

July 22, 1959*

Ref. LP-28-79

To All Members of the Technical Steering
Committee of the Lead Industries Association

Gentlemen:

Subject: A Research Program in Organolead Chemistry,
Quartermaster Research and Development
Command, Natick, Massachusetts

The subject organization has submitted a research proposal to undertake a corollary investigation in organolead chemistry which would support the work already being done at Arthur D. Little and proposed for T.N.O. in Utrecht, Holland. This proposal has been approved by the Chemical Subcommittee of L.I.A., and it is strongly urged that it be approved by the Technical Steering Committee. I join the subcommittee in my recommendation and feel that this is one of the most valuable and correspondingly inexpensive projects which we have seen to date.

The program as proposed by the Research and Development Command of the Quartermaster Corps envisages an investigation of organolead polymers with emphasis on the combination of organolead halides with alkali salts of organometallic acids together with a corresponding investigation of organometal halides with plumbonic acids.

The second phase of the program would be an investigation of organolead ring compounds via the Orignard reagent as well as via alkali metal salts.

The third phase would be concerned with quarternary organolead compounds including the synthesis of diphenyllead, the synthesis of the quarternary salt of diphenyllead, and the synthesis of the anionotropic reagent as covered in the attached proposal.