July 12, 1939

Mr. George Trautvetter, Executive Engineer,
Edward G. Budd Manufacturing Company,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Mr. Trautvetter:

I have been informed by our representative in Philadelphia, Mr. F. J. Harris, that you have inquired concerning the Silicosis hazard, if any, that may be presented by the handling of our Stonefelt insulation.

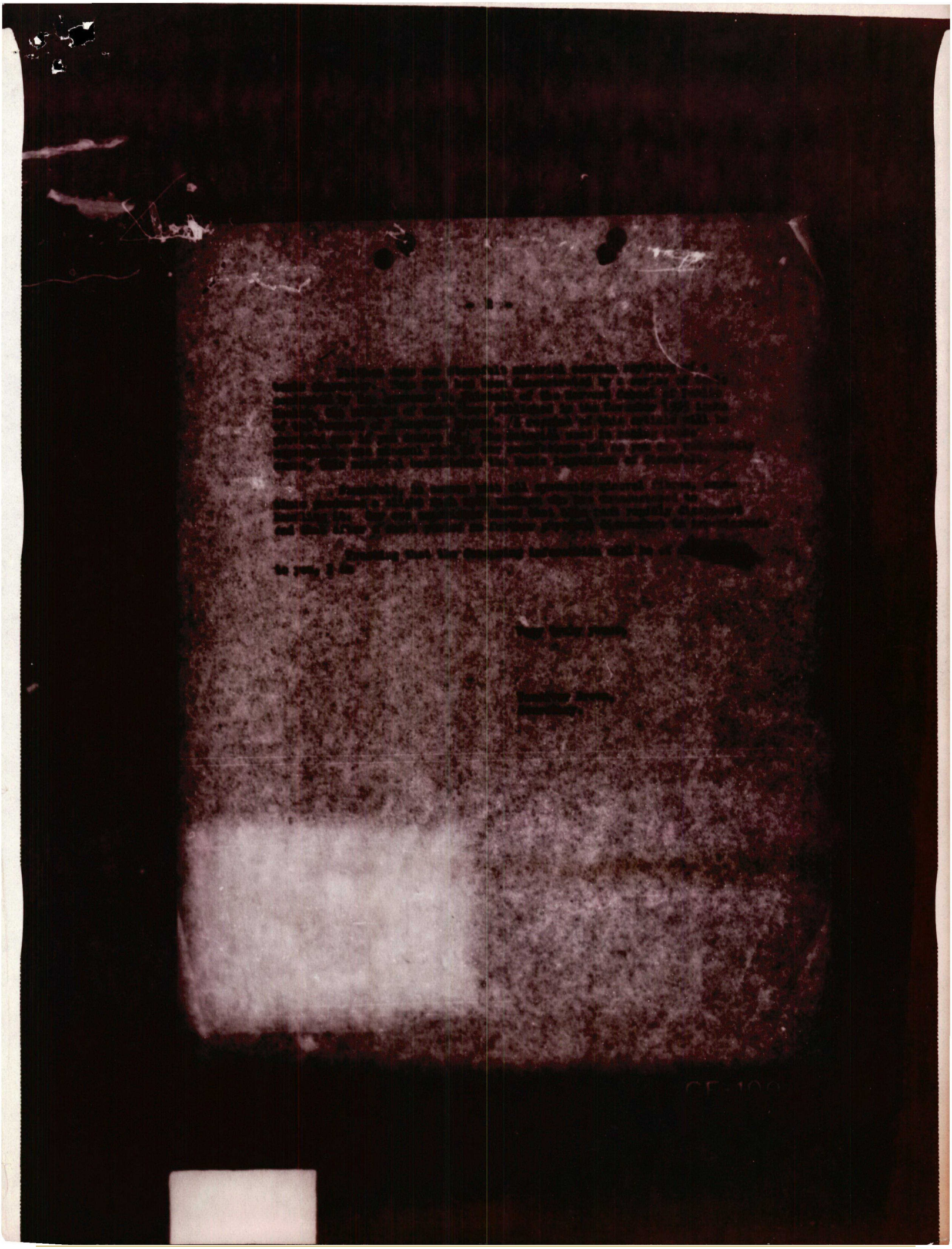
This matter has been referred to me for answer and in reply I am very glad to be in a position to advise that we are fully convinced that this material cannot cause Silicosis. This conviction is based upon more than thirty years experience in manufacturing and handling this material and materials of substantially similar composition.

Our own conviction in this connection has been substantiated by extensive tests of our products and by medical surveys of our plants at one of which these materials have been produced and handled by men during periods of time, some of which have been relatively long. These tests have conclusively demonstrated that these materials are incapable of producing the lung fibrosis known as Silicosis. Although Stonefelt contains a considerable percentage of silica, this ingredient is present in the form of Silicate wherein it is universally recognized that Silicosis can be produced only by free silica, and then only when the workmen are exposed over long periods of time to excessively high concentrations of silica or microscopic particles thereof.

The survey of our plants referred to above was conducted by the Industrial Health Section of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company and this survey included the interpretation of x-rays of all of the employees, some of them had been [illegible] exposed to these materials for more than thirty years and a [illegible] of them had been engaged in handling them for more than fifteen years. Over four hundred employees were involved. Not a single case of Silicosis was discovered. Following the survey we were advised by Metropolitan Life Insurance Company that we could safely assume that materials of this type were innocuous from the viewpoint of lung Fibrosis.

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