

December 9, 1968

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

CT-184

REPORT OF MEETING
December 3, 1968
Public Relations Sub-Committee
Environmental Health Task Force

Present:

F. J. Solon, Jr. - Chairman
W. P. Raines
M. M. Swetonic
Bert Goss - Hill & Knowlton
Carl Thompson - Hill & Knowlton

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Newsletter For Mount Sinai Project

It was agreed that the money for producing the newsletter ought to come out of the basic research program budget. The mechanics of writing, approving, printing and distributing the newsletter were discussed. Hill and Knowlton agreed to prepare an outline of these mechanics --- including costs --- that could be used as a sort of check list for a meeting with Jobe and Dr. Selikoff to iron out any difficulties. Matt Swetonic was assigned the task of checking with Hibbert Printing Company to see whether final printing and mailing stages of the program could be handled through the J-M Advertising & Public Relations production department's art costs.

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Business Week Article

Various avenues of approach to Business Week for the placement of a favorable story on the Mt. Sinai program were discussed. The decision was made to approach the Labor Editor, rather than go higher in the organization. Carl Thompson of H & K outlined the specific approach and pointed out the pros and cons in the move.

It was decided that any attempt to place a favorable article in Contractor News should be delayed until after the Business Week approach is concluded since the latter is the big circulation book and we should go at it first.

San Francisco Department of Public Works

Discussed the letter received by Dr. Selikoff from the San Francisco Department of Public Works requesting information on the potential dangers of asbestos to the general public. Needs further investigation. Solon will talk with Burt Jobe.

Jack Solon recommended strongly, it was agreed to by all members of the committee, that J-M set up a team of J-M people, knowledgeable in the field of asbestos and health, who would be ready at a moment's notice to fly to trouble spots like San Francisco and "move in" on the situations.

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O'Toole and The Washington Post

Tom O'Toole of the Washington Post contacted Dr. Selikoff about a series of articles examining a wide range of environmental health problems, including possible health dangers associated with asbestos, beryllium, coal dust, radiation. It is believed the series is designed as a boost for the Health & Safety Bill in the next Congress. O'Toole interviewed Selikoff on December 2, an article appeared in the Washington Post December 4 - a damaging article basically concerned with dockyard workers.

Ralph Nader

Nader has occasionally mentioned asbestos in his listing of potentially harmful dusts. Should he at some time in the future decide to crusade against asbestos, it was decided that more could be gained from sitting down and talking with the man than by taking the General Motors route. H & K sources indicate that Nader is a reasonable man and can be approached on that basis. It was agreed, however, that he should not be contacted unless he takes on Johns-Manville first.

Manville Situation (Addendum to November 6 minutes)

MT-002774

Dr. Merrill recently remembered that Dr. Demy of Somerset Hospital did indeed approach him in 1966 for work history records and that he did not follow through by providing them. This is, of course, in direct contrast to the statement that we made to the Messenger-Gazette last month. This once again points out the need for better

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contacts between J-M medical representatives and the outside scientific community, especially in the Manville area.

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MT-002775