



ASBESTOS INFORMATION ASSOCIATION

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

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(The following statement was issued today by the Asbestos Information Association/North America, an incorporated, non-profit organization of firms engaged in the manufacture or processing of asbestos-containing products and in the mining and milling of asbestos fiber in North America.)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MMRE00012272

Washington, D.C. (Sept. 20, 1978) -- The Asbestos Information Association/North America has been requested by its membership and by others to comment upon the statement made before the AFL-CIO National Conference on Occupational Safety and Health on September 11 by HEW Secretary Califano concerning the incidence of cancer which may be expected in the future as a result of past exposures to asbestos fibers. The paper upon which the remarks of the Secretary were based was made available to us only yesterday, and we have not yet had an opportunity to review it in detail. It may be said, however, based upon a first reading, that the paper is simply another extrapolation, stated in statistical terms, from the same data which has been available to the international scientific community for some period of time.

Scientific advisors to the AIA/NA now are engaged in a study of the report referenced by Secretary Califano and comments will be forthcoming from the Association upon completion of the study.

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