Monsanto

FROM (LOCATION) TAIPEI

DATE October 23, 1971

SUBJECT PCB/ENVIRONMENT

REFERENCE

cc: P. G. Benignus, MC
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File Taiwan

There has been a considerable amount of publicity in the local press as a result of the discovery of PCB's in food packaging and the unfavourable press in the United States demanding a ban on these products. We have not commented officially and do not propose to do so but would appreciate your comments and assistance on a number of points.

1) Is there any standard release Monsanto would like to make to the press under these circumstances? NO.

2) The Ministry of Health has contacted us for information on the analytical procedures required to detect PCB's at the concentrations currently reported in foodstuff etc. (I believe a few p.p.m.) Your prompt reply on this would be much appreciated. If we can work with the department of health it will avoid the possibility of any outright ban on these products. O.K.

3) I am confused as to which Aroclor products are restricted in sale for containing PCB's. Currently our major business in Aroclor 1242/1248 is restricted to the capacitor industry, with one exception where we supplied to a paint customer, who had obtained a formulation as a result of technical co-operation with IMP, Australia. Are all Aroclor products restricted in sale e.g. 1254, 4465, 5460? I had an impression that originally not all PCB's were found to persist in the environment.

Your assistance is much appreciated.

Regards,

R. S. Hill

RSH/sl

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