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Mr. Mann 112.

68/580-1

12th January 1967.

Newalls Insulation & Chemical Co. Ltd.

Many thanks for your excellent report of the 10th January. The point you make about Mr. Jolley in Para.4 is a very serious one and Mr. Mann will be having a word with Mr. Wilson about this.

It is very disappointing to see that the prospects for glass cloth on land based insulation are nothing like as big as we previously thought. I am afraid we did not get a cross check on this point yesterday at Darlington Insulation but Mr. Mann has arranged for Mr. Wilkinson to follow up this point.

With respect to the point in Mr. Harper's memo of the 10th January about I.C.I. placing a contract with Darlington for an asbestos-free magnesia insulation, I can certainly confirm that this is so. It is clear from what Mr. Grant said that Darlington have done a lot of work on finding substitutes for asbestos and not just in combinations with magnesia but with other materials as well. We raised the question of glass and they are at present evaluating a sample of "A" glass that Mr. Wilkinson has recently arranged for them to have. I was surprised when they said that "E" glass was no good because it was attacked by the insulating material. I pointed out to Mr. Laidler (Works Director who was making this point) that magnesia was alkali and not acid and then he said he was not talking about magnesia but another material, unnamed, that was not very important! In short, I could not get a straight story from them about their work with glass and when we get a report on their position with "A" glass it might be useful for someone from Glass Research Department to go and see them.

I did not think I'd do not could unless we TBA's position has learned by Jolley

Ken 13/1.

D.W. Hills.

Ken Mann
Sorry if I have taken your name in vain! However, I presume that file of portentous papers itself you would like Jones or Mr Wilson

16/1