

AL10222593

August 4, 1943

MEMORANDUM

TO:

FROM:

SUBJECT: Asbestos: Substitution of other Rhodesian Chrysotile
Grades for Grades C and U

This will reply to your memorandum of August 2 on the above subject and is a further reply to your memorandum of July 12, 1943.

I have checked your recollection of Mr. Utley Smith's statements at the Operating Committee of July 2, last both with Mr. Smith and with the minutes of the meeting. I find that both differ with your understanding of what he said. Possibly Mr. McDougal and you misunderstood him for I believe his statement was to the effect that when the Mission went to London, they were informed as to the unsatisfactory results of certain tests conducted by the firm of Keasby and Mattison.

The ten tons each of Vra-3 and 4 imported into the United States in the first quarter of 1943 were for the purpose of permitting the firm of Johns Manville to conduct tests similar to those previously made by Keasby and Mattison. I understand that these tests have since been made and that they have proved unsatisfactory. Obviously Mr. Smith's reference to tests, mentioned in my previous paragraph, was to those conducted by Keasby and Mattison and not to those conducted by Johns Manville.

The Cork, Asbestos and Fibrous Glass Division of W.P.B. agreed to the statement in the Asbestos Report saying, "the matter of running the manufacturing tests is being considered by the appropriate agencies of the U.S. Government" because they are still prepared to bring pressure to bear on the industry to run additional tests if in their estimation conditions warrant such action.

PLAINTIFF'S
EXHIBIT

JM-1241

The above should clarify the situation with respect to:

(a) The apparent misunderstanding on your part of Mr. Smith's statement at the Operating Committee Meeting on July 3.

(b) The status of test runs to date.

The Cork, Asbestos and Fibrous Glass Division make the suggestion that Messrs. Turner and Newall, Ltd. in England, being the parent company of Kearsby and Mattison, and being fully informed both as to United States manufacturers preferences, with respect to grades, and as to manufacturing tests which have been made in this country, that the Ministry of Supply contact them if they should wish any further information on the subject.

A. B. Tatistcheff

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