MITSUBISHI MONSANTO CHEMICAL COMPANY

FROM LOCATION: Tokyo

DATE: July 23, 1970

SUBJECT: PCB CONTAMINATION

REFERENCE: Your Memo July 16, 1970

TO: Mr. W. B. Papageorge
St. Louis, Mo.

cc Messrs.
H. S. Bergen
J. Mason
J. E. Springgate
T. Katayama

Kaneka in Japan has not told us of their plans with respect to PCB environmental contamination. As Mr. Iida has stated, the most significant problem has involved Kaneclor's exposures to people because of defective equipment in a heating oil used by a customer. This has sensitized Japan toward better inspection and better control of subject installations, but at the moment, there is no problem in evidence about PCB contamination of other types.

It seems probable to me that Kaneka will continue to sell to the entire market wherever they can, and to the best of their ability will export their products into the United States to help fill the vacuum which Monsanto's program has created.

There is intense public and governmental interest in chemical contaminants; hence, DDT and other polychlorinated pesticides have been banned (within a few days after U.S. action, and the pronouncements of FDA in the U.S.A. are followed very closely). You may know there has been no report of PCB action affecting birds or shell fish, although in Japan, someone is sure to be "looking" after the reports published in the U.S.A. An official action by the FDA will quite probably be followed by similar action in Japan.

The monthly summary report which you request in your memo of July 14 will be issued by Mr. Fujii, product director of MMK.

J. R. Durland

JRD:fu