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D/DIR/22/88 (IN 732/81)

only now be capable of detection as a result of recent developments in the techniques used. In the light of this review I think it was still true to have said that it was "extraordinarily unlikely" that Dark Harvest samples claimed to have been taken from the mainland could have been contaminated with Gruinard Anthrax. However, if pressed (and in confidence) I would have to admit that some of this improbability would come from the low chance that they would have dug a sample from within a swath no more than 100 ft across.

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Although I very much doubt if anyone could be found to claim that this level of possible contamination would constitute a hazard of any significance, it would clearly be potentially embarrassing to the Department to renew the argument with Dark Harvest if a more searching review of our data were to follow.

X

Col Johnston

GRUINARD ISLAND

Reference: D/DGERE/4/51 of 7 December 1981

Amputation

CDE
PORTON
22 Dec 81

R G H WATSON
Director

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DRPB

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