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RECEIVED
APR 27 1972
E. L. SIMONS

April 19, 1972

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cc: M. Aven
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Subject: PCB Found in Rice Near Capacitor Plant

Samples of unpolished rice harvested in 1971 in paddies near an electric capacitor factory in Kusatsu (near Kyoto) have been found to be contaminated with PCB. Grains of rice contained up to 1.33 ppm of PCB.

The Pollution Control Service of the Shiga Prefectural Government made this announcement on April 17 and named Nichicon Capacitor, Ltd. as a suspect. Nichicon has been using PCB in capacitors until last month when it discontinued the use of PCB following a MITI ban.

It is suspected that years of use of PCB by Nichicon has contaminated the area.

M.J. Moore

M.J. Moore
Scientific Representative

MJM/tn

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