Santa Clara

February 26, 1969

SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

Mr. H. L. Minckler, St. Louis
Mr. D. J. Forrestal, St. Louis
Dr. P. G. Arvan, St. Louis

Mr. Walter Waychoff
St. Louis

After your call today, I proceeded according to the decisions which had been made. You advised me that your division decided not to pursue this matter any further and that you had sent some information to Mr. Perlman (I have not yet received copies of this information.)

As I advised you today, Mr. Ferdinand Stent of the Crocker Citizens Bank, whose family own the Chronicle, had called me. Also, yesterday at the luncheon of the Manufacturing Chemists Association, the companies represented asked me what we were going to do and suggested that the C.I.C. carry the ball. I told them I did not know at that time what our decision was and asked them not to do anything until I could get some word from St. Louis.

The C.I.C. committee is made up of vice presidents of DuPont, Dow, Union Carbide, Diamond Alkali, Commercial Solvents and the Chairman of the Board of Chevron Chemical Company. They felt quite strongly that in view of the effective activity we have had in the Northern California area on pollution, the problems that this article might create would be very damaging and it should be answered. I advised them today that it was our decision not to do anything at the present time, other than provide information to Mr. Perlman. The basis for this was that there is actually not much factual information available at this time.

MONS 096777

Secondly, I advised Mr. Ferdinand Stent that it was Monsanto's decision to work with Mr. Perlman, the science editor of the Chronicle, and if we felt it advisable to meet with the owners at a future date, we would let him know. Ferdinand Stent commented, he could not understand "why the Chronicle had taken off on Monsanto." There have been two negative articles within the last month.

Mr. Cerwin, secretary of the C.I.C., advised me there was another article today in the Chronicle, on the same subject, quoting scientists from La Jolla, California of finding fish life dying because of the aroclors. I have asked him to send me a copy of this article.

R. L. Brandenburger

rlb/ras