MITSUBISHI MONSANTO CHEMICAL COMPANY

FROM LOCATION : Tokyo

DATE : February 18, 1971

SUBJECT : PCB POLLUTION

REFERENCE :

cc: Messrs.
J. R. Durland-Tokyo
K. Hoshino-Tokyo
T. Adachi-Tokyo
S. Uneno-Tokyo
T. Nakamura-Yokkaichi

TO : Mr. W. B. Papageorge
St. Louis

Since Japan Broadcasting Corporation reported about the international conference on oceanic pollution held in Rome, Italy last December(as reported to your in Mr. Fujii's letter of December 29, 1970), the PCB pollution problem has come up before us as an important subject. With this background, the Welfare Ministry and National Hygienic Laboratory have started investigations for fact-finding.

Meanwhile, the "Asahi", one of the biggest newspapers in Japan, carried a sensational article dealing with a laboratory report issued by Ehime University on alleged PCB pollution. Attached is full translation of the newspaper article in which reference was also made to industrial uses for PCB and PCB manufacturers in Japan including MMK.

The Japanese public is so nervous about pollution problems that we are afraid that the "Asahi" report will result in presentation of another pollution subject before the Japanese people.

Faced with such a new development of the situation, we would greatly appreciate it, if you would keep us well informed about any development of the situation in the US, results of your studies, counter-measures, etc.

Thank you very much for your assistance and cooperation.

K. Murakami

MM:ri