

# Warning to Berry Pickers and Mushroom Hunters!

Ted Kaczynski

August 6, 1989

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T. J. Kaczynski  
Stemple Pass Road  
Lincoln, Montana 59639  
August 6, 1989

Blackfoot Valley Dispatch  
Lincoln, Montana

Letters-to-the-editor department:

**WARNING TO BERRY PICKERS AND MUSHROOM HUNTERS!**

Each year in the Lincoln Ranger District of the Helena National Forest, herbicides are sprayed on thistles and certain other plants that are considered undesirable. This is done not only along the main roads but in some logged-over areas as well. I didn't know this until quite recently when I came across a Forest Service crew that was spraying in and around one of my favorite berry patches. In some places I found ripe wild strawberries less than one foot from thistles that had been sprayed. It seems very probable that some of these berries were heavily contaminated with herbicide. If I had come along twenty minutes later, after the crew had left, I wouldn't have known about the spraying and I would have eaten these berries. No notices were posted to indicate that the area had been sprayed, and as far as I know there had been no public announcement to warn people about the fact that berries or other wild edibles might be contaminated with herbicide.

Since wild berries and mushrooms growing on Forest Service lands are very popular and widely used, I think the public should be informed that they may be contaminated -- perhaps heavily contaminated -- with herbicides, and that it would be wise to inquire at the ranger station about spraying activities before gathering any wild edibles.

The Forest Service personnel

were very

2/11/89

A critique of his ideas & actions.



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U.S. Marshals to Auction Unabomber's Personal Effects

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