



1616 Tacoma Avenue  
Rockford, Illinois  
August 14, 1971

Lead Industries Association, Inc.  
292 Madison Avenue  
New York, N. Y. 10017

Gentlemen:

I am enclosing an item which appeared in our paper and naturally caused me some alarm. But what to do about it. No products were named so that the consumer might stay away from them.

I wrote to the Food Drug and Administration and received some information which is where I received the above address.

It seems there is a publication as of 1970 of findings in ILZRO Manual No. 1, "Lead Glazes for Dinnerware" which is available free. Would you please send me THREE copies of the Manual. I wish to have one for myself and one each for our two married sons and their families.

A ten-year old child has died in our community from what is presumed to be lead-poisoning. It is not a case of lower income or poor housing. More than one child in the family, yet none of the others in the family had the high lead concentrate in their bodies that she did. It is still being investigated.

Please send me any information that you have and if there is any charge I will send the amount back by return mail. Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Dorothy E. Afflerbaugh*

(Mrs. H. W. Afflerbaugh)

*Jerry,*

*I don't have copies of  
Lead Glazes for Dinnerware."*

## Warn against ceramic dinnerware

WASHINGTON (UPI) —The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has advised consumers against storing acidic food and beverages in ceramic dinnerware but has decided against a massive recall of pottery products.

The FDA announced Tuesday it had discovered that foods and beverages sometimes absorb poisonous lead and cadmium from decorative decals on dinnerware.

"Since there is no ready means to identify whether decal dinnerware already in use contains excessive levels of these metals, the consumer should not store acidic foods or beverages in such containers for prolonged periods of time, such as overnight," the FDA said in a statement.

"Daily use of the dinnerware for food service will not pose any hazard," it added.

The FDA cited as examples of acidic items: fruit juice, soft drinks, wines, cider, vinegar, sauerkraut, and tomatoes.

Thomas W. Brown, compliance director for the FDA Bureau of Food, said the decal hazard was discovered during FDA checks for lead and cadmium in pottery glaze.

Brown said the decal hazard, although previously unknown, probably has existed for a decade. The FDA said millions of pieces of dinnerware were involved, from cheap pottery to expensive china.

Brown said the FDA considered a massive recall of all ceramic dinnerware, but decided the hazard was too slight and the recall problems too large for such a move.

With the exception of hand painted items, most dinnerware decorations are by decal, the FDA said. Common decals include stripes around the rim and pictures of fruit or flowers, sometimes embossed.