C-00227

E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS & COMPANY
INCORPORATED
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19898
CENTRAL RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

HASKELL LABORATORY
FOR
TOXICOLOGY AND INDUSTRIAL MEDICINE

cc: N. D. Krivanek
CFR/B.C. McK

August 27, 1980

E. E. Swain

ASBESTOS IN PAINTS

On August 8, 1980 I received a call from Dr. Howard Israel/ Jefferson Hospital, Philadelphia (215) 923-7685.

Dr. Israel mentioned that one of his patients, Mr. Bernard Davis, has a pleural disease due to asbestos inhalation.

Apparently Mr. Davis worked 30 years ago in a shipyard and was exposed to asbestos.

Currently, Mr. Davis owns an auto repair shop and supposedly he has been exposed to asbestos through brake linings work. He also has been exposed to dust from fillers and paint.

Dr. Israel wanted to know the amount of asbestos in our paints, because according to a british investigation "all paints have around 4% asbestos".

I mentioned to Dr. Israel that I was not aware of any asbestos content in our current paints. He gave me information about the british publication (1), which finally I have obtained.

Please inform people in your department about this matter; let me know your position about the statement and if we have to answer concretely to Dr. Israel to clarify any confusions.

Ben

Ben Ramirez, M. D.

(1) ASBESTOS. Vol 2 : Final report of the Advisory Committee. Her Majesty's Stationery Office. London 1979