

ANONYMOUS

Witness Name: GRO-B

Statement No.: WITN0123005

Exhibits: DHSC0004708

Dated: 28/06/2019

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

SECOND WRITTEN STATEMENT OF GRO-B

I provide this statement in response to a request under Rule 9 of the Inquiry Rules 2006 dated 20 June 2019.

I, GRO-B will say as follows: -

1. I have been asked to confirm the source of the information which was the basis of paragraph 179 of my first written statement dated 13 November 2019. The basis of my comments was an article published in The Guardian dated 3 March 2018. I had seen extracts of this article online.
2. I would also like to add further to matters set out at paragraphs 178 to 180 of my first written statement.

Paragraph 178

3. The Guardian previously published a full article describing this incredible history of warnings, mistakes, inaction and cover ups on 3 August 1990. The fact that the warning about the dangers of

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contaminated blood started in the 1950s is staggering. France's former Health Minister was found guilty on Manslaughter although being a politician he "obviously" did not go to jail. The head of the Blood Transfusion Service did however. In Scotland the charge should be one of Culpable Homicide through undue negligence or carelessness.

Paragraph 179

4. It would appear Kenneth Clarke MP QC was constantly in a state of denial. He was warned of the dangers of what was happening on a number of occasions by Sir Donald Acheson.
5. The Inquiry has provided me with a submission from Sir Donald Acheson to Mr Clarke dated 20 July 1990. This is exhibited hereto and marked with the letters DHSC0004708. This submission could not be clearer. Sir Donald evidently continued to plug away with warnings in an honorable and respectful manner. Additional articles referring to Sir Donald were published in The Guardian on 3 August 1990 and The Sunday Times on 5 August 1990. I believe that he was trying to do the right thing. I just wish he had been a little less respectful to the politician he was dealing with.

Paragraph 180

6. At paragraph 180 of my statement I stated Mr Clarke was responsible for not taking action prior to and at the time that I was infected. I would like to clarify that Mr Clarke was responsible for not taking any significant action prior to, at the time and after I was infected.

Statement of Truth

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

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GRO-B

Signed

Dated

28/06/2019.