

Internal Correspondence

AR226-0483

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It's put renewed emphasis on personal hygiene and engineering controls to reverse this trend.

RLA - 9/19/84

To: P. F. RIEHLE - SPECIALTY CHEMICAL DIVISION - CHEMOLITE CENTER 41-1

From: D. E. ROACH, M.D. - MEDICAL SERVICES - 220-2E-02

Subject: Organic Fluorine Levels

Date: August 31, 1984

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Since our meeting on the latest results of Building 15 organic fluorine levels, test results have been distributed to Bldg. 15 employees. In addition, we have now re-sampled Bldg. 15 workers for updated organic fluorine measurements.

The tests results that were reviewed at our meeting seem to substantiate a trend that has been developing over the past 12-18 months - a tendency for these levels in a number of people to no longer show the previous pattern of decline, in fact, a fair number are now demonstrating an increase in blood fluorine levels. Handling procedures, proper use of protective equipment, showering, etc. may obviously be important factors in the changes being seen. Unfortunately, our sampling had not allowed sufficient time to elapse since you initiated a major program to review personnel handling of fluorochemicals. Therefore, our most recent testing will of great interest.

However, unless we see some evidence of improvement in this last batch of tests from Bldg. 15, we must view this present trend with serious concern. It is certainly possible that with steady and concentrated production of these surfactants in Bldg. 15, and despite our controls, exposure opportunities are providing a potential uptake of fluorochemicals that exceeds excretion capabilities of the body. If this is true, additional protective measures will be needed.

I am enclosing some copies of the slides that demonstrate the above situation. As soon as we receive the recent test sampling, we will be in contact with you.

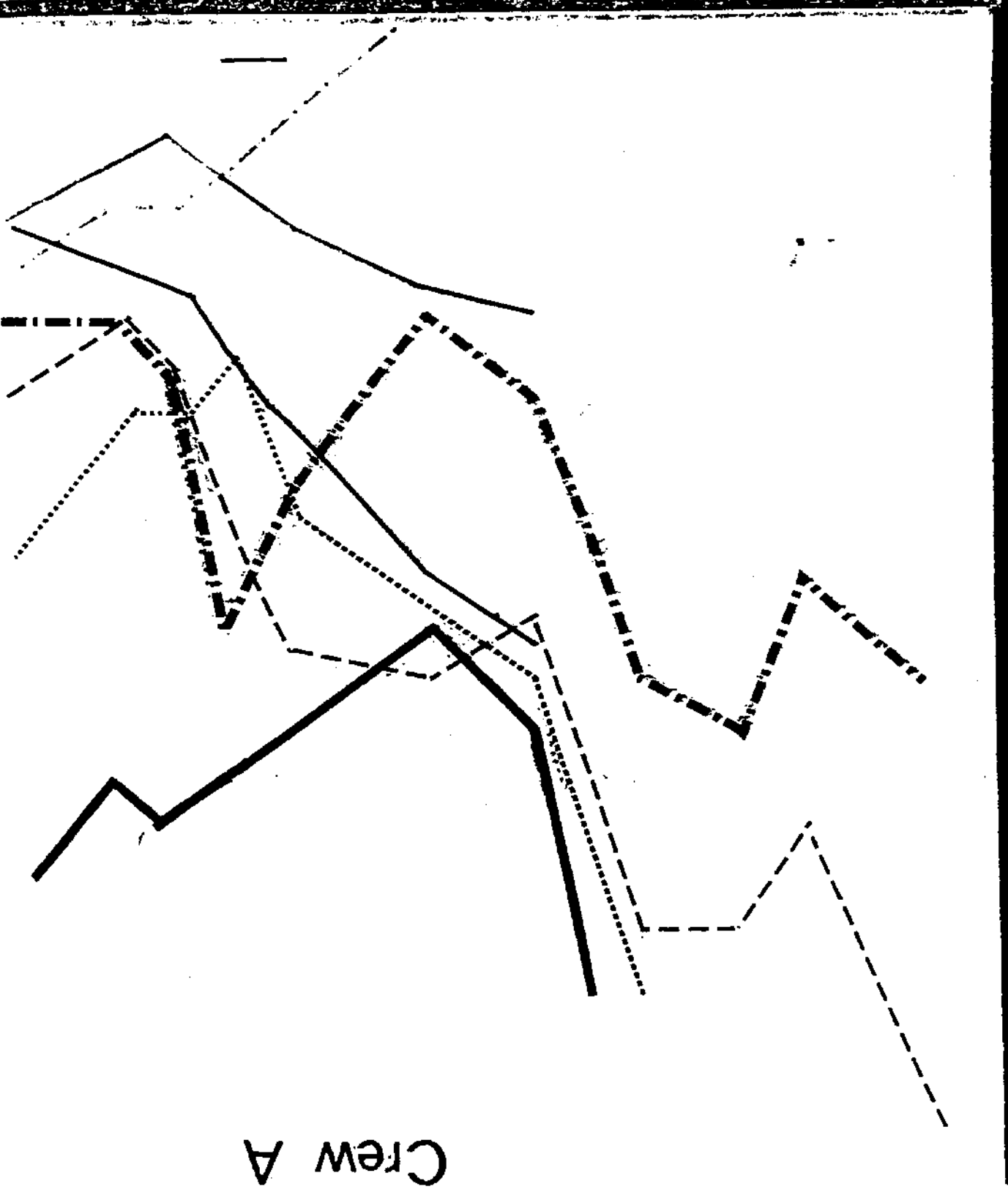

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Attachments

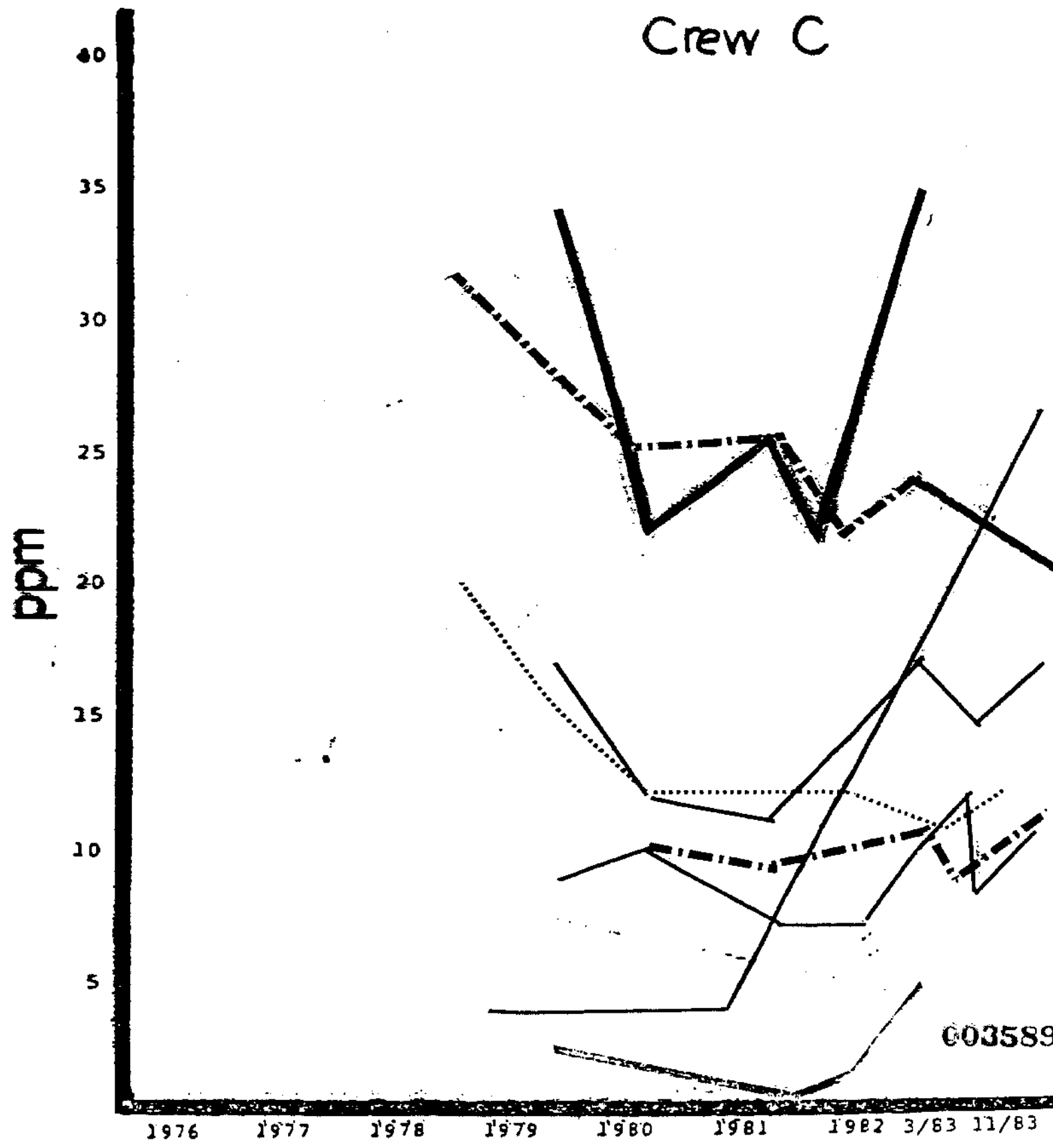
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