

TO:

DR. GEORGE ROUSH A2SA -
St. Louis

Zapped 4/7/78 11:30 am
by JLS/SBN

F PUBLIC HEALTH

665 HUNTINGTON AVENUE
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02115
(617) 734-3300 EXT. 2125

(Approved by Local 288 Executive Board,
April 3, 1978.)

Dear Union Members:

As you know a mortality study was recently completed by NIOSH at the Monsanto plant. 465 deaths among male employees who were eligible for death benefits during 1950 - 1976 were analyzed. An elevated proportion of deaths were due to cancer of the digestive organs and the genitourinary tract. It is not known what is responsible for this excess but workplace exposure to chemicals is among the possibilities. We therefore, wish to look at workplace exposure by determining what job, department, and building the employee worked in and the dates in which he worked there. This work history information may be compared to the excess cancer deaths information to determine if workplace exposure could be contributing to the excess observed.

MassCOSH and the Harvard School of Public Health's recent involvement in this project has been undertaken in cooperation with NIOSH. It is hoped that Monsanto will supply some work history information on those workers included in the study. An important role may be played by the union in providing work history information from union records, seniority lists, job codes, and from the memory of long term employees at Monsanto. This work history information may serve as a check or confirmation of work history information provided by Monsanto, as well as providing additional information.

The questionnaire is to be used as a guide for recording job histories. To avoid bias, it is best that those filling out the questionnaire do not know the cause of death of the worker whose job history they are reconstructing. The results of the questionnaire will be made available to NIOSH. At any time, if questions arise, feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Patricia Jo Sparks, MD
Resident, Harvard School of Public Health

David H. Wegman, MD
Associate Professor of Occupational Medicine

PJS. DHW:SMS

RSV0029476

Help
Wanted!
Volunteers for work in
questionnaires at
in Office.
Lucille 543-3001
See Ruth,
Lab
for

MONSANTO QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Name: _____
Last First MI
2. Date of Birth: _____ / _____ / _____
mo. day yr.
3. Date of Death: _____ / _____ / _____
mo. day yr.
4. Ethnic group (i.e., Black, Asian, Italian, French, etc.) _____
5. Cigarette Smoker? _____ How many years _____
yes no
6. Date began working at Monsanto: _____
year
7. Date terminated employment at Monsanto: _____
year
8. Check if the person ever worked in the following buildings:
- | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|
| _____ 3 | _____ 31 | _____ 85 |
| _____ 9 | _____ 43 | _____ 86 |
| _____ 10 | _____ 68 | _____ 88 |
| _____ 11 | _____ 82 | _____ 89 |
| _____ 14 | _____ 84 | _____ 92 |
9. Give the building(s), department(s), and job(s), worked in by the person between the following dates:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Building(s)</u>	<u>Department(s)</u>	<u>Job(s)</u>
Before 1945			
1945 - 1950			
1950 - 1955			

2.

Building(s)

Department(s)

Job(s)

1960 - 1965

Date _____

Building(s)

Department(s)

Job(s)