



Witness Name: Margaret Joachim
Statement No.: WITN0650001
Exhibits: WITN0650002/3
Dated: 1 October 2018

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

FIRST WRITTEN STATEMENT OF Revd Dr Margaret Joachim

I provide this statement in response to a request under Rule 9 of the Inquiry Rules 2006 dated 27 September 2018. I adopt the paragraph numbering in the Rule 9 request for ease of reference.

I, Margaret Joachim, will say as follows: -

Introduction

1. My name is Margaret Joachim. My address and date of birth are known by the Inquiry. I was a Minister in Secular Employment and retired from paid employment, in IT outsourcing, in 2014. I am currently pursuing a second PhD.
- 1.1. I married my husband, Paul Joachim, in 1970. He was a well-educated man with a scientific brain. He started as a researcher in the chemical industry and became interested in other areas, namely chemical processes and products. He moved gradually into venture capital start-ups and business strategy before retiring in around 2000. He sadly died in 2011.
- 1.2. In particular, I will go into detail on

My Husband and his work

2. Paul worked for The National Enterprise Board from 1981. When he began working there, he was taken on as an associate director for their new initiatives team which covered 'technology'. As well as projects such as British Leyland, The National Enterprise Board also focused

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on finding new good ideas which could be commercially exploited. Paul was responsible for chemical and biochemical areas of the business.

- 2.1. One of the companies identified by the National Enterprise Board was called Speywood. Speywood sought to produce non-human Factor VIII and Factor IX. They had a two-pronged business plan. In the long term they wanted to manufacture artificial factor products but this required significant funding to enable biochemists to sequence the protein and work out how to manufacture it. The intermediate plan was to extract Factor VIII and Factor IX from pig blood which would be sourced from abattoirs and would be safe to use because pigs were not subject to the same diseases as humans.
- 2.2. Speywood was, in part, financed by The National Enterprise Board but they were only entitled to public sector funding if they also had private sector investment. This was provided by a company called Prutec.
- 2.3. Shortly after starting at the National Enterprise Board, Paul was appointed to the Speywood board as one of the Directors. This was around 1982.
- 2.4. As far as I was aware from conversations with Paul the Speywood process, broadly speaking, worked. I was also aware that, as well as financial difficulties with Speywood, the Blood Products Laboratory and the Ministry of Health were flatly opposed to artificial Factor VIII. They didn't believe it was necessary or that it could even be done. They were not going to allow the products to become licensed and they sat on the project. Paul identified that the project was not going to succeed because of this opposition. Paul would wake me in the middle of the night to vent his frustration about the way in which a project which he believed could save lives was being stonewalled.
- 2.5. After the 1983 election the National Enterprise Board was stopped from putting government money into enterprises. This meant that more private investors were needed. But they needed the licence in order to get additional private investment. As a result, the technology was sold in 1984 to Genentec, an American company, as no British investment was available due to the actions of the Blood Products Laboratory and Ministry of Health. Paul was very angry at the fact that a British product was going to have to be sold to the States.
- 2.6. Paul had to sign the Official Secrets Act when he joined the National Enterprise Board, which meant that he was always very careful about what he was able to say. During the previous enquiries I pressed him to provide the information about Speywood but he did not feel it was right to do so. This is why he felt unable to assist with the Archer or Penrose enquiry.

- 2.7. I knew when the latest Inquiry was first announced that I wanted to remember everything that I could personally recollect, which is the information outlined above.
- 2.8. When Paul retired in around 2000 one of the things that he did, which I wasn't aware of at the time, was to write a comprehensive account of his business life.
- 2.9. In mid-2018 I got rid of my husband's computer system. As part of getting rid of the computer system I had the files transferred onto an external hard drive. When I looked through the files I located a file path called

Paul's Documents\Books and Projects\memoires\Memoires drafts\10TH ENEB.

The content was created on 29/11/2000 and Paul last altered or viewed the document on 9/10/2010. The 'Memoires drafts' folder contained a number of documents each of which was structured as a chapter of his life. The chapters ran from '1 earliest days' to '14 ANGLIAN WATER' and the chapters have 'created' dates between 3/6/2000 and 29/11/2000 – he did not write them in the order in which they are numbered. I exhibit '10TH ENEB' section of his account as **WITN0650002**.

- 2.10. A search of the internet can identify an article in the New Scientist dated 3/5/1984 which I exhibit as **WITN0650003**. The article references my husband's work and is titled 'Britain hands over key to haemophilia cure'.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed

GRO-C

Dated 2/10/2018