Monsanto

FROM (NAME & LOCATION) John Mason - Brussels

DATE March 22, 1972

SUBJECT BRT PROGRAM ON ANTWERP

REFERENCE SC memo March 20, 1972

TO Mr. S. Chantrell,
Public Relations,
LONDON.

Messrs.
J.D. Carr - Brussels
J.J. Jansen - Antwerp
E.V. John - St. Louis
P.J. Marsh - Brussels
J.J. Spano - St. Louis

I think your list of questions and answers drawn up in anticipation of J.J. Jansen's BRT appearance is excellent. I would like to suggest, however, that you make some modifications to the PCB area to make sure we get as much fact across as possible.

A14 I think we ought to answer this question by saying:
"PCB's are now used because of their excellent stability under high temperature and fire resistant properties, which are extremely important in fire resistant hydraulic fluid in underground mining equipment and in electrical applications."

A15 The second sentence should read:
"We are still making and supplying PCB's for controllable applications in sealed systems, mainly transformers and capacitors where the PCB fluids eliminate the risk of fire or explosions."

A16 Second paragraph suggest you amend as follows:
"Among controllable applications is the use of PCB's as dielectric fluids in certain types of transformers and capacitors where the product is sealed into a metal container. We will continue to supply PCB's for these applications, ensuring that all users are adequately warned that escape of PCB's to the environment should be avoided, and under no circumstances should the materials be allowed to contaminate food or animal feedstuffs.
Non-controllable applications include such...." etc.

A17 Third sentence.
"The cost has been a substantial commercial sacrifice, involving shut-down and write-off of part of our equipment in the United States, loss of sales revenue and high research expenses associated with very detailed animal test studies and bio-degradation work."

(I will probably be looking for a price increase in the near future and I want to emphasise increased costs as much as possible.)

Continued/

Mr. S. Chantrell,
London.

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A18 Second sentence.
"But I understand that Bayer, the German producer, has already announced publicly a decision to discontinue the manufacture and sale of certain PCB's for non-controllable applications."

A19 "Legislation is, of course, a matter for individual governments, but along with other European producers we are working closely with the Council of Europe in Strasbourg to ensure that shipment and labelling of PCB-containing products comply with the recommendations of the technical experts."

A20 "PCB's are chemically polychlorinated biphenyls."

A21 I do not think we should include the second sentence, which is arguable, but rather we should concentrate on the persistence of the PCB's.

Second paragraph, second sentence, should be changed to read:
"Any chemicals, if allowed to build up to a sufficiently high level, will become an environmental problem, and PCB's are no exception."

John Mason.

JM/ab