Medical Dept., A2SA

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EXAMINATION OF PCB WORKERS

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Gerald L. Bratsch

About three weeks ago I received a call from a Dr. Terry Davis, of the EPA in Washington. He stated that he had been talking over the matter of employee health in PCB with a Dr. Ed Berger, of the President's Office of Science and Technology.

They asked what I thought of having a study made on the workers in PCB. I told them I did not think there was any kind of exposure and I thought the toxicity problems dealt mainly with environmental aspects and not with humans. I said if we did a study on these we should do a study on any of twenty compounds that we manufacture. Dr. Davis sort of agreed with me and the matter was dropped. However, there have been inklings that OSHA may get into the act.

I had the records pulled at the Krummrich Plant and went over them. I found 22 hourly workers and 3 salaried workers. Their examinations were all relatively up to date but they lacked the laboratory tests that might be specific for being concerned about PCB. I would suggest, therefore, that Dr. Osland call these people in and tell them that in view of the interest of the environmentalists in PCB, we have wanted to show them that the workers with PCB were a healthy group and we also wanted to get some laboratory tests to buttress our opinion. This would mean drawing blood and sending it out to Cooper Laboratory (you use Hagebusch, which is the same thing). The tests I would run would be:

1) SMA 12
2) SGPT
3) Draw another sample of citrated blood and send it to Scott Tucker at the Queeny Plant, who would run PCB in the blood.

I am going to be out of the country for 3 weeks starting January 27. Will you contact Dr. Maurice Johnson, of the Medical Department, on any items that may be unclear or any help you might need in getting this program started. I think we will find if we have this data, which can be obtained at relatively little inconvenience to the man and relatively little expense, it will be extremely important to us.

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R. Emmet Kelly, M.

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