

FILE NAME: ALCOA (ALC)

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DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: BC Notes on Deposition of Thomas Bonney

T. Bonney depo. cont. April 1, 1998 (I.H.)

201. Learned in 1948 A could cause A's is
213-214 Recognized ash. work creating visible dust a hazard
reading 4-pp Alcoa document (1984?)
218 dust collector on Marinite saw in 1972
220, refers to 1964 Bonney memo recognizing
262 ash. hazard from Marinite sawing
237 Alcoa had an MSDS for ash. in 1955
238 Alcoa received dry A fiber in cartons in 1952
248 8/14/52 Alcoa doc. has checked off (ash) hazard from
thermal ~~but not~~ electrical insulation
249-250 dry material ash. hazard noted in 1954 document
(refractory materials)
252 refers to Richard Doll's study
257 Alcoa IH program dates from Lester Cralley, 1945
259-61 Alcoa memo in 1958 refers to IH guide for A by AIIHA
sent out to all plants
(pp 270-274 not photocopied) (ditto 286-291, 325-329, 342-345, 422-23)
268 refers to letter from Dr. Maxwell Brown to
an A-exposed Alcoa worker (1968?)
279 indicates Selikoff study was persuasive where
Doll was not (re Ca)
281
282 Alcoa memo refers to ILS saying many
varieties of A cause cancer in humans 2/68
311-322 5/29/73 memo predicts >200 fpc for ripcut of dry materials
353 4/15/76 memo notes ash. millboard gets brittle and crumbly

366-367 12/12/77 memo critical of 3M 8710 respirator
for asbestos work (OSHA inspector)

368-69 Bonny memo 7/28/78 says asb. still used;
testifies policy to replace all A started 1974-75.

Thomas Bonney Deposition

- p.4 Employed in 1948 by Alcoa as industrial hygienist
- p.8 Familiar with reports of mesothelioma from household exposure to asbestos
- p.14 Alcoa did not do air samples for asbestos until the late 60s or the 70s
- p.15 From 1948 to the late 60s or 70s did not see any areas of concern of asbestos hazards
- p.18 From 1948 Alcoa was aware of the threshold limit values established by ACGIH for asbestos and other items
- p.24 In the late 1940s Alcoa was aware that asbestos exposures could potentially be hazardous to the health of individuals, "but it appeared it was not a very potent contaminant especially as used in our Alcoa plants. We didn't think it was a high priority item at that particular time."
- p.26 From 1948 until the late 1950s doesn't recall having any specific conversation with anyone concerning the hazards of asbestos and in that time frame asbestos, from his vantage point, was a low priority item.
- p.27 From mid to late 50s up until the mid 60s no sampling of dust containing asbestos because of the low priority asbestos had.
- p.32 In the late 1940s, early 1950s Alcoa recognized that asbestos could cause scarring or fibrosis.
- p.55 Remembers Drinker and Hatch industrial hygiene textbook used in the early 1950s. Doesn't recall it having a subchapter concerning asbestos exposure and carcinoma of the lung.
- p.59 Produced a copy of "Industrial Hygiene Highlights" edited by Lester Cralley at Alcoa, Louis Cralley at the United States Public Health Service and George Clayton. Bonney was author of one of the chapters. Textbook was published in 1968.

- p.61 Whatever information is contained in the textbook concerning asbestos he would have been familiar with it in 1968 when it was published. Excerpts from the book include;
“Increased attention has been recently directed to further defining the health effects of asbestos.”
In 1948 Bonney was aware that asbestos could produce asbestosis.
- p.62 Book says, “A major impetus in this renewed interest is the report by Doll showing an increase of lung cancer in a group of asbestos textile workers.”
- p.63 In the mid 1950s Alcoa was aware of the existence of report on lung cancer in asbestos workers.
- p.67 As of 1968 in the textbook edited by Lester Cralley, manager of the health and safety services at Alcoa, Cralley recognized in the text that asbestos workers were subject to the risk of dying from asbestos related diseases.
- p.87 Alcoa was a member of the Industrial Hygiene Foundation. Bonney and Lester Cralley would see the publications from the Industrial Hygiene Foundation.
- P.88 Alcoa was a member of the National Safety Council since the 1920s.
- p.93 Industrial Hygiene abstracts were available to Bonney from 1948 through the rest of his career.
- p.102 As of 1955 Alcoa would have been aware that there was research concluding that there was excess mortality, deaths from lung cancer in asbestos workers.
- p.105 Asbestos continued to be a low priority until the late 1960s.
- p.110 Not aware Texas adopted as state law threshold limit values in 1958.
- p.118 Does not recall State of California instructing Alcoa not to have workers saw marinite because it violated the threshold limit values
- p.120 Has no independent recollection of correspondence from late 1961 to early 1962 where California health authorities were very concerned that Alcoa

was overexposing its workers to asbestos dust.

- p.147 In terms of experience, expertise and practical knowledge Bonney as the senior industrial hygienist was the person with the most experience at Alcoa from the early 1970s until he retired in 1986.
- p.149 Never went to Rockdale plant to look specifically at the asbestos problem
- p.151 No recollection of Alcoa ever doing any dust monitoring or dust studies prior to the 1970s in order to determine what levels of asbestos dust were created when cutting and sawing took place.
- p.190 Was aware of reports of household asbestos exposure and disease.
- p.192 As of 1968 he was of the view that the threshold limit value would protect workers from asbestos exposure and asbestosis and "cancer was not an issue within our company at that time."
- P.201 Learned asbestos could cause asbestosis in 1948
- p.204 George Farrah was the head of Alcoa's industrial hygiene laboratory outside Pittsburgh
- p.205 Dr. Belk was the medical director at Alcoa
- p.207 Recalls references in the literature about asbestos related cancer and and household exposure.
- p.215 Alcoa document states, "Up until 1969 no safety programs established for use of marinite or other asbesto materials." Bonney says programs should have been established.
- p.232 Aware that asbestos was used for a number of different purposes and in a number of different areas at the Rockdale facility.
- p.238 Question is asked, "And would that, sir, be consistent with your recollection, not just with regard to Massena but to Alcoa plants generally, that various departments throughout the plants would have been involved with the use or handling of asbestos materials.

Bonney's reponse; "Yes. It's ubiquitous material." Time frame is 1950s.

- p.246 Mixing of dry asbestos fiber in water is a potential hazard.
- p.258 No dust monitoring done by Alcoa in the 1940s, 1950s or 1960s.
- p.260 Alcoa circulated hygienic guides prepared by the Industrial Hygiene Association in 1958 to its plants concerning the hazards of asbestos.
- P.264 Mr. Semken was the chairman of the industrial hygiene committee who had responsibility for evaluating exposures
- p.273 As of March 1968 Alcoa was not requiring its employees who worked around asbestos or were exposed to it to use respiratory protection.
- p.273 Doesn't know if there was an exhaust system or ventilation system at Rockdale which would have removed dust from the workers.
- p.278 Workers were not told by Alcoa of connection between asbestos and cancer.
- p.318 Kaylo with asbestos content of 10 to 15 per cent is listed as asbestos product at Alcoa.
- p.327 In the early 70s Bonney felt it was necessary or appropriate to begin advising Alcoa employees that asbestos exposure could cause lung cancer and other types of cancer.
- p.427 Informs Bonney that Mr. Griesbach was involved in the tear out and removal of a furnace at Rockdale from 1973 to 1975 and he testified there was no measurements taken, no monitoring done, no warnings given and he had no knowledge of the hazards of asbestos during that operation. If true, Bonney says violates Federal law an Alcoa policies concerning hazards of asbestos.
- p. 429 Asbestos wasn't a high priority item in the 1950s.