



Bill and Della Leith, Marv Gruening



Mr. and Mrs. Bob Breen

U.S. ACTION SOUGHT ON CHEMICAL PERILS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30 (UPI)—The Oil, Chemical, and Atomic Workers Union and the Ralph Nader-backed Health Research Group asked the Labor Department today to take emergency action to prevent industrial workers from being exposed to cancer-causing chemicals.

"As more is learned about the origins of cancer, it becomes clear that thousands of workers' deaths are caused by chemicals," the groups said in a petition filed with the department.

Most of the chemical named in the petition were used in dyes, textile fibres and insecticides. These include benzidine.

"Each passing workday without regulatory intervention increases the number of employees who will be effectively exposed to these chemicals and who subsequently may develop cancer," it said.

The petition urged the department to issue "an emergency temporary standard eliminating all workplace exposures" to the chemicals. It said the department had the power to act under the 1970 Occupational Safety and Health Act.



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