June 29, 1971

Comments from telephone conversation with James Andrews, Holly Farms, Wilkesboro, relative to PCB's in chickens picked up by the Florida Department of Agriculture.

Since no dating code or plant number was obtained from Doyle Golden, it would be impossible to tell which plant packaged the chickens or of the date they were processed. The people at Holly Farms are fairly certain that the products came from the Monroe, North Carolina plant. A great percentage of the chickens from this plant are whole chickens and thus the identity is made more difficult; ~~but~~ the samples picked up in Florida were whole chickens.

Holly Farms indicates that International Bakerage in Atlanta is presently having McMillan Laboratories to analyze their bakery meal and are willing to certify that the meal is free from the presence of PCB's.

Holly Farms will attempt to get the number of their own farm or farms from which the chickens packed at Monroe during the first week in June came from, as well as the outside source from which they purchased chickens to package under the Holly Farms label.

NCDA will follow up with food inspectors and Markets Division personnel in cooperation with Holly Farms personnel to try to ascertain the source of PCB's in this instance and its cure. However, Holly Farms advises that when they take birds from one of their own farms, they take all birds at one time, therefore, there would be no remaining chickens at any of the farms. New flocks would have been started at these locations in the interim period.

We discussed feed ingredients going into the chicken feeds, these included soybean meal, corn, rendered fat, fish meal, and other items. The ingredient most suspect for PCB's would be rendered animal fat. (Joe Conrey, C&MS, Washington, has indicated that we would not find PCB's in this product. I don't know the reason.)

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