Monsanto

FROM (NAME & LOCATION) E. P. Wheeler - Medical Dept.

DATE April 16, 1969

SUBJECT POLYCHLORINATED BIPHENYLS IN THE ENVIRONMENT

REFERENCE

TO : R. E. Soden - Brussels

cc: J. W. Barrett - London
D. N. V. Hardy - London
R. A. Baxter - Ruabon
H. R. Newman - Newport
D. Wood - Brussels
J. Haggert - Brussels
W. R. Richard
R. E. Keller
R. E. Kelly

Perhaps you have heard that Bob Keller from Organic Research and I plan to visit a number of people in Great Britain, Sweden, the Netherlands and Germany concerning the recent identification of polychlorinated biphenyls in wildlife tissues in various parts of Europe and the United States. Your people in Europe were the original contacts in late 1966 and early 1967 with scientists in university and government laboratories who identified PCBs as interfering substances when determining chlorinated pesticide residues in fish, sea eagles, pine needles, etc.

During 1967 and 1968 there were brief comments in the U.S. technical and trade journals concerning the PCBs but not until February of this year did the story break in the public press (see enclosures).

Beginning in mid-summer of last year a considerable research effort has been underway in the Organic Division and in consulting laboratories to develop data to protect the sales and uses of our PCBs. It has been concluded that before committing even greater expenditures, we should determine what efforts are underway by those people who have been in contact with Monsanto requesting samples of our Aroclors, reporting findings and mentioning specific continuing analytical and toxicological research.

I have enclosed a list of the individuals Bob Keller and I hope to call on and an itinerary which is farily definite at this point. Dr. Barrett has been most helpful in arranging for our visits in Great Britain. We in St. Louis have made direct contacts with the scientists in Sweden and in Amsterdam and I hope Dave Wood or others in your group will advise us as to whom we should see in Beyer at Leverkusen. There is general agreement here that it would be desirable to determine whether or not Beyer is as concerned about the potential problems for the marketing of polychlorinated biphenyls and whether or not they have equivalent research efforts underway.

I believe Dr. Kelly went into this subject in some detail with Dave Wood but he is not sure that he discussed it at length with you last month.

Elmer P. Wheeler

EPW:cjs
Enclosures

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DEPOSITION EXHIBIT
PTF 286
6-11-92

4/15/69

AROCLORS IN ENVIRONMENT

Scheduled Visits by R. E. Keller,
E. P. Wheeler (and W. R. Richard-Stockholm)

Monday, April 28 - Mr. Alan V. Holden
Dept. of Agriculture & Fisheries
Pitlochry, Scotland
Mr. Holden is coordinator of OECD countries programs covering influence of biocides on natural environments.

Tuesday, April 29 - Dr. J. Robinson and Mr. A. Richardson
Shell Research Limited
Sittingbourne Kent
These gentlemen have done considerable research on the presence of chlorinated pesticides in the environment and have told us earlier that they have confirmed the presence of polychlorinated biphenyls in wildlife since April 30.

Wednesday, April 30 Walkers Century Company
Stoke - with Howard Bergen and Bill Richard for discussions of Santosafe toxicity.

Wednesday afternoon or Thursday morning, May 1 - Discussions in Monsanto House with
D. C. Holmes and O. G. Tatton
Labortory of the Government Chemist
These gentlemen have also published papers concerning the environmental contamination by pesticides and one paper concerning the presence of PCB's in residues.

Wednesday afternoon or Thursday, May 1 - Sir Frederick Warner
Chief Partner of Cremer & Warner
Consulting Ecologists
Dr. Barrett feels that this meeting would be helpful.

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Friday, May 2 - Dave Wood & John Haggart - Monsanto Brussels
Review of the Aroclor problem and Monsanto's research efforts to protect product sales and uses.

1)

Monday, May 5 through Thursday, May 8 - Professors Gunnar Widmark and Soren Jensen
Institute of Analytical Chemistry
University of Stockholm
These two gentlemen first identified the interfering substances in chlorinated pesticide residue analysis as polychlorinated biphenyls. Although their work has not been published they have informed us that their research efforts have continued and they are still concerned.

2) Prof. Bo Holmstedt
Division of Toxicology
Kgl. Karolinska Institutet
Avd. Toxikologi
Solnaragen 1 - Stockholm
Either this gentlemen or others at the institute have been doing toxicology work on the polychlorinated biphenyls according to Professor Widmark.

Friday, May 9 - Professor H. Van Genderen
Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology
University of Utrecht
Utrecht, The Netherlands
Professor Van Genderen recently wrote us asking for samples of our Aroclors and indicated that he had identified PCB's in wildlife along the coast of the Netherlands. He indicated further that some toxicology work was underway.

Monday, May 12 - Leverkusen (Possibly)
Keller and Wheeler to visit Beyer depending on decisions reached in London and Brussels as to whether we should contact our competitors to determine whether or not they are concerned and whether or not they have undertaken research programs which we may have planned but which might be duplication of their efforts.

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ITINERARY - E. P. Wheeler
Medical Department

Lv. St. Louis	Thurs	April 24	4:40p.m. TWA #704
Ar. London	Fri	April 25	9:05a.m.
Lv. London	Sun	April 27	8:20p.m. Train
Ar. Pitlochry	Mon	April 28	5:40a.m.
Lv. Pitlochry	Mon	April 28	early pm.? Car
Ar. Edinburgh	"	"	?
Lv. Edinburgh	Mon	" 28	5:05p.m. BE #5401
Ar. London	"		6:20p.m.
Lv. London	Tue	" 29	8:40a.m. Train
Ar. Sittingbourne	"		9:33a.m.
Return to London in afternoon			
Lv. London	Wed	" 30	8:00 a.m. Train
Ar. Stoke	"		10:07 a.m.
Return to London in afternoon			
Lv. London	Thurs	May 1	5:35 p.m. BE 474
Ar. Brussels	"	"	6:25p.m.
*Lv. Brussels	Sun	May 4	12:10 p.m. Sk#558
Ar. Stockholm	(Arlanda Airport)		3:25p.m. (SAS)
*Lv. Stockholm	Thurs	May 8	4:10 p.m. Sk #553
Ar. Amsterdam			7:05p.m.
(need Hotel)			
*Lv. Amsterdam	Sun	May 11	5:20 p.m. KLM #233
Ar. Dusseldorf	"	"	6:00p.m.
(need Hotel)			
*Lv. Dusseldorf	Mon	May 12	8:15 p.m. Air France
Ar. Paris			9:15 p.m. #765
(need Hotel)			
Lv. Paris	Thurs	May 15	4:00 p.m. TWA #801
Ar. New York	"	"	7:00p.m.
Lv.	"	"	11:15p.m. TWA #3
Ar. St. Louis	"	" 16	12:49 a.m.

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