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DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE & ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

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Gerhard K. Raabe
Industrial Medical Advisor
Mobil Oil Corporation
150 E. 42nd Street
New York, New York 10017

Dear Gerry:

Enclosed is a xerox of a xerox of a preliminary report of NIOSH's study of PCB's. Table 3 is illegible on my copy, but it isn't crucial to the conclusions. This was presented as a preliminary report, and criticisms and comments are solicited.

As always, there are too few deaths to reach any firm conclusions. I guess the most interesting finding is the lack of excess melanomas, and of pancreatic and lung cancers. I don't know what to make of the excesses in rectal and liver cancer, or the cirrhosis. Although the numbers are awfully small, it would be informative to know what the conjectured exposures were for those cases, and also to know what the cancer atlas says about the rates for those cancers in the counties in which the plants are located.

As I mentioned in our telephone conversation, I attended the SOEH meeting, which was long on anti-industry polemics and short on content. I felt like a deer at a meeting of the National Rifle Association. I don't know whether I want to do it again. As Voltaire said in a rather different connection, "Once - a philosopher; twice - a pervert."

Yours sincerely,

Bill

W. R. Gaffey
Manager, Epidemiology

srl

cc: D. L. Coleman
G. Roush, Jr., M.D.