3. Sampling Technique

It is essentially impossible to know how long the filter is under the hood without having a technician with safety clothing on next to each man being sampled. Even if the hoods were off most of the time - putting them on could only increase the counts.

After watching the sampling procedure, the area the men work in, the diversity of their job locations and the membrane filters, I have no doubt that the source of the asbestos dust is from the safety garments. References 2 and 3 do imply, with justification, that most of the dust would arise from the hoods.

4. R/M Treated Fabric was Dustier

Abest Products were instructed to make the garments out of R/M L-71-1173 fabric This was personally supervised by Mr. Weikart of Abest and shipped under special cover. I compared these suits to a sample of treated L-71-1173 and they appeared the same to me. Visually the cloth is clean. I also observed the sampling technique and recording procedure.

In my estimation, the samples were not crossed and 1173 was used.

5. High Counts at Plant 2

I was not at plant 2, but I have seen fabrics which I think could produce these high counts. The fabric is located very close to the breathing area and sampler which makes these high counts possible. The photomicrographs of the samples from plant 2 show this high fiber concentration.

6. Miscellaneous Areas

Table A-1 C_1 and C_2 are rounded off. C_3 was calculated from values before rounding off.

Table A-1 The British system for dates is day/month/year.

Table 6 My copy of the report read 12.3 not 112.3.

The report was submitted to R/M for internal use and not for publication. The report for publication would be significantly different in format and tabulation of data. I think John's comments could be helpful to Dr. Gibbs in preparing the report for publication. I also think that we should have the opportunity to review the paper before submission to a journal.

By this rebuttal I do not mean to imply that the report is without fault. Dr. Gibbs and I have discussed some other technical difficulties related to this and Part II of the program. However, the report substantiates the conclusion that asbestos safety garments expose workers wearing them to excessive levels of

John J. Magenheimer to John H. Marsh Answering Hawkins on the McGill Report, Page 2 (1974)
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