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EXHIBIT

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THE ASBESTOS INFORMATION COMMITTEE

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FOR RELEASE AT 11.10 am., FRIDAY, MAY 19th, 1967.

ASBESTOS INDUSTRY ANNOUNCES NEW

MEASURES TO PROTECT HEALTH

The British Asbestos Industry, in a statement issued today, announced the following new measures to ensure the greatest possible protection of those working with or handling asbestos against any possible risks to health:

1) Dust-proof packaging

All asbestos fibre is now shipped to the U.K. in dust-proof bags. In addition, all blue asbestos is being shipped on pallets which can be handled mechanically. These arrangements will make asbestos entirely safe to handle in transit.

2) Blue Asbestos

The industry is urgently examining afresh the use of blue asbestos for processes and products where there is the slightest risk of the emission of respirable dust, with the intention of limiting its use and rendering the processes and products themselves safe beyond any doubt.

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3) Medical Research

A sum of £100,000 has been allocated to the Asbestosis Research Council for an expanded programme of research into means of prevention of risks to health over the next five years. This is in addition to the £500,000 already being spent each year by the three largest companies in the industry alone on research into these questions, on medical services and on equipment for the protection of their own employees.

4) Codes of Practice

Codes of Practice similar to that already introduced for the insulation industry have been prepared and published for the building industry and are being prepared for the ship building and other industries which use asbestos. By extending the standards of safety already existing in the asbestos industry itself the adoption of these Codes of Practice will ensure that those who work with asbestos in other industries are properly protected.

5) Asbestos Information Committee

Further steps will be taken if their desirability is revealed by research. In the meantime the industry is setting up an Asbestos Information Committee to ensure that the facts are readily available to the public.

The statement also points out that:

There is no known risk to the general public from asbestos materials in ordinary use.

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Asbestos is an essential mineral in many modern processes and products, for which no substitute has been found.

Asbestos makes an indispensable contribution to safety, for example in vehicle brake linings and in fireproof partitions.

The risks to health associated with asbestos have been understood for many years, and asbestosis among factory workers has been successfully controlled.

Mesothelioma, which may sometimes be associated with blue asbestos, is a very rare disease.

Imports of blue represent only 2½% of the total asbestos imports into the U.K.

Making this announcement in London today, Mr. John Waddell, (Chairman of Turner Brothers Asbestos Company Limited) who is Chairman of the newly formed Asbestos Information Committee said: "I am speaking for all my colleagues in the industry when I say that we fully appreciate the concern which has recently arisen over risks to health from asbestos. There are many essential materials and processes in modern industry which involve some degree of risk, and this I believe everyone accepts. The important thing is that the risks should be understood, controlled, and reduced to the absolute minimum. In the asbestos industry we have been actively conscious for many years of our responsibilities in this matter, and our latest measures are an important step forward in the protection of all who work with asbestos. In the modern world we cannot live without asbestos: we are learning to live safely with it".

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This statement is issued jointly by the following
British firms:

Turner & Newall Limited
Cape Asbestos Company Limited
B.B.A. Group Limited
Central Asbestos Company Limited

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