

regard to employees exposed to asbestos in the workplace. Silverstein stated that such recommendations included periodic medical examinations, referral to private physicians, the treatment and referral of retirees, etc. I indicated that I was not aware of the Surgeon General's recommendations concerning exposure to asbestos and would therefore get back to them at a later date. The union also requested that the Company continue to look for and evaluate suitable substitutes for asbestos.

Fatalities

Kovacich and Meyer discussed the recent fatality at the Monroe Plant. Meyer pointed out that employees at Monroe including the deceased were given training sessions on the lockout procedure several times during both 1977 and 1978. (A copy of the Monroe lockout procedure was furnished to Kovacich.) Meyer also indicated that the Company was contesting the OSHA citation because the citation stated that the Company did not have a lockout procedure in effect at Monroe.

Kovacich inquired about the status of the Company's new rail car procedure which was prompted by the fatality at the Cleveland Stamping Plant. Meyer stated that the new procedure was not finalized but that a copy of the procedure would be provided to the union when it was available.

Miscellaneous

Kovacich requested that the Company investigate a job at Romeo where finished tractors coming off the final line were started up in close proximity to the fuel storage thereby creating a fire hazard. Meyer indicated the job would be evaluated and he would get back to Kovacich shortly.

The next meeting of the National Committee was scheduled for 3:00 P.M., Thursday, January 11, 1979 to specifically discuss the hazardous materials grievance from the Lorain Assembly Plant. A second meeting of the Committee is scheduled for 9:00 A.M., Monday, January 15, 1979 to discuss the implementation of the new lead standard.


J. J. Whelan

*Indicates issues requiring Company action and/or followup.

January 4, 1979

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