00007

To: MAP

AIA/20/1/4/HAS
25 April 1984

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT
UC-3321

ASBESTOS INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION

68 GLOUCESTER PLACE,
LONDON, W1H 3HL
TEL: 01-486 3528/9

With Compliments

Herewith copies of comments from Dr. Murray and Dr. Rao re "New Scientist" item on the US National Research Council study on "Non Occupational Health Risks of Asbestiform Fibres". Also enclosed is an extract from AIA/NA News & Notes which indicates where copies of the report can be obtained.

00956

UCC 000794

From: AIA/NA News + Notes, February 29, 1984 (20/1/4)

ACADEMY ISSUES REPORT ON NONOCCUPATIONAL HEALTH RISKS OF ASBESTIFORM FIBERS

A committee of the National Research Council - National Academy of Sciences issued a 334-page report earlier this month on "Nonoccupational Health Risks of Asbestiform Fibers." This study was conducted under a contract from the Environmental Protection Agency. Lester Breslow, School of Public Health, University of California, served as chairman of the committee.

The report is replete with stress on the highly uncertain extent of risk from nonoccupational exposure to asbestiform fibers in air to human health. For example, at one juncture the statement is made that estimating the extent of health risk from such low exposures is "fraught with uncertainty." The committee then proceeds to make a quantitative estimate of the risk of excess lung cancer and mesothelioma that "might" occur in persons breathing low levels of asbestos in the air. Based on the committee's estimated level of exposure to 0.0004 f/cc for a 73-year lifetime, "approximate" risk of 10 excess deaths in a million is predicted (nine mesotheliomas and one lung cancer). The committee then emphasized: "Because of the great reliance on assumption and on clearly deficient exposure and effects data, the committee views these risks estimates as guides to the qualitative assessment of non-occupational health risks from asbestos and asbestiform fibers - not as definitive estimates of the amount of disease to be anticipated."

A part of the committee's mandate from EPA was to also evaluate the public health risk from fibrous minerals other than asbestos and from the man-made substitutes, such as rock wool and fibrous glass. The concern is that the asbestos look-alikes also might be carcinogens because they have many of the same physical properties as asbestos. The term "asbestiform fibers" includes all of them for purposes of the study.

Results of scientific studies of the man-made asbestiform fibers, mostly fibrous glass, have been "equivocal," the report pointed out. These materials have not been in use nearly as long as asbestos; concentrations in the workplace have been lower, and fewer workers have been exposed. Studies done before 1980 did not, in fact, suggest any serious health risks at all. But the studies done after 1980 begin to tell a different story. Most of them report "excess" lung cancer deaths; that is, more lung cancer deaths than one would expect to find if the fibers were not implicated. The evidence is neither clear nor consistant, however, and the results of long-term mortality studies are not yet in.

Copies of the Academy's report may be obtainted from the National Academy Press, Room 700, 2100 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20418/(202) 334-3113 at a cost of $22.50 each.

00957

UCC 000795

DR. ROBERT MURRAY OBE B Sc F R C P (Glas) Hon D Tech (Brad)
D P H D I H F F O M Hon F I O S H
Consultant in Occupational Health

120 TEMPLE CHAMBERS, TEMPLE AVENUE, LONDON EC4Y 0DT

TELEPHONE 01 353 0518

Re: RM/SR/29/5
Your ref

13th March 1984.

Sir Neville Stack
Asbestos International Association
68 Gloucester Place
London W1H 3HL

Dear

re: Asbestos Risks - New Scientist - 16 February 1984

Thank you for sending me this typical extract from New Scientist. I like "cancer - though probably not very often". It is like saying that the maid servant was only slightly pregnant.

I do not know the study by the National Research Council in the United States and I think it would be important to have a look at this study before commenting on the "marked increase" among young children.

Kind regards

Yours sincerely

Dr. Robert Murray

00958

Union Carbide trial exhibit UC-3321: Asbestos International Association Cover Note Forwarding Comments by Dr.... Published by AsbestosClaims.Law
ACL Doc 18110 · Page 3 of 4 asbestosclaims.law/library/18110/3

HYDERABAD ASBESTOS
CEMENT PRODUCTS LTD.
Sanatnagar, Hyderabad-500 018.
Tel: 262401 (10 LINES) Telex: 0155-210 & 561 Grams: "ASBESTOS"

PLEASE ADDRESS REPLY TO A.C. DIVISION

Our Ref: AC:AV:Dr:84

Date: April 3, 1984.

12 APR 1984

The Director,
Asbestos International Association,
68, GLOUCESTER PLACE,
LONDON W1H 3HL

Dear Sir,

Enclosed are my comments on "Asbestos Risks" from 'New Scientist' 16th Feb '84, circulated through AIA circular No.AIA/20/1/4/HAS dt 1st March, 1984.

Mesotheliomas in children were described before commercial use of Asbestos and none of them were proved to be Asbestos related on the basis of postmortem studies.(K. Browne).

Latent period for Mesothelioma in Asbestos exposed population is 30 years, hence, if Mesothelioma recorded in young children could not be due to Asbestos exposure. (Shortest latent period for Mesothelioma in Asbestos workers are 13.3 yrs - Hobbs 1980).

Further details, for the basis to say children's lungs may be specially sensitive to result in Mesothelioma are required.

Hence, I will appreciate if you can provide a copy of study by the National Research Council U.S., which makes the above statement.

Thanking you,

Cordially yours,

DR.S.P.VIVEKCHANDRA RAO
Medical Surveillance Unit.

Dr/rs.

CCS59

Union Carbide trial exhibit UC-3321: Asbestos International Association Cover Note Forwarding Comments by Dr.... Published by AsbestosClaims.Law
ACL Doc 18110 · Page 4 of 4 asbestosclaims.law/library/18110/4