

Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen

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LOCALS 20, 33, 121, 156, 161, 172, AND 173  
GENERAL SYSTEM COMMITTEE  
ATCHISON TOPEKA AND SANTA FE RY. SYSTEM

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H. WHITWORTH, GENERAL SEC.-TREAS.  
292 EAST 13TH STREET  
SAN BERNARDINO, CALIFORNIA

March 1, 1959

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DIVISION OF BIOLOGY & MEDICINE  
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Box 3371  
Folder Sr 90 in Wheat

Mr. J. Floyd Breeding, U.S. Representative,  
United States House of Representatives,  
House Office Building,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Breeding:

I presume you noticed the news article recently regarding a statement originating in England to the effect that the wheat grown in the United States was contaminated by strontium 90 caused by the fall-out of atomic tests. Also the TV announcement recently made in regard to milk carrying strontium 90, and the fact that this element is considered one of the causes of cancer in bone.

To any thinking person, these statements, if true are a terrible condition, one that may well destroy the human race at some future period. They certainly need investigating. My purpose in writing you is to suggest that you, as an outstanding representative of our State, can do an outstanding service to the people of the United States and the future generations by bringing about a thorough investigation to determine the facts. In my opinion if it is found to be a fact that the fall-out from atomic tests is actually causing the wheat, and other grain crops, as well as milk, to carry strontium 90, and the fact is made known to the people, then the people will insist that such tests be discontinued.

Likewise, if it is found to be a fact that much of the wheat now in storage is contaminated with strontium 90, then most certainly the wheat should be destroyed, it should not be used for human or animal consumption - there can be no question about that. While I am not a farmer myself, I have a son that is and many friends, therefore, as I see it, if much of the storage wheat is contaminated, and for that reason is destroyed, it can be the source of relieving a big problem to the farmer. After all it is no worse to destroy contaminated wheat than to scrap all of the outmoded military equipment, such as planes etc., which is constantly taking place.

There is not much point in winning the cold war, if we are to destroy the health of the population in so doing.

With sincere best wishes for your continued success in government, I am,

Sincerely your friend,

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