

OSTM LN-NY69 JULY 27 78 MSG: F11.

TO: NEWSDESK FOR DON SIDER, THE STAR

FROM: LONDON BY: WHITE

SLUG: BABY BOOM EOH:

SCORES OF BRITISH WOMEN, AND OTHERS FROM AS FAR AWAY AS THE U.S. AND GERMANY, HAVE BEEN CALLING OLDHAM GENERAL HOSPITAL, LANCASHIRE, IN THE WAKE OF THE BIRTH THERE OF BABY BROWN, SEEKING INFORMATION ON THE PROCEDURE AND HOW THEY CAN SIGN UP FOR THE OPERATION. WITHIN HOURS OF BABY BROWN'S BIRTH, IT WAS DISCLOSED THAT SIMILAR TECHNIQUES ARE BEING USED AT LONDON'S ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL, AND THAT ON WEDNESDAY A WOMAN WHO ALREADY HAS TWO CHILDREN, BUT WHO WANTS A THIRD AND CANNOT CONCEIVE NORMALLY BECAUSE HER TUBES ARE NOW BLOCKED, HAD EGGS REMOVED AT ST. THOMAS' IN ORDER TO TRY AND FERTILIZE ONE AND REINPLANT IT IN SEVERAL DAYS. ST. THOMAS' HAS SUCCEEDED SO FAR IN TWO IMPLANTATIONS, BUT THESE PREGNANCIES ENDED QUICKLY. THE WOMAN, 30, UNIDENTIFIED, SAID THAT HEARING ABOUT THE OLDHAM SUCCESS 'HAS GIVEN ME A LOT OF HOPE.'

THERE ARE NO PUBLISHED REPORTS OF NUMBERS OF WOMEN CALLING HOSPITALS IN BRITAIN REGARDING THE OPERATION. THE ONLY WAY TO FIND OUT WOULD BE A TELEPHONE SURVEY, WHICH WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO DO. PAPERS REPORT GENERAL APPROVAL BY MEDICAL AUTHORITIES AND CLERGY OF THE OLDHAM PROCEDURE, BUT A LEADING SCOTTISH CHURCHMAN, CARDINAL GORDON GRAY, ARCHBISHOP OF ST. ANDREWS AT EDINBURGH, EXPRESSED 'GRAVE MISGIVINGS' OVER THE BIRTH. HOWEVER, BISHOP AUGUSTINE HARRIS, PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE COMMISSION OF THE CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE, WAS QUOTED IN THE GUARDIAN AS SAYING:

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“SOME MARRIED COUPLES HAVE A DEEP DESIRE FOR CHILDREN AS THE SUPREME JOY OF THEIR MARRIAGE, BUT ARE UNABLE TO CONCEIVE CHILDREN IN THE NORMAL WAY. IN THESE CASES SCIENCE CAN SUPPORT THE LOVING AND NATURAL AMBITIONS OF THE COUPLE TO PRODUCE NEW LIFE.”

(DON, BE AWARE THAT REPORTING FOR TIME'S UPCOMING WEEK MEDICINE STORY TURNED UP THE CALLS FROM BRITAIN AND ABOARD TO OLDHAM GENERAL HOSPITAL, AND WE ALSO HAVE A REFERENCE IN THAT FILE TO THE IMPLANT AT ST. THOMAS' PLEASE DON'T SCOOP MEDICINE. THE REMAINDER IS OKAY).

END. SENT 1958 AW

ETX:

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