DECEMBER 23, 1990

New hopes for Aids vaccine-

. LONDON, Saturday

British scientists said today a

breakthrough in researching Aids

in monkeys has raised hopes of

finding a human vaccine against

the killer virus.

Vaccines against SW, the Simian version of Aida, were developed in the United States but

the tarn from the . UK National

Institute for Biological Standards

and Control and the Centre of

Applied Microbiology and Research say they have taken the

technique at stage further.

Writing in the medical journal,

The Lancet, the British scientists said they had developed a

vaccine that protects cells against

the HIV virus which causes Aids.

Tests on monkeys showed

immunisation had been achieved

in a shorter period of time.

“Our results provide an alternative approach to immunisation

against SW and reduce the time

required to test vaccines experimentally,” the scientists said.

believe that our findings

will hasten progress towards an

effective vaccine against Aida,”

they added.

The team used monkeys infect

Simian Immunodeficiency Virus (SW) because the immune systems of Simians and

humans are similar and because

SW and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) follow similar

courses.

Attempts to discover a vaccine

against Aids have been hampered

by the variability of the virus and

previous research had been based

on the assumption that the virus

would always find ways into

healthy cells. Research o far bas

bean limited Lo holding the virus

at bay once it infected

An editorial in The Lancet said

the new research offered hope for

a vaccine and possibly a cu

— Reuters