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T.F. FRANCIS

VIREF.

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Mr. Frank Dexter
Union Carbide Corporation
Chemicals & Plastics Division
270 Park Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10017

Re: ASBESTOS TOXICOLOGY

Dear Frank:

During a recent conference on Physics and Chemistry of Asbestos Minerals at Oxford, England, I met with representatives of the group who are coordinating an analytical program for asbestos samples. These were:

Dr. V. TIMBRELL
Medical Research Council
Pneumoconiosis Research Unit
Llandough Hospital
Penarth, Glamorgan. U.K.

Dr. T.G. MORRIS
M.R.C. Llandough Hospital
Penarth, Glamorgan.

This meeting was to arrange for Union Carbide's cooperation in trace element analyses of standard samples.

Dr. Mumpton, who, incidentally, gave an exceptionally good and well received paper at the meeting, is bringing the samples back to Niagara Falls and is aware of the requirements of the group for analysis. Briefly, they would like to have all possible trace elements analyzed to the highest possible degree of accuracy.

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There are two samples of chrysotile asbestos, one of amosite and, I believe, two of crocidolite. Dr. Timbrell has sizable quantities - close to one ton each of these materials - which have been "thoroughly" blended. In the case of chrysotile he also has samples of the different types from which the standard sample mix was prepared. He asked if we could possibly analyze samples of these original components in order to see if any components were present which might be used as a key to the efficiency of their mixing and blending procedures. Dr. Mumpton agreed to determine the cost of these further analyses to see if we could justify also doing some of them.

We had a lengthy discussion with Dr. Timbrell and Dr. Morris and Dr. Mumpton can fill you in on the details. I believe it is fair to say that there are certainly many questions and problems still unanswered and realistically there is not much evidence yet as to the true "danger" of using asbestos.

I expect to be in New York during the week of August 14 and would like to talk to you more about this and other asbestos subjects.

Very truly yours,

THOMAS J. HALL

cc: Dr. C. U. Dernehl, M.D.
Mr. F. Frangos - N. Y.
Dr. F. Mumpton - Niagara Falls
Mr. L. D. Polderman - Office
Dr. A. E. Pufahl - New York
Mr. I. C. Sayers - London
Mr. R. G. Woolery - Niagara Falls

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