AIDS: THE FIRST CASE REPORTS

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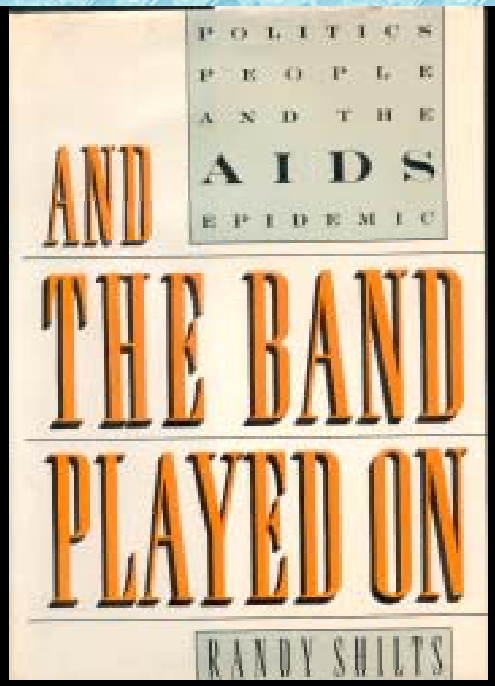
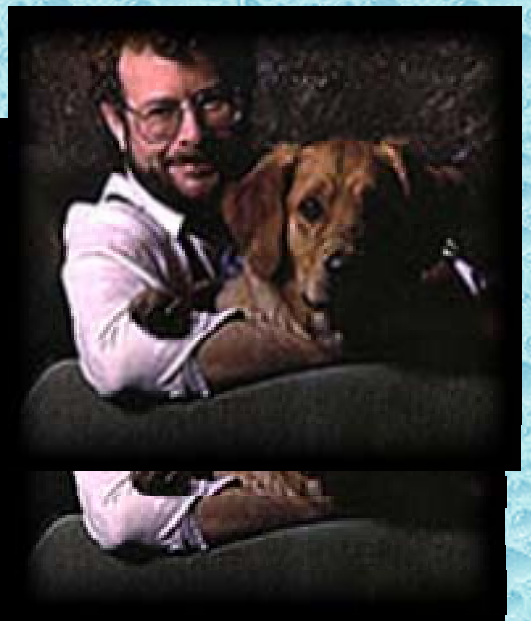
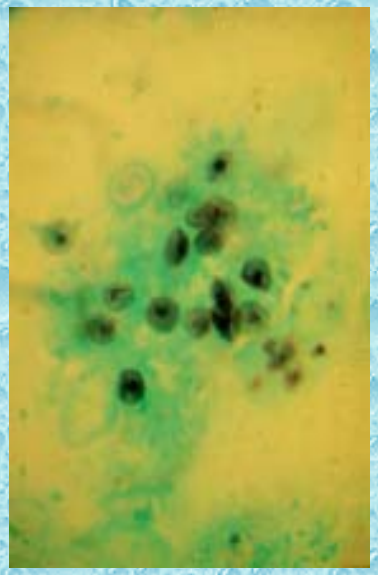

POLITICS
PEOPLE
AND THE
AIDS
EPIDEMIC
AND
THE BAND
PLAYED ON
RANDY SHILTS

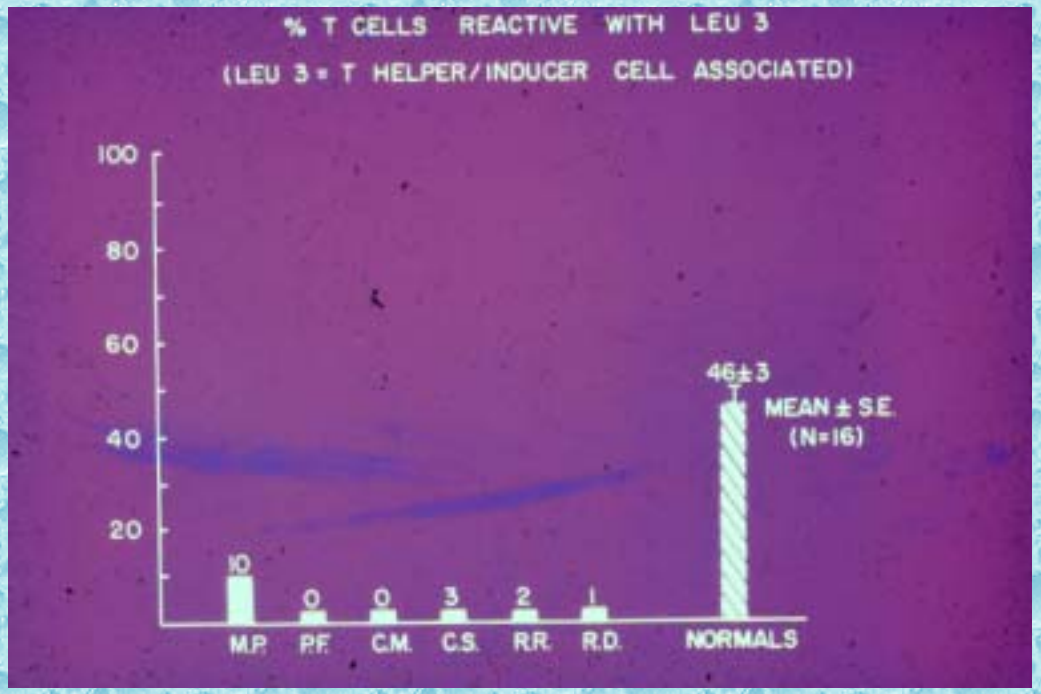


Gaetan
Dugas

1981

4/20/81




% T CELLS REACTIVE WITH LEU 3
(LEU 3 = T HELPER/INDUCER CELL ASSOCIATED)
100
80
60
40
20
10
0
0
3
2
1
46±3
MEAN ± S.E.
(N=16)
M.P.
P.F.
C.M.
C.S.
R.R.
R.D.
NORMALS

MMWR
The New England Journal of Medicine
Original Articles

DUAL VIRUS MODEL OF AID-KAPOSI'S SARCOMA
Virus A
T cells
Injury
Immune deficiency
Virus B (CMV?) + host factors (HLA-DR5)
Endothelial cells
Malignant transformation
Kaposi's sarcoma

1981
AIDS CASES
152

1982

Mystery illness's origins puzzle doctors

Doctors Find Clue to Homosexual Illness

Researcher Develops Test to Detect AIDS

Do Poppers Cause Cancer?

Links Seen to Drugs, Genetics

New, Often-Fatal Illness in Homosexuals Turns Up in Women, Heterosexual Males

Haitians Linked to AID Epidemic

22 More Children Contract New Immune Deficiency

IS OUR 'LIFESTYLE'

HAZARDOUS

TO OUR

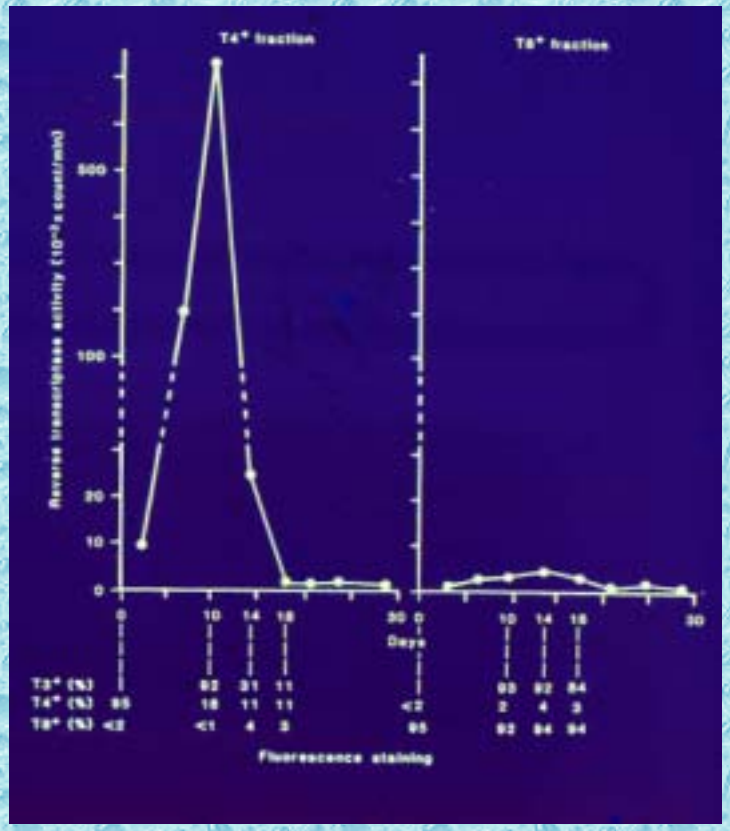
HEALTH?

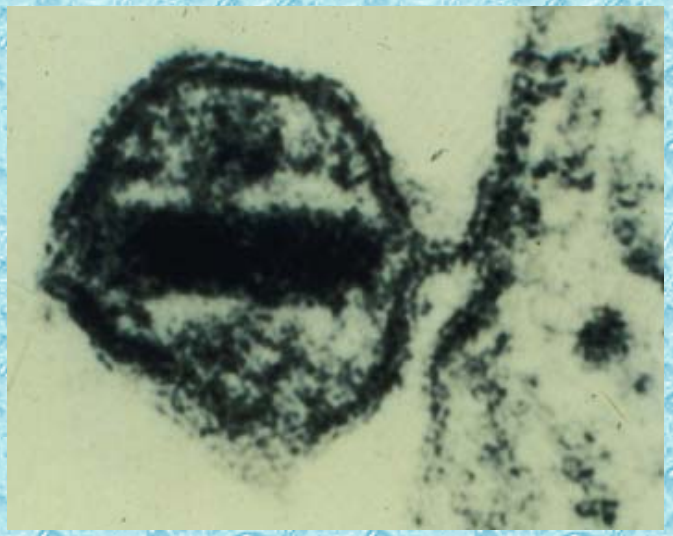
PART II

Etiologic Speculation c.1982

- CMV
- Poppers
- Immune system overload
- Abnormal immune response to sperm
- African swine fever virus
- Bioterrorism
- Laboratory accident

1983


T4+ fraction
T8+ fraction
Reverse transcriptase activity (10⁻³x count/min)
500
100
20
10
0
0
10
14
18
30
Days
T3+ (%)
T4+ (%) 95 18 11 11 <2 2 4 3
T8+ (%) <2 <1 4 3 95 92 94 94
Fluorescence staining



Take Away Lessons

- Keep an eye out for the unusual
- Have good lab backup
- Maintain open lines of communication