A Deadly Asbestos Family Saga

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Why did I write this unorthodox abstract?

A kind suggestion of the Master and Commander “Massimo Crespi” while we were regatting south of Naple

and inspired by

“Asbestos dust was all over the room as grey snow: books left on the table, when removed, left their negative image”
The Prologue

Narrative according to G. Freytag,
Images from Google
Where in the world?

1768 Genoa---France

Corsica
“Isle of Beauty”

1769-1821

Satellite view

“Mediterraneum is a sea made of mountains”
F. Braudel, historian
Where in Corsica?

Village of “Patrimonio”

Facing West

East side view

worldwide famous...

locally reknown
The characters
Philippe’s Family

- Steel and oil industry workers in Canada
- Social worker in Paris
- Tourism entrepreneur in Patrimonio
- "D"
Why I met “D”?

The “Marine Sun” camping

Nord

East

West
The Climax
How did the story begin?

Canari open mine

Operating since the late thirties, employing 400 workers

"the mine provides almost 100% of asbestos nationally and represents about 25% of continent production"
Dr. G.M: Social and Public Health Affairs Office

"Canari mine is the third most florid industry in the isle after forestry and animal products"
from. The Bulletin of Historical and Natural Sciences Society of Corsica. 1962
The family business

- house specialty

“Figatelli”

on asbestos dusty furniture !!!!
The Falling Action
Age 68: Unspecified lung tumor:

Age 69: Mesothelioma:

Age 62, 60, 49: Mesothelioma

Age 64: Mesothelioma

The Toll !!
The Resolution
The mine

Closed in 1965, since two years is under a bonification program financed by the EC with an unclear strategy (concrete burial??)

An association named ANDEVA has been established in 1966 to support the mine workers and their families both medically and legally as well.

The Court of Social Affairs has recognized a link between the mine activity and asbestos related pathologies in Febr. 2010!!

Tourists attraction
“Nunza” Plage
disposal area of surface excavation

Summer 2011
The Compensation!

Because D’s disease was considered non-occupational, the overall compensation (medical costs and surviving sons, excluding the widow) was 31,000 euro (40,000 US $).

Only through an ANDEVA supported legal action the compensation was settled for 40,000 euro (52,000 US $).

The two older brothers did not receive any compensation. The sister’s family is still negotiating.

Many thanks to “D’s” family members who kindly helped me to assemble this story for the benefit of other potential patients.
Underestimated risk of non occupational exposure: many untold stories, more challenges

Old and new wars

OLD AND NEW LEGACIES !!

What will be the toll?

Tsunami

Terrorism

Thank you for your kind attention