

ASBESTOS INFORMATION ASSOCIATION

1745 Jefferson Davis Highway, Crystal Square 4, Suite 509
Arlington, Virginia 22202 • (703) 979-1150

18 October 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR: Members

SUBJECT: Forwarding of Annual Meeting and Board
of Directors Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the Association's Annual Meeting and Board of Directors Meeting, Wednesday, September 19, 1979, are enclosed. It is expected that the proceedings of the AIA/NA Industry-Government Conference held September 19-20, 1979, will be forwarded within 30-60 days.

The next regular meeting of AIA/NA directors will be held Wednesday, December 12, 1979, at the Quality Inn, Pentagon City, Arlington, Virginia. Further information will be forwarded in the near future.

Schedule of meetings for remainder of the Association's work year is listed below for information and planning purposes:

Board of Directors	March 12, 1980
	June 11, 1980
	September 17, 1980
Annual	September 17, 1980


B. J. Figg
Executive Director

Enclosures

bjp/cn



ASBESTOS INFORMATION ASSOCIATION

1745 Jefferson Davis Highway, Crystal Square 4, Suite 509
Arlington, Virginia 22202 • (703) 979-1150

ANNUAL MEETING

September 19, 1979

Stouffer's National
Center Hotel

Arlington, VA

The Annual Meeting of the Asbestos Information Association/North America was convened at 8:10 AM, September 19, 1979 in Stouffer's National Center Hotel, Arlington, Virginia. The following members were present:

W. H. Beasley	Cement Asbestos Products Co.
Frank Betts	Atlas Turner, Inc.
Frank M. Brown	Connell Brothers Co., Ltd.
Robert A. Carlson	Special Asbestos Co., Inc.
William C. Clark	Asten-Hill, Limited
Gordon Coats	Calaveras Asbestos, Ltd.
Brian Donner	Vermont Asbestos Group
Thomas A. Dougherty	CertainTeed Corporation
Guy G. Gabrielson, Jr.	Nicolet, Inc.
Dan Hackett	Lear-Siegler, Inc.
(for Charles Newell)	
Elisabeth Hanlin	Johns-Manville Corp.
(for Dimitry Poutiatine)	
Clarence A. Herbst, Sr.	Resinoid Engineering Corp.
B. J. Iwarsson	Abex Corporation
Jack E. Keith	Rostone Corporation
A. C. Liggett	Nuturn Corporation
J. J. McHugh	National Association of Filter Mfgers.
Donald G. Magill, Jr.	Hollingsworth & Vose Co.
John H. Marsh	Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc.
Joseph T. Mooney, Jr.	Monsey Products Company
Adam Novak	Huxley Development Corporation
Harrison B. Rhodes, Dr. Eng. Sc.	Union Carbide Corp.
John Riopelle	Bendix Corporation
Richard H. Rosenberg	Borg-Warner Corporation
Kurt Schwarz	Supradur Manufacturing Corp.
Martin J. Sendeki	Congoleum Corporation
(for N. E. DeCandia)	
Alfred Shaines	P.T. Brake Lining Co., Inc.
John Sheridan	Jim Walter Corporati
(for W. S. Durrell)	

Also present: Wendell B. Alcorn, Jr., Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft; Philip Z. Berg, AIA/NA Staff; William Blakeslee, CertainTeed Corp; C. H. Borcharding, Abex Corp.; J. E. Conner, Johns-Manville Corp.; Edmund M. Fenner, Johns-Manville Corp.; Burton A. Gale, Resinoid Engineering Corp.; Cindy Hayes, Nuturn Corporation; Robert Hoylman, Calaveras Asbestos, Ltd.; Curtis Linke, Johns-Manville Corp.; Howard Manosh, Vermont Asbestos Group; B. J. Pigg, AIA/NA Staff; A. P. Tiedemann, Raybestos Manhattan, Inc.; Richard L. Trachtman, AIA/NA Staff; James R. Weber, Bendix Corporation; W. T. Whitley, Cement Asbestos Products Company.

Welcome and Minutes

Mr. Dougherty, President of the Association, called the meeting to order and welcomed attendees. On motion, the minutes of the last Annual Meeting, September 21, 1978, were approved as submitted.

Statement of Finances

The Executive Director reviewed the financial statement of August 31, 1979. As of that date, total assets of \$163,505 with liabilities of \$41,334 resulted in a net worth of \$122,171. The Executive Director said that the financial condition of the Association was solvent with no foreseeable problems for the remainder of the fiscal (calendar) year.

Executive Director's Report

OSHA - As OSHA spokesman has advised that the RTI-CONSAD consolidated report, previously being considered for release, was now in hold status. No change in status of a proposed construction standard was reported.

It was reported that a group from the OSHA staff is reviewing the asbestos standard and pending proposal with the view of possibly recommending further regulatory action. Timing for completion of this project is uncertain, but is expected within the next few weeks.

OSHA's prospective Asbestos Alert Campaign, Phase II, was reviewed. It is expected that contract for this effort will be awarded about October 1, 1979.

A report was given on a conference sponsored by OSHA and held in Chicago, IL, on September 13-14.

EPA - No significant developments have occurred in regard to the agency's ongoing investigation of asbestos since last meeting with the exception that publication of an advance notice of proposed rulemaking has been delayed until late October earliest.

EPA will include as a task in OSHA's Asbestos Alert Campaign contract development of some materials for use in a voluntary guidance document for friction materials. The Association will be afforded opportunity to critique the materials when prepared. This work does not alter the agency's desire to receive information now being gathered together by AIA/NA's ad hoc committee on friction materials. EPA plans to have document ready for distribution by June 1980.

Committee and Activity Area Reports

1. Standards Advisory - Dr. Rhodes/Mr. Trachtman

EPA - Mr. Trachtman discussed the agency's turnaround decision to pursue rulemaking on asbestos in the public schools. An advance notice of proposed rulemaking (ANPRM) is expected in a few days.

CPSC - Although NIOSH has tested 30 hairdryers per its agreement with CPSC, the final report will not be available until October. Unofficial reports indicate concentrations peaked at .04 f/cc.

MSHA - The Mine Safety and Health Administration has published a notice of proposed rulemaking which would adopt OSHA construction standards to construction operations on mine property.

Department of Interior - The report on the issues of the Non-fuel Minerals Policy Review was published in August. There is little of import to the industry included in this document.

IRLG - Comments are due September 30 on the risk assessment document of the Interagency Regulatory Liaison Group. Dr. Weill will submit comments on which to base a response.

Studies on Risk Assessment - Mr. Trachtman reviewed five studies which relate at least in part to risk assessment currently ongoing in the federal government: Office of Technology Assessment Risk Assessment Study (arm of Congress); Interagency Regulatory Liaison Group (IRLG) risk assessment document; Report to the President by the Toxic Substances Strategy Committee; a staff paper of the Office of Science and Technology Policy of the Executive Office of the President; and OSHA's generic cancer policy.

Congressional Activities - "The Asbestos School Hazard Detection and Control Act of 1979" - H.R. 3282 (1524)/S. 1658. The House version is not yet scheduled for floor action. An amendment reinstating the industry funding language is expected from Rep. Cecil Heftel (D-HI). The Senate bill is pending in Subcommittee (Education, Arts and Humanities).

"Nondisclosure by Business Entitles as to Dangerous Products" - (H.R. 4973). The bill is residing in the Committee on the Judiciary with no hearings currently scheduled.

NAS - The National Academy of Sciences' proposed two-year study of asbestos has not yet started. Selection of the study panel continues. The co-chairmen of the panel will be Arnold L. Brown, M.D., Dean of Medical School, University of Wisconsin and Helen Catherine Skinner, Ph.D., Master of Jonathan Edwards College, Yale University. Total panel members will be 12.

State Activities

Virginia - Asbestos and benzene were designated Class I by the Virginia Board of Health. This will place a reporting burden on those establishments manufacturing or using in manufacturing 1000 Kilograms per year or more of these substances.

The Virginia legislature's Subcommittee on Asbestos Cement Pipes chaired by Senator Peter K. Babalas is holding a hearing on September 18, 1979. The topic will be former Senate bill, S.806, which would have banned the use of A/C pipe for potable water use.

California - Dr. Rhodes reported on a San Diego hearing of CAL-OSHA in August on the proposal to lower the action level for asbestos in the workplace. Dr. Rhodes testified on behalf of AIA/NA.

2. Air Monitoring/DMAP - Dr. Rhodes

Dr. Rhodes reported on the activities of the Dust Monitoring Advisory Panel including a meeting on October 10-11 in Paris, France at which he will represent AIA/NA.

3. Legal Research - Mr. Alcorn

Wendell Alcorn, AIA/NA Special Counsel, reported on activities in this area of work.

4. Technical - Mr. Fenner

Mr. Fenner discussed the makeup of this committee and reviewed its work which included a response to EPA on a contract study on asbestos exposure and presentations to EPA and the Navy on safe work practices for the use of asbestos-containing products.

5. International/Medical Affairs - Mr. Marsh

Mr. Marsh reported on a medical presentation that the Association recently arranged for at EPA. He read a message from Dr. Gaze, Chairman, Executive Committee, Asbestos International Association (see copy enclosed).

Resolutions Adopted

Agreed that law firm of Kirkland and Ellis should be engaged as AIA/NA special counsel for federal regulatory affairs with a limit on legal fees during 1979 of \$50,000.

Election of Directors

In accordance with Article IV, Section 4.02, AIA/NA Bylaws, the following regular member company representatives were proposed to serve on the Association's board of directors:

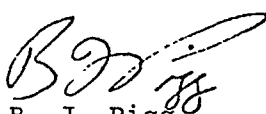
B. J. Iwarsson
J. L. Rainey
Robert Van Buren
M. P. Carson
William C. Clark
Frank Betts
John Riopelle
J. D. Little
W. H. Beasley
Gordon Coats
Thomas A. Dougherty
N. E. DeCandia
Frank M. Brown
C. G. Morgan
A. R. Hooker
John W. Guffy, Jr.
Donald G. Magill, Jr.
Adam Novak
W. S. Durrell, Ph.D.
Dimitry Poutiatine
B. Ramundo
Charles Newell
S. Masuda
Edward R. Zacharias
Joseph T. Mooney, Jr.
Edmund J. FitzGerald
Guy G. Gabrielson, Jr.
A. C. Liggett
John H. Marsh
Clarence A. Herbst, Sr.
Derek Coomber
William F. Phifer
Robert A. Carlson
Kurt Schwarz
H. B. Rhodes, Dr. Eng. Sc.
William K. Clark
Brian Donner

Abex Corporation
Amatex Corporation
American Biltrite, Inc.
Asbestos Corporation Ltd.
Asten-Hill Limited
Atlas Turner, Inc.
Bendix Corporation
Cassiar Asbestos Corp., Ltd.
Cement Asbestos Products Co.
Calaveras Asbestos, Ltd.
CertainTeed Corporation
Congoleum Industries
Connell Bros. Co.
Continental Products Corp.
The Flintkote Company
Garlock, Inc.
Hollingsworth & Vose Co.
Huxley Development Corp.
Jim Walter Corporation
Johns-Manville Corporation
Kentile Floors
Lear-Siegler, Inc.
Mitsubishi Canada, Ltd.
Molded Materials Company
Monsey Products Company
National Gypsum Company
Nicolet, Inc.
Nuturn Corporation
Raybestos-Manhattan
Resinoid Engineering Corp.
Richard Klinger, Inc.
Safeguard Automotive Corp.
Special Asbestos Co., Inc.
Supradur Manufacturing Corp.
Union Carbide Corporation
Uvalde Rock Asphalt Company
Vermont Asbestos Group

The list, as read by the Secretary, was approved on motion.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned
at 9:45 AM.


B. J. Pigg
Secretary

17 October 1979

Enclosure

THE ASBESTOS INFORMATION ASSOCIATION/NORTH AMERICA

Address by Dr. Richard Gaze

I do very much appreciate this opportunity to address such an important gathering even though I am not able to do so in person. This is due to factors outside my control and I do much regret not being with you this evening.

I wish to tell you something about the Asbestos International Association. You may be aware that this has its headquarters in London and acts on behalf of its membership from twenty-five countries. It was with some trepidation that I accepted the duty of being Chairman of the Executive Committee but the patience and understanding of our members, which reflect so well the personal and intellectual qualities of those who operate the asbestos industry world wide - has made this a most rewarding task for me.

I can therefore speak to you about the work of the Association with some authority but this I propose to do only briefly since I believe you know much of it already and you will be more interested to consider the present effectiveness of this body and the prospects for the future. Aside from the facts, I emphasise that the views I express are my own.

But I can begin with a fact. We now have an international body that is well organised and effective. The organisation is largely the work of Sir Neville Stack, the full-time Director General of the Association, who has brought to bear all of his considerable experience and wisdom in the co-ordination of information and strategy, and of people.

We are truly international and the various panels dealing with EEC problems, dust measurement, medical questions, tools for fabricating asbestos cement, friction materials, packaging, and communications, are the responsibility of small groups of people from a very wide range of countries and branches of our industry and these are all people of very considerable quality and ability in any context.

In the record, we have had successes and failures but when confronted with problems, I always remember that as an international group we have considerable muscle and our views are being increasingly sought by governments and by other international organisations the world over.

Let me come now to what I feel is a particularly important point and ask the question that is likely to have occurred to you :

"As a member of the United States asbestos industry, why should I be concerned with the AIA? I do not export asbestos materials outside this continent. I have no health hazard from the use of asbestos in my plant. So what has western Europe - or Japan - or Australia to do with me, or for that matter, with the AIA/NA?"

A good question. I shall answer it.

The asbestos industry is a large one. Over 20-billion dollars I should guess. But it is composed of many different parts. Some of these parts are small. They cover a wide range of differing technologies. All are specialised - some highly so.

But they all depend upon a steady and reliable supply of cheap - yes even at today's prices, asbestos is a cheap commodity when you look around - of cheap, consistent fibre.

To this extent, asbestos is indivisible.

If therefore, your business depends upon this supply of asbestos, you must be concerned that the continuing safe use of asbestos throughout the world is honestly and vigorously defended and protected.

The co-ordination of this defense is the task of the Asbestos International Association.

Let me develop this farther.

The major use of asbestos is in asbestos cement sheets and pipes. I expect that in world terms more than 60% of asbestos consumption is in these products and the proportion may well be higher.

The manufacture of asbestos cement pressure pipes is a major outlet for asbestos in the United States. Asbestos cement sheet for roofing and the like is no longer a major outlet in this country but it is of considerable importance in Western Europe and many other countries, particularly in the relatively undeveloped areas. It is this industry - AC pipes and sheets - that consumes the great proportion - 80% or 90% may be - of the medium length fibres, Grade 4 and 5.

It is clear that without this outlet for these fibres, the asbestos mining industry could not survive in its present form - in Canada - in the USA - in South Africa - in Russia - in Cyprus - in Italy - and so on.

The inevitable consequence would be that an economically and technically satisfactory supply of asbestos for any use - whether this be for textiles; for packings; for jointings; for paper; for floor tiles; for friction materials; and so on and so on - an economically and technically satisfactory supply of asbestos for any use, would no longer be available.

If the factors influencing the supply and demand for these fibres were commercial ones, then well and good. In the United States especially with your legislation and with the cut and thrust of competition, you would know better than anyone how to deal with such a situation.

But we all know this is not the case and we are dealing with new and unfamiliar factors which may deeply affect our business.

This is why the asbestos problem is indivisible.

This is why we must all work together to defend the safe use of asbestos in all of the outlets and especially in the major outlets and especially in asbestos cement.

This then is my answer and my reason for earnestly soliciting your continuing support for the Asbestos International Association whose objectives precisely conform with these considerations.

But what of the future?

There are some areas where I believe our efforts will result in the fair and reasonable regulations that we desire although we must continue to be vigilant and intensify our efforts particularly to ensure a dialogue with the international trade union associations, some of whom undoubtedly retain a suspicion of our motives.

As we are all aware, the medical aspects of our problem are complex, often baffling and exasperating to the layman. This does not only apply to asbestos but to many many materials about which society is perplexed.

What is the correct balance in assessing the value a material has to society in relation to hazards associated with its use?

The doctors alone cannot answer this. Neither can industry alone. Neither can the anti-asbestos lobby. Neither I believe, can government. But all have a part to play.

In spite of these difficulties that are so easy to enumerate, my own feeling is one of optimism for the future of our industry. We have a fine range of products which I am satisfied can be manufactured and used with no more hazard than is freely accepted by society as part of every-day life within a normal life span. If we are satisfied that this is the case - and I am - then it is our duty not only to our industry but to society as a whole, to defend our products vigorously throughout the world.

But I have an additional reason for feeling optimistic. The huge problems for our civilisation consequent upon the so-called energy crisis which is really only just beginning, are likely I believe, to have the effect of putting environmental considerations in a better perspective than has been apparent during the last decade.

This does not mean that environmental awareness will go away and it would be wrong if it did so but there is evidence that these large issues do have a cyclical quality. But as an example of what I mean, it must be increasingly relevant that the total energy used in Europe in the manufacture of a corrugated aluminium sheet for roofing is around twelve times that used for the equivalent asbestos cement product.

The total energy used in the United States for the manufacture of an eight-inch iron water pipe is six times that used in the equivalent asbestos cement product.

We who have executive responsibility for the international organisation see it as our duty firmly but responsibly to bring forward facts such as these.

I conclude by wishing you all success with your conference and warm personal regards to you all.



ASBESTOS INFORMATION ASSOCIATION

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Stouffer's National
Center Hotel

Arlington, VA

September 19, 1979

Pursuant to notice, a meeting of the Board of Directors was held September 19, 1979, at Stouffer's National Center Hotel, Arlington, VA. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM. The following directors were present:

W. H. Beasley	Cement Asbestos Products Co.
Frank Betts	Atlas Turner, Inc.
Frank M. Brown	Connell Brothers Co., Ltd.
Robert A. Carlson	Special Asbestos Co., Inc.
William C. Clark	Asten-Hill, Limited
Gordon Coats	Calaveras Asbestos, Ltd.
Brian Donner	Vermont Asbestos Group
Thomas A. Dougherty	CertainTeed Corporation
Guy G. Gabrielson, Jr.	Nicolet, Inc.
Dan Hackett	Lear-Siegler, Inc.
(for Charles Newell)	
Elisabeth Hanlin	Johns-Manville Corporation
(for Dimitry Poutiatine)	
Clarence A. Herbst, Sr.	Resinoid Engineering Corp.
B. J. Iwarsson	Abex Corporation
A. C. Liggett	Nuturn Corporation
Donald G. Magill, Jr.	Hollingsworth & Vose Co.
John H. Marsh	Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc.
Joseph T. Mooney, Jr.	Monsey Products Company
Adam Novak	Huxley Development Corporation
H. B. Rhodes, Dr.Eng.Sc.	Union Carbide Corporation
John Riopelle	Bendix Corporation
Kurt Schwarz	Supradur Manufacturing Corp.
Martin J. Sendeki	Congoleum Corporation
(for N. E. DeCandia)	
John Sheridan	Jim Walter Corporation
(for W. S. Durrell)	

Also present: Wendell B. Alcorn, Jr., Cadwalader, Wickersham and Taft; Philip Z. Berg, AIA/NA Staff; William Blakeslee, CertainTeed Corp.; C. H. Borcharding, Abex Corp.; J. E. Conner, Johns-Manville Corp.; Edmund M. Fenner, Johns-Manville Corp.;

Burton A. Gale, Resinoid Engineering Corp.; Cindy Hayes, Nuturn Corp.; Robert Hoylman, Calaveras Asbestos, Ltd.; Jack E. Keith, Rostone Corp.; Curtis Linke, Johns-Manville Corp.; J. J. McHugh, National Association of Filter Manufacturers; Howard Manosh, Vermont Asbestos Group; B. J. Pigg, AIA/NA Staff; Richard H. Rosenberg, Borg-Warner Corp.; Alfred Shaines, P.T. Brake Lining Co., Inc.; A. P. Tiedemann, Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc.; Richard L. Trachtman, AIA/NA Staff; James R. Weber, Bendix Corp.; W. T. Whitley, Cement Asbestos Products Company.

Minutes

On motion, minutes of the preceding meeting, June 13, 1979, were approved as submitted.

Election of Officers Appointment of Executive Committee

Mr. Schwarz, chairman of the nominating committee, placed in nomination the following persons who were, by vote, unanimously approved for office:

Thomas A. Dougherty	President
John H. Marsh	Vice President
Dimitry Poutiatine	Vice President
B. J. Pigg	Secretary and Treasurer

In addition to the above officers, who are directors, the following persons were, by vote, unanimously approved as members of the Association's Executive Committee:

Frank Betts	Harrison B. Rhodes, Dr.Eng.Sc.
Guy G. Gabrielson, Jr.	Kurt Schwarz

Committee/Work Area Appointments

On motion, members of the Executive Committee were approved to serve in the following specific work areas:

Standards Advisory and Air Monitoring Committees	Harrison B. Rhodes, Dr.Eng.Sc.
International Activities and Medical Affairs	John H. Marsh
Membership	Kurt Schwarz
Legal Research Committee	Guy G. Gabrielson, Jr.
Technical Committee	Dimitry Poutiatine (E. M. Fenner, chairman)
Information-Education Publications	Dimitry Poutiatine

Public Relations

Frank Betts

Financial Affairs

T. A. Dougherty

Remarks of the President

A copy of the remarks of the president, Mr. T. A. Dougherty, is enclosed.

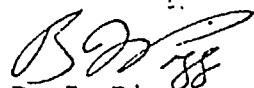
Other Business

On motion, the application for associate membership in the Association submitted by The Rockbestos Company, New Haven, Connecticut, was approved.

The next regular meeting of directors is scheduled for Wednesday, December 12, 1979, at the Quality Inn, Pentagon City, Arlington, VA, commencing at 9:00 AM.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:40 AM.



B. J. Pigg
Executive Director

18 October 1979

Enclosure

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

SEPTEMBER 19, 1979

AGENDA ITEM V - REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT - (T. A. DOUGHERTY)

FIRST, I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY SINCERE APPRECIATION TO THE DIRECTORS FOR YOUR SHOW OF CONFIDENCE IN REELECTING ME AS PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION, EVEN THOUGH IT DOES MAKE ME QUESTION THE SOUNDNESS OF YOUR JUDGMENT. IN ONE SENSE, I FEEL THAT I HAVE ALREADY SERVED MY "TURN IN THE BARREL"; HOWEVER, IF YOU THINK I CAN MAKE A FURTHER CONTRIBUTION IN THE OFFICE, I'M WILLING TO CONTINUE AND PLEDGE TO DO THE BEST JOB I CAN.

I WOULD BE REMISS IF I DID NOT EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE TO THOSE WHO HAVE RENDERED INVALUABLE ASSISTANCE TO THE ASSOCIATION DURING THE PRECEDING WORK YEAR: MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (GUY GABRIELSON, JOHN MARSH, DIMITRY POUTIATINE, HARRY RHODES, KURT SCHWARZ AND ED ZACHARIAS); OUR STANDARDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND AIR MONITORING COMMITTEE, BOTH CHAIRED BY HARRY RHODES; THE AIA/NA TECHNICAL COMMITTEE WITH ED FENNER AS CHAIRMAN; AND LEGAL RESEARCH COMMITTEE UNDER GUY GABRIELSON. JOHN MARSH HAS SERVED US WELL AS REPRESENTATIVE IN THE ASBESTOS INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

LAST SEPTEMBER WHEN WE MET NEAR HERE AT THE TWIN BRIDGES MARRIOTT, THEN HEW SECRETARY CALIFANO HAD JUST GIVEN HIS "INFAMOUS" SPEECH TO THE AFL-CIO'S NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH. MR. CALIFANO ALLEGED THAT AT LEAST 20 PERCENT OF CANCER

IN THE UNITED STATES IS WORK RELATED, AND THAT EXPOSURE TO ASBESTOS WILL ACCOUNT FOR ABOUT 17 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CANCER DEATHS EXPECTED DURING THE NEXT 30-35 YEARS. THE EXTENSIVE PRESS COVERAGE AFFORDED THIS SPEECH, COMBINED WITH THE NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE'S ONGOING PUBLIC AWARENESS PROGRAM ON ASBESTOS, DID NOT GIVE US A GREAT DEAL TO CHEER ABOUT.

AS YOU WILL RECALL, WE AGREED AT OUR '78 ANNUAL MEETING TO CONDUCT A SCIENTIFIC REVIEW OF THE HEW-SPONSORED ESTIMATES PAPER WHICH WAS THE BASIS FOR MR. CALIFANO'S REMARKS. OUR DETAILED RESPONSE SUBMITTED IN DECEMBER TOOK THE FORM OF AN OPEN LETTER TO THE HEW SECRETARY AND, I BELIEVE, CONTRIBUTED SIGNIFICANTLY TO DISCREDITING THE PAPER. IT HAS YET TO BE PUBLISHED FOR PEER REVIEW.

THE MONTHS FOLLOWING OUR MEETING LAST YEAR HAVE BEEN FILLED WITH CONSIDERABLE ACTIVITY. THE ASSOCIATION HAS PARTICIPATED IN A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT ACTIONS ON BEHALF OF THE INDUSTRY. I WILL NOT ATTEMPT AN IN-DEPTH REVIEW OR MENTION OF ALL OF THEM. I DO BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT THE FOLLOWING ARE WORTHY OF YOUR ATTENTION:

1. AIA/NA ARRANGED FOR AND SERVED AS HOST ON BEHALF OF THE ASBESTOS INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION A COLLOQUIUM IN WASHINGTON, D.C., OCTOBER 11-13, ON DUST MEASURING TECHNIQUE AND STRATEGY. IT WAS ATTENDED BY 37 REPRESENTATIVES FROM 13 COUNTRIES. THE INITIAL OBJECTIVE OF THIS INTERNATIONAL INDUSTRY EFFORT IS THE DEVELOPMENT

OF IMPROVED METHODS OF MEASUREMENT OF ASBESTOS CONCENTRATIONS IN THE WORKPLACE. PROGRESS IS BEING MADE ON THIS PROJECT.

2. A PLANT PHYSICIANS CONFERENCE WAS CONDUCTED AT TULANE UNIVERSITY IN NEW ORLEANS ON NOVEMBER 9-10. WE WERE PLEASED THAT MORE THAN 30 INDUSTRY PHYSICIANS ATTENDED THIS EVENT WHICH WAS COORDINATED BY OUR MEDICAL CONSULTANT, DR. HANS WEILL.

3. EARLIER THIS YEAR INFORMATION WAS RECEIVED THAT THE U.S. NAVY WAS TAKING A VERY HARD POSITION ON SEEKING SUBSTITUTES FOR ALL ASBESTOS-CONTAINING PRODUCTS. OVER A PERIOD OF THREE MONTHS, FOUR SEPARATE MEETINGS WERE CONDUCTED BETWEEN NAVY AND ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVES, INCLUDING A TECHNICAL PRESENTATION ON ASBESTOS-CONTAINING PRODUCTS. IN ADDITION, A NUMBER OF STUDIES AND MATERIALS HAVE BEEN PROVIDED TO THE NAVY. WE THINK THAT OUR EFFORTS HAVE RESULTED IN A MORE REASONABLE APPROACH BY THE NAVY AND, TO DATE, THEIR MILITARY SPECIFICATIONS ONLY EXCLUDE ASBESTOS PRODUCTS IN THE THERMAL INSULATION CATEGORY.

4. QUANTITY DISTRIBUTION OF AIA/NA PREPARED EDUCATIONAL AND INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS TO BOTH INDUSTRY AND THE PUBLIC HAS OCCURRED AT A HIGH LEVEL.

5. SEVERAL STATES HAVE BEEN ACTIVE IN PROPOSING FURTHER REGULATION OF ASBESTOS. CALIFORNIA, CONNECTICUT, MONTANA AND VIRGINIA READILY COME TO MIND. HARRY RHODES HAS PARTICIPATED IN

HEARINGS AND OTHERWISE BEEN "OUR MAN" IN CALIFORNIA. NONE OF US FULLY APPRECIATES THE TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF TIME AND EFFORT WHICH HARRY EXPENDED ON OUR BEHALF, EFFORT WHICH HAS BEEN MOST WORTHWHILE.

A MAJOR RESPONSE TO AN AMBIENT PROPOSAL BY THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT WAS DEVELOPED AND SUBMITTED BY THE ASSOCIATION IN FEBRUARY. WE HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT OUR EFFORT WAS A FACTOR IN FORESTALLING THAT INITIATIVE FOR THE TIME BEING.

MONTANA ACCEPTED OUR RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING RESTRICTIONS ON SPRAY-ON ASBESTOS MATERIALS.

OUR COMMENTS HAVE ALSO HAD SOME IMPACT IN VIRGINIA'S RECENT REGULATION WHICH DEALS PRIMARILY WITH REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

6. A VERY AMBITIOUS ROUND-ROBIN FIBER MEASURING PROGRAM WAS DEVELOPED AND CARRIED OUT, THE PURPOSE WHICH WAS TO DETERMINE ACCURACY AND REPRODUCIBILITY OF THE METHOD OF MEASURING EXPOSURE LEVELS. AS YOU HAVE HEARD FROM HARRY RHODES, THIS WAS A MONSTROUS UNDERTAKING AND COMPILATION OF RESULTS IS NOW UNDER WAY. WE BELIEVE IT WILL PROVIDE EXCELLENT AND USEFUL INFORMATION. WE WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE CONTRIBUTION TO THIS PROGRAM BY NATIONAL GYPSUM AND JOHNS-MANVILLE AS WELL AS ALL OTHER PARTICIPANTS.

7. IN THE FEDERAL AREA, THERE HAS BEEN ONE NEW REGULATION ISSUED DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS. THIS RULE CONCERNS THE TRANSPORTATION OF ASBESTOS AND WAS PUBLISHED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION. AGAIN, WE THINK OUR INPUT WAS A CONTRIBUTING FACTOR IN ACHIEVING A REASONABLE REGULATION.

YOU HAVE BEEN KEPT ABREAST OF THE FACT THAT OSHA HAS NEITHER SCHEDULED A PUBLIC HEARING ON ITS PROPOSED REVISION OF THE ASBESTOS STANDARD NOR YET PROPOSED A STANDARD FOR THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY. EARLY IN THE YEAR, I SENT YOU A LETTER WHICH REVIEWED THE OSHA SITUATION IN SOME DETAIL AND SUGGESTED THAT MEMBERS ASSESS THEIR OWN PARTICULAR SITUATION AND DETERMINE TO WHAT EXTENT THAT THEY WOULD SUPPORT A CHALLENGE TO ANY PROPOSED STANDARDS DEEMED UNACCEPTABLE. I BELIEVE THAT THOSE COMMENTS REMAIN TIMELY, AND WE SHOULD APPLY CONTINUING FORETHOUGHT AND PLANNING TO THE END THAT WE CAN ACT QUICKLY AND POSITIVELY WHENEVER OSHA PUBLISHES NEW PROPOSALS. WE COVERED IN THE ANNUAL MEETING THIS MORNING TWO SPECIFIC ASSOCIATION INITIATIVES THAT PERTAIN TO THIS SUBJECT (THE RFP DRAFT PREPARED BY CDP ASSOCIATES, AND WORK PRACTICES POSITION PAPER COOPERATIVE EFFORT WITH ACPPA).

SOME TIME AGO, WE WERE CONVINCED THAT THE CONCEPT OF WORK PRACTICES IS THE ONLY PRACTICAL APPROACH TO ASBESTOS REGULATION IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY. IT IS FOR THIS REASON THAT THE FIRST SESSION OF OUR INDUSTRY-GOVERNMENT CONFERENCE THIS AFTERNOON WILL

COVER RECOMMENDED WORK PRACTICES IN VARIOUS SEGMENTS OF THIS INDUSTRY. WE, OF COURSE, ARE HOPEFUL THAT OUR GOVERNMENT PARTICIPANTS AND GUESTS WILL BE FAVORABLY IMPRESSED.

THE LAST FEW MONTHS HAVE BEEN PARTICULARLY ACTIVE AS WE HAVE WORKED WITH BOTH EPA AND CPSC IN ANTICIPATION OF FURTHER REGULATORY INITIATIVES BY THESE AGENCIES. AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE ASSOCIATION:

1. ARRANGED FOR AND PRESENTED A TECHNICAL REVIEW OF ASBESTOS-CONTAINING PRODUCTS AND MEDICAL SEMINAR ON JUNE 18 AND AUGUST 8 RESPECTIVELY AT EPA HEADQUARTERS.

2. FORMED AN AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR FRICTION MATERIALS WHICH IS COOPERATING WITH EPA IN DEVELOPMENT OF A VOLUNTARY GUIDANCE DOCUMENT.

3. SUBMITTED COMMENTS ON A REPORT PREPARED BY A CONSULTING FIRM FOR EPA AS PART OF THE AGENCY'S INVESTIGATION OF ASBESTOS.

IT IS THE OPINION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE THAT EPA AND CPSC MAY PRESENT, OVER THE NEXT YEAR, THE MOST SERIOUS THREAT THAT THE ASBESTOS INDUSTRY HAS FACED IN THE REGULATORY ARENA TO DATE. SINCE WE DISCUSSED AND CONSIDERED THESE ISSUES EARLIER THIS MORNING, I WILL NOT REPEAT THEM HERE.

NOW, WITH YOUR INDULGENCE, I WOULD LIKE TO BRAG A LITTLE: DURING MY TERM OF OFFICE THERE HAVE NOT BEEN MANY DEVELOPMENTS ABOUT WHICH WE CAN FEEL COMFORTABLE OTHER THAN THE FACT THAT THE ASSOCIATION HAS DEVELOPED INTO AN EFFECTIVE, RESPONSIBLE, AND CREDIBLE ORGANIZATION. THERE IS ONE ACHIEVEMENT OF WHICH I FEEL ESPECIALLY PROUD, THOUGH, AND THAT IS THE APPOINTMENT OF BOB PIGG TO THE POSITION OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. I'M SURE THAT ALL OF YOU HAVE HAD OCCASION TO DEAL WITH BOB DURING THE LAST YEAR AND THAT YOU ALL SHARE MY APPRECIATION OF HIS DEDICATION AND MANY TALENTS. HIS WORK HAS BEEN TRULY OUTSTANDING. HE HAS BEEN EXTREMELY ABLY ASSISTED IN HIS EFFORTS BY THE OTHER MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF AND I REFER, OF COURSE, TO RICH, CINDY, AND WANDA. THE QUALITY AND QUANTITY OF ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY THIS SMALL FORCE IN A MOST PLEASANT AND COOPERATIVE MANNER HAS BEEN TREMENDOUS. I AM PLEASED THAT PHILIP BERG WILL SOON BE JOINING THE STAFF TO ADD MUCH NEEDED ASSISTANCE. I WOULD LIKE TO ASK THAT YOU JOIN ME IN GIVING THEM ALL A MUCH DESERVED ROUND OF APPLAUSE.

I SOLICIT YOUR SUGGESTIONS AND ASSISTANCE AS WE BEGIN A NEW YEAR IN THE ASSOCIATION'S WORK. I BELIEVE THAT AIA/NA HAS ACTED RESPONSIBLY WITHIN OUR LIMITED RESOURCES DURING THE PAST YEAR. FURTHER, I AM PERSUADED THAT, WHILE OUR CHALLENGES ARE FORMIDABLE, WE SHOULD AND WILL MEET THEM WITH A RENEWED DEDICATION AND RESOLVE.

THANK YOU.