

# PRESS QUERY

H.J. Corbett - D1D  
G.M. Ellsworth - E3NA  
D.S. Frazer - 1670  
F.E. Kearney - E3NA

COMPANY (Unit or Corporate): Corporate

SUBJECT: Nader Public Citizens Press Conference

REPORTER & MEDIA: Jo Mannies, St.L. P-D, Wash., D.C.  
(202) 298-6880

Jan Smith, Independent Network News  
(202) 783-5616

QUESTION & RESPONSE:

DATE: January 23, 1985

X J.F. Hussey  
X G.D. Ingenthron  
X J.v. Morse  
X J.T. Nolan  
X D.R. Bishop  
X A.N. Filippello  
X S.Pickard-Washington, D.C.  
X New York PR  
X Brussels PR  
X MAP PR  
X MEM PR  
X MFI PR  
X MIC PR  
X MPP PR  
X Eng'd. Prods. PR  
X Int'l. PR  
X J.W. Molloy - 1740  
X W.J. McCarville - G3WG  
X W.B. Papageorge - B3NA  
X J.G. Nassif - E2NG

Q: Ralph Nader's Public Citizens Health Group held a press conference today in Washington during which they accused the Administration of preventing NIOSH from informing a quarter of a million workers that they face a higher cancer risk from occupational exposure to chemicals. Workers exposed to dioxin at Sauget and Nitro are included in a NIOSH study obtained through FOI. What do you know about this?

A: NIOSH approached Monsanto in the late 1970s to see if we would cooperate with them in compiling a "dioxin registry." And we agreed. As a result, NIOSH officials were permitted to inspect worker records at our Nitro and Sauget plants in order to compile a list of registry of those people who may have been exposed to dioxin as a result of their previous employment in an area where dioxin may have been present as an unwanted contaminant.

I don't know whether NIOSH informed our workers who made the registry but I can tell you that our employees are fully aware of any potential past exposure. We've told them and they've been told in a number of other ways. Our Nitro employees have been the subject of several medical/epidemiology studies, both done by Monsanto and outside medical institutions. The results of these medical studies have been shared with those employees both in general and specifically as they related to them personally. The conclusion of this extensive investigation is that other than the skin condition, chloracne, our workers are not suffering any chronic or lasting health effects from exposure to dioxin

SOURCE OF ANSWER

HANDLED BY:

C02468

Dan R. Bishop