returned.

I suggest that rather than debate all Speywood's points we should reiterate the guiding principle of NHS self-sufficiency. To make too much of sending the plasma to America to be fractionated might be unwise since I understand that there is a possibility that Cutter will build plant in Europe.

3 February 1978

T E Dutton
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cc Dr Maycock
Dr Waiter
Mr Peter Jones (Supply)✓
Mr Cleasby