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Report/Article Title Memorandum for the Record: Agent Orange -
Herbicides - Analysis for Dioxin in Tissue (fat) -
Telephone Conversation of October 12, 1978 with Dr.
Michael L. Gross

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Description Notes

October 12, 1978

SUBJ: Agent Orange - Herbicides - Analysis for Dioxin in Tissue (fat) -
Telephone Conversation of October 12, 1978 with Dr. Michael L.
Gross, Professor of Chemistry, University of Nebraska, Lincoln
Nebraska 68588, Telephone No. (402) 472-2794

1. I called Dr. Gross to determine his status and availability to do analyses for Dioxin on tissue (fat) which Dr. Lawrence Hobson and I had discussed with him on August 1, 1978.
2. Dr. Gross is still able to do the analyses. He has been contacted by EPA regarding possible additional work but no solid commitments have yet been made.
3. To refresh our memories I read Dr. Gross my memo for the record dated August 1, 1978. Dr. Gross agreed that this was the essence of our conversation. I told Dr. Gross I would send him a copy of my memo. (I did)
4. Dr. Gross indicated that he thought it would be better if we obtained sufficient fat to split the specimen to do the analyses on $\frac{1}{2}$ and retain the other half in frozen state in case a confirmatory analysis had to be done by another laboratory. To do this would require about 20 grams of fat. We estimated that a fat specimen 3x3x3 centimeters (1.35 cubic inches) would weight about 20 grams.
5. Other laboratories which could provide analyses are:
 - a) Dr. Thomas Tiernan
Professor of Chemistry
Brehm Laboratories
Department of Chemistry
Wright State University
Dayton, Ohio 45431
 - b) Dr. Mather Meselson
Department of Molecular Biology
Harvard Medical School
Boston, Massachusetts (Can do mass spectrometry not gas chromatography)

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c) Dr. Ronald Hass
National Institute for Environmental
Health Sciences
Research Triangle
North Carolina

d) Dr. Ralph Doherty
Professor of Chemistry
Florida State College
Tallahassee, Florida

e) Professor Jean Sutrell
Department of Chemistry
University of Utah
Salt Lake City, Utah

f) Environmental Protection Agency
Dr. Robert Harless
Research Lab
Research Triangle
Durham, N.C.

6. Dr. Gross indicated that he would be willing to send us a proposal if this is necessary.

7. Dr. Gross suggested that we call Dr. Caroline Offutt of the Environmental Protective Agency, Washington, DC (202) 755-9336. Dr. Offutt is Project Manager for the Herbicides Project (Agent Orange).


PAUL C. LEGOLVAN, M.D.