

LIEUTENANT GENERAL LESLIE R. GROVES
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January 25, 1963

Dear Dr. Aebersold:

It was very good to receive your Christmas note along with the pictures of your attractive children.

I was indeed sorry that space limitations for my book did not permit me to go into as much detail as I would have liked to ~~do~~ on the matters involved in the initial days of Isotope distribution. I have never seen a single word of criticism about the way in which this was started or the fact that it was started without any authority of any kind. I have at times been a little bit surprised that some of my critics have not found some way in which to criticize it. Quite possibly this is because the program has been carried out so well ever since its inception.

As I look back I can see little that could have been improved in the way it was started except that I wish we could have started it even more promptly than we did. I think we could have if so many of our people had not been uneasy and uncertain as to what they wished to do in the future.

I am sure that other people will follow Dow's lead in using radioactive isotopes in chemical production. That is a development that I always thought would come. I remember devoting hours in vain attempts to persuade a number of our bigger chemical companies that this was a certainty and that they should keep at least a small group working in this area.

With very best wishes,

Sincerely,

Leslie R. Groves

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