F. H. Langenfeld-Robts.Bldg
H. S. Litzsinger-Robts.Bldg

St. Louis, Missouri

September 25, 1957

Philip L. Slayton

Everett, Mass.

Your call report - Portsmouth Navy Yard

TOXICITY OF PYDRAUL 150

Early this year (January) BuMed of the Navy informed us that they had animal toxicity data which indicated, in their opinion, that Pydraul 150 would not be suitable for use in submarines. The decision was based not on the possibility of forming phosgene upon decomposition but rather on the toxicity effects following repeated application of Pydraul 150 to the skin of animals or toxic effects following repeated inhalation of mists (or vapor). We have not as yet seen the data obtained in the Navy research program but hope to get more information concerning it next week.

The Navy convinced us that they would not accept Pydraul 150 and probably no other fluid containing chlorine or chlorinated diphenyls. We have not attempted to dissuade BuMed since it appears to be hopeless. Since the interpretation of toxicity data is quite relative, our interpretation of facts and data would not be sufficient to change their opinions.

We in the Medical Department don't know of any specific Monsanto fluids which are of current interest to the Navy for possible submarine use. If the Navy is examining one or more research or development functional fluids, questions of toxicity have not reached a point of serious consideration. Perhaps Mr. Langenfeld or Mr. Litzsinger can add some information on this point.

Elmer P. Wheeler

EPW:dh