

1 down there in the 1920s, 1930s in horrible
2 conditions.

3 They had kids working down there in these
4 mills and none of these defendants are here, but it
5 was known back in the 1930s, mid 1930s that if these
6 people worked around too much asbestos, because they
7 took raw asbestos and weaved it into fabric because it
8 was fireproofing, these people got the disease
9 asbestosis.

10 Now, that was known. This was known before
11 Owens-Corning even went into business.

12 In fact, the Surgeon General of the United
13 States issued a public health bulletin. It wasn't
14 secret.

15 In fact, there was reference made in a
16 charge about some weapon in reserve that Mr.
17 Shellenberger talked about.

18 Do you know what he is talking about? He is
19 talking about this guy Edward Ames who came to Owens-
20 Corning.

21 This man came to Owens-Corning in 1930s, who

1 was a schoolteacher and worked at night and what
2 happened early on, and I am giving you an early
3 perspective in talking about Owens-Corning, the
4 Asbestos Workers Union were responsible in covering
5 pipes and we came out with a new product called
6 fiberglass.

7 If any of you know about fiberglass and I
8 know because I worked with my dad, he is a plumber, it
9 is real itchy and they have got a piece of fiberglass
10 pipecovering over here. I don't think we made this.
11 We made stuff like this to go around pipes back in the
12 1930s.

13 Well, the Asbestos Workers Union said we are
14 not going to work with that. That stuff is
15 dangerous. You got to be kidding me. It itches. We
16 are going to work with asbestos.

17 If you want us to put that stuff up, it is
18 going to cost you a dollar more an hour. You say a
19 dollar more an hour. Go back to 1938. That would
20 virtually have put us out of business.

21 This guy Edward Ames, I just came with the

1 company, isn't there something out about asbestos,
2 isn't asbestos dangerous? Yes, it is dangerous under
3 certain conditions, so he got these reports.

4 Where did he get them from? He didn't go
5 back to a vault in Owens-Corning and open it up and
6 say, uh-huh, here is a secret research.

7 He wrote to Washington, D.C., sent in his 20
8 cents and said send me a report and they did. Stuff
9 that was known by everybody. Stuff known by the
10 union. Yeah, we knew this. People who work with
11 asbestos over a long period of time can get sick.

12 Do you know what these reports also said
13 that they didn't tell you about which I am going to
14 show you throughout the whole trial?

15 Through the 1930s on, even back in London,
16 back in the United States, from the 1930s on it was
17 known. It was known by labor. It was known by
18 government and science.

19 They didn't say ban asbestos. They didn't
20 say put warnings on asbestos. Here is what they said
21 in the 1930s. Pardon my back.

1 What they said is this -- and I am going to
2 show you this throughout the whole trial going back
3 early on.

4 Hey, everybody, you people working in those
5 asbestos textile factories, if you put in ventilation
6 and keep the dust down, you won't get this disease
7 asbestosis, because it is like coal miners disease.

8 I grew up using coal putting it in, and I
9 was exposed to dust. The guys in my neighborhood
10 because I am from the northeastern part of
11 Pennsylvania, the coal region, there was dust in the
12 mines and they had black lung because they worked with
13 tons of it.

14 They said the same thing here. If you keep
15 the dust down, you won't get asbestosis. They didn't
16 say ban it, don't use it. That was the thinking back
17 then. It is not the thinking now.

18 No, not now, because now we know in 1996,
19 and I am saying we know in 1996, I know in 1996
20 because I read the medical textbooks.

21 Some of their doctors that they are going to