Monsanto

Coll-Aroclor

FROM (NAME & LOCATION) C. F. Buckley - WGK

DATE July 8, 1971

SUBJECT "Research on Fish Pesticides"

REFERENCE

cc P. E. Heisler
A. E. Leisy
R. McCutchan
H. J. Horner
D. C. Otto

TO : W. B. Papageorge - B288S

On Monday June 28, 1971 I attended a seminar conducted by "Scientific Products" at the Holiday Inn West. Dr. Blake F. Grant, Chief Biologist, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife Fish-Pesticide Research Laboratory, U. S. Dept. of Interior, Columbia, Mo. presented a paper entitled "Research Approaches on Fish Pesticides". In it he described levels of various pesticides found in fish from different locations and then described experiments they had performed to determine the ability of fish to concentrate pesticides in their tissue from low concentrations in water. P.C.B. was included in his study and showed up unfavorably because of the high values quoted, both in the quantities found in wild life and in the ability of fish to extract the material from water and concentrate it. While referring to PCB he made some remarks about Monsanto's refusal to release publications on the use of Aroclor as an extender for pesticides, then realizing that there may be Monsanto personnel present, half apologized for his statement - which only made it worse. Elliott Porter* was sitting in the front row when he began his talk but apparently had left before the remark was made as I could no longer see him.

There was a social hour following the seminar during which I was introduced to Dr. Blake and a representative of Coleman Instruments. We had an interesting talk which contained a few significant comments:

a. I said that sale of Aroclor was restricted to captive uses and therefore no sales literature advocating any other application was available to anyone.

b. Dr. Blake had no doubts about the presence of high levels of PCB in fish which he attributed to their ability to concentrate it from low levels. The latter he had confirmed by experiment.

c. He planned to investigate the chlorinated terphenyl's in the same way.

*Post Dispatch

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d. They have developed special analytical techniques for mercury as well as pesticides in fish tissue. The merits of combustion in oxygen versus permanganate digestion were discussed between Dr. Blake and the Coleman representative.

e. I was invited to visit the Lab in Columbia.

It seems to me that a visit to Columbia would be very valuable both to find out what is going on and to learn any new analytical tricks they may have developed. I have nothing planned at present but will follow it up if you or any others feel it would be worthwhile.

C. F. Buckley

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