

C O P Y

Robinson Trip Report

May 13, 1968

D. R. Tarne

cc: W. J. Sheehan

Upon our arrival at the Robinson Soft Gasket Plant on Monday evening, April 29, Mr. Burns and I observed poor Quality Control conditions in the manufacturing of Victopac. We found trim lace and foreign material on the stacks of material, foot prints of employees walking on stock and generally poor appearance for a good clean operation.

On Tuesday morning, we toured the Victopac manufacturing area with Mr. John Zietz. We observed similar conditions, such as were observed on the previous evening. Another observation made was the manner in which the men were handling a micrometer. The man appeared to me as if they did not even know what the instrument was to be used for, much less know how to use the tool. One man in particular was using a micrometer wearing heavy gloves, as they all do, and they all were using the micrometer like a wrench. In addition he was checking a sheet of .015 Victopac, 60V with a micrometer that was out of calibration by .003. The range of acceptance of .015 material is .013 to .018.

It was apparent that the men should have an explanation of their responsibility for the product that they are making. I then had such a discussion with the people, along with their supervision, and I feel that my discussion was well accepted. I repeated the discussion with the "C" shift personnel.

A general discussion was then begun with Mr. Haddon, who was present at the above discussions, about the acceptable quality requirements of Victopac. We found that the only inventory of material made in Chicago was 1/32 Victopac, 60V. The question presented to me was, is this indicative of our normal Victopac quality or was it worse? My reply was that I believed that it was worse than our usual quality. However, I suggested a plan whereby the material could be used without too much trouble. Since the material in question was 1/32 and the general usage would be for customers other than Caterpillar, the order drawn from this inventory could be marked Chicago material. After blanking they could fan through this stock and remove all obvious defects from the lot. This was accepted as a means of using up the inventory of Chicago made material. Also, to minimize the problem, it was suggested we limit the centers to a one run only basis.

These discussions were held in the presence of Mr. Burns and he and Mr. Behr agreed to them.

L. S. Dymitro

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