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## LE NIVEAU DE LANGUE REPÈRE

### Brigitte Bardot leaves hospital after tranquillizer overdose

FORMER French film actress Brigitte Bardot was rushed to hospital on the Côte d'Azur after taking too many tranquillizers, sources at the Oasis clinic at Gassin said yesterday.

Miss Bardot, aged 58, was rushed to the clinic by her husband of three months, Bernard d'Ormale, a businessman aged 51, who is a close associate of the ultra-rightwing National Front leader, Jean-Marie Le Pen.

She was allowed home three hours later after having her stomach pumped, the sources

said. A doctor at the clinic confirmed yesterday that her condition now gave no cause for concern.

Mr D'Ormale and Miss Bardot married secretly in Norway on August 16 but the marriage, her fourth, was kept secret for nearly two months.

Miss Bardot has for years been an ardent campaigner for better treatment of animals. Mr D'Ormale is said to have told friends recently that his wife was feeling under strain as a result of her animal rights work. — AFP.

THE GUARDIAN

### Bardot overdose

**St Tropez (AP)** — Brigitte Bardot was taken to hospital to have her stomach pumped after taking an overdose of tranquilisers, medical officials said yesterday.

Her husband, Bertrand d'Ormale, said recently that the former actress was under great stress because of her work as France's leading animal rights activist.

THE INDEPENDENT

## Bardot in drug scare

BY CHARLES BREMNER

BRIGITTE Bardot, the French film star turned animal-rights activist, was recovering at her St Tropez home yesterday after being taken to hospital by her new husband to have treatment for a condition caused by taking tranquillisers.

Mme Bardot, 58, who retired from the cinema in 1972, had her stomach pumped and spent three hours in the Oasis clinic at Gassin, near St Tropez, after Bernard d'Ormale drove her there on Saturday night. "The health of Brigitte Bardot gives no cause for concern," a spokesman for the clinic said yesterday, adding that she had "taken a turn" after consuming tranquillisers.

M d'Ormale, 52, a businessman and supporter of the extreme-right National Front party, said recently that his wife had been suffering from stress brought on by her animal-rights work. She was particularly upset by the discovery of a flock of starving sheep in an abandoned château near her home and had been trying to get local authorities to take action.

Since her August marriage to M d'Ormale, which was not made public until October, Mme Bardot has launched lawsuits against several magazines under France's laws on the invasion of privacy.

THE TIMES

## Bardot in drug overdose

**BRIGITTE BARDOT** was recovering from a drug overdose last night.

She collapsed at a dinner party in her San Tropez villa on Saturday night after mixing cocktails with tranquillisers prescribed by her doctor.

The former film star was unconscious when her fourth husband, businessman Bernard d'Ormale, drove her to a private clinic where her stomach was pumped.

Bardot, 58, spent five hours

From **LESLEY HUSSELL**  
in St Tropez

under surveillance and was allowed to go home at 2am when doctors decided she was no longer in danger.

Dr Andre Fourny, of the Oasis Clinic outside St Tropez, said: 'She is well now and will be okay.'

Her husband — they married secretly in Norway in August — said last week that his wife, now renowned for her animal rights campaigning, had taken tran-

quillisers because of distress after discovering that a shepherd near the hillside villa had starved a dozen sheep to death. Bardot was 'devastated'.

She brought private proceedings when the authorities refused to take action.

M d'Ormale said: 'She was very angry at this indifference. She is immersed totally in all she does.'

Last night at the villa Bardot has turned into an animal sanctuary a caretaker said: 'She wants to be left in peace.'

DAILY MAIL

# Drug suicide bid by Bardot over animal cruelty

by WAYNE BODKIN  
In St Tropez

BRIGITTE Bardot's love for animals drove her to attempt suicide after an horrific cruelty case near her home, friends fear.

The 58-year-old screen legend took an overdose of sleeping pills after becoming distraught over the fate of a flock of sheep left to starve.

She was released from hospital yesterday after having her stomach pumped.

Brigitte's new husband Bernard d'Ormale, who was at her side in the south of France hospital, revealed Bardot had recently been under severe stress.

She was depressed and suffering nightmares about the starving flock of sheep found abandoned near her villa.

Bardot took the overdose on Saturday while staying at her villa near St Tropez with Bernard and friends.

She was admitted to an exclusive private clinic in a neighbouring village.

A hospital spokesman

said: "She was brought in by ambulance and was accompanied by her husband and two friends."

After treatment and being kept under observation, she was released.

*Bardot was still recovering from shock after narrowly missing being shot earlier this year by hunters killing her pets.*

The Sixties sex kitten is also involved in several legal wrangles. She is suing a hunter who chased wild boar on to her land and taking legal action over articles about her love life with Bernard, a close friend of extreme right-wing politician Jean-Marie Le Pen.

Despite her screen success, Bardot has had a troubled life. She turned her back on acting in 1973 to devote her life to animals, becoming a recluse.

Her first three marriages all ended unhappily. In 1952 she wed film director Roger Vadim, the man responsible for turning

her into a screen star, but that soon turned sour. Seven years later actor Jacques Charrier became husband N°2, Bardot then had a string of lovers including Sacha Distel.

In 1966 she married German playboy Gunther Sachs, following a whirlwind romance. They parted three years later.

She was also estranged from her only child Nicolas, from her marriage to Charrier, and looked to be facing a lonely old age.

But the loneliness appeared to be over when, in October, TODAY exclusively revealed she had wed husband number four during a trip to Norway where she was also reunited with Nicolas after 10 years.

Last year it was revealed she had beaten breast cancer, but she is still frightened of getting old.

During a recent TV interview in France she demanded the cameras have special filters to hide her wrinkles.

## Bardot in drug scare

BRIGITTE Bardot took an overdose of tranquilisers after becoming depressed at the discovery of starved sheep near her home.

The actress — a fanatical animal rights activist — collapsed as she and new husband Bernard d'Ormale hosted a dinner party.

He immediately took the 58-year-old star to hospital where doctors pumped her stomach. Friends believe his quick action saved her life.

Norwegian d'Ormale, 51 — who wed Brigitte in August — insisted the overdose was accidental due to a mixture of tranquilisers and wine.

But he revealed she had been distressed since dead sheep were found buried near her St Tropez home last month.

He also believed her devotion to other animal causes had placed her under extreme stress.

Brigitte, who abandoned acting in the mid-'70s, has battled seal culling and recently set up a Normandy dog shelter.

D'Ormale said last night: "There is nothing to worry about, her life is not in danger."

One of their dinner guests said: "We thought she might be dying. Bernard was a real hero."

THE SUN

## Sad star Bardot in pill drama

STAR REPORTER

SCREEN-goddess Brigitte Bardot was rushed to hospital at the weekend after an apparent overdose of tranquillisers.

Bardot, 58, was admitted to the Oasis Clinic in Gassin, near her home in the millionaires' resort of Saint-Tropez.

The French actress was allowed home yesterday after having her stomach pumped.

## Grave

Friends said Bardot had been upset since the discovery of a mass grave of sheep at a chateau near her home.

Bardot, who has retired from the cinema, has become increasingly militant about animal rights.

In the early 1980s, she led an international campaign against the culling of baby seals.

Recently she has campaigned against hunting in France, one of the nation's most popular pastimes.

THE STAR

## **Drug-scare Bardot sad over sheep**

**FORMER** sex-kitten Brigitte Bardot was depressed over the death of eleven sheep when she took an overdose.

The 58-year-old animal lover was rushed to hospital after accidentally mixing dinner drinks with tranquillisers.

She spent five hours in the private Oasis Clinic in St Tropez.

Brigitte was "very, very angry" when local police shrugged off the deaths of the sheep from starvation.

She is suing the shepherd to save the rest of the flock.

*DAILY MIRROR (A)*

# The deaths that drove anguished Bardot to overdose

By MARK  
DOWDNEY  
Foreign Editor



Animal  
passion

## THE world has turned full circle for Brigitte Bardot. After 20 years of shunning the limelight, the screen goddess who once rivalled Marilyn Monroe is back in its glare.

The spotlight was flicked on three months ago when, at the age of 58, Bardot switched her passion for animals back to men and married husband N° 4 — a leader of the French National Front.

Now it is on full beam. At the weekend, she was rushed to hospital after collapsing from a drugs overdose at her villa in the South of France.

Luckily, it wasn't serious. After some hours, the woman who almost single-handed sent the French nation tumbling into the sexual Sixties was released to recuperate at home.

The affair is being explained away as an accident.

She took a few too many tranquillisers, say friends, after becoming deeply upset over the death by starvation of 11 sheep.

It is an explanation not to be dismissed. During her years as a near-recluse, such was Bardot's concern for the plight of innocent creatures that she became something of a national joke.

### Pout

The dedicated animal lover and the sex goddess... could this, France wondered, really be the same woman.

Bardot the actress with the famous pout and long blonde hair, was launched on an unsuspecting nation at about the same time as another hero, General Charles de Gaulle.

And with scarcely less impact.

At 14, she was spotted on a railway station platform by the fashion director of *Elle* magazine. At 18, she married film director's assistant Roger Vadim. And, at 22, she made *And God Created Woman*, the film that turned her into an international superstar.

Her zestful flirtation with lust - tame by modern standards - caused a minor earthquake. In New York, police had to be called to cinemas to calm the crowds.

Her not-so-private life was just as sensational. She made sure of that by announcing that her favourite virtue was vice, and her favourite occupation making love. After splitting from Vadim,

marriages to Jacques Charrier - by whom she had her only child, son Nicholas - and German playboy Gunther Sachs followed.

### Lovers

And, of course, there was a string of lovers - among them Sacha Distel, actor Sammy Frey, and British comedian and singer Mike Sarne. Catholic France was appalled by Bardot's life of sexual freedom. Women, on the other hand, rejoiced at having a leader of liberation.

As one put it: "She taught a stuffy generation of French girls to throw away their little jumpers and pearls and dress as though life was made for living."

Such was her fame that, in 1962, Bardot was making as much money abroad for France as Renault cars - a feat she used to persuade the authorities to allow her a tax-free year.

But in the end, the pressure told.

The woman who became a symbol of youth and beauty grew to detest the world and tried to kill herself by cutting her wrists.

She made her last film in 1973 and retired to her beloved villa near St. Tropez to care for animals.

"I hate the human race - these are the only companions who have never let me down," she said bitterly.

Later she was to add: "I identify with animals because I have been hunted like one for years."

Few doubt the fervour with which she has thrown herself into her new life.

She sold her jewellery to start the Bardot Foundation for Animals.

She campaigned to stop the massacre of baby seals.

### Wrath

And once she led 500 abandoned cats and dogs to a Paris market in a bid to find them new homes.

Earlier this year, she turned her wrath on French actor Gerard Depardieu for trying his hand at bullfighting during a break in filming *1492: Conquest Of Paradise*.

Today it is those sheep that are making the headlines.

Animal campaigner or sex symbol, Bardot is still a star.