W. B. Papageorge - B2NK

February 23, 1972

H. S. Bergen
W. R. Corey
C. P. Cunningham
J. F. Stapleton
R. A. Stohr - C1MA

File

At 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, February 23, 1972 I received a telephone call from Mr. Leroy Schilte, Director, Governmental Relations, Ralston-Purina Company, St. Louis, Missouri.

Mr. Schilte informed me that he believed PCB contamination had occurred in nine flocks of poultry in an operation in Thorndike, Maine.

On February 10-11, 1972 mortality was noticed in the flocks of 10-11 day old broilers. The symptoms were judged by Ralston Purina people to be similar to those experienced by PCB contaminated flocks. Samples of the feed currently used were analyzed and no detectable PCB was found. Samples of feed representing the previous week's supply analyzed 88-578 ppm PCB's as unaltered Aroclor 1242. Ingredients used in the feed were sampled and PCB was found in poultry by-product meal at 11-13 ppm. This PCB was identified as metabolized (altered) PCB suggesting PCB in the feed came from another source.

Purina made a check of other poultry producers in the area and determined that Maplewood Farms (name given to me in confidence) was having difficulties for several weeks which were attributed to "salt" and "air sac".

The only common ingredient used in both feeds is claimed to be meat fat from Pine State Rendering Company, Mr. Mendelsohn, President. Mr. Schilte indicated there may be some financial relationship between Maplewood Farms and Pine State Rendering.

The FDA and USDA have been informed and are active. FDA is insisting on a maximum of 5 ppm in fat tissue in birds permitted for food use.

Purina is no longer owner of the operation but apparently the incident occurred at a time that Purina feels some responsibility.

Purina is meeting with FDA and USDA personnel, Dr. V. Wodicka and Dr. A. Kolby were mentioned, in Washington, D.C. on Friday, February 25, 1972. Objective is to get the agencies to relax the 5 ppm guideline. Mr. Schilte asked if I or some other

Monsanto representative would also go to Washington to help. I told him that the FDA had all of Monsanto's data and we had nothing new to contribute. I also expressed concern that a discussion in this area could result in a lower guideline being established.

Mr. Schilte asked me to call tomorrow with any new information I may have regarding Pine State Rendering or Maplewood Farms.

A check of our business records with C. Paton, J. Roder, and P. Gann was quickly made and neither of these companies are listed as having received PCB's.from Monsanto.

W. B. Papageorge

/kt