Monsanto

FROM NAME & LOCATION: H.N. Dahlström, Brussels

cc NSB WP.

DATE: 5th August 1970

cc

SUBJECT: PCB PROBLEM - U.K.

REFERENCE

TO : J. Mason, St. Louis

Dear John,

I refer to Jim Hancock's letter of July 27th which I have since discussed with him over the telephone. In his role as an avid conservationist, he has been trying to persuade me for some considerable time to meet his bird-loving friends from the nature conservancy - The British Trust for Ornithology - and similar organisations.

Much as I appreciate Jim's role and consider it important to have these people on our side, I must admit that the thought of getting all the heads of the British conservancy organisations involved scares me stiff! It looks, however, as though I can no longer escape and will have to meet these people for the suggested dinner and presentation on the evening of 24th September. As I say, it is basically important to educate these people and give them rational scientific background, and we shall make every effort to put across a factual picture and prevent emotional or incorrect interpretation of the information we submit. I am presently thinking of having Dick Baxter and Don Cameron participate on behalf of Monsanto.

Where the subject of the NERC report on the Irish sea bird incident is concerned, we have in fact been in constant touch with those people during the preparation of their report, and were shown a draft of the final version. The whole matter is under control and we do not require further help in this area. Jim Hancock has been informed accordingly.

I understand Jim will be in St. Louis next week, and he is bound to raise this subject with you. Consequently I felt you should know that this situation is under control and we are going ahead with the September meeting.

A final word of warning - I understand a direct contact has been established between Dr. Duncan Poore, Director-General of the U.K. Nature Conservancy, and a man by the

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name of Solly Zuckerman. He is said to be senior scientific advisor to the U.S. President on matters of environmental pollution. Poore recently visited him in Washington and apparently raised the PCB problem. This could result in the U.K. situation hotting up, but it may also have some repercussions at your end.

H.N. Dahlström

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