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Form ADM-112

OCS/7 KAYLO

OWENS-ILLINOIS

INTRA-COMPANY (1) CORRESPONDENCE

Attention of Mr. M. M. Olander
cc: Dr. C. F. Shook

Oct. 5, 1955
ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION
GENERAL OFFICES
TOLEDO 1, OHIO

Subject

Dear Milt:

In 1943, you'll recall animal experiments were begun at Saranac Laboratory to determine the health aspects of Kaylo dust. These continued for some years, with the Saranac group sending us reports from time to time. Just as they reached their conclusion, Dr. Leroy U. Gardner, Director of the Laboratory, died.

With his unfortunate loss, things became very confused in the administration of Saranac. We had hoped the Kaylo results would eventually be published. We felt this would be the proper procedure for the long run, even though the experiments did not show Kaylo to be lily-white. They showed, to be specific, that Kaylo dust could cause asbestosis, an uncurable lung condition; and they showed the dust could reactivate tuberculosis, as tested in animals by Saranac's time-honored particular strain of TB. On the plus side, they showed that Kaylo dust could not cause silicosis.

When Dr. Schepers, the new Director of the Saranac Laboratory, was in town last week (you met him in Charlie's office), he said they had been going through their records and writing up the many unfinished projects that had slid after Dr. Gardner's death. He said we would shortly see a paper on Kaylo.

Yesterday, it appeared. It's in the September A.M.A. Archives of Industrial Health, page 348, copy of which is attached. It seems to be an excellent write-up, factual in every respect. I showed it to Iv Shuman yesterday. He liked, particularly, the last paragraph of the summary:

> It seems likely that the chrysotile (asbestos) component of the commercial product, rather than the hydrous calcium silicate, was the cause of the deleterious effects on the tissues of the experimental animals.

This means that Kaylo is no more harmful than the universally used heat insulation, asbestos--in fact less so, since Kaylo contains a very small percentage of asbestos.

The names "Kaylo" and "Owens-Illinois" appear nowhere in the article. It's completely anonymous.

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However, there is this one point. The usual procedure is for a research group to get approval from a sponsor (O-I, in this instance) before publishing technical reports on a product. This was not done by Saranac, with the result that the Kaylo management didn't know the work was to be published. The explanation is the administrative difficulties Saranac has been through for the last six or seven years--change in directors, etc.

Personally, we're glad the research has now appeared in the literature--in fact in the outstanding journal of its type, either in the U.S. or abroad. We wish that Kaylo management had been given a chance to OK such publication before the act was accomplished. But this can't be helped. It's the fault of no one in particular, and we doubt if it makes any difference.

At Ev's suggestion, we're writing for 50 reprints to keep on hand here.

Sincerely yours,

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS DIVISION

By -

W.O.Hazard
gc