



BRITISH-AMERICAN TOBACCO COMPANY LTD

A member of the B.A.T Industries Group

RDL/NMS

15th August 1986

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Following the various exchanges of notes and our recent telephone conversations I would confirm that John Downie will be obtaining as soon as possible samples of cured 1986 Crop Aegean tobaccos for testing at NRPB.

The background, of course, is the recent report on the rejection of 1986 crop Aegean OREGANO in the USA due to high levels of radioactivity; some of the (unconfirmed) figures I have heard are very high indeed as I have already mentioned to you. We, of course, do not have any 1986 crop tobaccos in stock and nor will we until late next year. Our potential suppliers in Turkey however are understandably very nervous about the Oregano situation.

As I understand the current position on stocks we do already hold, all of the testing done in Finland and by NRPB has shown extremely low levels and NRPB had suggested that we do not need further analyses on Yugoslavia or Bulgarian tobaccos from 1983, 1984 and 1985 which has been stored at various sites (countries of origin, Finland, USA)? I have not seen any figures from NRPB and would be grateful to receive them when they are available: I am sure also that Messrs. White and Pfennig would like to see them and I would be grateful if you could arrange this in due course.

Finally, I agree with your suggestion that it would probably be prudent to arrange for 1986 cured Agrinion tobaccos to be looked at fairly quickly and I have cabled John already to obtain 1986 samples of AFI-4 (and perhaps CAB) from Greece when they are available.

R D LOWE

Bob

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