FILE NAME: Asbestos Sacks and Bags (ASB)

DATE: мфср !ʤ∃ мн

DOC#: ASB0нс

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: ¢ʤℕyŜℕ .ℕ2ă¢ Memo w9 !ăōŜăű2ă ɤy˜ . l·∃ă, Medical Opinions & Reaction of Dock Workers

0000 0057 1303

TURNER BROTHERS ASBESTOS COMPANY LTD.

Office of Origin	To
Mr. John Waddell.	Mr. A.D.N. Jones, Turner & Newall Ltd.

Ref:- JW/JHC
To:- ADNJ
Copy:- JFK/JCTF

Your Ref:-

12th August, 1965

Asbestos in Bags

I have discussed your letter of 10th August with Dr. Knox and I find that Dr. Smither of Cape has already been in touch with him about the same matter, so presumably Cape have also heard from the Ocean Ship Owners Group.

This is clearly a matter of the utmost gravity, and Dr. Knox entirely agrees that Dr. Smither is the best man to give advice to the Ocean Ship Owners Group Joint Committee. Dr. Hunter is well known to both Dr. Knox and Dr. Smither.

In the short term, it is going to be extremely difficult to get round the rather extreme opinion given by Dr. Hunter, and now that the Dockers have got hold of this they will never let it go. In the long run impervious bags should help a great deal but of course there will always be a certain amount of spillage due to torn bags, and this could best be dealt with by damping.

With regard to our experience of the risks to bag carriers it is difficult to be categoric, since in the old days at Harridge Mill the bag carriers who did the stacking and unstacking of crude were also employed to some extent in the manufacturing areas in the same building, which were always fairly dusty. You may well be right that there is only one recorded asbestosis case in the T. & N. Group of a man who was never

Cont'd...

0000 0057 1304

employed on anything except bag handling but I am afraid that this is not very convincing evidence that the handling of dusty bags is not dangerous.

If you have written to Mr. Dent, as I suggested, I think it would be useful if Mr. Bateman or I had a word with him tomorrow. I am quite willing to do so, and of course I know Mr. Dent quite well through the Asbestosis Research Council, but possibly Mr. Bateman might prefer to deal with the matter himself.

Since this was dictated I have spoken to Mr Sutcliffe, who advised me to ring Mr Dent.

Perhaps I should confirm here what I mentioned to you on the phone about Dr. Knox, namely that he is still convalescing and will probably not be fully operational again until about the end of September. He is going on holiday next Monday for two weeks, so it will be inconvenient for me to consult him even informally, as I have been doing in the last week or two.

John Waddell JW

P.S. Mr Fell rang my secretary today & asked to be put on the circulation of my correspondence with you; this has been done but I have not sent him copies of the papers you sent me.

JW