

cc: Mr. H. Kaley
Dr. R. A. Kehoe

17

SAFETY DEPARTMENT

December 16, 1943

Mr. T. R. A. Bevan
The Associated Ethyl Company Limited,
Artillery House, Artillery Row
London, S. W. 1, England

Subject: Socony-Vacuum
Tank Cleaning in
Far East

Dear Ray:

Phil Perry has been heading up our tank cleaning work for the Safety Department. Consequently, he called upon Mr. H. F. Merrill of Socony-Vacuum at Mr. Merrill's request, and discussed tank cleaning in the Far East. The following paragraphs from Mr. Perry's report may be of interest to you.

"Mr. Merrill had called our Company in order to secure complete information on our suggested tank cleaning procedures. This gentleman was formerly the Manager of the Operations Branch of Socony-Vacuum with headquarters at Singapore and is now handling most of the operational work for India. He pointed out that the majority of their distribution originally consisted of untreated white gasoline and that they had not been particularly concerned over the lead hazard. The only area that they had taken particular care with was in the few drum installations that were formerly located in two or three points in China and Manchuria. This situation, however, has changed radically since the advent of 100 octane aviation gasoline, and they anticipate a considerable tank cleaning program at the end of the present hostilities.

"In view of this, Mr. Merrill is preparing a series of letters to be distributed throughout the Asiatic area warning of the hazards of entering former leaded gasoline storage tanks.

"We have mailed Mr. Merrill copies of our tank cleaning precaution letters, together with a supply of both the A.P.I. Tank Cleaning Bulletin and the Ethyl Precaution Bulletin."

With kindest personal regards,

Yours very truly,

N 7807

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