Q What kind of research did you do?
A Well, we had been collecting, you know, basic stuff out of the, out of the medical literature.
Q When you say "we," who are you talking about?
A Well, Hill and Knowlton and Johns-Manville.
Q So Hill and Knowlton had a relationship with Johns-Manville at that time?
A Yes.
Q Okay, go ahead.
A I can recall at one point a meeting at which somebody commented on the fact that we had more than 4,000 papers on asbestos and health in the file at that particular point in time.
Q Now, when you say at that point I found about 4,000 articles on asbestos and health, at what point in time are we discussing, just so I know, about 1968?
A Well, it was probably later than that. We're probably talking '71 or something in that ballpark.
Q Did Hill and Knowlton maintain their own file on asbestos and health at that time?
A Yes, they did have -- yeah, they did.
Q And who was the custodian of that file?
A Probably a fellow named Carl Thompson.

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Q Is Carl still with the company, do you know?

A No, he's retired.

Q Now, after Carl left what happened to that file?

A No, but it's different than that. What happened was that when Manville moved to Denver all of the Hill and Knowlton files were turned over to the trade association.

Q What trade association?

A The Asbestos Information Association.

Q Okay. And when was that?

A Late 1971 probably.

Q Okay. So Hill and Knowlton didn't retain copies?

A Not to the best of my knowledge.

Q Now, you said you did some research for Mansville when you took over in this public relations job. Did you ever document the earliest articles that you can recall concerning asbestos and health?

A I'm sorry, I don't quite understand.

Q Let me rephrase the question. Did you breakdown the articles into the various diseases, or did you just lump medical articles together when you were doing --.

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affiliated with, as I recall, St. Luke's Hospital in, I can't remember where it was. I just remember it was St. Luke's Hospital someplace.

Q When you had this job in public relations, did you consult or collaborate with any other asbestos companies?

A Not until the trade association was formed.

Q And when was that?

A In, I think, maybe late 1970.

Q Can you recall with respect to the paper on Asbestos Insulation and Health what the earliest articles you were able to find in the medical literature were implicating asbestos insulation as a health hazard?

A No.

Q Do you remember from what decade they came?

A No, not really. I remember better the, you know, when the diseases were found, you know, in the medical literature as opposed to their association with any particular product.

Q Okay. Well, can you recall with respect to asbestosis the earliest articles you were able to find in the medical literature?

A My recollection is that they were probably in

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the 1930s.

Q Do you remember the authors of any of those papers?

A No.

Q Do you remember what the papers said?

A Just basically that heavy exposure to asbestos insulations or asbestos could cause, you know, asbestosis.

Q Okay. Did you have any discussion with any physicians or any other representatives of Manville concerning those findings?

MS. FIGUEREDO: By those findings you mean?

Q The papers dating back to the 1930s on asbestosis.

A I'm not quite sure about what you mean by discussions.

Q Well, did you have discuss with Dr. Wright, for instance, about the articles you found dating, concerning asbestosis back in the 1930s?

A Probably no specific discussions.

Q Was it part of your job to communicate your findings to someone else within the company?

A Well, it's not findings. You know, we had the processes -- basically we had this great body of

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essentially looking at, is to try and determine what sort of, what would make sense in that regard.

Q Did you reach any conclusions or did anyone working with you reach any conclusions concerning the reliability of an established threshold limit value?

A In other words, would it work?

Q Right.

A Yeah, I think they believed that there was a level that could be set by the government that would protect people, if that's what you mean.

Q Do you know what that was?

A No, they thought, I think, you know, in the low numbers of fiber per cubic centimeter, whether it was going to be -- whether it would be two or four or five or somewhere in that general ballpark.

Q Did you also do research and prepare a background paper concerning asbestos and lung cancer?

A I'm sure I did.

Q Okay. And who did you consult, or what did you consult in preparing that paper?

A The same processes as the other ones.

Q Can you recall the first articles that you were able to -- the earliest articles you were able to find demonstrating an association between asbestos and

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lung cancer?

A My recollection, probably in the late '40s, something like that.

Q Can you recall who the author of those articles were?

A No, I have the recollection it was a British paper, but I'm not sure.

Q Can you recall any particular epidemiological studies that you found which established an association between asbestos and lung cancer?

A Well, that's what I'm referring to, epidemiological studies.

Q Okay. Did Manville ever give you any of their own data with respect to their own employees when you were writing up these background papers?

A No.

Q So this was basically a search of what was out there at the time?

A Yes, that's correct.

Q Did you put your conclusions as to when this first association became known in this background paper?

A Most likely. I mean, that would be the standard way I would write things. So I would assume I did

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that.

Q Did anyone, to your knowledge, come back to you and disagree with your conclusions?

A No.

Q Did you submit those papers to Dr. Wright again for review?

A Oh, yes.

Q And did he disagree with the determination or conclusions that you reached concerning asbestos and lung cancer?

A No, not to the best of my recollection.

Q Did you also attempt to determine whether there was a safe level of exposure in terms of contracting lung cancer from asbestos?

A The process of looking at TLV's for asbestos was just applied across the board for all the diseases.

Q Did you ever do a background paper concerning exposure to asbestos and mesothelioma?

A Again, I'm -- don't remember precisely doing that, but I assume I did, because we had a great body of those papers, eight or nine of one type or another. So that would be naturally one to be done.

Q Do you recall the earliest articles that you found in Manville's files demonstrating an association between asbestos and mesothelioma?

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and Certain-Teed in the late 1960s retaining Hill and Knowlton concerning the issues of asbestos and health?

A When would this have been?

Q '67, '68, '69.

A No, I thought it was just Manville.

Q Did Hill and Knowlton have its own medical people at the time that assisted Manville?

A You mean doctors, professionals.

Q Doctors.

A No.

Q What type of assistance did it give Manville other than writing copy for them and helping them with press releases, that type of thing?

A Just, you know, just counsel them on, as I said, on public relations aspects of the issue.

Q Did Hill and Knowlton give Manville any technical support?

A No.

Q Did they ever, during the time that you worked there, counsel Manville on how to deal with lawsuits arising out of asbestos?

A No.

Q Can you recall what specifically Hill and Knowlton advised Manville to do with respect to the problem of asbestos and health?

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A I believe in late 1970.

Q And was that patterned after any other organization, to your knowledge?

A Yes, an Asbestos Information Association type of a group in England.

Q Do you know whether Hill and Knowlton had advised the AIA in England prior to that time?

A Yes, they had.

Q Do you recall in the 1970s what companies founded the AIA of North America?

A I could name a couple. It's in some of the material I passed on for the deposition before. Certain-Teed, of course Manville, Raybestos-Manhattan, National Gypsum. It seems to me there were seven or eight. GAF, that's all I can remember of the initial.

Q Was Owens-Corning a member?

A I don't believe so.

Q What about Baldwin, Ehret, Hill, do you recall that, or Keene Company?

A No.

Q Celotex or Philip Carey?

A Philip Carey I think may have come in in the second group much later. They expanded it from the original seven or eight up until about 22 or 23. And I can't, again, I also can't remember too many of them,

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Q On page 3 the sentence says; "First, there is no doubt that the inhalation of substantial amounts of asbestos being lead to increased rates of various types of lung disease, including two forms of cancer. These are facts which cannot be denied, even if they do not apply in all circumstances and under all conditions." Is that a statement that you believe was true in 1973?

A Yes.

Q Do you believe that the members of the organization ascribed to that statement?

A Yes.

Q All right. I'd like to read you the next sentence: "The medical literature is full of solid evidence linking asbestos to disease. In my office I have on file more than 2,000 medical papers dealing with the health risk of asbestos, and hundreds more are published every year." At that time in 1973 did you have at least 2,000 papers in your office --

A Sure.

Q -- on asbestos disease?

A Probably was more.

Q Can you recall ever making that statement?

A Yes. I mean --.

Q Okay. Let me just go on to the next

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sentence: "Secondly, the spreading of alarm over the health risks of asbestos has as its prime spokesman one of the most talented medical publicists of the age, Dr. Irving Selikoff of New York City Mount Sinai Hospital." Did you believe that at the time?

A Uh-huh.

Q Do you recall stating that?

A I don't recall stating it.

Q I ask you to turn to page four. The first full paragraph says: "While Dr. Selikoff has, in his zeal, unquestionably painted a far darker pictures than the facts warrant, we should always remember in his defense that the insulation workers he has been studying for far more than a decade were and still are dying from asbestos-related disease at an appalling rate." Do you believe that statement to be true in 1973?

A Yes.

Q Did the members of the organization in 1973, to your knowledge, ascribe to that statement as well?

A I would think so.

MS. FIGUEREDO: One second.

(Witness and Counsel confer).

Q I'd ask you to look at page 7.

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effectively represent an entire industry in dealing with the press and with government officials." Do you believe that to be true at the time?

A Yes.

Q I read this paragraph to you before, and I'd like to give you the opportunity to address it. The second paragraph on Page 8. It says: "Fortunately, and properly the Association has had the wisdom to alter its original limited concept of its proper functions, and now endeavors to assume whatever activities and responsibilities it deems necessary to protect the interests of the asbestos manufacturing industry in the United States vis-a-vis asbestos and health." Did you believe that to be true at the time?

A Yes.

Q And was that the position of the various members of the Asbestos Information Association at the time?

A I would have to assume so.

Q The next page discusses the nine fields of endeavor for the Asbestos Information Association. And it lists medical affairs, legal affairs, government affairs, environmental control, publicity and public relations, customer relations, employee relations and inter-industry relations. Was that true at the time?

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ways with asbestos where they're not exposed to huge amounts of asbestos dust the way the insulation trade were will not develop diseases at this sort of levels that Selikoff had in his study.

Q Well, did you have a conclusion at the time that they would develop diseases at lower levels?

A In some areas yes, and in some areas no.

Q What do you mean by that?

A In other words, if you looked at the textile mills, for example, they had problems not as serious as Selikoff's, but problems particularly with asbestosis. If you looked at asbestos cement pipe, before they got the crocidolite out you had some mesothelioma problems there. Most other asbestos cement situations there didn't seem to be any problems at all. The mining situation, for whatever reason, did not seem to be bad except in South Africa. So it was a mixed bag of things.

Q Well, how long was it known that high levels of fibers were generated by asbestos insulation workers?

A I don't know. I can't say.

Q Okay. You did believe prior to 1973, however, did you not, that individuals who were family members were at risk of developing asbestos disease?

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A Yes.

Q You said that there was demonstration that people who worked with asbestos cement pipe could get sick, correct?

A Dating back before controls were put into place.

Q All right. And when was that, '40s?

A Yeah, probably.

Q '50s?

A I don't know, before my time.

Q You say that there was evidence that people who worked in the asbestos textile factories could get sick, correct?

A Yes, many studies.

Q All right. There was evidence that people who worked in the asbestos insulation industry could get sick, correct?

A Not in the manufacturing side.

Q That I don't understand. What do you mean?

A In other words, the people -- I mean, to the best of my recollection, I don't think that there were any studies that indicated the people who made the pipe insulation had a problem. It was only the people who installed it and ripped it out that had the problem. But I may be wrong. But that's my recollection.

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A I don't recall making such a recommendation.

Q Can you recall any instances in the past where Hill and Knowlton advised any member of the insulation industry to set up research foundations or medical research to help assist it on the asbestos and health issues

A Only the, only going back to the establishment of that joint program with Selikoff back in the late '60s.

Q Other than that, you can't think of any?

A No, I cannot think of any.

Q In your capacity at the Asbestos Information Association, had you ever discussed the hazards of asbestos specifically with any industry member representatives other than Johns-Manville?

MS. FIGUEREDO: Can you repeat the question?

(Read back.)

A Well, that was the purpose of the trade association. So, sure, with all the other member companies when they would come to meetings or whatever.

Q I'm reading from P-2, the statement that says; "Most finished asbestos-containing products when correctly used will not produce dust levels high enough to be a hazard to workers." Do you know what is meant

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presentations made by the AIA on behalf of the industry members?

A Yes, I believe they would, as I recall.

Q Can you tell me specifically which doctors you can recall dealing with from those companies?

A I believe George Wright. I believe around that time Manville had retained Dr. Paul Kotin as well. There was a doctor from Raybestos, but I cannot remember his name, I believe. And those are the only ones that frankly come to mind.

Q Did any member of the insurance industry ever have any relationship with Hill and Knowlton in terms of the issues of asbestos and health?

A Not to my knowledge.

Q Now, was there a policy within the Asbestos Information Association that nothing could be released unless it was approved by the member companies, and that no statement should be made without the approval of the member companies?

A Well, there was -- there was an approval process. I cannot specifically say what it was. I know that not everybody had to approve a statement that needed to be made in a short period of time. But I don't remember what the approval process was.

Q But generally there was approval on behalf

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of the industry members --

A Yes.

Q -- of anything that was published or presented?

A That's correct.

Q So, for instance, were you made a presentation to Congress, the substance of that presentation would have to be approved by the member companies or members of it?

A That's correct, although I've never made a presentation to Congress or any Congressional committee.

Q For instance, when you testified before OSHA --

A Yes.

Q -- was the substance of your testimony first reviewed by the member companies?

A Yes.

Q Before any of these pamphlets are sent out are they all approved by the member companies?

A If the pamphlets were produced when I was there, yes. What happens today, I have no idea.

Q Am I correct that you as you sit here today you don't have a recollection of a specific approval procedure?

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