

Hagerty File

Strauss Papers

Honorable James Hagerty White House, March 26, 1959

Strauss sent Hagerty the following additional information to be used in refuting charges that the Atomic Energy Commission has withheld information and data concerning fallout. In March 1954 after the BRAVO test which first brought fallout to notice, The President had taken Strauss to a press conference within hours after his return from when we talked. A full disclosure was made of everything that was known. In February of 1955 the AEC released all subsequently discovered data. Strauss said that he requested that National Academy of Scientists undertake a detailed study of the radiation effects of fallout. The study was financed by the Rockefeller Foundation. Scores of the best radiologists, biologists, and meteorologists were engaged. A full report was widely published in the summer of 1955. There were also detailed hearings before the Joint Congressional Committee in 56 and 57, in which all the information collected by the government was fully published.

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