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# Department of State

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1954 MAY 10 PM 3 08

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW
SINGLE REVIEW AUTHORIZED BY: 3/3/96
REVIEWER NAME: Kirchmeier
DATE: 7/1/94
DETERMINATION (CIRCLE NUMBER(S)) UC/1
1. CLASSIFICATION RETAINED
2. CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO:
3. CONTAINS NO DOE CLASSIFIED INFO
4. COORDINATE WITH
5. CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
6. CLASSIFIED INFO BRACKETED
DOS memo 9404251, 3/8/96

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SENT TO: Amembassy TOKYO

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Re use by Embassy of Food and Drug Administration letter on tolerance.

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Department believes contents letter should not (repeat not) be released to Japanese Government or otherwise published for following reasons:

1) Immediate urgency of tolerance question now apparently removed since no recent arrivals in Japan of contaminated fish. Tokyo AP despatch May 7 indicates decision Japanese Government to cease monitoring tuna May 10.

2) Department seriously concerned possible psychological effect on US tuna consumers of public release of tolerance standard for tuna. Uncertain how this may be featured by US newspapers which are now publicizing aspects of radioactivity. May well set tuna apart from other food products with grave risks to US market for both Japanese and domestic tuna. Industry studies on recent radioactive tuna publicity inconclusive re effect on US sales XX of domestic tuna, but spot check of

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5/11 - 3 yes acc/Hall

Drafted by: U/FW:WFLooney:jcd 5/10/54

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: R. J. G. McClurkin

Concurrence:
SAE - Mr. Spiegel
NA - XXXXXXXX Mr. Finn
F&WS (Interior)
(Mr. Anderson)

[redacted]

SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY
S/AE
MAY 11 1954

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[redacted]

Los Angeles market indicates considerable slowing in retail sales imported Japanese canned tuna in brine, presumably due to publicity on radioactivity.

Department not prepared this time take position on liability for compensation for destroyed fish.

DULLES

[redacted]