

ACM/DC

To: DWH

CONFIDENTIAL

28th February 1966.

Asbestosis and Mesothelioma

I am attaching hereto my copy of Mr. Edmonds' report of February 25th and I have taken another copy of this report for Mr. Gates. I also attach the originals of a brief exchange with Mr. Edmonds today on the same subject, headed Newalls Insulation.

I know that Mr. Gates is very much au fait the situation and that you are also involved, but I would like to make the following comments:-

1. It does seem as though there has been either some misunderstanding between Mr. Middleton and Mr. Morant or perhaps even some misreporting by the latter but, in fairness to him, I think he would have gone to these discussions pre-disposed to listen out for comments favourable to glass.
2. Mr. Edmonds' report February 25th, page 2, note (1).
You may find that Mr. Edmonds, who is here this week on an S.A.I. Course, has already spoken to Surgeon Captain James. I know that he was trying to do this.
3. Mr. Edmonds' report February 25th, page 4, notes (1) and (2).
It seems to me that someone must be the focal point for these numerous contacts with the Admiralty and I would still suggest Mr. Edmonds in the first instance.
4. I have no reason to think that Newalls are being "disloyal" to asbestos cloth, but we have to remember that they are contractors and as such will provide the materials which their customers specify. At the same time, I do think that Newalls and T.B.A. should be at one in fighting

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the cause of asbestos to the last ditch whilst, of course, being ready to offer suitable glass materials if this has to be done. With this in mind, I wonder if the Chairman would care to impress on Mr. Pushman the importance of continuing to have our flag nailed to the mast of asbestos cloth.

A. C. M.
M.D.