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REPORT NO. RD.1683 RESTRICTED

"N'-NITROSONORNICOTINE IN TOBACCO"

The published work of Hoffmann, in which he was unable to detect nitrosonornicotine (NNN) in uncured tobacco carries the inference that the bulk of NNN is formed during curing.

This inference is weakened by our own work in which we detected NNN in all the samples of uncured leaf we examined and only in some cases was an increase in NNN observed after curing. For further work on NNN it would be very desirable to improve the analytical methods. I hope we shall do this before we go further with tobacco-specific nitrosamines. In the meantime we shall concentrate on volatile nitrosamines.

S.J.
S.J. GREEN

25th May, 1979

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