10-3-79

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT UC-1202

UNION CARBIDE

INTERNAL CORRESPONDENCE

CHEMICALS AND PLASTICS

P. O. BOX 471, TEXAS CITY, TEXAS 77590

TO (NAME) Mr. J. H. Barrett
COMPANY Mr. T. O. Blum
LOCATION Mr. D. L. Engle
Mr. J. S. Knight
Mr. W. P. Nickles
Mr. F. S. Provenzano
COPY TO Mr. D. R. Reem
Mr. R. Ritchie
TEXAS CITY PLANT

DATE October 9, 1979

SUBJECT OSHA Complaint Investigation on 10/3/79

Copy to Dr. D. H. Glenn
Mr. J. B. Leverton
Mr. K. E. Martin
Mr. R. A. Ream - 511
Mr. R. J. Taylor
Ms. A. P. Yalcinkaya

Gentlemen:

On October 3, 1979, Mr. Richard Miller, an OSHA Industrial Hygienist, arrived at the Texas City Plant to investigate an employee complaint alleging over-exposure to ozone, argon, and metal fumes while welding inside van boxes at Bldg. 189.

An opening conference was held with Messrs. Miller, Taylor, Martin, Munn - a union representative - and Schulz in attendance. The complaint was briefly reviewed. Mr. Miller was informed that we were aware of the situation, and though we did not consider it a significant health hazard, Union Carbide had been actively seeking to solve the problem for several months.

The group proceeded to Bldg. 189, the Van Box Shop, where Mr. Miller was shown the operation. No welding was taking place on that day. Several auto mechanics were interviewed by Mr. Miller. Following the interviews we returned to Bldg. 1 for a closing conference.

In the closing conference, Mr. Miller requested that he be informed prior to a day when welding would take place so that he might return and monitor for ozone and aluminum oxide. We agreed to do so.

As an aside, Mr. Miller informed us that during his interviews with the mechanics, one complained of having to work on heavy equipment that was contaminated with chemicals from the OPDA, and that Carbide would not provide a washing facility to clean such equipment. Mr. Miller told us that the employee was threatening to formally complain to OSHA, and we might want to investigate prior to that time. The conference was terminated and Mr. Miller left the plant.

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The Industrial Hygiene group is preparing to do 8-hour TLV monitoring of the van box welding operation. Until such time as we can affirm or deny an overexposure to ozone, we have requested H. K. Decker, Shop Superintendent, to require the auto mechanics to wear half-face piece, positive pressure, air supplied respirators while welding on aluminum van boxes.

Should you have any questions regarding this report, please contact me at 5488.

Yours truly,

Harvey R. Schulz

HRS:ir

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