Monsanto

FROM (NAME & LOCATION): George Roush, Jr., M. D.

DATE: September 17, 1975

SUBJECT: MONTHLY COMMENTS - MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

REFERENCE:

CONFIDENTIAL

TO: Corporate Administrative Committee

State and federal agency activities related to PCB's continue to require Medical Department attention to support business group efforts. Recent public hearings in Wisconsin served as a forum for Mr. Schweitzer, of EPA's Toxic Substances Office, to make his pitch again in support of the Toxic Substances Control Act now being considered in Congress. Between now and the end of November, FDA, EPA, and NIOSH will conduct hearings on various aspects of the PCB's in foods and the environment.

Questions from outside Monsanto about the long-term health effects of chemicals used in two Monsanto plants on the workers in the plants have required organization of epidemiological studies. These require acquisition of data on individual work assignments within the plant over long periods of time, collection of death certificates of deceased employees, and comparison of causes of death with frequency of cause to some segment of the general population. We will have to do much more epidemiology in the future although clear cut conclusions are almost impossible.

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GR/ln

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