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M. J. HARDWICK

HEALTH AND WELFARE CANADA

fax LCB/AMH
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SIDESTREAM SMOKE FROM CANADIAN CIGARETTES

OTTAWA - HEALTH AND WELFARE MINISTER MONIQUE BEGIN TODAY RELEASED THE FIRST RESULTS OF ANALYSES OF TAR, NICOTINE AND CARBON MONOXIDE YIELDS FROM THE SIDESTREAM AND MAINSTREAM SMOKE OF 15 POPULAR BRANDS OF CANADIAN CIGARETTES (SEE ATTACHED TABLE OF RESULTS). SIDESTREAM SMOKE IS THE SMOKE EMITTED FROM THE BURNING END OF A CIGARETTE - MAINSTREAM SMOKE IS THAT INHALED DIRECTLY BY THE SMOKER.

THE PILOT STUDY FOUND THAT SIDESTREAM YIELDS OF TAR, NICOTINE AND CARBON MONOXIDE ARE HIGHER THAN MAINSTREAM DELIVERIES FOR BOTH REGULAR AND LOWER TAR CIGARETTES. MOREOVER, THE LOWER THE YIELDS OF THE MAINSTREAM SMOKE, THE HIGHER ARE THOSE OF THE SIDESTREAM. THIS MEANS THE AMOUNTS OF TOTAL SMOKE PRODUCED ARE SIMILAR FOR ALL BRANDS, IRRESPECTIVE OF MANUFACTURERS' DESIGNATIONS SUCH AS +LIGHT+, +MILD+ OR +REGULAR+.

THE AVERAGE TOTAL SMOKE YIELDS OF THE BRANDS TESTED WERE 35 MG OF TAR, 5 MG OF NICOTINE AND 55 MG OF CARBON MONOXIDE PER CIGARETTE.

TAR AND NICOTINE RATINGS PRINTED ON CIGARETTE PACKAGES REFLECT MAINSTREAM YIELDS ONLY. THEY MAY BE HELPFUL IN GUIDING SMOKERS TO POTENTIALLY LESS HAZARDOUS PRODUCTS, BUT ARE UNRELATED TO SIDESTREAM AND TOTAL SMOKE YIELDS.

+THERE HAS BEEN GROWING CONCERN ABOUT THE HEALTH HAZARDS FROM AMBIENT TOBACCO SMOKE.+ THE MINISTER SAID. +YET CONSUMERS HAVE HAD NO INFORMATION ABOUT THE TOXIC SUBSTANCE LEVELS FOUND IN THE SMOKE WHICH ARISES FROM THE BURNING END OF CIGARETTES AS THEY RE SMOKED.

+THESE FINDINGS,+ MISS BEGIN SAID, +REINFORCE MY CONCERN, ARISING FROM ACCUMULATING SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE, ABOUT THE RISKS OF INVOLUNTARY EXPOSURE TO THE SMOKE OF OTHERS' CIGARETTES, PARTICULARLY IN CONFINED SPACES.

+ACCORDINGLY, I HAVE ASKED CANADIAN TOBACCO MANUFACTURERS TO UNDERTAKE MEASUREMENTS OF SIDESTREAM AND TOTAL SMOKE YIELDS OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES IN EACH BRAND OF CIGARETTE AND TO REPORT THE RESULTS ANNUALLY TO MY DEPARTMENT.

+I AM CONFIDENT,+ MISS BEGIN SAID, +THAT THE TOBACCO INDUSTRY WILL TAKE THE PUBLIC INTEREST AND UNDERTAKE THESE TESTING

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THE STUDY WAS CONDUCTED JOINTLY BY LASSTAT INC. OF KITCHENER. ONTARIO AND HEALTH AND WELFARE CANADA. AND APPEARED IN THE MARCH 1984 ISSUE OF THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PUBLIC HEALTH.

BRAND TYPE

NON VENTILATED

A		EXPORT A REG
B		MARK TEN REG
C	1	PLAYERS REG
D		BELVEDERE REG
E		ROTHMANS KS
F	1	PLAYERS LIGHT REG
G		EXPORT A LIGHT REG
H		CRAVEN A KS

VENTILATED

I		ROTHMANS EXTRA LIGHT KS
J	1	PLAYERS EXTRA LIGHT REG
K		VANTAGE LIGHT KS
L		CRAVEN A SPECIAL MILD KS
M		VISCOUNT EXTRA MILD KS
N	1	MATINEE EXTRA MILD KS
O	1	MEDALLION KS

1 DESIGNATES IMPERIAL PRODUCTS
NO PUFF NUMBER, MEAN OR RATIO REFERENCE IN GOVERNMENT TELEX.
ALL REMAINING INFORMATION RELEASED AS IN TABLE 1 ABOVE REFERENCE.

PAT DUNN

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