E. P. Wheeler - Medical Dept.

March 18, 1959
Inquiry from Langerman, Begam and Lewis (legal firm), Phoenix, Arizona, Concerning Inhalation of Chemical Vapors from 54201-A

Phocion S. Park

/W. R. Richard
H. S. Bergen
J. E. Springgate
N. T. Johnson
J. G. Bryant
P. C. Bonignus
D. A. Olson
J. R. Fallon
C. L. Bradford - Los Angeles

Confirming our discussion yesterday you indicated that we had several alternatives with reference to reply to the letter from Mr. Marks of Langerman, Begam and Lewis. These were:

1. Not reply at all
2. Provide a minimum amount of information relative to the specific question, "We would be interested in any information regarding the inhalation of such chemical vapors."
3. Go into considerable detail about the inhalation of askarel fluids and their components.
4. If a reply is sent you suggested that it be signed by someone in Marketing.

Assuming that we want to follow Alternative 2 I would suggest the following:

"We do not have information specifically relating to the compounds referred to in your letter.

We do know that materials of this type present no hazard from the standpoint of inhalation of vapors when the materials are at ambient temperatures. If the materials are heated an inhalation hazard would result only if the materials were being used in a workroom with poor or no ventilation and then only if the inhalation of the vapors was continued over a long period of time (such as daily for several weeks or months)."

I will leave it up to you as to what the next move may be.

Attached to your copy of this memo are copies of the original letter from the law firm and Jim Bryant's memo pertaining thereto.

Elmer P. Wheeler

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Attachment

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