

THE ASSOCIATED ETHYL COMPANY LIMITED

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Dr. R.A. Kehoe,
Kettering Laboratory of Applied Physiology,
University of Cincinnati,
Cincinnati, Ohio - U.S.A.

November 4th, 1942.

Dear Dr. Kehoe,

You will recall that I wrote you some months ago requesting information on the hazards involved in cleaning the tanks of tankers. You advised me that potentially there was a similarity between these hazards and those connected with the cleaning of storage tanks and, it follows therefore, that the same precautions should be taken in cleaning tankers which have carried leaded gasoline, as are recommended for cleaning mixing and storage tanks.

I have discussed this question in Curacao and it would now appear that it is not as simple as it may seem at first sight. On the other hand the question is now of paramount importance in view of the considerable quantities of leaded gasoline which are and will be shipped by tanker.

The first difficulty is that tankers may be cleaned by the boat's crew, a dry dock crew or a shore crew specially loaned by the Refinery.

The second difficulty is that a tanker may carry a variety of cargoes, before it is cleaned, and it would be necessary for a log to be kept on the ship to determine whether or not leaded gasoline had been transposed.

The only solution would appear to be to make the Master of the ship responsible for the carrying out of our Regulations and for keeping a log on each tank; a warning sign should possibly also be placed on each tank. However, before carrying things that far I think I should submit the question to you, so that you will issue special instructions.

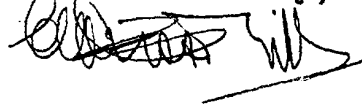
Up to now, Refinery tank cleaning crews in Curacao have followed our Regulations when cleaning the tanks of tankers, but I understand that boat crews and dry dock crews take no special precautions. It appears that the boat crews do not even trouble to

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make the tanks gas free before entering them and on at least one occasion some of the men collapsed.

I shall be interested to hear what you decide and also what action, if any, you wish me to take.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "C. G. DCG", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

CLR-G/DCG.

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