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USAMRIID PROJECT DANCER

AUTOPSY REPORT

Subject: Anomalous Entity #D1

Date of Death: 7/17/1999

Reporting Pathologist: Dr A Manara

Circumstances:

Unknown creature encountered by US Army soldiers on exercise in Arizona, and apparently already wounded from unknown cause. Accompanied by two additional, healthy creatures of similar appearance, which fled when approached. Became hostile, and shot dead by panicked soldier.

External Examination:

Body of a bipedal humanoid creature of previously unknown species. Height 213 cm, weight 92 kg. Skin hairless and covered with granular tan-coloured mineralised material proving difficult to incise with a scalpel. The mineralised covering is absent on the palmar surface of the hands and manual digits, the inner surface of the auricles and the eyelids.

Head strongly brachycephalic. Auricles large and rounded, nose small. Large eyes with grey irises and small pupils. Mouth wide and containing thirty-six teeth. Incisors and canines elongated and dagger-like. Three pairs of premolars on each side of the mouth. Entry wound in centre of forehead, with slight powder burns on surrounding flesh. Large exit wound to the rear of the cranium.

Upper limbs terminate in hands with four digits, including an opposable thumb. Each digit bears a claw approximately 2cm in length, with an extremely sharp tip and lower surface. Lower limbs terminate in feet with four digits, each bearing a short down curved claw 1cm in length, less sharp than those on the manual digits. Right lower limb has been severely lacerated, the wound extending for 21 cm across the anterior surface of the shin and deep to the surface of the bone. Smaller lacerations ranging from 2 cm to 6 cm in length on the upper left shoulder, upper right thorax and right lower arm.

Torso slender and emaciated, with two darkly pigmented nipples projecting through the mineralised covering on the mid-thorax. Female external genitalia.

Radiographic examination: All skeletal elements present, and similar to those of humans, with reduction of the carpal and tarsal bones consistent with the reduced number of digits. Large portion of the rear of the cranium absent due to injuries sustained. Right tibia and fibula dislocated at the knee.

Internal Examination:

Cardiovascular system: Similar to human, with no apparent abnormalities aside from exsanguination due to trauma. Heart weight 297g.

Respiratory system: Similar to human, with no apparent abnormalities. Right lung weighs 583 g, left lung weighs 544 g.

Digestive system: The oesophagus, stomach, small bowel, liver, gall bladder and pancreas are all similar to those in humans. The stomach contains a moderate amount of digested food of indeterminate nature, mixed with a small quantity of sand. The caecum is enlarged to 25 cm in length and bears a normal appendix. The colon and rectum are otherwise similar to those in humans. Liver weighs 2300g.

Lymphatic system: Similar to human. The spleen weighs 191g.

Central nervous system: The cerebrum has been severely damaged by the injury to the head. The portions of the still intact enough to render examination show a high degree of convolution, consistent with the brain of an ape. The cerebellum and brain stem are largely intact and similar to those of higher primates. Preparation and examination of a cast of the remaining cranium gives an estimated brain volume of around 1000 cm³, although this figure must remain speculative without access to a more intact specimen. Spinal cord similar to that of humans.

Genito-urinary system: Bladder and reproductive system similar to human. The kidneys are bulky, and weigh 165g each.

Endocrine system: The thyroid weighs 31 g. The parathyroids are greatly hypertrophic, having a total mass of 4g. The adrenals are macroscopically normal, and together weigh 8 g. The thymus and pituitary are macroscopically normal.

Histopathological Examination

Heart, lungs, stomach, ileum, colon, liver, pancreas, spleen, thyroid, thymus, adrenals, pituitary and available portions of the brain show no special features.

The kidney nephrons have an extended loop of Henlé, but are otherwise normal.

The uterine endometrium is atrophic. The ovaries contain active graafian follicles, but no corpora lutea.

The parathyroids have a rich blood supply and a high proportion of oxyphil cells, but are otherwise histologically normal.

The skin contains no hair follicles or sweat glands, and few sebaceous glands. The epidermis is thin, and shows no keratinisation. The upper surface of the epidermis is covered by a sheet of cuboidal epithelium. The epithelial cells contain large nuclei and basophilic cytoplasm, and show immunocytochemical properties similar to those of osteoblasts and ameloblasts. This layer is covered by a thick sheet of mineral material, which analysis shows is composed of silicates and calcium minerals.

Cytogenetic examination shows the presence of 42 somatic chromosomes and two X-chromosomes.

Conclusions

The creature is almost certainly a member of a previously unidentified species of primate. The presence of extra premolar teeth and of an enlarged caecum suggests an evolutionary relationship to colobus monkeys, although other features are indicative of extreme specialisation, which may be inconsistent with such a hypothesis. The enlarged incisors and canines would suggest that the creature is predominantly carnivorous. What remains of the brain suggests that the creature may have been even more intelligent than known species of great ape, but certainly less so than a modern human.

The atrophic endometrium and lack of corpora lutea in the ovary suggests that the creature is not presently sexually fertile. Given the absence of signs of old age and the apparent fertility of the ovaries, this could best be explained if the creature has an oestral, rather than menstrual cycle, and was not in oestrus at the time of death.

The unusual size of the parathyroids and modified skin structure are presumably related to the mineralised covering of the creature, which must require metabolism of silicon compounds. The stomach contents would suggest that the creature must periodically eat sand to help maintain this covering, which would appear to serve a protective function.

The modified nephrons in the kidney are consistent with a desert-dwelling creature that must conserve water and avoid excessive urination.

Ia Cardiac arrest

Ib Trauma

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A Manara

Supervising Officer: Mjr R Smith

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