WALL STREET JOURNAL
July 9, 1973

## *Turkeys Kept Off Market*

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Ralston Purina Co. has held 120,000 slaughtered turkeys off the market because some of them may be contaminated with high levels of PCBs, the Agriculture Department said.

The turkeys, found at the company's plant in California, Md., were placed in cold storage and apparently none of them reached the meat counter, the agency said.

The contamination apparently originated in a single feed mill where fat, purchased from an unidentified supplier and mixed with turkey feed, may have been contaminated, a spokesman said.

ST. LOUIS GLOBE-DEMOCRAT
July 7-8, 1973

# Ralston fears taint; holds back 120,000 turkeys

Some 120,000 Missouri grown turkeys are being withheld from the market by Ralston-Purina Co. here because of possible contamination by a chemical used in industrial products.

Ralston Purina has told the U.S. Department of Agriculture the turkeys had traces of the chemical plychlorinated biphenol (PCB) in slightly larger amounts than permitted.

As a precaution, a company spokesman said in an interview the turkeys, are being held in cold storage pending further tests. The turkeys were processed at the firm's Calfifornia, Mo. plant.

PCB derives from a family of chemical compounds used in such products as inks, carbon paper, rubber tires and industrial cooling systems.

Officials said they had not traced the source of the contamination, but speculated PCB "may have gotten into the feed in accidentally contaminated rendered fat purchased from a local supplier."

The Food and Drug Administration allows up to five parts of PCB per million in poultry fat.

A company spokesman said the amount of chemical found was slightly above that amount although still not hazardous.

DSW 325330