Billerica Plant
October 13, 1970

H. M. Jackson, New York, Box 91

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MASS. DEPT. OF LABOR & INDUSTRIES

On October 7, 1970, Dr. Heinrich Brugsch, and Inspector Hevey, Dept. of Labor & Industries, Division of Occupational Hygiene, appeared at the Plant at approximately 10:00 A.M. (without prior notice).

I met with them immediately in the Conference Room, as they were not interested in going into the Plant.

Dr. Brugsch stated that he had two requests and one suggestion, as follows:

1. A list of all current employees, with date of hire, present job title and date of last X-Ray. (He was not interested in prior employees). This would include only Production Salary Employees.

2. List of employees, both past and present who have filed or opened claims in regard to pulmonary diseases which may be related to Asbestosis. (This is available to him through State files, and is a matter of public record, but would be easier for me to produce than for him to procure by searching the records).

3. Suggested to us that we might purchase a Time Capacity Meter and a Flo-meter, for preliminary pulmonary function studies, which could be utilized in our First Aid Room by our Plant Nurse, to give us a better determination of employees' health (Depending upon the cost, this might be a good investment to give us a better overall evaluation of our employees. From this we could determine whether they should bear closer control).

As far as John Mell and I are concerned, the data he requested is available and we find no reason not to furnish it to him. He asked if it could be available in a month. I stated that I could provide it in two weeks.

The tone and atmosphere was extremely warm and friendly, and certainly Dr. Brugsch, at least in his mid 60's, was a very pleasant individual, and we discussed many general matters relating to industrial accidents and disease. Inspector Hevey had very little to say, but was cordial.

Dr. Brugsch stated that Dr. Gaensler, at Boston University School of Medicine, was doing research work for him in another Asbestos plant in the Greater Boston area, and they were jointly studying the entire work force, both past and present, so that he is familiar with Dr. Gaensler and his authoritative work.

Dr. Brugsch's main objective is apparently serving as an advisor to the State of Massachusetts, Dept. of Labor and Industries, in the area of Asbestosis, and I believe it is to our advantage to provide him with whatever data he needs, within legal limits.

AA107

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He did not ask for any medical reports, X-Rays, or X-Ray interpretations, since he stated that what he needed he could request through his own sources from St. John's Hospital, directly. Frankly, I believe that he cannot have access to them without our approval first, since they are our property, and are merely kept there for our convenience and review. We will wait and see what develops at a later date.

Do you have any objection to providing the data requested in Item 1 and ~~2~~?

PAUL W. CHAPMAN

AA107