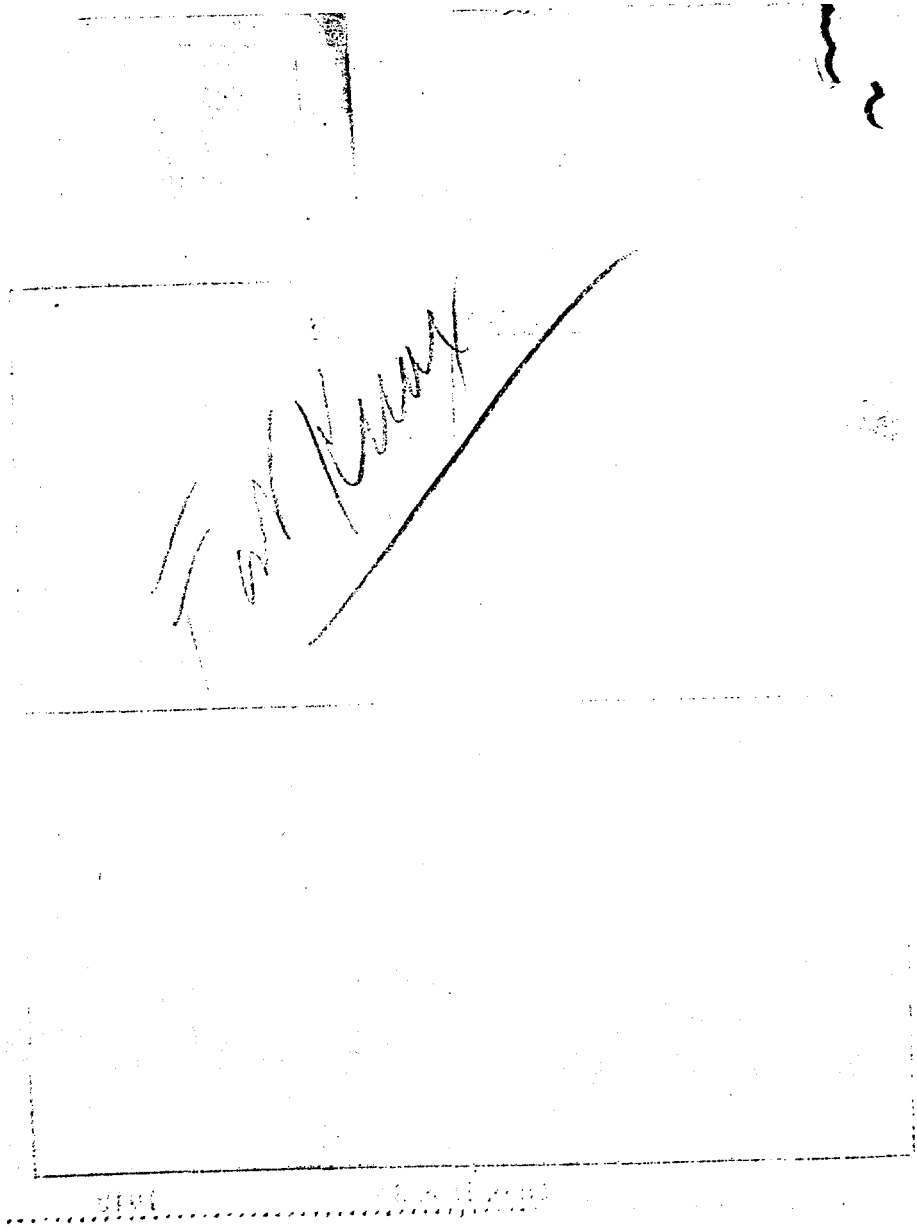




RE 0009523

November 25, 1940

Lieut. Colonel John McD. Thompson
Headquarters I Armored Corps
Office of the Quartermaster
Fort Knox, Kentucky

My dear Colonel:

I should like to come to Fort Knox on Friday, November 29, about 9:00 a.m., if that hour is convenient for you and your associates for discussion.

Thank you very much for giving me the background of the situation in your letter of November 18. I am quite in agreement with you that undue emphasis has been placed upon the possibility of lead poisoning from the handling of leaded gasoline. In fact, after some fifteen years of specific investigation of this problem, we have been unable to find any experimental or clinical evidence that lead poisoning, or even increased lead absorption comes about from the handling of leaded gasoline as it is ordinarily handled in commerce. Furthermore, studies on filling station attendants, tank-wagon drivers, garage mechanics and men daily engaged in the filling of barrels with gasoline, demonstrate that lead poisoning will not occur from these types of work. I think we are in agreement, therefore, that the practical hazard to be considered is that from the vapors of gasoline, particularly in situations where ventilation is poor.

I think it would be desirable however, to acquaint you in somewhat more detail with the results of these experiments and to discuss these observations with the responsible members of your medical division.

Should Friday morning not prove convenient for you, please set some other time at your convenience, and let me know.

With best regards, I am,

Very truly yours,

WM:vr

Willard Machle, M. D.

KE 0009524

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DR WILLARD MACHLE=

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI CIN=

NINE ON THE 29TH WOULD BE MOST CONVENIENT STOP PLEASE WIRE
ME IF YOU WANT TRANSPORTATION FROM LOUISVILLE TO FTKNOX STOP
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29.

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