On March 20, 1987 at 10:00 A. M. I telephoned the Specifications Unit via the Paint Hotline (96-396-7107) and spoke with Ms. Icuri Ogawa, and Mr. Irvin Ostrich, both of them are Doctarate degreed chemists and Specifications Managers.

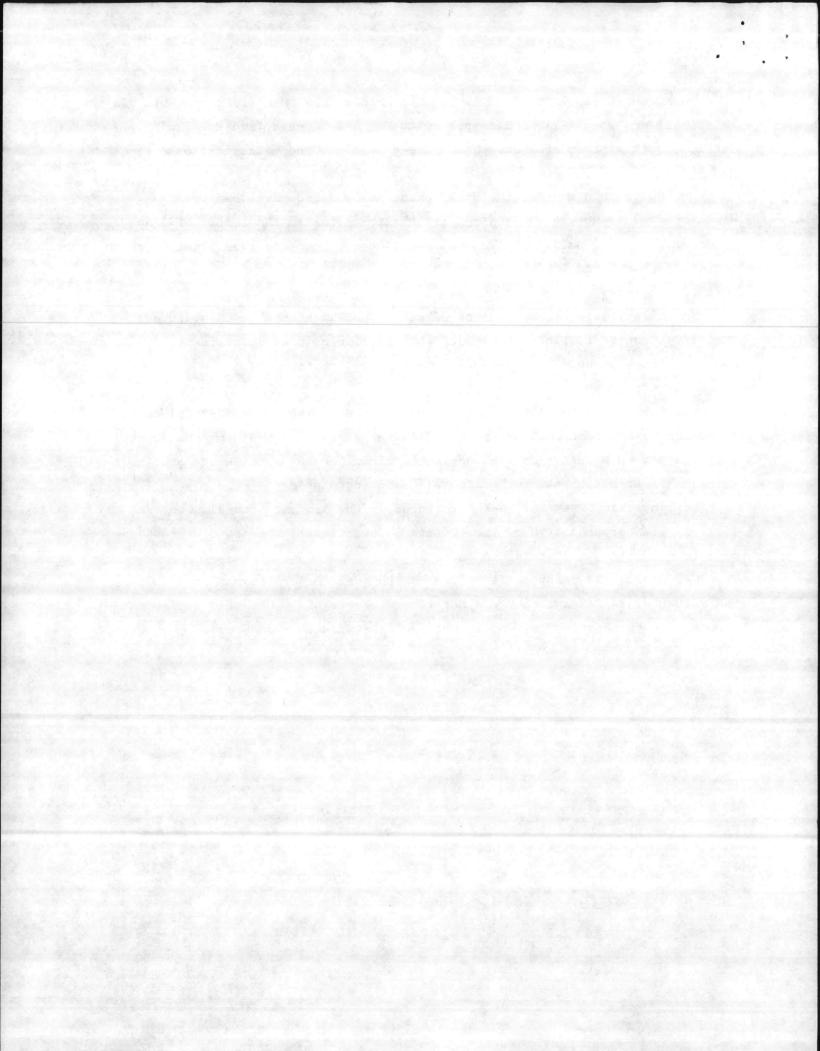
Ms. Ogawa told me that the spray paint NSN's I had given her were classified as Industrial paints and are exempt as far as the amount of lead is concerned. She said architectural paints do not contain lead. Fluorocarbons could be substituted for these spray paints but they destroy the ozone layer. Furthermore, they are very expensive.

She also stated all spray cans of paint contain Methylene Chloride and that if we wanted to find one without this carcinogenic material in it, it would be tough to do. Her suggestion was if we were so worried about it, we could go to a brush or no lead paint.

Ms. Ogawa said that as far as the paint thinner (8010-00-242-2089) goes, it contains less than .02% Benzine and it was acceptable to them. She stated that these manufacturers use ordinary analyticial measures to detect Benzine and that their measures were "Believable" and acceptable.

Carcinogenic potential is to be stated in the product according to OSHA if it is greater than 1/10 of 1%. If its a lower level, the manufactures have gone thru a lot of work to prove so.

Ms. Ogawa told me she called Chevron Chemical Corporation on Paint Thinner NSN 8010-00-242-2089 and they did not recognize the NSN. She said as far as she knew her procurement office is not familiar with Chevron Chemical either.



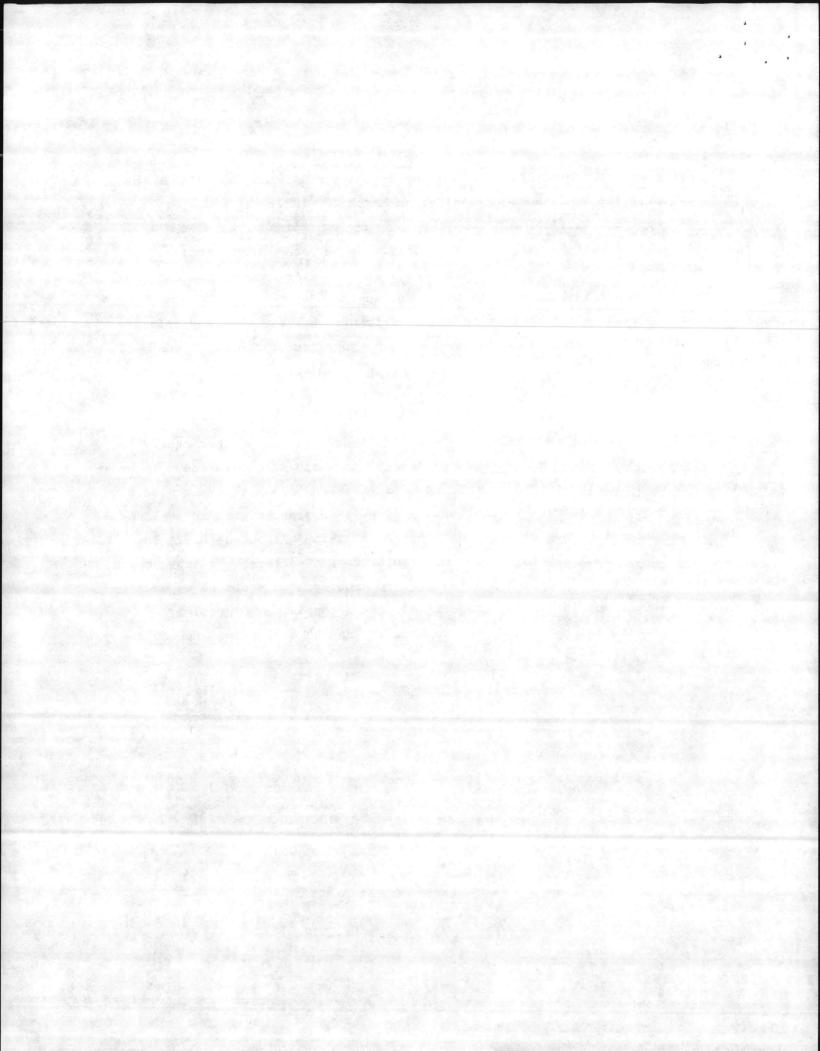
My telephone conversation with a chemist, Irvin Ostrich, Specifications Manager, at Paint Hotline (96-396-3109) on March 20, 1987, was also very interesting. Dr. Ostrich said that the law says that if a product is carcinogenic it must be labeled accordingly. To be hazardous it must be 1% or greater to be listed as a hazardous item. If it's carcinogenic, it must be greater than 1/10 % to be reported according to OSHA.

Dr. Ostrich said that Benzine is an irritant. He said its only slightly toxic if you drink or breathe it over very long periods of time. If you chronically use it on your skin it's toxic. He said with "normal" care you don't overexpose yourself to these products.

The Registry of Toxic Substances, which is put out by OSHA, and has been ordered by his section, hasn't been received yet. The specification Manager stated that the <u>decaffinated coffee</u> and <u>milk</u> we drink contains methylene chloride. In order to get rid of all these carcinogens, we would have to "close shop" he said.

Dr. Ostrich said with "normal care" there is no problem with these items. He did not have the long term use data of these items in front of him. The Material Safety Data sheets are for manufacturers and workers. Perhaps people working in the plant where these products are manufactured would be exposed to a higher level, but in "normal" conditions, there should be no problem.

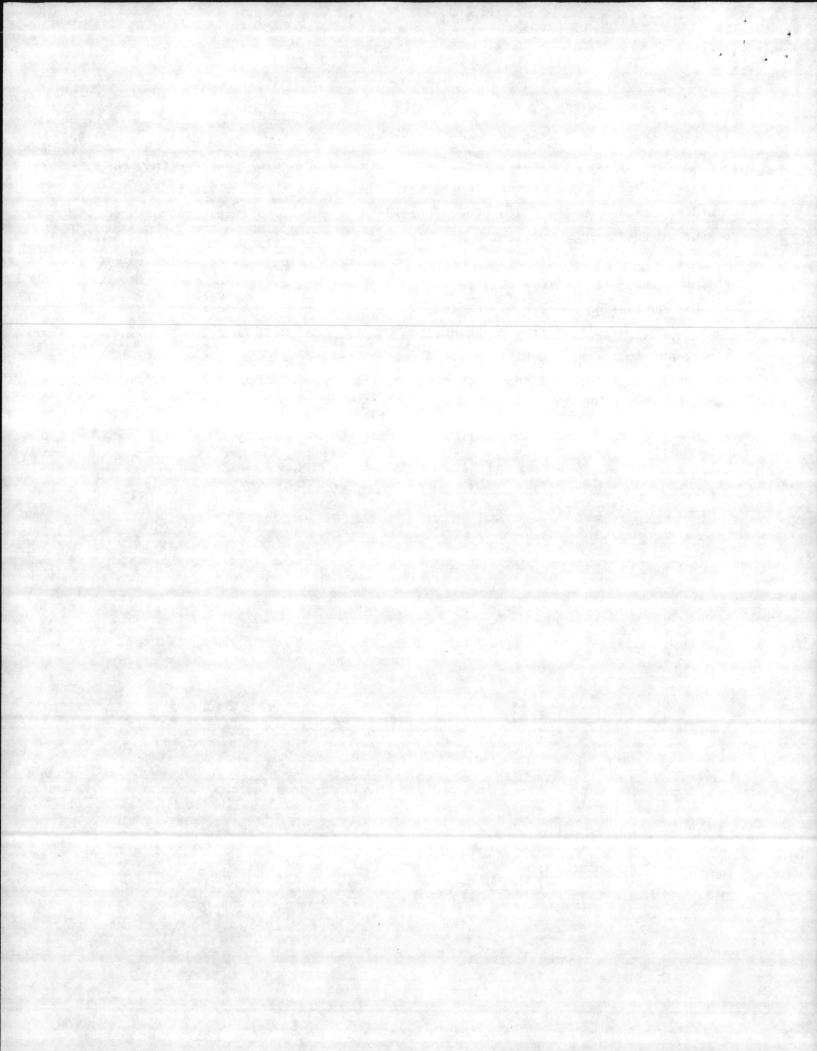
Dr. Ostrich said he would like to have Mr. Bastob call him so he could discuss this problem with him.



At 1:30 P. M. on March 20, 1987, I talked to Bob Bush at GSA (96-242-3026) in Atlanta. He told me that material data safety sheets will not come in with the material from GSA everytime it comes in. He stated that the safety people should maintain a master file. Every hazardous item handled should have a sheet on hand at the location where the item is used.

Bob said that the items GSA has are of an acceptable level according to <u>EPA</u> standards. If they are not, they should or would be told.

His suggestion is to have the Industrial Hygenist write a letter to the Chemist, Dr. Ostrich, at the Paint Hotline Center, GSA, Mail Code 10 FTE, GSA Center, Auburn, Wash. 98001. He would need to ask for disposition of these NSN's if he is determined to get them out of the system. Also, Bob said if these NSN's are "suspect", he should be aware there at his office.



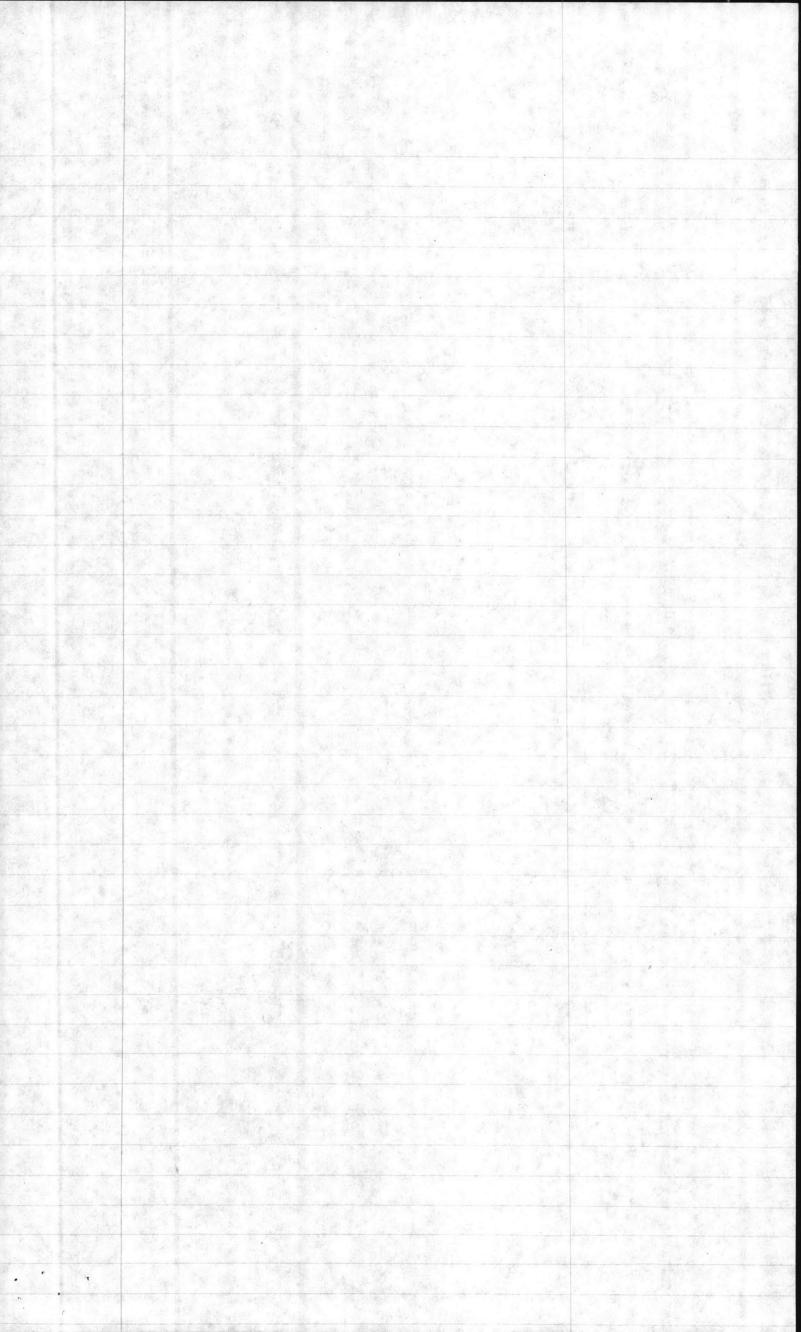
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From Ostrick, Specifications Manager, at Paint Hotline (96,396,315) March 20, 1987,

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