

200
M. Prus

April 14, 1977

P. Reiser

H. Bagenstose
G. Thomas

Asbestos Warning Labels

I got very strong reactions in Japan to our requirement to translate the Tampa Text Label into Japanese and print it on all the bags.

Confidentially the Kakiuchi staff told me that they have deliberately left out the word cancer from the text because this must not even be mentioned in Japan in connection with asbestos. Altogether they are against a warning label because they do not wish to raise problems with the workers. They are already attaching a label on each bag according to Japanese law.]✓

Kakiuchi would prefer to sign a certificate holding us blameless from harm and would in turn get a signature from all customers on a similar disclaimer to hold themselves free of lawsuits. Asbestos Corporation and Bell have both gone this route as per attached blank forms.

Kakiuchi are of the opinion that we cannot impose American law on foreign countries in general and on Japan in particular. Listening to customers around the world I second this sentiment. I do not believe that we should raise problems with people who are more primitive than we are or less educated. We cannot, in all cases, impose American standards on other people.]✓

I would appreciate it if you could bring this matter up again with the lawyers in Tampa. If necessary I am ready to explain the situation verbally.

Peter Reiser

PR:tc

Encls.

Barry Castleman
6/29/86

CX-29