

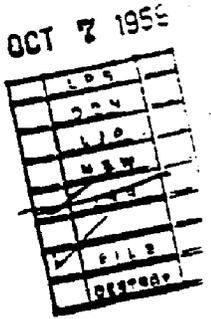
MEMORANDUM

Frankfurt, Germany
September 30, 1959

TO: J. Burton

Xufer
SUBJECT: Boehringer - Chloracne Problem

cc: C. S. Brumbaugh
J. A. Berror
H. E. Everson
D. J. Porter
L. P. Seyb
H. S. Weiner



The acne cure announced by Boehringer in Chem. Week for June 20, 1959 is confirmed as inactive for chloracne.

Boehringer has had no new cases of chloracne in 3-5 years. They did this by discovering the compound which is the bad actor and eliminating it as a by-product. After they accomplished this processwise, they then cleaned up their factory in a major fashion before reopening - it was closed a year.

Dave Porter's memo of September 18, 1957 to you and yours to me of July 28, 1959 set forth substantially the requirements. As Dave points out, the bad actor is a tetrachlorobenzodioxime. As you pointed out, certain conditions of temperature in the process can cause the trouble.

In addition, even though Boehringer is sure it has no more dioxime in its process, it ventilates its plant with great care, issues clean work clothes every day and continuously checks its trichlorophenol on rabbit ears per the test described in the Dermatologica paper (Derm. 115, 540, 1957) copy of which you sent me.

Kudszus has reneged on sending out the report he promised Dave - says the dioxime is so active as to be a chemical warfare chemical. But we have all dope orally.

Do you distill TCP? This is said to be a most dangerous step. In distillation, if any alkali or salts are present, oxime forms very rapidly. Recommend that alkali and salt be washed from crude TCP before distillation.

Referring to your points 1, 2 and 3 in your memo to me of July 28, 1957 (H. S. Weiner has a copy):

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J. Burton
Re: Boehringer - Chloracne Problem

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September 30, 1959

1. After dilution with methanol, the reaction mass is only dangerous over 170° C.
2. Distill out major portion of methanol under 110°, then strip out remainder of methanol with steam preferably at 100° (120° C., cited by you said to be dangerous).

Boehringer offers to review your process conditions and advise of further danger points - if these ideas don't do the job.

Finally, after Boehringer did all the above, they tore out plaster walls, floors and similar parts of buildings until no remaining structure gave positive rabbit ear test. This done by carefully protected workmen. Once clean and following above process steps, they have enjoyed good experience. Better try a few rabbit ears on your joint if you are still having trouble. Oh, yes, Boehringer liver damage cases are still on compensation after more than five years!

Thornton F. Holder

TFH:sjm
10/5/59

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