



**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

Public Health Service

HFI-35

694

Food and Drug Administration  
7200 Lake Ellenor Drive  
Orlando, Florida 32809

**CERTIFIED MAIL**  
**RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

**WARNING LETTER**

FLA-98-10

November 20, 1997

Robert P. Brubaker  
President and CEO  
King and Prince Seafood  
Corporation  
100 Lanier Blvd.  
Brunswick, Georgia 31521

Dear Mr. Brubaker:

An investigation of your company's actions concerning three lots of shrimp sampled by FDA and found to be decomposed and/or contaminated with Salmonella revealed that King and Prince violated Section 301(a), of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (the Act) when it caused the introduction into interstate commerce of shrimp which were adulterated under section 402(a)(3) of the Act, in that they were decomposed and under Section 402(a)(1) of the Act, in that one of the lots also contained Salmonella.

FDA collected samples DI97-712-545/7 from three lots of shrimp belonging to your company at Industrial Cold Storage in Jacksonville on June 6 and 9, 1997. FDA's analysis of these samples showed all three were decomposed and one was also contaminated with Salmonella.

FDA Florida District Compliance Officer Ken Hester had a total of nine telephone conversations with your Quality Assurance Manager, William Maulden, from June 27 to July 29, 1997, to discuss the above analytical results and determine your company's intentions regarding these lots. The above analytical results were also sent via facsimile to Mr. Maulden on July 3, 1997 under an FOI request. Compliance Officer Hester told Mr. Maulden that the above lots were adulterated under the Act and could not legally be shipped in interstate commerce. During each of these conversations, Mr. Maulden stated King and Prince would continue to voluntarily hold the lots and had not and would not sell, transfer or otherwise dispose of these shrimp without advising the Florida District Office of FDA first.

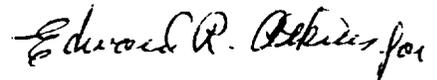
Despite all of these conversations and assurances, King and Prince returned these lots to your supplier, [REDACTED] on July 29, 1997 with full knowledge that they would be shipped in interstate commerce by [REDACTED]. In fact [REDACTED] did ship each of these lots from Industrial Cold Storage on July 29, 1997. FDA was not notified of these actions until ten days later, when a facsimile was received from Domiciano Broce, King and Prince Vice President of Technical Services.

It is your responsibility to ensure that all food products, received, stored, used and distributed by your company are in compliance with the Act. You should take prompt action to ensure these violations are not repeated. Any future incidents of causing the interstate shipment of adulterated food products may result in regulatory action, including seizure, injunction or prosecution, without further notice.

You should notify this office in writing, within 15 working days of receipt of this letter, of specific steps you have taken to prevent recurrence of these violations. If corrections cannot be completed within 15 working days, state the reason for the delay and the time frame within which corrections will be completed.

Your reply should be directed to Kendall W. Hester, Compliance Officer, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, 7200 Lake Ellenor Drive, Suite 120, Orlando, Florida 32809, telephone (407) 648-6823, extension 261.

Sincerely,



Douglas D. Tolen  
Director  
Florida District

cc: William Maulden  
King & Prince Q.A. Manager