

A monkey's eye view of Porton Down / National Anti-Vivisection Society.

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National Anti-Vivisection Society (Great Britain)

Publication/Creation

London : National Anti-Vivisection Societ, [198-]

Persistent URL

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A MONKEY'S EYE VIEW



OF PORTON DOWN



National Anti-Vivisection Society

WARFARE EXPERIMENTS

The search for ever more sophisticated ways of killing and maiming our fellow human beings continues, and as a direct result of this, rabbits, sheep, dogs, pigs, mice, guinea pigs, rats and monkeys are subjected to ballistic (conventional), chemical, nuclear and biological weaponry. This must be one of the most callous and inhuman uses of animals in British laboratories — This is warfare research: the most secret category of animal abuse, where the taxpayer funds 10,000 animals a year in laboratories where Crown immunity bypasses legislative control.

THEY SHOOT MONKEYS, DON'T THEY?

Ministry of Defence and scientific reports reveal how their Chemical Defence Establishment at Porton Down, Wiltshire, has tested riot control, gas (CS gas) on animals; exposed monkeys and other animals to nerve gas; given dogs poisonous hydrogen cyanide; shot at live sheep with rubber and plastic bullets; shot monkeys through the head with ballbearings to investigate the effects of high velocity missiles; tested teargas (CN gas) on the eyes of conscious rabbits. Although we are told that the shooting experiments are carried out under anaesthetic, animals are sometimes allowed to recover immediately without treatment to their wounds.

CONDEMNED BY SURGEONS

Following an uproar in parliament over the shooting of monkeys, surgeons who have dealt with thousands of battle casualties at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Belfast, Northern Ireland said that these experiments are of no value in the treatment of human patients:

"How can they justify shooting animals — that aren't like humans anyway — just to see what the wounds are like. Nothing they could have learned at Porton Down could be of help to us here in Belfast"



NO POSSIBLE JUSTIFICATION

The defence of many of these experiments is that they are carried out for "defensive" reasons, but in fact results can always be used for "offensive" purposes (and who is to know?). The suffering which human beings inflict upon each other during the course of war is the responsibility of the human species alone, and there can be no possible justification for the pain inflicted upon other animals to test ways of harming and destroying ourselves.

SLAUGHTER OF THE INNOCENT

At Porton Down, guinea pigs, rats and mice were forced to inhale CS riot control gas in order to see its poisonous effect. This is despite the fact that the gas has been in use for many years, and is well-known. The experiments took place for 1 hour every day, 5 days a week for up to 120 days. Many of the animals died during this period. "During the first month of the experiment 46% of the high dose group of guinea pigs perished". T.C. Marrs, *et al*, *Archives of Toxicology*, 1983, Vol.52, 183-198.

We can prove that experiments on animals are as misleading and unproductive as they are inhuman and sickeningly cruel. And warfare experiments are just the tip of the iceberg.

Fight Against Vivisection ...Animals Can't

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*Available on request @ 50p or seen at Society's Headquarters.

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