

ETHYL GASOLINE CORPORATION

RESEARCH LABORATORIES

723 EAST MILWAUKEE AVENUE

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

February 28, 1935

Dr. R.A. Kehoe
College of Medicine
University of Cincinnati
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Bob:

Very many thanks for your letter of the 25th and your telegram of today. I very much regret that I am unable to accept your invitation for this week-end. Unfortunately, I have a prior engagement, and in addition have just returned from an eight day trip in the East and I am deluged with work. I should, however, very much like to come down for the week-end of the 9th if that is suitable. Please tell Lucille that I am going to get very much rested up before I visit the Kehoes as I gather I shall need a good deal of endurance to be able to stand all the reproval I expect to receive from her.

I hope the stainless steel turns out to be a success in the rabbitt trays. By the time you have run a preliminary test on the piece of material I forwarded I expect to have the scheme for welding a complete tray all worked out.

Attached is a copy of Wright Field's report on supposed poisoning from Ethyl gasoline at the San Antonio Air Depot. Attached also is copy of my letter of acknowledgment to the Air Corps.

Unless I am much mistaken, this is merely another case of confusing gasoline dermatitis with possible effects of Ethyl fluid in such gasoline. If I am mistaken all the trouble you have taken with me in the past in such matters has been wasted.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,



S.D. Heron

SDH:REL
Encls.

P.S. I hope Lucille will have all her deputy reprovals on hand for my next visit. I plan to be especially careful under the reproving.

C O P Y

HEADQUARTERS
SAN ANTONIO AIR DEPOT
Office of the Commanding Officer
DUNCAN FIELD
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS.

January 8, 1935.

LIST OF EMPLOYEES ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN INJURED THRU CONTACT
WITH GASOLINE.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Designation</u>	<u>Date of Injury</u>	<u>Diagnosis and Cause</u>	<u>Time off from work.</u>
[REDACTED]	Airplane Dope Worker	6-25-34	Dermatitis, acute, severe, both hands and forearms. Due to working with gasoline, kerosene and other coal tar products.	None
[REDACTED]	Auto Mechanic	6-19-34	Dermatitis, acute, mod., all fingers, both hands caused by daily contact with Ethyl gasoline on auto parts on which he works.	3 days.
[REDACTED]	Unskl. Laborer	8-24-34	Dermatitis, general over both forearms and dorsal surface of both hands. Caused by washing airplane parts in gasoline from day to day.	None
[REDACTED]	Motor Mechanic	6-3-30	Skin irritation, both forearms. Caused by gasoline used in work.	None
[REDACTED]	Machinist Helper	9-29-31	Infection, dorsal surface, mid. phalanx, fourth finger, left. Caused by washing engine parts in gasoline.	
[REDACTED]	Unskl. Laborer	6-22-34	Dermatitis, acute, severe general both hands and arms. Caused by cleaning parts in gasoline and kerosene.	None
[REDACTED]	Airp. Eng. Mechanic	12-12-33	Abrasion, mild, planter surface, right foot. 2. Cellulitis, acute, non-suppurative. Caused by gasoline seeping thru shoes while standing in little pools of it formed on floor while using it to wash motors.	7 days.

(Note: In each instance employees were cautioned not to come in contact with gasoline during recovery period.)

<u>Designation</u>	<u>Date of Injury</u>	<u>Diagnosis and Cause</u>	<u>Time off from work</u>
[REDACTED] Sheet Metal Worker	1-3-30	Dermatitis, Traumatic, Chronic, Mod. Severe. Caused by irritation from muriatic acid.	None
[REDACTED] Sheet Metal Worker	4-3-33	Recurrence of above. However, this time, employee believed that irritation was due to burns or infections from Ethyl lead deposits on gasoline tanks, which he repairs in the Sheet Metal Department. Physician gave diagnosis this time as: "Dermatitis, dorsal surface hands, cause unknown."	None

The foregoing are some of the comparatively recent cases of injury alleged to be due to the effects of ethyl lead gasoline poisoning. Time would not permit tracing down each employee's personal record to ascertain whether he had complained of suffering from contact with ethyl gasoline. Reports of injury are not classified and filed according to the nature of injury, but they are filed in the personal file of the employee concerned. Hence it would require more time than was permitted to make an exhaustive and complete report. Whenever cases of this kind are severe enough to involve loss of time from work, complete reports are made on forms C.A. 1, 2, 3 and 16, and the Chief, Materiel Division, is furnished with copies of same.

February 28, 1935

Chief
Materiel Division
Wright Field
Dayton, Ohio.

Attention - Chief - Engineering Section.

Subject: Report on Ethyl gasoline poisoning at
San Antonio Air Depot.

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(1) Three copies of Report Serial No. U-57-4536-1 and a two page report of original clinical data were received today with no letter of transmittal. As there seems to have been some error in forwarding these reports the writer discussed the matter with Mr. Chenoweth of the Power Plant Branch over the phone. Mr. Chenoweth instructed us to retain the unsigned copy of Report Serial No. U-57-4536-1, and to return the signed copy of this report and the sheets containing clinical data. We have photostated one of the signed copies of the report and copied the clinical data.

(2) We are forwarding copies of the report and clinical data to Dr. R.A. Kehoe of the University of Cincinnati who is our medical director, with the request that he communicate directly with the Materiel Division if he believes that comment on your report is required.

(3) Signed copies of the report No. U-57-4536-1 and clinical data sheets are attached herewith in accordance with Mr. Chenoweth's instructions.



S.D. Heron
For Ethyl Gasoline Corporation

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