

JUN 14 1971

Scientists Find Most Ocean Fish Contaminated

By VICTOR COHEN

WASHINGTON (WP) — Nearly 25 per cent of all DDT manufactured to date is now in the world's oceans where it is killing baby fish, according to a report by a panel of the National Academy of Sciences.

In another study, Dartmouth College's Dr. Henry Schroeder reported that alarming amounts of cadmium were found in three types

of fish in the Hudson River in upstate New York.

The latter report was disclosed by Sen. Hart (D-Mich.) who is seeking a tough new fish inspection law.

The panel of the academy's Ocean Affairs Board, headed by Dr. Edward D. Goldberg of the University of California's Scripps Institution of Oceanography, called for "a new national effort" to reduce and ultimately halt ex-

posure of persistent pesticides and similar chemicals into the environment.

The effort, it said, should include repeal of laws that deny scientists production figures of pesticide makers.

The report ("Chlorinated Hydrocarbons in the Ocean Environment") said that:

The oceans are the ultimate accumulation site — through rivers, sewage outfalls and rainfall — for all persistent

pesticides (such as DDT, aldrin, chlordane, dieldrin, endrin, heptachlor and toxaphene) and similar chemicals like polychlorinated biphenyls or PCBs (industrial and plasticizer chemicals).

Increasing amounts have been accumulating with "demonstrable impact." "Marine fish are almost universally contaminated."

With continued accumulations of chemicals, more sea

life will be threatened.

Two of the cadmium-contaminated fish were caught in Foundry Cove on the Hudson near Cold Spring, N. Y.

David Seymour of the National Audubon Society and Robert Boyle of Sports Illustrated magazine first dredged bottom samples from the area near the Sonotone Battery Co. The samples were high in cadmium and nickel. Then Seymour and Boyle

caught a bass with 11.23 parts per million of DDT and a silver dace (a small fish not eaten by fishermen) with 7.88 parts. The carp, with .87 parts in the edible portions, was caught at Montross, in the same area.

The FDA has set no cadmium safety levels. But Schroeder, a leading expert on cadmium poisoning, wrote the U. S. Attorney in New York City that the bass and dace "should be considered unfit to eat" and the carp "somewhat over an acceptable level."