

VISIT OF DR. KEHOE TO TIN FILLING AND LEAD  
BLENDING INSTALLATIONS - SUNDAY 21.11.1943.

Dr. Kehoe in company with Dr. Anderson and Mr. F.E.A. Thompson visited the Braim and P.O.D. Filling Plants and Tin factories on the morning of Sunday, the 21st November.

In the Braim Plant 100 Octane was being filled, inspected, stacked and loaded into barge. Conditions during the visit were generally better than average and no leaking tins were visible at the barge filling where the atmosphere was good. The tin factory was inspected and Dr. Kehoe considered the ventilation of the fumes from the solder baths to be totally inadequate and recommended that the whole system should be enclosed in an oven provided with a powerful exhaust fan.

The P.O.D. Filling Plant was operating on Motor Spirit at the time of visiting but the splashing and spillage were normal and similar to conditions prevailing during aviation tinning. Here again Dr. Kehoe criticised the ventilation from the solder baths in the tin factory.

The party then proceeded to the office of Mr. P.C. Errey, Superintendent, Storage & Export and a short discussion was held on lead blending practice at which Mr. Gregor was present. A visit was then paid in company with Mr. Errey to the Lead Blending Plant, Bawarda where leading of the aviation spirit was in progress. Dr. Kehoe inspected the operation and equipment at the Aviation Blending Plant all of which was standard except the leather gloves which were being used as substitute for rubber gloves. Stacks of empty and T.E.L. drums, and the large outdoor drums of T.E.L. were examined. Dr. Kehoe was assured by Mr. Errey that these drums were being consumed in strict rotation depending on the time each drum had been on site.

The motor spirit lead blending installation was examined and it was explained that much of the equipment had been fabricated in Abadan and that the same men employed in aviation spirit leading were also employed for motor spirit blending. Dr. Kehoe expressed himself satisfied with the efficiency of the equipment.

Dr. Kehoe recommended that we should endeavour to reduce the number of blends per man to the figure recommended by the A.E.C. of 6 per month and pointed out that if a reliable estimation of lead in the urine of any lead blender gave lead contents in excess of .1 Milligram per litre, this must be accepted as a definite indication of lead absorption and therefore as an indication that the safety provisions are not being complied

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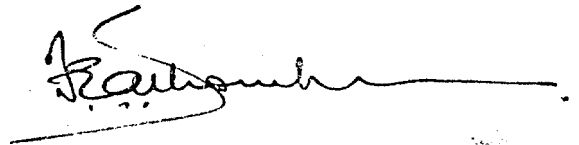
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Dr. Kehoe wished to know what provision was made to safeguard fitters and engineers engaged in the maintenance of these blending plants. Also what precautions we were taking to safeguard casual labour engaged on rolling drums of T.E.L. and also what safety precautions have been instituted in view of the very large drum stocks

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of T.E.L. to cope with the increased risk from splashes or direct contact of all labour in Tank Farm Areas. He also asked how the division of responsibility was decided in the unloading of T.E.L. drums from ships, part of which must of necessity be the responsibility of the Transport Department, and whether all sections of our organisation who handled the T.E.L. drums were sufficiently conversant with the risks and were instituting their separate safety precautions.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'J. B. P.', followed by a long horizontal line.

ABADAN,  
25th November, 1943.

/JBP.

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