

Memo from

To:

JOSHUA LEDERBERG

E.N.Cramer

JAN 25 1971

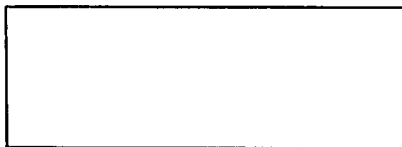
Radiation Standards

It is hard to prove that Gofman is wrong in his estimate of cancer yield; but he does cascade a number of implausible assumptions. I read he is now taking a different tack -- that a single case of radiation-induced cancer would be unjustifiable murder; which shifts the argument to quite another plane. The National Academy of Sciences is making a comprehensive formal study of radiation effects, and its report should be a great help in clearing up the controversy.

The drafts you asked for are enclosed; I hope I am still moving towards a clearer definition of the issue, and will be preparing a more definitive paper for the Bulletin of Atomic Scientists.

There is very little else on cost-benefit analysis. You may want to read the reports of the the UN Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, which are the principal guideposts in the field. & "Environmental Effects of producing electric power", the hearings of the Joint Cong. Committee on Atomic Energy, 1970.

Sincerely,



PROFESSOR JOSHUA LEDERBERG
Department of Genetics
School of Medicine
Stanford University
Stanford, California 94305