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UNION CARBIDE INTERNAL CORRESPONDENCE

METALS DIVISION • P.O. BOX 579 - 4625 ROYAL AVE., NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK 14302

To (Name) Mr. T. F. Carmody
Division Health, Safety & Environmental Affairs
Location 270 Park Avenue - 11th Floor
New York, NY

Date November 23, 1977
Originating Dept. "Calidria" Asbestos
Answering letter date

Copy to Messrs. T. D. Finnegan
R. F. X. Fusaro
J. L. Myers
W. C. Thurber
J. W. Whittlesey

Subject H.R. 8689

CONFIDENTIAL

The attached bill has been drawing both considerable support from a variety of groups and also considerable opposition. Dr. Selikoff, for example, is strongly in favor of it. Johns-Manville has also had a number of discussions with the Tobacco Lobby and has gotten their attention with the concept that tobacco plus asbestos may be a different legal issue than tobacco alone. The implication is that tobacco could be in for another round of litigation in this area and the bill may benefit them. In any case, I have been informed that there is a good chance that there will be a committee hearing early in the next session of Congress. There will also be a briefing on the bill available to the AIA/NA Directors in Washington on December 13, 1977 that I plan to attend.

A much earlier version of this bill was reviewed and extensively criticized by the Union Carbide Law Department about a year ago. It would be very helpful to me in my AIA/NA activities to have a similar commentary on this version by our appropriate legal expert. It should be emphasized that unless otherwise advised, I plan to continue our very low profile position for Union Carbide in this matter.

H. B. Rhodes

Harrison B. Rhodes

HBR/rmm
Attachment

A08348

Union Carbide Corporation
Corporate Medical Director's Office
270 Park Avenue
New York, New York 10017

CONFIDENTIAL *DATE June 2, 1976*

To: Mr. F. H. Larrison, Jr., Manager
Paypoint 241

For the past two years, the Medical Department has been obtaining a copy of the death certificate of all deceased active and former employees.

To study possible relationships of their illnesses to occupations, additional information is needed. Some of this should come from the plant physician, but most should be available from plant records or personal knowledge of managers. Search for information beyond this is neither expected nor desired.

We have a certificate for: Gordon Thomas Scazighini

Any information you have as to cause of death:

Heart Attack - Died 3-16-75, Age 56

Additional information:

1. *Type of work performed for UCC, length of time in various assignments particularly as related to actual exposure to specific hazards such as asbestos, silica, radioactivity, or specific harmful chemicals. Of interest, also, are indications of the severity of exposures.*

Worked for U.C.C. 4-25-66 - 6-17-71. Severe heart attack. No further work for us, & unable to do any kind of work. Worked for us as "heavy equipment operator", but did all kinds of laboring type jobs in & around open-pit asbestos mine. Exposure records are very sketchy - 9-66 concentration in pit were sampled at 5-7mppcf., 8-71 mine concentrations were from 7 to 41 particles/ml. >5 micron. Five to six months/yr. were spent in the Coalinga mining office in sample preparation etc. no air sample resulta are available for these times. Little or no use of respirators was made at the mine during this time.

A08353

2. *Similiar information about activities before or after UCC employment; other exposures or observations such as "complained of shortness of breath, but went on hunting trips."*

No record of before UCC - except I know he was in Air Force during W.W.II; and of course ran cattle on his place, as well as mined mercury (& roasted ore) at his small underground mine, near his home.

3. *Past medical history - whether from Medical Records or other sources believed reliable, particularly about illnesses which might be connected with occupations. In addition, information about final illness might be useful.*

Annual physical on 9-1-70 showed no problems other than hemorhoids and previous history of pneumonia.

He seemed healthy enough, right up to 6-17-71, his first (?) heart attack.

4. *Smoking history - especially if work hazards were involved, such as coal or carbon dust, ozone, asbestos, silica, or heavy nonspecific dust loads.*

Was heavy cigarette smoker - right up to his death. My guess is a pack a day.

All information is to be considered confidential to the Medical Department.

Very truly yours,

John J. Welsh, M.D.

John J. Welsh, M.D.
Corporate Medical Director

JJW:AG

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