

# Winds cause World Trade

## Center suit

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Winds of controversy are once again buffeting the World Trade Center. *WS*

In the past there have been complaints about lighting and heating systems which are largely beyond the control of individual tenants, excessive rent paid by the state for occupying considerable floor space; mass transit problems caused by concentrating too many people in one place and the towers' interference with TV signals.

This time it is the wind.

Owners of one nearby office building have gone to court claiming wind conditions created by the twin towers are causing damage "in the millions." The affected neighbor at 22 Cortlandt St. is a 34-story structure erected in 1969,

### STARTED IN 1966

The center's two 110-story towers, designed by architect Minoru Yamasaki of Detroit, were started in 1966. The first tower "topped out" in 1970 and the second one a year later.

Owners of the building at 22 Cortlandt St.—Harry B. Helmsley, David Baldwin and the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.—claim in their suit filed in State Supreme Court that the trade center creates abnormal winds of 45 to 60 mph which cause their structure to creak and sway.

And although their own building has been tested and found to be structurally sound, the owners claim, they are being forced to make more than \$1 million worth of structural reinforcements.

American Telephone & Telegraph Co., a major tenant of the Cortlandt St. building, sent employees home at 2 p.m. one day in December because the swaying of the structure was making them uncomfortable.

At the Wall Street Journal, whose main offices are also in the Cortlandt St. building, staffers have reported creaking noises on very windy days. "It's like being on the Lusitania," one editor said.