BC: Neal Stout - A2SC
Sue Hayes - Seattle-1810
B. J. Wander - C2SA

Monsanto

PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

Monsanto Company
800 N. Lindbergh Boulevard
St. Louis, Missouri 63166
Phone: (314) 694-1000

March 26, 1980

Mr. Bruce Leber
Ralph Leber Company, Inc.
P.O. Box 88700
Tukwila, Washington 98188

Dear Mr. Leber:

Your recent letter to Mr. Stout has been referred to me for reply.

The enclosed "White Paper" describes Monsanto's involvement with PCBs in considerable detail. You'll note that the facts as you recalled them are essentially accurate except for specific dates and the McGill University reference. It was a Swedish scientist that first noticed a "strange blip" while analyzing for "DDT," which has a similar "thumb print."

I've also enclosed a copy of a news release covering an often ignored report from the National Cancer Institute which says that Aroclor (PCBs) are not carcinogenic.

I trust this information will be helpful as you develop your article. You might also wish to review the enclosed copy of our 1979 Annual Report. Of particular interest will be the section on Environmental and Worker Health beginning on page 31.

In this section, for example, you'll see that Monsanto has over 900 professional and technical employees working full-time on these important programs in the U.S. alone, and spent nearly $225 million (in 1979) to support environmental protection.

I would think even your biased editor would be impressed with these facts -- which hardly fit his perception of the "rapacious chemical company who will do anything for a profit."

Thanks very much for your thoughtful letter and for your willingness to join the "fight." We need all the help we can get in our uphill struggle to bring a balanced perspective to the subject of chemicals. If I can help you further, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Dan R. Bishop
Director, Environmental Communications

DRB:ec

Enclosures