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August 9

Dear Henry,

Many thanks for the copy of your letter and Lyng's reply. We knew they were going to do something about nutrition but there was no real information until it was announced on June 23.

I'm told the recent article in Science caused a considerable flap at the Secretary's level and they are considering some kind of reply. I am also told that they are very surprised that the reorganization has caused such a fuss. They have all said repeatedly that all of this is not going to cause any decreased emphasis on nutrition. If the Secretary responds in print we will then have something on the record for future reference.

There is no way they can reverse the situation now and the fuss has at least alerted them the fact that there is concern other than that expressed by the meat, milk and egg groups. These groups really put the pressure on and I saw many of the letters. Apparently they thought they had to do something about me in particular.

The information activities are now under Mary Jarrett. She told me that she had no difficulty with the Guidelines but that we might have interpreted them in some places with more care. My impression is that her heart is probably in the right place but I doubt that she has the guts to take a position. Her staff is equally unimpressive.

I have decided to stay on for awhile as Chief Scientist-Nutrition. This is an advisory job with no authority. Jarrett says she is going to have to rely on me so I will stay and see whether I have any influence. I expect that I won't have much and, if not, so I will be looking around for other possibilities. At least, I can be looking over their shoulders which may help.

I appreciate everything you have done and written. I feel convinced that even though the USDA, AMA and Academy can interfere, The Guidelines and related information are too far along to be really turned off. Staying here, of course, really shuts me up. I probably won't be able to live with this so in all probability I'll be doing something else in a few months.

Anyway, my address in the immediate future is, Acting Chief Scientist, Nutrition, Room 425-A, Administration Bldg., USDA, Washington, DC 20250.

Best wishes and keep up the pressure

Sincerely,

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