



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

D1325 B

May 15, 1997

WARNING LETTER  
CHI-27-97

Chicago District  
300 S. Riverside Plaza, Suite 550 South  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
Telephone: 312-353-5863

CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Anthony N. Anike, President  
The Tonic Group  
4550 N. Clarendon  
No 2208-S  
Chicago, Illinois 60640

Dear Mr. Anike:

An inspection of your leased food storage space at [REDACTED] Chicago, Illinois, by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) during the period of March 24-27 and April 4, 9, & 16, 1997, documented numerous insanitary conditions in the leased food storage room which caused the stored food products to become adulterated. These food products are in violation of Sections 402(a)(3) and 402(a)(4) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (the Act). These food products: a) consisted in whole or in part of filthy substances, such as live and dead insects; and, b) they had been held under insanitary conditions whereby they have become contaminated with filth.

During the inspection, our investigators observed several types of live and dead food storage insects in, on, and near foods in your food storage area. These insects included adult rice weevils, adult granary weevils, adult flour beetles, adult grain beetles, and adult Indian Meal Moths.

More than 60 dead insects were observed on the floor and along the baseboards in this small room.

The investigators also observed rodent fecal pellets, unidentified animal feces, and a live cat in your storage area.

Discarded food products and debris were observed in an open receptacle and on the floor near the center of this area.

There were openings at the baseboards under walls  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch to 1 inch wide. Gaps several inches in length and width were observed around vent ducts leading to other areas of the food storage warehouse.

At the close of the inspection, you reported and we observed changes you made as follows:

Products were removed which showed visual evidence of insect contamination in them.

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A pest exterminator was contracted to correct the insect problem.

Areas were cleaned and walls were being painted.

Further corrections were promised, including purchase of pallets to elevate food products off the floor and away from walls, and purchase of closed receptacles for refuse.

The above listed violations are not intended to be all-inclusive. It is your responsibility to assure adherence with each requirement of the federal regulations. We request that you take prompt action to correct all violations.

Please provide this office, within 15 days of receipt of this letter, a detailed response stating the actions you plan to take to correct and prevent the recurrence of these objectionable conditions. Provide the time within which the corrections will be completed, reasons why any corrective action cannot be completed, and documentation to show that corrections have been made. Failure to take prompt action to correct all violations may result in regulatory action without further notice. Such action includes seizure and/or injunction.

Your reply should be directed to Paul A. Boehmer, Compliance Officer.

Sincerely,



Raymond V. Mlecko  
District Director

Enclosure: FDA 483