Calidria ASBESTOS

or T. P. Norris
W. C. Thurber
J. E. Walsh
KC-File
NF-File

UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION
P.O. Box 579 Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14302

By H. B. Rhodes

Date 2/7/75

Full Name Gypsum Drywall Contractors International Address 2010 Mass. Ave. N.W., Suite 600 Washington, D. C. Mfrs. of	Interviewed Mr. Howard Leederman - Director

OBJECTIVE

Check on the status of the Gypsum Drywall Contractors Intl. asbestos toxicology activities.

OBSERVATIONS

Had a very interesting conversation with Mr. Leederman. The asbestos dust testing program is still on dead center with the general attitude among the contractors a mixture of "hoping that OSHA will go away" and "It is the suppliers problem." The California Drywall Contractors Association spearheaded by Robert Gulick has sent a questionaire to the joint-compound manufacturers regarding the possibilities of getting rid of asbestos. The Gypsum Drywall Contractors Intl. Safety Committee is just sitting tight.

There have been a number of asbestos-less muds appear in the field but none seem to have performed too well. A key problem is freeze-thaw stability. One redi-mix that was tested recently in the north turned to a doughy mass after the second thaw. U. S. Gypsum is doing considerable talking but has not yet placed any advertising for such muds.

The OSHA Advisory Committee for the Construction Industry was discussed. He was aware of the committee and knows the people but did not know about the asbestos related subcommittee. He will check into what is going on.

We also covered OSHA enforcement problems. They had very recently encountered the sign posting problem in Tampa, San Antonio, and Houston. He had been in the area in each case and had talked on a low-key basis with the OSHA enforcement people before any citations were actually issued. In all three cases they agreed not to cite. In general the OSHA people were very courteous and reasonable to talk with once they understood he wasn't a Washington bureaucrat telling them how to do their job. In connection with OSHA, I left him a copy of the RG-244 brochure as an illustration of what we are currently doing in this area.

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT
tabbies
UC-1564

Published by AsbestosClaims.Law
asbestosclaims.law/library/16662/1

The reaction to Dr. Selikoff's big presentation at the union convention last September was noted briefly. A group in Idaho gave the contractors an ultimatum and a date to begin using only asbestos free products. The Gypsum Drywall Contractors Intl. has smoothed this over and the date has passed with no changes in the mud.

The Gypsum Drywall Contractors Intl. was not aware of the upcoming silica regulations. I left a copy of the NIOSH proposal and stressed the theme that they had an overall sanding dust problem, not just an asbestos problem.

Mr. Leederman gave me the name of the director of a contractors organization similar to the Gypsum Drywall Contractors Intl. and suggested we also talk with them. The writer will follow up.

Glen Craver, Executive Director
Painting & Decorating Contractors of America
7223 Lee Highway
Falls Church, Virginia 22046
(703) 534-1201

ACTION

IBR The Gypsum Drywall Contractors Intl. continues to do a good job in helping their members contend with OSHA. We should continue regular contact.

typed 2/11/75
mlv