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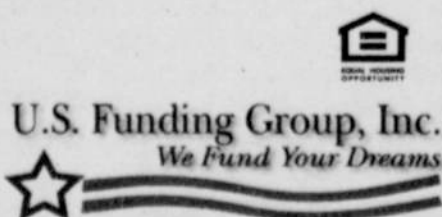
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world

EUROPE

Drugs Played Role in Gaydar Founder's Death

The co-founder and chairman of the popular Gaydar Web site was high on ketamine (Special K) when he flung himself from the balcony of his eighth-floor penthouse Feb. 10 in London, an inquest has found.

Gary Frisch, 38, reportedly shouted "wahey!" before jumping to his death.

"I saw him standing on the balcony with his hands on the rail. He somersaulted over the top," houseguest Darren Morris told the coroner's court, local media reported.

Frisch was under treatment for depression and had been on a weeks-long drug binge, the inquest heard.

Ketamine can cause hallucinations and confusion.

BP CEO Outed, Resigns

The chief executive officer of BP (formerly called British Petroleum) resigned May 1 after London newspapers reported that he had a four-year relationship with a 27-year-old man he met through an escort service.

The media also reported allegations that CEO John Browne, 59, had misused company funds, facilities and staff to support ex-boyfriend Jeff Chevalier's cell-phone ring-tone business.

It also emerged that Browne had lied to a court about how he and Chevalier met, as Browne fought a months-long behind-the-scenes court battle to block publication of a story about the relationship by Associated Newspapers, publisher of *The Daily Mail*, *The Mail on Sunday* and *The Evening Standard*.

Browne had claimed the two met by chance while he was exercising in a public park.

Browne also allegedly lied to the court, medical tests reportedly confirmed, in claiming that Chevalier was hooked on alcohol and drugs.

"For the past 41 years of my career at BP I have kept my private life separate from my business life," Browne said in a statement announcing his departure. "I have always regarded my sexuality as a personal matter, to be kept private. It is a matter of personal disappointment that a newspaper group has now decided that allegations about my personal life should be made public.

"I wish to acknowledge that I did formerly have a four-year relationship with Jeff Chevalier.... I deny categorically any allegations of improper conduct relating to BP.



Gaydar founder Gary Frisch was high on Special K when he fell from his eighth-floor balcony to his death.

"My initial witness statements, however, contained an untruthful account about how I first met Jeff. This account, prompted by my embarrassment and shock at the revelations, is a matter of deep regret.

"These allegations will result inevitably in considerable media attention for both myself and BP.... I have therefore informed the board of BP that I intend to stand down as group chief executive with immediate effect."

Jerusalem Bomb Was Warning to Gays

Jerusalem police say a pipe bomb detonated near a construction site April 20 was meant as a warning to gays planning this year's Pride march. Anti-gay fliers were strewn around the bomb site.

A tractor operator was slightly injured in the blast.

"This attack was a direct response to our request for a permit from the police for our June 21 march," Noa Sattah, head of the city's gay center, Jerusalem Open House, told *Gay City News*.

Last year, two bombs were found with anti-gay fliers beside them. Neither exploded.

Euro Parliament Blasts Poland

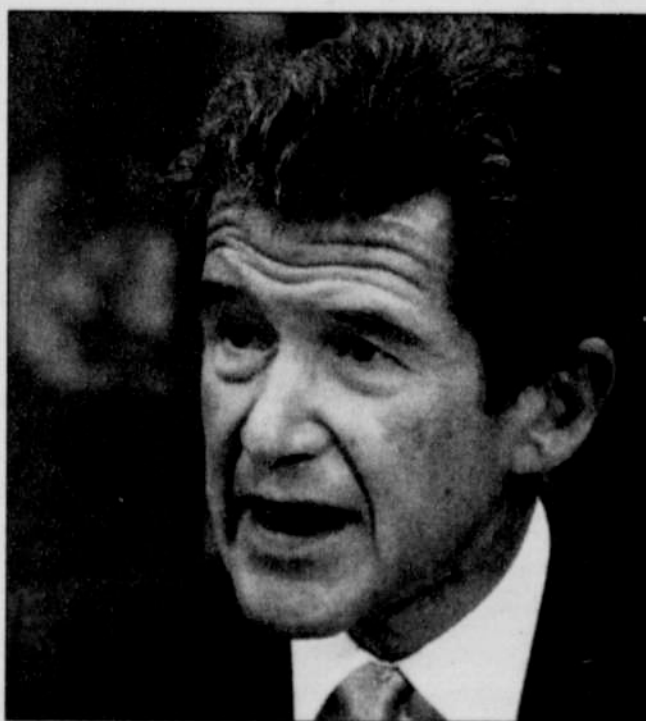
The European Parliament passed a resolution April 26 criticizing government-sponsored legislation in Poland that would ban discussion of gay topics in schools and punish teachers and principals who violate the proposed law with firing and a fine or jail time. The vote was 325-124 with 150 abstentions.

"These kinds of people cannot work with children," Polish Deputy Minister of Education Miroslaw Orzechowski told local radio in March. "These activities need to be acted upon...before it's too late to make a difference."

Minister of Education and Deputy Prime Minister Roman Giertych also has spoken in favor of the legislation, saying: "Homosexual propaganda must...be limited so children will have the correct view of the family. If we will not use all our power to strengthen the family, then as a continent there is no future for us. We will be a continent settled by representatives of the Islamic world who care for the family."

The Euro resolution also calls for a gay fact-finding mission to be sent to Poland, for worldwide decriminalization of homosexuality and for the European Commission to launch court actions against European Union member states that breach EU obligations.

After the Parliament's vote, Polish Prime Minister Jaroslaw Kaczynski claimed, "Nobody is limiting gay rights in Poland."



John Browne, chief executive officer of BP, resigned after his private gay life became public.