PCB - Public Relations

PUBLIC RELATIONS EUROPE

PRESS QUERY

To: (x) W.E. Glenn St. Louis
(x) P.R....ORG....Div. St. Louis (Z.V. Conn)
(x) P.R. Brussels
( ) P.R. Düsseldorf
(x) P.R. London
(x) J.C. Carrels - London
(x) J.K. Barrett - London
(x) H.N. Dahlstroem - Brussels
(x) D.S. Cameron - Brussels
(x) P.J.A. Marsh - London
(x) T. Denton-Roberts - London
(x) J.M. Thomson - London
(x) D.B. Shearn - Newport
(x) J. Sano - St. Louis
(x) W.J.S. Budd - London
(x) R.A. Vodden - Ruabon
(x) R.A. Baxter - Ruabon.

Date 6.12.69. Time

QUERIED BY (Reporter and Media)

LESLIE TOULSON - THE SUN : PETER BIRKETT - DAILY SKETCH

QUESTION (1) Is Monsanto the sole producer of PCB in the U.K.
Answer. Yes

QUESTION (2) Does Monsanto dump PCB in the Irish Sea.
Answer. No. We do not dump any PCB and there is no effluent from our production process.

QUESTION (3) Has Monsanto any idea who might be dumping.
Answer. We have no knowledge of this.

QUESTION (4) What are the end uses for PCB.
Answer. PCB liquids are used as dielectrics for condensers or capacitators and transformers. They are used to impregnate carbon resistors and when combined with other plastic materials, they are used as sealers or impregnating agents for a variety of electrical apparatus. PCB compounds also find use as liquid thermostat fluids; vacuum diffusion pump fluids, swelling agents for automotive transmission seals and as additives and base stocks for speciality lubricants, oil and greases.

SOURCE OF ANSWER (List All Sources) NAME (Staffer Handling Query)

QUESTION (5) How toxic is PCB: is the chlorine part the most toxic.
Answer. Very early results of our own chronic toxicity studies confirm that PCB's are not highly toxic. In 90-day studies on rats and other normal laboratory species there have been no adverse effects when feedings of up to 100 parts-per-million were administered.

The chlorine part of PCB is more toxic than diphenyl but as early research results show PCB is not highly toxic.

QUESTION (6) What is Monsanto's annual production of PCB.
Answer. We do not wish to reveal this for commercial reasons.

QUESTION (7) What other chemicals does Monsanto dump in the sea.
Answer. We do not dump chemicals in the sea. Effluent is disposed of after passing through our effluent plants which have to meet the stringent requirements of water board authorities. At Ruabon, for instance, we have a £1. million effluent plant and the effluent, as at our other plants, is permanently monitored.

After reading the resulting report in the Sun (attached), it was pointed out for the record that the last paragraph (marked) attributed to a Monsanto spokesman was not at any time or in any form made by a Monsanto spokesman.

SOURCE OF ANSWER (list all sources)

J.C. Garrels - London.
H.A. Vodden - Ruabon
P.J.A. Marsh - London.

NAME (staffer handling query)

B.T. Garland - London
Steve Chantrell - London.