FILE NAME: Asbestos Sacks and Bags (ASB)

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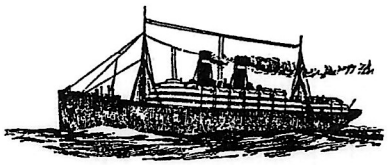
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NATIONAL AMALGAMATED STEVEDORES & DOCKERS

COMPRISING

COAL PORTERS, CORN PORTERS and DEAL PORTERS

Founded 1872 Registered under the Trade Union Acts 1871 and 1876 No. 1119 March 23rd 1898



General Office: 653, Commercial Road, E.14

Telephone: STEpney Green 3112

London 12th November *19*65

D.L.Bennett Esq.,
Secretary - O.S.G.J.C
Shipping Federation House
146/150 Minories, E.C.3.

Your ref. (15B/65)

Dear Sir,

Asbestos in Bags.

With reference to your letter of 11th November and enclosure, the statement in the "Sunday Times"did not help in this particular Industrial problem in which we are interested, but unfortunately it is the heritage of the public to read anything which the Press desires to print, and digest it in the way that the Press desires it.

The article although very revealing was not written particualrly for the Dock Industry but did clearly illustrate the dangers of Asbestos in general, but unfort--unately many Dockworkers who read it, digested it as being directly aimed at the Docks, and more fear has been put into their minds, quite understandably.

However, my Committee discussed the report from Mr.Hatfull and also the Press report, and as I mentioned in my last letter, felt that a more exhaustive examination of the dust content in the air should be carried out on vessels carrying Asbestos to London under conditions which the men are expected to work i.e Piecework, and there are some vessels which bring this commodity to the Royal Docks where in some instances it is worked Piecework.

The Stevedores Committee have also endorsed the suggestion which I put to the Group Committee some months ago, that it should be packed in a hermetically sealed

Polythene bag contained in a Hessian bag, which if universally adopted could practically eliminate air pollution, with normal precautions being taken.

Yours faithfully

W.P. Hegarty

W.P.Hegarty
Secretary
Stevedores Section.