FILE NAME: Insulation Contractors & Distributors (ICD)

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The Mount Sinai Hospital

100th STREET AND FIFTH AVENUE · NEW YORK 29, N. Y.

October 25, 1965

Mr. Carleton J. Sickles, General President
International Association of Heat and Frost
Insulators and Asbestos Workers
Machinists' Building - Room 505
1300 Connecticut Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

Dear Mr. Sickles:

Apparently the work you stimulated and helped develop concerning the health hazards of the men in your Union, in which I have had the gratification of assisting, has been most valuable and most productive. The results of the initial studies of our group seem to have focused a good deal of attention on these important problems.

I received a phone call today from Mr. John Kane of your Local #2 in Pittsburgh. He seems to have done a superb job in organizing a survey of the current members of the Pittsburgh Local. He arranged for this survey with Dr. Harry J. Pistawka of the Occupational Health Department of the State of Pennsylvania. The early results of this survey, reviewed with me by Mr. Kane, indicate that the same difficulties found in Locals #12 and #32 are also present in the Pittsburgh area. Of 156 men examined (and this would undoubtedly include many of the younger members in whom we would expect very little to be found) 45 cases of asbestosis were found and 2 additional possible.

I suggested to Mr. Kane that this information - the fact that such a survey was organized and accomplished, their experiences during this survey, the broad details of the result - would be of considerable interest to the rest of the International. They will write an article for your journal detailing this. I will review it for medical accuracy and send it along to you. This will be done within the next week or so.

Should you feel that it is desirable to publish Mr. Kane's article together with the Buffalo article (and I will send you shortly a small note concerning the report given by me at the IOCM meeting,) then an editorial note by you might serve to emphasize the activity now evident.

With sincere regards,

Cordially yours,

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Irvi[illegible], M.D.
Section on Environmental Health

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