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Annual Foreign Materiel Exploitation Report (U)

December 1992



Armed Forces Medical Intelligence Center
Foreign Materiel Exploitation Program

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ARMED FORCES MEDICAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER (AFMIC)
FOREIGN MATERIEL EXPLOITATION PROGRAM (FMEP)

FMEP ANNUAL REPORT (U)
DECEMBER 1992

An annual report on exploitation projects and foreign medical
product surveys ongoing or completed during 1992. 1.5(4)

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PREFACE

(S) This annual report informs the reader on foreign medical materiel exploitation projects sponsored by the Armed Forces Medical Intelligence Center (AFMIC) during 1992. } (S)

(U) For each project, the scope and status are described, the intelligence production and/or medical materiel development programs supported are listed, and the achieved or anticipated value are given.

(U) The report also informs the reader on foreign medical product surveys completed during 1992, in previous years, and ongoing.

(S) AFMIC's Foreign Materiel Exploitation Program (FMEP) supports consumers with technical details on foreign medical materiel, and when appropriate, with managing the acquisition and exploitation of foreign medical materiel. }

(S) The purpose of foreign medical materiel exploitation is to provide technical details and factual information on foreign medical materiel to intelligence analysts and materiel developers. } (S)

(S) Medical product surveys identify foreign medical products and provide available technical details on the products. These surveys are primarily intended for the materiel development community. FMEP's data base and on-line commercial data bases are sources for this information.

(U) Foreign medical materiel exploitation is a Department of Defense/Defense Intelligence Agency-assigned mission of AFMIC.

(U) Each classified paragraph, caption, and title in this report has been properly marked; those unmarked are unclassified.

(U) Consumers interested in further details on the projects listed in this publication or on any foreign medical products, including the acquisition and exploitation of such products, should contact DIA Statute AFMIC Foreign Materiel Exploitation Program, DIA Statute

(U) Request any amplification of subject matter, constructive criticism, comments, or suggested changes be forwarded to the Director, Armed Forces Medical Intelligence Center, Fort Detrick, Frederick, MD 21702-5004.

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KEY JUDGEMENTS

~~(S)~~ During 1992, 14 foreign materiel exploitation projects were sponsored by AFMIC. Seven of these were completed and 7 are continuing. 1.5(c)

(U) The following 6 Department of Defense (DOD) materiel development centers participated in one or more of the projects.

- US Army Special Operations Command (Surgeon's Office)
- US Army Institute of Surgical Research
- US Army Medical Materiel Development Activity
- US Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine
- US Army Medical Research Institute for Chemical Defense
- US Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases

~~(S)~~ The following 10 exploitations primarily support the materiel development community.

- Russian Anthrax Vaccine and Globulin
- Chinese Burn Ointments
- Hungarian Anti-viral Cream, Hevizos
- Ukrainian Activated Carbon Cover for Wound Treatment
- Norwegian Medical Backpack "Sora"
- Bolivian Mountain Sickness Drug
- Aidsconin, a Chinese Herbal Medicine for AIDS
- Unknown Tablets Administered to a Mustard-burn Victim
- Ukrainian Radiothermometer "Radiotherm 8-03"
- Ukrainian High-frequency Electrotherapeutic Device "Elektronika-EHF"

~~(S)~~ The following 4 exploitations primarily provide technical details and factual information for intelligence products, assessments, and data bases.

- (former) East German Military Medical Documents
- Dutch/European Community Data Base Management System for Medical Materiel
- Iraqi Documents
- Unknown Herbal Medicine Used by High-level 25X1

(U) The following 5 foreign medical product surveys were completed during 1992.

- Foreign Individually-issued Water Purification Devices
- Foreign-made Mobile Laboratories

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A Survey of Foreign-made Ointments and Other Products for Burn Injuries

Asian-made AIDS Detection Kits

Foreign Wound Dressings With Activated Carbon (Charcoal)

(U) Foreign medical product surveys were completed in 1992 for the following materiel development centers.

Naval Civil Engineering Laboratory

US Army Medical Department Center and School

US Army Institute of Surgical Research

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SECTION I. EXPLOITATIONS ONGOING

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a. ~~(C/NF)~~ (former) East German Military Medical Documents.

1) ~~(C/NF)~~ Project Description. Hundreds of former East German military medical documents were acquired by the German military. The US 25X1 [redacted] 25X1 [redacted] in Bonn has access to many of the documents. From the German language titles of the documents, AFMIC has identified titles of highest interest and sent these to 25X1 [redacted] Bonn as a guide in acquiring copies of the documents. (AFMIC 003-93)

2) ~~(C/NF)~~ Project Status. 25X1 [redacted] Bonn continues to report on and forward documents of interest.

3) ~~(C)~~ Programs Supported. Exploitation of former East German military medical documents provides technical information on biological warfare (BW) defensive equipment and details on medical materiel used by the former East German military.

4) ~~(C)~~ Value. Technical details on systems to detect BW agents and infectious diseases provide insight into capabilities that were largely unknown to intelligence analysts. Former East German military medical equipment information is used in Foreign Materiel Exploitation Program foreign equipment surveys. These surveys inform materiel developers on foreign medical equipment.

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b. ~~(C/NF)~~ Dutch/European Community Data Base Management System for Medical Materiel.

1) ~~(C/NF)~~ Project Description. A computer disk with a demonstration model of a Dutch data base management system for medical materiel is being examined by AFMIC analysts. The data base provides information such as manufacturers and performance characteristics on medical equipment manufactured in Europe. The data base was developed by the Dutch TNO Medical Technology Unit. The functions of the TNO Medical Technology Unit are similar to those of the US Food and Drug Administration. The European Economic Community is developing a similar data base modeled on the Dutch one. (AFMIC 003-92)

2) (U) Project Status. Information on and the use of the data base management system are being studied by AFMIC analysts. The examination is expected to be completed soon and an assessment written.

3) (U) Programs Supported. Programs to identify new medical equipment are supported by this project. The project also supports the analysis of European medical policies and plans.

4) (U) Value. The Dutch data base information may assist Department of Defense medical materiel developers by identifying interesting European equipment. The exploitation gives analysts a better understanding of European medical plans and policies.

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c. ~~(C/NF)~~ Ukrainian Activated Carbon Cover for Wound Treatment.

1) ~~(C/NF)~~ Project Description. An activated carbon fibrous wound cover, developed at the Ukrainian Institute for Problems in Materiel Sciences and referred to as ACFM DNEPR-MH, is being evaluated by the US Army Special Operations Command (Surgeon's Office) and the US Army Institute of Surgical Research for it's effectiveness in preventing infections and increasing healing. (AFMIC 049-92)

2) (U) Project Status. Technical data received with the wound cover sample is being evaluated. Based on this evaluation, the wound cover may be tested.

3) (U) Programs Supported. This project supports Department of Defense programs to develop and use more effective wound covers.

4) ~~(S)~~ Value. Wound healing rate claims for ACFM DNEPR-MH are impressive. The physical properties of the wound cover are interesting.

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d. ~~(C/NF)~~ Norwegian Medical Backpack "Sora".

1) ~~(C/NF)~~ Project Description. "Sora" is a Norwegian-designed backpack system of medical equipment for use in disaster relief missions. It is being evaluated by the US Army Medical Materiel Development Activity (USAMMDA). (AFMIC 001-93)

2) (U) Project Status. Literature on the "Sora" system, the medical equipment included in the system, and the design of the system are being evaluated. A preliminary report on "Sora" has been written.

3) (U) Programs Supported. This project supports USAMMDA's programs to develop portable field medical equipment.

4) (U) Value. The "Sora" system packages an interesting array of products so that one person can easily carry a very impressive medical equipment capability until needed for use. Systems such as the "Sora" that offer increased mobility and treatment capacity will be important in future field medical treatment.

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e. ~~(C/NF)~~ Bolivian Mountain Sickness Drug.

1) ~~(C/NF)~~ Project Description. A Bolivian-made drug containing aspirin, caffeine, and p-acetamidophenyl salicylate has been sent to the US Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine (USARIEM). Mountain sickness, caused by lack of oxygen, has symptoms such as dizziness and nausea. Products similar to this Bolivian-made drug and produced by American, European, or Japanese pharmaceutical companies could not be identified in a search of drug product references. USARIEM is interested in new products that treat mountain sickness. The effect of aspirin and caffeine is well-known and they have been considered for relieving mountain sickness. An unknown is the effect of p-acetamidophenyl salicylate. (AFMIC 002-93)

2) (U) Project Status. USARIEM is considering the possible useful effects of p-acetamidophenyl salicylate.

3) (U) Programs Supported. USARIEM's high-altitude physiology program is supported by this project.

4) (U) Value. New drugs for both prevention and treatment of mountain sickness will likely be found in the future. Drugs that improve personnel performance in high altitudes are of interest.

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f. ~~(C/NF)~~ Iraqi Documents.

1) ~~(C/NF)~~ Project Description. Iraqi biological warfare(BW)-related documents, captured during Desert Storm, were identified and submitted for translation. (AFMIC 195-91)

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2) (U) Project Status. Translations are being completed.

3) ~~(C)~~ Programs Supported. Programs to assess what was the BW capabilities of the Iraqi military are supported by this project.

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4) ~~(C)~~ Value. Assessing the magnitude and threat of a BW offensive program embarked upon by a country like Iraq is a big problem for the Defense Department. All BW-related documents produced by Iraq are important and need to be analyzed.

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g. ~~(C/NF)~~ Aidsconin, a Chinese Herbal Medicine for AIDS.

1) ~~(C/NF)~~ Project Description. Aidsconin is a Chinese herbal medicine claimed to prevent and treat AIDS. Ten 10-ml vials and 60 capsules of Aidsconin along with several documents, most in Chinese, have been acquired. Copies of the documents were sent to contacts at the National Cancer Institute (NCI). Visiting Chinese scientists there are examining these documents to determine interest in this herbal medicine. (AFMIC 004-93)

2) (U) Project Status. Documents are being examined to determine more information on the ingredients of Aidsconin and data on it's effectiveness.

3) (U) Program Supported. This project might add to the national data base on drugs not commonly known in this country for which AIDS prevention and treatment claims have been made.

4) (U) Value. The value of this drug in preventing and/or treating AIDS is unknown at this time. Initial reaction by contacts at NCI is skepticism.

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SECTION II. EXPLOITATIONS COMPLETED

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a. ~~(C/NF)~~ Unknown Herbal Medicine Used by a High-level

25X1 [REDACTED]

1) ~~(C/NF)~~ Project Description. An unknown herbal medicine, reportedly used by a high-level 25X1 [REDACTED] was analyzed by the Food and Drug Administration. The project's purpose was to determine the therapeutic use of the medicine. The major components identified are hexadecanoic acid, octadecadienoic acid, and octadecenoic acid. These compounds are fatty acids and have, at least, some nutrient value. (AFMIC 048-92)

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2) (U) Project Status. Completed.

3) ~~(C/NF)~~ Programs Supported. The project supported the intelligence community's health assessments of 25X1 [REDACTED]

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4) ~~(C/NF)~~ Value. Identifying the therapeutic uses of medicines 25X1 [REDACTED] 25X1 [REDACTED] 25X1 [REDACTED] is of interest to the United States.

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b. ~~(C/NF)~~ Unknown Tablets Administered to a Mustard-burn Victim.

1) ~~(C/NF)~~ Project Description. Tablets, reportedly identical to those administered to a mustard-burn victim, were analyzed by the US Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense (ICD). One tablet contains the antibiotic pyrimethamine and the other the vitamin niacin. (AFMIC 046-92)

2) (U) Project Status. Completed.

3) (U) Programs Supported. This project supports ICD's program to develop better antidotes and treatments for chemical warfare agents and AFMIC's program to assess foreign chemical warfare medical treatment capabilities.

4) ~~(C)~~ Value. This project identified drugs reportedly used by a mustard-burn victim. Use of antibiotics and vitamins to treat mustard-burn victims is not surprising. Niacin has been shown to increase cell survival for cells exposed to sulfur mustard.

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c. ~~(C/NF)~~ Ukrainian Radiothermometer "Radiotherm 8-03".

1) ~~(C/NF)~~ Project Description. Radiotherm 8-03 is intended to provide information on a patients's state by measuring the temperature at different depths of the patients's body. According to literature that came with the device, it does this on the basis of measuring the body's thermal radiation in the microwave frequency range. The device is small and portable. It can be carried in an attache-size case. One advertized application is in traumatology, perhaps in assessing internal bleeding. Another stated application is early diagnosis of inflammation. The US Army Medical Materiel Development Activity (USAMMDA) inspected the device and studied the literature. The device was not operated. (AFMIC 044-92)

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2) (U) Project Status. Completed.

3) (U) Programs Supported. USAMMDA's program to develop devices that detect life remote from the body was supported by this exploitation.

4) ~~(C)~~ Value. Radiotherm 8-03 is an interesting device. If it is capable of doing what is claimed, the device is unique. More information is being sought from the manufacturer.

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d. ~~(C/NF)~~ Ukrainian High-frequency Electrotherapeutic Device "Elektronika-EHF".

1) ~~(C/NF)~~ Project Descriptions. Elektronika-EHF emits high frequency radiation of approximately 60 giga-hertz (ghz) to interact with the body's reflex or acupuncture points. The Elektronika-EHF is small and compact, fitting into an attache-size case. Therapeutic claims include stimulation of the reparative processes in bone injuries and treatment of ulcers. Ukrainian scientists have for years investigated applications of high frequency radiation to reflex and acupuncture points. Applications stated by these scientists include the stimulation of the immune system to combat infections and pain-relief. The US Army Medical Materiel Development Activity (USAMMDA) inspected the device and studied the literature. The device was not operated. (AFMIC 045-92)

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2) (U) Project Status. Completed. The Elektronika-EHF is assessed as being a difficult instrument to use without experience. The manufacturer suggests a manufacturer-offered 10-day course be completed by medical personnel before using the instrument.

3) (U) Programs Supported. A program to develop the use of high frequency radiation in therapy, e.g. to increase the rate of edema reduction in sprained ankles, is supported by this exploitation.

4) (U) Value. This exploitation supports the Defense Department's medical technology data base.

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e. ~~(C/NF)~~ Chinese Burn Ointments.

1) ~~(C/NF)~~ Project Description. The US Army Institute of Surgical Research (ISR) was presented information on two Chinese burn ointments. Sanhuang Pearl extract is a traditional Chinese medication made from sulphur, realgar, and other ingredients mixed in tung oil. The other ointment, called Mebo, has sesame oil, which helps moisten the burn area. A survey of foreign-made ointments and other products for burn injuries was completed by AFMIC's Foreign Materiel Exploitation Program and provided to ISR as part of this project. (AFMIC 168-91; AFMIC 178-91)

2) (U) Project Status. Completed.

3) (U) Programs Supported. ISR's program to identify and develop better burn ointments is supported by this project.

4) (U) Value. The survey of foreign-made ointments and other products for burn injuries provides ISR a comprehensive listing of foreign-made products.

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f. ~~(C/NF)~~ Hungarian Anti-viral Cream, Hevizos.

1) ~~(C/NF)~~ Project Description. A reportedly new anti-viral drug, hevizos (5-isopropyl-2'-beta-deoxyuridine), is made by the Hungarian pharmaceutical company Biogal. The cream is for the viral skin disease herpes. A sample and information on hevizos were provided to the US Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID). A survey, entitled Foreign-made Anti-herpes Ointments, was completed by AFMIC's Foreign Materiel Exploitation Program as part of this project and also presented to USAMRIID. (AFMIC 179-91)

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2) (U) Project Status. Completed.

3) (U) Programs Supported. USAMRIID's program to screen for new anti-viral drugs was supported by this project.

4) (U) Value. Examination of this drug and completion of the survey enhanced USAMRIID's screening program for new anti-viral drugs.

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g. ~~(C/NF)~~ Russian Anthrax Vaccine and Globulin.

1) ~~(C/NF)~~ Project Description. The US Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID) exploited a Soviet anthrax vaccine, a globulin, and accompanying literature. (AFMIC 171-91)

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2) (U) Project Status. Completed.

3) (U) Programs Supported. This project supported USAMRIID's programs to develop vaccines and drugs against biological warfare (BW) agents. Anthrax is considered to be a likely BW threat agent. Iraq was developing it's use as a weapon.

4) ~~(C)~~ Value. Soviet anthrax vaccine and globulin samples are important because scientists are then able to characterize the anthrax strains in the vaccine. This characterization helps in developing vaccines against various strains.

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SECTION III. FOREIGN MEDICAL PRODUCT SURVEYS

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(U) Introduction.

Eleven foreign medical product surveys have been completed since 1990. Four surveys are currently being conducted. This section synthesizes these surveys.

b. ~~(S)~~ Foreign Medical Product Surveys Completed in 1992. 15(c)

1) Foreign Individually-issued Water Purification Devices. April 1992.

(U) Company brochures and other documents on 12 foreign-made individually-issued water purification devices are provided in this survey. The survey was completed for the Naval Civil Engineering Laboratory and the US Army Biomedical Research and Development Laboratory. These laboratories are developing an individually-issued water purification device for the Marine Corps.

2) Foreign-made Mobile Analytical Laboratories. April 1992.

(U) Twenty-one foreign-made mobile analytical laboratories are identified. Manufacturer names, addresses, and copies of brochures, specifications, photographs, and journal articles are provided. The US Army Medical Department Center and School requested the survey. The requestor is helping to develop a chemical-biological warfare agent-protected mobile container equipped to identify chemical and biological warfare agents.

3) A Survey of Foreign-made Ointments and Other Products for Burn Injuries. May 1992.

~~(S)~~ Ointments, solutions, and protective covers for use on burn injuries are identified. This survey was completed in conjunction with the exploitation of the Chinese burn ointments by the US Army Institute of Surgical Research (Exploitation Project AFMIC 168-91 and AFMIC 178-91; see Section II e). 15(c)

4) Asian-made AIDS Detection Kits. July 1992.

(U) Two Asian companies that make AIDS detection kits are identified and information on these companies and their products provided. The International Programs Office, Office of the Secretary of Defense requested the information. Japanese AIDS detection kit samples were acquired in 1989 for examination.

5) Foreign-made Wound Dressings With Activated Carbon (Charcoal). November 1992

~~(S)~~ Seven dressings (wound coverings) that incorporate activated carbon (charcoal) to enhance wound healing are identified and technical details on the dressings are provided in this survey. The survey was done in conjunction with the exploitation of the Ukrainian activated carbon wound cover being carried out by the US Army Special Operations Command (Surgeon's Office) and the US Army Institute of Surgical Research (Exploitation Project AFMIC 049-92; see Section I c). 15(c)

c. ~~(S)~~ Foreign Medical Product Surveys Completed in Previous Years.

1) Foreign Portable Medical Oxygen Production Systems. July 1990

(U) This package assembles copies of company brochures and other documents on 19 foreign portable medical oxygen production systems. Eight of these systems produce oxygen by chemical reaction; 4 use membrane separation to concentrate air oxygen; 1 system uses absorption to concentrate air oxygen; and 6 systems distill

air to concentrate oxygen. The survey was done for the US Army Medical Department Center and School.

2) Foreign Products for Maintaining Medicines at Non-freezing Temperatures. September 1990.

(U) This survey provides company brochures and other documents on foreign-made storage containers for medicines that have heating devices attached to the containers. Also provided is information on portable heating devices that could be placed inside containers for maintaining medicines at non-freezing temperatures. This survey was requested by the US Army Biomedical Research and Development Laboratory.

3) Foreign Electrically or Gas-powered Medical Aspirators. February 1991.

(U) Company brochures and other documents on foreign-made electrically or gas-powered medical aspirators are provided. Included are devices designed only for aspiration and also devices that are multi-functional, for example, they not only can aspirate but also ventilate, provide oxygen, etc. This survey was requested by the US Army Biomedical Research and Development Laboratory.

4) Foreign Blood Devices and Equipment. February 1991.

(U) Nomenclatures, functions, descriptions, and manufactures of foreign-made products used in collecting, transfusing, separating for use and storage, storing, and transporting blood are provided. Also provided are foreign manufacturers of transfusion fluids, blood substitutes, and blood testing devices. The Letterman Army Institute of Research requested this survey.

(C) Two of the devices listed in the survey, the Israeli Biomed Spring-pressure Infusion Device and the Israeli Special Military Infusion Set (SMIS), have been exploited by US Department of Defense medical personnel. 14(5)

5) Foreign Life Detection Devices. July 1991.

(U) Nomenclatures, descriptions, technical characteristics, manufacturers, and in some cases photographs, are provided on foreign products that detect one of more life signs while remote to the body. The US Army Medical Department Center and School requested this survey.

(U) Devices that can remotely detect one or more of the following life signs are identified:

- blood, appendage, chest, and other body movements;
- blood flow;
- active "acupuncture" points;
- blood pressure and blood oxygen content; and
- a magnetic field, heat, or noise originating from the body.

(U) Devices identified in this survey function in one of the following ways:

- the device reflects radiation off the body and measures a change in the reflected radiation; or
- the device senses a magnetic field, heat, or noise emitted from the body.

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6) Foreign-made Anti-Herpes Ointments. November 1991.

~~(C)~~ This survey attempts to determine whether a recently-marketed ointment, called hevizos (5-isopropyl-2'-deoxyuridine) is a new product, as claimed by the manufacturer (the Hungarian pharmaceutical company Biogal). The survey did not identify other antiviral products having the same structure as hevizos. However, three anti-herpes drugs, edoxudine, idoxuridine and trifluridine, are also uridines, and, therefore, are similar in structure. Several foreign companies have marketed edoxudine, idoxuridine, and trifluridine using company trade names. The survey was done in conjunction with the acquisition of hevizos (Exploitation, Project AFMIC 179-91; see Section II f).

d. (U) Ongoing Foreign Medical Product Surveys.

1) Stretchers With Attached Life Support Equipment.

A survey is in process to identify foreign-made stretchers with attached life-support equipment. The development of smaller, more efficient life support equipment and stretchers made of lighter, stronger materials are helping to combine transport with treatment. The US Army Medical Materiel Development Activity requested information on an Australian-made stretcher with attached life support equipment.

2) Foreign-made Physiological Monitors and Recorders For Use In "Rough" Environments.

A survey of foreign-made physiological monitor and recorder systems which function in "rough" environments such as on aircraft and vehicles is being conducted. Physiological data from personnel operating in these environments lead to techniques for improving personnel performances. Personnel at the US Air Force Human Systems Center have asked about an Italian-made recorder system designed for use in "rough" environments.

3) Chinese Herbal Medicines Advertised for Use in Treating and/or Preventing AIDS.

This survey is being conducted in conjunction with the translation of documents associated with the sample of Aidsconin (Exploitation Project AFMIC 004-93; see Section 1 g). The purpose of the survey is to clarify the relationship between different Chinese herbal medicines advertised for AIDS.

4) Foreign Manufactures of AIDS Detection Kits and Information on Their Products.


This survey expands the survey completed in 1992 on Asian-made AIDS detection kits. Known foreign-made kits will be identified in the survey.

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