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2 August 1995

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Dr Astrid James,

The Lancet,

42 Bedford Square,

London WC1B 3SL.

Dear Dr James,

You may recall that last year I wrote a review of a monograph "The Seven Countries Study. A Scientific Adventure in Cardiovascular Disease Epidemiology" edited by D Kromhout, A Menotti and H Blackburn (Lancet 1994;344:736-37). In the run-up to that review, Dr Imogen Evans suggested (her letter 27 June 1994) that when the next publication in this series became available, I might do a commentary "which could be a more reflective piece". The book has arrived this morning - "Lessons for Science from the Seven Countries Study" edited by H Toshima, Y Koga and H Blackburn and published by Springer-Verlag.

I would be pleased to do a review/commentary on this book and would ask for your agreement to go ahead with this project. I would add that I have also received another book in the series "On the Trail of Heart Attacks in Seven Countries", a personal memoir by Henry Blackburn which is delightful to read and very stimulating. Comment on this book could be included in the article if you thought it reasonable.

If you are willing for me to proceed, please let me know what style and length you would like and if there is any particular timing for this article.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Professor A & Shaper.