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COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
DEPARTMENT OF NUTRITIONAL SCIENCES
INSTITUTE OF MARINE RESOURCES

BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94720

November 1, 1968

Dr. Robert A. Conkin
Group Leader Research
Monsanto Chemical Company
800 North Lindbergh Boulevard
St. Louis, Missouri 63166

Dear Dr. Conkin:

Mr. Wayne Thornburg has mentioned your interest in the work of our laboratory with polychlorinated biphenyls in the global environment. Enclosed for your information are two manuscripts. The paper entitled "Chlorinated Hydrocarbons in Marine Ecosystems" was presented at the Rochester Conference on Chemical Fallout in June and is now in press as a chapter in the Proceedings of that conference. The manuscript entitled "Polychlorinated Biphenyls in the Global Ecosystem" is a draft of a paper now in press in NATURE.

I would greatly appreciate any critical comments you might have on these papers. Do you believe, for example, that there might be another source of these compounds other than your Aroclor products? We find that the concentrations of PCB in fish and birds are highest in industrial areas, but that the marine environment is now almost universally contaminated. The discovery that these compounds are powerful inducers of live enzymes which break down steroids will ultimately lead to the setting of tolerance limits in fish consumed for food.

I would especially appreciate any suggestions you might have in assisting us in looking for and identifying other industrial products which, because of their chemical stability and non-polar character, may also be accumulated by fish and wildlife.

Sincerely yours,

Robert W. Risebrough

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Enclosures

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