PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

UC-3314

To: Medical Advisory Panel

AIA/20/1/4/HAS
6 June 1984

ASBESTOS INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION

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With Compliments

Extracts from annual reports of the South African National Centre for Occupational Health - for 1982 p.32/4 and for 1983 p.14/5 - showing a total of 1228 confirmed mesothelioma cases over a period of 26 years.

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UCC 000761

926070 Asbestos Tumour Reference Panel and the National Mesothelioma Register

B. Goldstein and I. Webster

The panel and the register have been in existence for approximately 16 years. With a few exceptions the panel has met in Johannesburg once or twice a year to examine and discuss cases referred to it as mesotheliomas. More recently slides and details of current cases have been circulated to panel members and this has resulted in earlier diagnosis and also allowed more time for discussion of difficult cases at the panel meeting as it has not been necessary to re-examine cases on which there has been agreement.

After the last panel meeting when 108 cases were reviewed the findings are as follows:- (The cases of mesothelioma have been collected over the last 25 years)

MESOTHELIOMA REGISTER

AS AT OCTOBER 1982

Occupation	Number	Percentage
Mining	235	20,9
Cobbing	45	4,0
SAR & H	70	6,3
Transport	7	0,6
Lagging	35	3,1
Building	22	2,0
Other Industries	62	5,5
Asbestos Cement	13	1,2
Environment	178	15,9
Unkown/Not available	453	40,4
	1120	99,9

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An additional: 2 cases were diagnosed as probable mesothelioma
2 cases were diagnosed as possible mesothelioma
5 cases were diagnosed as 'other tumours'
2 cases were deferred for further investigations
2 cases were diagnosed as 'no tumour'
2 cases had inadequate tissue

PREVALENCE OF MESOTHELIOMA IN INDUSTRY

Exposure	No	%
Environmental	178	26.7
Mining	235	35.2
Hand cobbing	45	6.7
Railways	70	10.5
Other industries	62	9.3
Lagging	35	5.2
Building	22	3.3
Asbestos cement	13	1.9
Transport	7	1.0
	667	99.8

The percentages have been adjusted to the first decimal place. Although hand cobbing has been prohibited by regulation from the Government Mining Engineer cases giving a history of this occupation still present themselves. It is hoped that eventually the cases in which there has been environmental exposure will become less because of the prohibition of stacking to atmosphere in the mills, fencing of dumps, and prohibiting the use of asbestos tailing as a road base.

Cases from the South African Railways and Harbours should also become less as asbestos is no longer used for lagging on the remaining steam locomotives in use.

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Although there are claims that cases of mesothelioma do not occur in certain asbestos cement manufacturing industries 13 cases have been associated with exposure to asbestos in this industry in South Africa.

South African experience is that the majority of cases of mesothelioma are associated with exposure to crocidolite, a few to amosite and possibly an occassional case to chrysotile.

The present Panel consists of:

Prof. C.J. Uys

Prof. I.W. Simson

Prof. I. Webster

Prof. B.D. Middlecote

Dr. B. Goldstein

A study of the lymphocytic infiltration of pleural mesothelioma has been made during 1982, correlating its presence, to a significant degree, with favourable or unfavourable prognosis and survival in patients drawn from the Mesothelioma Register of the N.C.O.H.

The article appeared in the S.A.M.J. in September 1982 and drew numerous requests for reprints from all over the world.

A more extensive follow-up of all survivors in the study will be made later in 1983.

The morphological assessment of lymphocytic infiltration could be incorporated into an overall prognostic index (after Pomerany) in the total assessment of mesothelioma biopsy, or operative specimens.

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EXTRACT FROM NCOH REPORT.

The panel and the register have been in existence for approximately 17 years. With few exceptions the panel has met in Johannesburg once or twice a year to examine and discuss cases referred to it as possible mesotheliomas. Slides and details of current cases have been circulated to panel members at intervals and this has resulted in earlier diagnosis and also allowed more time for discussion of difficult cases at the panel meeting as it has not been necessary to re-examine cases on which there has been agreement.

At the last panel meeting 119 cases were reviewed. One case was a deferral from the previous meeting and was now diagnosed as an adenocarcinoma. Another case was deferred as the slides were not available.

NATIONAL CENTRE FOR OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH JOHANNESBURG

The remaining 117 cases were diagnosed as:

Definite mesothelioma	106
Probable mesothelioma	2
Possible mesothelioma	4
Other tumour	2
Inadequate tissue	3

The definite and probable mesotheliomas registered so far were then classified according to occupation.

MESOTHELIOMA REGISTER
*AS AT OCTOBER 1983

Occupation	Number	Percentage
Mining	255	20,8
Cobbing	45	3,7
SAR & H	72	5,9
Transport	8	0,7
Lagging	37	3,0
Building	22	1,8
Other Industries	74	6,0
Asbestos Cement	15	1,2
Environment	190	15,5
Unknown/Not available	510	41,5
	1228	

*These cases have been collected over the last 26 years
The present Panel consistes of:
Prof. C.J. Uys.
Prof. I.W. Simson
Prof. I. Webster
Prof. B.D. Middlecote
Dr. B. Goldstein

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