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P. O. Box 799
Hopewell, Virginia
23860
October 1, 1968

PERSONAL AND
CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. Robert K. Heimann
Executive Vice President
The American Tobacco Company
245 Park Avenue
New York, New York 10017

Dear Bob:

As you will recall, you suggested to Dr. H. R. Banner in the fall of 1964 that we should investigate inaugurating some long-term rodent skin painting tests to evaluate the possible carcinogenic properties of coumarin in that bioassay system. These test were undertaken by Woodard Research Corporation, Herndon, Virginia, and have been completed. A great amount of data was collected and it took considerable time to analyze and report this information.

We are enclosing a copy of the summary evaluation of this information by Arthur Burke which was prepared after a recent consultation with Dr. Woodard. In essence, coumarin does not exhibit a carcinogenic potential by that bioassay. The number of skin tumors, i.e. papillomas and carcinomas, were not statistically significantly higher in the cigarette smoke condensate treated mice, compared to the solvent painted controls. In addition, the mice treated with condensate from coumarin impregnated cigarettes showed no true skin cancers. Also, there was no statistically significant incidence of skin cancer in the mice treated with condensate from cigarettes which did not contain the added coumarin - as compared to the solvent treated control animals.

We would be happy to discuss this with you if you desire.

Sincerely,


R. S. Harlow
Managing Director

Enclosure

cc: Mr. J. B. McCarthy (with encl.)
Vice President - Manufacture and Leaf