MEMORANDUM:

TO: DR. SIDNEY LERNER

FROM: DR. ROBERT A. KEHOE

JULY 29, 1963

For many years the Laboratory has been gathering in and examining with some care all information that comes to hand concerning the effects of the distribution and use of leaded gasoline. This includes such matters as the potential contamination of water supplies with gasoline containing lead, the exposure of motor mechanics, fleet motor maintenance crews, airplane maintenance crews, and the like. We have also looked into any cases of complaint or illness that might be related to contact with leaded gasoline (or exposure to vapors) among gasoline handlers at refineries, bulk stations and service stations. As to the latter group, the negative findings of many years have taken away the significance of the investigation to a large degree, but cases still come up for consideration - largely because many physicians still believe this to be a significant source of occupational exposure to lead.

We maintain as complete a file as possible in all of these matters, and into this file all of the pertinent information should go. The status of this file was reported to the Public Health Service from time to time for some years, after which it was agreed that we should continue the practice, report anything of special interest, but otherwise maintain the file for such use as it might be for the record.

The present file (attached) is a case in point. I need all of the information that is available to you, and if it is inadequate we shall have to obtain additional pertinent facts for the record. This will continue to be the procedure in all situations related to leaded gasoline. It is our purpose to obtain the information that is required to establish the facts. It often happens that little information can be had. In this matter we represent no one but our own professional group, and we investigate (discreetly of course) but without preconception, so far as this is possible in a situation that appears to have been sorted out many years ago.

Please return this to me with any correspondence, notations or other types of information.

R. A. K.

Enclosure: File on [redacted]

cc: Dr. F. Princi
Dr. G. Roush