



PEOPLE FOR
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TREATMENT
OF ANIMALS

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Inspector P Crumpton
Ross-on-Wye Police Station
Old Maids Walk
Ross-on-Wye, HR9 5HB

29 July 2015

Via e-mail: rossonwye.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

Dear Inspector Crumpton,

Thank you in advance for your time. I am writing to you on behalf of the PETA Foundation and our more than 400,000 members and supporters at the suggestion of the General Medical Council (GMC) to share disturbing evidence of the documented abuse of military service members, among other troubling issues, during medical training courses conducted in Herefordshire by unlicensed personnel with US-based Deployment Medicine International (DMI). **We urge you to investigate this evidence and, if corroborated, to take appropriate action and levy all penalties permissible by law against DMI.**

DMI is the self-proclaimed "largest trainer of U.S. military forces in operational medicine".¹ In the past, DMI has led courses for US military personnel in various countries, including the UK (at Pengethley Manor Hotel, Pengethley Park, Peterstow, Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire HR9 6LL).²

A recent Virginia (US) Board of Medicine report first publicised by PETA US documented, in part, abuses of soldiers during an Operational Medicine and Emergency Skills / Procedures in Casualty Care course conducted by DMI in the UK, presumably at Pengethley Manor. In the course attended by US medical students and/or military service members, certain training exercises involved drugging students and performing invasive penile catheterisation procedures without consent and/or oversight committee approval, in violation of medical regulations.

Based on these findings of abuse, the Virginia Board of Medicine – writing that DMI president and owner John Hagmann's behaviour is a "substantial

¹Reuters and Associated Press. "Mad scientist" doctor loses medical license for "abhorrent and abnormal" troop training that involved hallucinogens, chest drilling and penile nerve blocks. 19 June 2015. Available at: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3132061/Doctor-sanctioned-abhorrent-abnormal-troop-training.html>. Accessed: 17 July 2015.

²Bill Tanner. MoD and GMC challenged over "macabre" medical experiments at Pengethley Manor. Hereford Times. 30 June 2015. Available at: http://www.herefordtimes.com/news/13361405.MoD_and_GMC_challenged_over_macabre_medical_experiments_at_Pengethley_Manor/. Accessed: 17 July 2015.

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TREATMENT OF ANIMALS (PETA)
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danger to the public health or safety"³ – unanimously revoked his medical license on 15 June.¹ At Hagmann's June 2015 hearing before the board, US military service members testified that Hagmann drugged and sexually assaulted them and also encouraged and/or allowed students to perform invasive procedures on each other. The chair of the panel, Dr Kevin O'Conner, summarised the testimony by stating, "The themes we keep coming back to are coercion, isolation and predation".⁴ When the witnesses were asked whether they felt Hagmann is a predator and had harmed them, US soldiers under oath replied yes.

I have enclosed the Virginia Board of Medicine's full order of license revocation against DMI's John Hagmann for your reference. It outlines the board's findings that abuse occurred in the UK, and it's also available at <http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/Notices/Medicine/0101226760/0101226760Order07062015.pdf>. DMI has been indefinitely suspended from receiving any US federal contracts.⁵

PETA UK filed a complaint against DMI with the GMC, which replied on 9 July 2015, stating:

We are concerned to hear of the circumstances which have prompted your letter to us. ... The GMC does not in any way condone the behaviour described. However, Dr Hagmann is not registered with us and therefore we have no powers to take any action. Since Dr Hagmann is not registered with the GMC, concerns about his actions towards others while in the UK and that he has practised medicine in the UK without a licence (or GMC registration) to do so, would be matters which would need to be reported to the police.

The full response from the GMC is appended.

To be clear, the GMC confirmed to us that Hagmann is not licensed to practice medicine in the UK but did so on this occasion and others, based on various reports. Indeed, an investigative series by Reuters revealed that the US military had known about DMI's abuse of soldiers and animals in its courses for at least a decade.⁶

We're sure you will find the Virginia Board of Medicine's evidence of illegal and abusive activity by Hagmann and DMI troubling. We believe that the offensive conduct may extend far beyond the instances covered in the Virginia complaint and urge you to investigate. You can contact me directly at GillyS@peta.org.uk or on 020 7837 6327 to discuss this important issue further. We look forward to your response. Thank you.

³Associated Press. Military contractor's Virginia medical license revoked. 19 June 2015. Available at: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/ap/article-3131210/Military-contractors-Virginia-medical-license-risk.html>. Accessed: 17 July 2015.

⁴Dan Vergano, Cat Ferguson. This doctor just lost his license for performing horrifying sexual experiments on his students. BuzzFeed. 19 June 2015. Available at: <http://www.buzzfeed.com/danvergano/this-doctor-wtf#.qkwz3yBM2>. Accessed 27 July 2015.

⁵Laura Vozzella. Va. federal contractor banned over sexual-exploitation claims. The Washington Post. 11 June 2015. Available at: http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/virginia-politics/va-federal-contractor-banned-over-sexual-exploitation-claims/2015/06/11/c1d6bbc4-1063-11e5-a0dc-2b6f404ff5cf_story.html. Accessed: 17 July 2015.

⁶John Shiffman. Special report: Military knew about bizarre methods of doctor hired to train troops. Reuters. 17 June 2015. Available at: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/06/17/us-usa-doctor-history-specialreport-idUSKBN0OX1SJ20150617>. Accessed: 17 July 2015.

Yours sincerely,



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Enclosures

- Virginia Board of Medicine Order of License Revocation (6 July 2015) against Dr John Henry Hagmann
- Reply from GMC to PETA Foundation UK (9 July 2015)