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RHM/JG

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c. NH/GRP/CH(2)

No doubt you will have seen from the national press that the insulation engineers in Scotland have been carrying out unofficial strikes correlated to the health hazard with using asbestos. The engineers recently had a wage claim of 12/6d per hour turned down and I think there is a certain amount of reaction which has sparked off the current attitude.

I am enclosing a copy of a report published in the Glasgow Herald on Wednesday, 14th June, which gives the background to the present position.

We are doing everything possible to persuade the workers that the Ministry and employers are treating the subject with top priority and I understand that the Association may be enlisting the assistance of the Asbestos Information Committee.

It is extremely difficult when workers are in a militant mood to persuade them to act rationally but we feel that as the strike is insufficient, by next week things may be operating normally.

  
Robert M. Wilson

Encl.

P.S. I have just received a copy of Shell Chemicals U.K. Ltd Code of Practice for handling asbestos materials and this is attached.