

March 23, 1956

Mr. Gustave Klumpp
49 West 85th Street
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Klumpp:

Your letter of February 22 addressed to Philip Morris and Company has been referred to us for reply. The Tobacco Industry Research Committee was set up by a group of tobacco processors to investigate relations between tobacco use and human health. The program is administered by a Scientific Advisory Board consisting of several distinguished physicians and scientists.

Your courtesy and interest in writing are appreciated. You may be surprised to know that the suggestion has already been made many times that fumes from matches or petroleum lighters used in lighting cigarettes might be damaging. For this reason experiments on effects of cigarette smoke are generally being made without the use either of matches or petroleum lighters, and this has been the rule for a long time in the laboratories of tobacco companies. The cigarettes are lighted with hot wires such as are found in automobile dashboard lighters. These give no fumes.

When time permits, and when more has been learned about tobacco smoke itself, some direct studies on the gases from burning matches and lighters will undoubtedly be done also.

Again let us thank you for your interest.

Sincerely yours,

Robert C. Hockett
Associate Scientific Director

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