

WASHINGTON, D. C.

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(COPY OF THIS ~~TELETYPE~~ MESSAGE TO E. G. BRUNYON PASADENA INDEPENDENT, PASADENA, CALIF.)

RE YOUR TEL MARCH 21 THERE HAS BEEN A SMALL INCREASE IN NATURAL "BACKGROUND" RADIATION IN SOME LOCALITIES WITHIN THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES SINCE THE BEGINNINGS OF THE CURRENT ATOMIC TESTS SERIES IN THE MARSHALL ISLANDS. IT IS LESS THAN THE RADIATION WHICH HAS BEEN OBSERVED WITHIN THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES AFTER SOME OF THE PREVIOUS CONTINENTAL AND OVERSEAS ATOMIC TESTS. THE RADIOACTIVITY IS FAR BELOW LEVELS WHICH WOULD BE HARMFUL IN ANY WAY TO HUMAN BEINGS, ANIMALS, OR CROPS. IT WILL INCREASE RAPIDLY UNTIL THE RADIATION LEVEL HAS RETURNED APPROXIMATELY TO THE NORMAL BACKGROUND. END. REF AEC 1024

DIVISION OF
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ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
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