FILE NAME: Jewelers (JEWEL)

DATE: 1988 June 3

DOC#: JEWEL010

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Wall Street Journal Article - Indian Lung Disease Linked to Asbestos Used to Make Jewelry

Indian Lung Disease Linked to Asbestos Used to Make Jewelry

BOSTON (AP)—The use of asbestos to make silver jewelry and to whiten moccasins for ceremonial dances is responsible for an outbreak of a rare form of lung cancer among New Mexican Indians, doctors reported.

The U.S. Public Health Service doctors began an investigation after finding that the incidence of malignant mesothelioma, a form of lung cancer associated with asbestos, was 1,000 times higher than expected at one Indian pueblo.

Five people, all from the same village, had the disease between 1970 and 1985.

Dr. Richard J. Driscoll and other researchers reported their findings in the New England Journal of Medicine.

Four of the victims were silversmiths.

The researchers found that they typically used asbestos mats, which they called pounding boards, to insulate their work tables against the heat of torches and molten metal.

All five also participated in ceremonial dances. Before the dances, the Indians used asbestos to whiten their buckskin leggings and moccasins.

SHARP
#1 FAX IN U.S. !
Overstock Sale On NOW
FO300 + FO700 Facsimiles !
UNIFAX International
800-648-4329 or
213-328-8787

The most famous hotel on Wilshire
Boulevard is also the Best Value. $70 (single)
Los Angeles' beautiful Ambassador Hotel — it's really a resort with 10 tennis courts, 23 acres of lovely gardens, Olympic size pool, health club, fine restaurants (room & car from $97)
The Ambassador
3400 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, Calif.
Call toll free 800-421-0182 / Calif. 800-252-0385 / Loews Res. or your Travel Agent