

II Brief van ex-premier Lubbers over hoeveelheden DMPP

Drs. R.F.M. LUBBERS

Secretariaat
Industrieweg 2
Postbus 314
2930 AC Krimpen aan den IJssel
Telefoon: (0)180-51 03 39
Telex: (0)180-51 79 59
E-mail: lhm@kox.nl

Aan de Voorzitter van de Parlementaire
Enquêtecommissie Vliegramp Bijlmermeer
de heer Th.A.M. Meijer
Postbus 20018
2500 EA 's-GRAVENHAGE

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Amice,

Via de media begrijp ik dat de Commissie nu beschikt over volledig inzicht in de lading ten tijde van de ramp.

Ik kan mij voorstellen dat het zinig is dit inzicht waar mogelijk te verifiëren.

Welnu, voor wat betreft een klein deel kan ik daarbij behulpzaam zijn.

Daar toe zend ik u als bijlage kopie van informatie.

Uit deze notitie blijkt wat terzake aan boord moet hebben gezeten.

Naar ik aanneem klopt het met uw gegevens.

Deze simpele verificatie lijkt mij echter het goede doel te dienen. Vandaar.

Met beste groet en veel succes.

R.F.M. Lubbers.


R.F.M. Lubbers (secr.)

Bijl.

Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.
Background: 1992 DMMP Shipment On El Al
Rund R. M. Lubbers

This incident occurred on October 4, 1992, six (6) years prior to the acquisition of Solkataronic Chemicals, Inc. by Air Products and Chemicals, Inc., on April 30, 1998 from Solvay America, Inc. At the time of the incident, Solkataronic was owned by Solvay S.A.

- 1) We are advised that Solkataronic shipped approximately 480 pounds of dimethyl methylphosphonate (DMMP), a flammable liquid in 10 five gallon plastic drums, in 1992, aboard the El Al plane bound for Israel that crashed in the Netherlands. We understand the material was shipped by Solkataronic in compliance with international shipping regulations.
- 2) Solkataronic did not manufacture the DMMP, and does not now manufacture or sell DMMP. Solkataronic has not sold DMMP since 1992. Solkataronic purchased the DMMP from Albright & Wilson, Inc. (a manufacturer located in Richmond, VA) and sold it to the Israel Institute For Biological Research under an export license granted by the US Department of Commerce.
- 3) An "End User Statement" provided to Solkataonic by the Institute reported that the "DMMP will be used for the purpose of testing adsorption filters (used in personal and collective protection)."
- 4) Solkataronic has advised us that it sent a second shipment of DMMP to the Institute to replace that which was lost on the El Al flight.
- 5) In addition, we are advised Solkataronic sent two 480 pound shipments of DMMP to Israel in April 1991 and August 1992 via ocean shipment pursuant to export licenses issued by the US Department of Commerce. The DMMP was purchased from the same manufacturer and was sold to Shalon-Chemical Industries Ltd. whose "End User Statement" reported that the material "will be used for laboratory testing only".

⁶⁾ You may refer contacts to Tom Johnson (610-481-4909) (President) of Solkataronic Chemical, Inc. or to Steve Morth (610-481-3165) (Public Affairs) for Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.