

RIF

TDB
READING FILE
CIRCULATED

7th March, 1977.

Mr. D. von Specht,
Alsterufer 4,
2000 Hamburg 36,
GERMANY.

Dear Dieter,

Kit Stewart Lockhart is away at present but in any case I guess I am best able to answer your letter on "compensation".

First I think we must look at the thinking behind League Tables. It is assumed that smoking related diseases are dose dependent and the aim is therefore to reduce the dose of smoke. There is evidence that most smokers of low tar cigarettes do not increase the number of cigarettes smoked per day in proportion to the reduction in the weight of smoke produced in smoking machines i.e. what evidence there is suggests only very slight compensation for low dose by increase in numbers. We are then left with the question whether smokers moving to low tar cigarettes for example do change the way in which they smoke in order to raise the tar and nicotine intake. Intensive but exploratory work at Southampton so far suggests that - at least in the short term - smokers do try, by changing their smoking pattern, to increase the nicotine intake from low tar cigarettes. It is possible that your own extensive (Kippa) studies support this but I find the interpretation of these results so far somewhat confusing.

We have held an internal B.A.T. conference on this issue at which B.A.T. Germany was well represented. This conference was particularly concerned with techniques. We are now considering moving into the national or international scientific level and organising a scientific symposium on the issues involved. There is considerable interest and pressure in this country and if we do not take the initiative I am confident someone else will. It is important to clear up this area and establish the true value of League Tables for all these responsible to see.

With kind regards,
Yours sincerely,

S.J. GREEN

c.c. Mr. C.H. Stewart Lockhart.

100443745