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MITSUBISHI MONSANTO CHEMICAL COMPANY

FROM LOCATION : Tokyo

cc:

DATE : December 29, 1969

SUBJECT :

REFERENCE : Your Memo December 16, 1969

*Bill Papageorge
Let's discuss
then you answer
H*

TO : Mr. Howard S. Bergen
St. Louis, Mo.

Personal & Confidential

Thank you for your summary and the report on the Aroclor status.

I think you must recognize that the hysteria vs. chlorinated aromatics is world-wide. Japan has recently followed the U.S. lead and has banned DDT and HCB. The chlorinated biphenyl aspect has not developed similar action, but should follow whatever happens to regulations in the U.S.

Kanegafuchi is concerned in the human exposure which occurred in the "rice bran oil" incident -- Kaneclor accidentally was included in rice bran oil which was used by several hundred people. I sent details on the case to Dr. Kelly. Legal action has been taken against the company which processed the rice bran oil using Kaneclor heating medium in a corroded heating system. However, the key officers of the company have not been located. To date, there has been no reaction against Kaneclor, Kanegafuchi or against Aroclor. Probably more care will be instituted in licensing and checking chlorinated biphenyl heating systems for food products.

I have requested Yokkaichi plant to review the handling of wastes from the Aroclor unit to be sure that contamination to Ise Bay is essentially zero. Ise Bay is an excellent commercial fishing, oyster, clam and shrimp area. I am interested in receiving procedures which cover revised (if any) techniques at Anniston and the WG Krummrich plant. Please send.

Your outline states that you plan, and CDC has agreed, to move toward discontinuance of 1254 and 1260, substituting 1242 and 1248. What happens to Aroclor 5460? Can we assume that at a high enough chlorine level that solubility is so low that there is not a problem?

Your plans to re-formulate Pydraul are critical to us. The volume in this market is rather small if we have no need for Aroclors in the Pydraul blend. We may find MMK cannot justify being in the Pydraul business here. So, since imports cannot be continued indefinitely, we will be

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Mr. Howard S. Bergen

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hoping for significantly improved formulations or there's no business ahead. Phosphate esters still look very weak in Japan -- minor plasticizer use and a growth rate for below that of phthalates. So a phosphate ester "package" is not promising. We'll look again when your new organic phosphates are defined as more nearly commercial.

✓ The demand for chlorinated biphenyls in Japan is increasing at about 20%/year. MMK is still trying to become qualified in some electrical accounts. The NCR paper use is the fastest growing -- what will happen to it? Will NCR substitute a non-chlorinated fluid? What happens to incinerated NCR paper -- is the Aroclor partly volatilized to be carried down with rain, etc.?? Why has not the toxicity of Aroclors turned up downstream of Anniston plant -- in 40 years of manufacture. Seems as though plant practice was poorer in the 30's and 40's so quite a lot of material went downstream. But there have been good shrimp and shell fish catches during the period in the Gulf -- surely some off the coast of Alabama/Mississippi. Any answers that would be reassuring would be most appreciated. We can be sure that the prefectural government in which Yokkaichi plant is located will move to protect the Ise Bay fisheries. ✓ Hence, more knowledge about biodegradability, incineration, waste treatment, etc. will help us to keep operating.

Best regards,

J. R. Durland
J. R. Durland

JRD:fu