DIVISION OF SAFETY AND HYGIENE
The Industrial Commission of Ohio
700 W. Third Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43212
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Vice Chairman
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Member

[illegible]
Governor

Division of
Safety and Hygiene
[illegible]
Superintendent

June 21, 1966

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT
USM-227

Re: Huber, Hunt & Nichols, Inc., and The Frank Briscoe Co., Inc.
(Joint Venture)
Post Office Box 6700
Cleveland, Ohio 44111

Federal Office Building
East Nineth and St. Clair Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio

1. On June 16, 1966, accompanied by Mr. Lynn Smith, District Supervisor for Construction and Mr. John Stephen, Safety Representative for Construction, both with this Division, a visit was made to the construction site of the new Federal Office Building in Cleveland to check health conditions at the request of the various companies involved and their respective employees.

2. Contact was made with the following:

W. E. Weimer, Project Superintendent
Charles Holmes, Safety Engineer, Frank Briscoe Company
David L. Jennings, Superintendent for C. P. Wright Company (Wrightco) (Plumbing and Heating Subcontractors)
T. E. McHale, Plasterer's Foreman, E. T. Samson, Inc. (Insulation Subcontractors)
James Cordora, Business Representative, Plasterer's #80
R. J. Carlton, Safety Representative, GSA

3. The E. T. Samson Company are the applicators of the asbestos insulation and the C. P. Wright Company has the contract for providing heating and ventilating. Employees of the C. P. Wright Company refused to work and were not working at the time of this visit because of an alleged health hazard from the application of asbestos insulation.

4. Asbestos is applied to the decks of the building by spraying an emulsion or slurry containing asbestos. The asbestos that does not stick to the

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deck falls to the floor and may accumulate in amounts of one inch or more in thickness.

5. Dust samples were taken with midget impingers and counted using the standard light field technique. Following are the results of these dust samples:

(a) A dust sample was taken for a period of five (5) minutes, at 2:15 pm on Thursday, June 16, under a scaffold on the 31st floor where an employee was applying a coat of asbestos. It was necessary to cover the top of the impinger with a hard hat to prevent falling asbestos from clogging up the testing equipment. At the end of the five minute sampling period, this writer's coat and hat were completely covered with a layer of asbestos--the same as if a person had been in a heavy snow storm for an extended period of time. The sample indicated a concentration of 1.3 mppcf (million particles per cubic foot of air).

SPRAY TOO DRY!

(b) The greatest concentration of asbestos dust appeared to be on the 22nd floor, where the window area has been almost completely covered with plastic. The dust appeared to drift into the southeast section of the area. A sample taken for a period of five (5) minutes at approximately 2:45 pm indicated a concentration of 5.1 mppcf.

(c) Another sample was taken at 3:15 pm on the 31st floor in order to simulate conditions under which the steam fitters would work. At least one employee was applying asbestos at the time the sample was taken. The concentration was found to be 0.8 mppcf.

6. The 31st floor occupies an area approximately 140'x253'x21' to the ceiling. This floor was not completely enclosed by plastic at the time the sample was taken.

7. The 22nd floor, which was also almost completely enclosed by plastic, also occupies an area 140'x253'x12.5', to the deck. The reason the sample was taken on the 22nd floor was to determine the maximum concentration that might be reached in an enclosed area. Steam fitters would not ordinarily work in this area.

8. The TLV (Threshold Limit Value) for asbestos dust, according to the Bulletin No. 203 of the Industrial Commission of Ohio, and to the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists, is 5.0 mppcf.

NB

The Threshold Limit Value refers to air-borne concentrations of substances and represents conditions under which it is believed that nearly all workers may be repeatedly exposed, day after day, without adverse effect. Because

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of wide variation in individual susceptibility, exposure of an occasional individual at or even below the threshold limit may not prevent discomfort, aggravation of a pre-existing condition, or occupational illness.

9. ~~It will be observed that the steam fitters would not be working in an area where the TLV is exceeded. The TLV is based upon an eight-hour day and for a life-time of work.~~ The literature does not establish a limit for a single exposure to dust. It is presumed that an exposure of 100 million for one day would be equivalent to 5 million for 20 days, or 1 million for 100 days. It is expected that the insulation work will be completed within one month--by July 17. Therefore, the steam fitters will not be exposed for an extende period of time. It is concluded that the exposure of the steam fitters is well below the TLV.

NB

10. The plasterers are now provided with United States Bureau of Mines approved combination dust and chemical respirators. An approved dust respirator would be adequate.

11. In order to further enhance the margin of safety under which the steam fitters work, the following recommendations are made:

(a) At least 10 percent of the window area on the 31st floor where the steam fitters are to do the majority of their work be left open.

(b) If possible, the areas in which the plasterers are working be curtained off from the area where the steam fitters work.

(c) Approved United States Bureau of Mines dust respirators be made available to any steam fitter who might have to work in confined areas where the plasterers work and where there is visible dust in the air, such as was observed on the 22nd floor.

Respectfully submitted,

DeWitt Huffman

DeWitt Huffman, P. E.
No. 1666

DH:JC
Enclosure: Hygienic Guide Series:
"Asbestos"

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