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Blood virus assurance

A PLEA to the public not to panic over speculation concerning possible links between the mystery disease AIDS and blood transfusions was made last night.

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The director of the Welsh region of the National Blood Transfusion Service, Dr Anthony Napler, stressed that no links between the killer virus and blood transfusions

had been proved.
"The disease certainly exists but there is no proof as to how it is transmitted. All the tial and I feel there is a need for , disease after routine transfurvidence so far is circumstanpeople receiving transfusions to be reassured that they are only one of tens of thousands of people who can expect to receive complication-free

Western Mail. Reporter

treatment," he said.

AIDS - its full title is Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome - & believed to have originated among America's gay community. It destroys the body's natural resistance to disease, leaving it vulnerable to repeated attacks from infections and cancers which can prove fatal.

At the weekend several national newspapers reported two men in hospital in Cardiff and London were understood. to be suffering from the sions for haemophilia.

A spokesman for the University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff confirmed yesterday that a mild case had been diag-

nosed a few months ago. No further details were available.

Describing the newspapers who pointed the finger of suspicion at blood transfusions as "irresponsible," Dr Napier said the Cardiff patient would have been treated with a variety of blood products, including some from America.

But he added, "We have been aware of this disease for some time and it has not caught us unaware. Several medical papers have been published on the subject and we are being as vigilant as pos-

sible.
"It is important to remember that we do not take blood from anyone who is harbouring any sort of infective problem; and prospective donors are always asked about their medical history," he said.

or depr to £50m profit

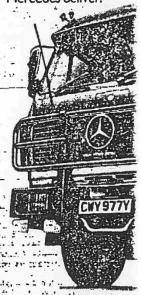
BRITISH AIRWAYS, which la nose-dived to an appalling loss half a billion pounds, is expect week to announce a spectacular to an operating profit of around and a net profit of \$50m for the months.

Much of last year's gloomy was due to redundancy and early ment payments as the airline st to trim its workforce to realistic tions.

When the unaudited resu revealed tomorrow of the airline ing over the past year, it is likely will attribute its turn-around in fo to reduced costs, the smaller wo and the cutting out of loss-



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