Monsanto

FROM (NAME & LOCATION) Dept. of Medicine & Environmental Health St. Louis - Gen. Offices

DATE: 7/28/76 CC:

SUBJECT: PCB Fire in Washington, D.C.
NASA Building on 7/27/76

REFERENCE:

TO David Wood
B2SD

Jim Loveglia
Would you check
w/ Jim Spraul
see if you can
get something
together for
this

On the morning of July 27 I spoke to Gene Proctor in Washington, D.C. He is the head of NASA's Industrial Hygiene operations. We discussed the possible problems from fire involving the transformer fluid. He has requested toxic data handling material on the askarels. If possible, we would like some material forwarded to him.

I also spoke to the nurse and physician in the Emergency Room in Washington D.C. where the Washington Fire Department firefighters were treated. This phone number was 202-541-6701. The report was that the firemen had complained of irritation from the fumes involved in the fire. This was mainly irritation to the respiratory tract. There were no clear cut physical findings at the time when they were seen but they did decide to keep them overnight for observation in the hospital in case of delayed effects. I reassured that there were no acute clinical problems involved with the PCBs. They were aware of the fact that there might be some chlorinated compounds involved as a result of the fire and that this may have caused some direct irritation. I left my name and phone number with them in case they had additional problems. As of the 28th, I have not heard any further reports from this group.

James H. Spraul, M.D.

James H. Spraul, M. D.

JHS:mjb

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