

June 9, 1970

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Dear Bert:

I am in no position to comment on the authenticity of the information in the article about Strontium 90 genetic effects. I am in a position to comment on the emotional language, the rather unlikely figures in the second paragraph and the author's regarding statistical association between infarct mortality and downwind position as cause and effect.

On the other hand, there is no question in my mind that the military can lead us to destruction in this or other ways. Its inner workings are inhuman and incompatible with survival.

The simplest health questions are the most difficult to answer, because longterm small effects require the most careful longterm studies.

I will keep the article and chat with colleagues about it. I think there have been many miscalculations in AEC policy, and I don't know whether this is a critical one.

I enclose our 5-year report, which shows that coronary and vascular diseases are largely of environmental origin, that diet is a necessary cause for a high national coronary rate and that other factors may influence the national and individual risk.

Just back from Kyushu, where the diet is very healthy, for the Japanese, but I couldn't fight it.