THE BROADCAST REPORTING SERVICE

REPORT

E.V. John

Route to:
JUN 20 1973
JUN 20 1973 F Stapleton
E V John (Last)

MAENDY QUARRY

ALSO ON: DATELINE 1730 14.6.73

MONS 070230

For	MONSANTO CHEMICALS LIMITED		Mr. E. Bracken
Prog.	WALES TODAY	Service BBC (WA)	Serial 67336/MRP
Date	14.6.73 Time 1800	Duration	2' 20"

TELEX Monitors Limited 50 Grosvenor Street, London W1A 2DA. Telephone 01-493 3931. TELEX 27688.

JOHN DARREN:

More now about the Maendy quarry chemicals dumping and today the Welsh Office told representatives of the people living in the area that no trace had been found of the chemicals PCB or TOCP in local nearby farms. Only one point five parts of a million of PCB have been found in surface water near the dump and there was no trace of TOCP. The announcement came in a Welsh Office meeting today between Ministry officials and the Tonteg Action Committee. George Ashwell asked Committee Chairman Allen Jones exactly what had been discussed.

ALLEN JONES:

Well, at the meeting we put certain demands to the Welsh Office, of the three main demands that we put for immediate action we've only received favourable response on one.

GEORGE ASHWELL:

What were these demands?

A.J.:

These demands were an immediate cessation of the sale of produce from the farms affected with, of course, immediate compensation for the farmers concerned. The answer given was that it was not possible to give us any action on this until the danger is officially recognised. Secondly, there was a demand for the erection of fences and official warning notices. We were fobbed off with a statement here that due to legal complexities this measure could not be implemented.

G.A.:

What else...

A.J.:

We feel this measure is most important with the school holidays coming along and the very real danger of the children going up to the site and playing on the contaminated area, we're going to continue to push strongly for fences and warning notices.

G.A.:

One gathers then that you're not at all satisfied by what's happened here today.

A.J.:

No, this is fair comment. We are in fact reassured by the concern shown

by the Welsh Office, the way they've moved with rather more than customary slowness I think, they've moved fairly quickly on this, the fact that they invited us here is encouraging.

Our third demand was complied with. This demand was that if possible an animal should be slaughtered to be analysed for PCB in its liver and brain, this we are assured is going to be done.

G.A.:

And what do you do now from here?

A.J.:

Well, we've decided to....date on immediate action for the numbers of days...we're being reasonable, for the Welsh Office to give us what we've asked for.

G.A.:

What kind of action had you proposed?

A.J.:

We have quite a plan of direct action, a lot of the details of which I can't give you, they depend very much for full effect on the surprise element.

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