

Warning to Berry Pickers and Mushroom Hunters!

Ted Kaczynski

August 6, 1989

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 thistle 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 those 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 similar spraying may occur in other ranger districts and in other national forests, and 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 nearest ranger station about spraying activities before gathering any wild edibles.

The Forest Service personnel whom I consulted about this issue were very helpful in giving me information, and I would like to thank them for their courtesy. But I can see no valid excuse for the Forest Service's failure to warn the public about herbicide spraying. — **T.J. Kaczynski, Stemple Pass Road, Lincoln.**

Many older people close their eyes but that does not mean they do not hear. Hooray for Judge Clark, for he is indeed a rare man, a person who cares for other people. I am pleased to know such a fine man and can count upon him to be fair in all that he does. — John Bollinger, P.O. Box 2517, Missoula.

Forest spraying unposted

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T. J. Kaczynski
Stemple Pass Road
Lincoln, Montana 59639
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Blackfoot Valley Dispatch
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Letters-to-the-editor department:

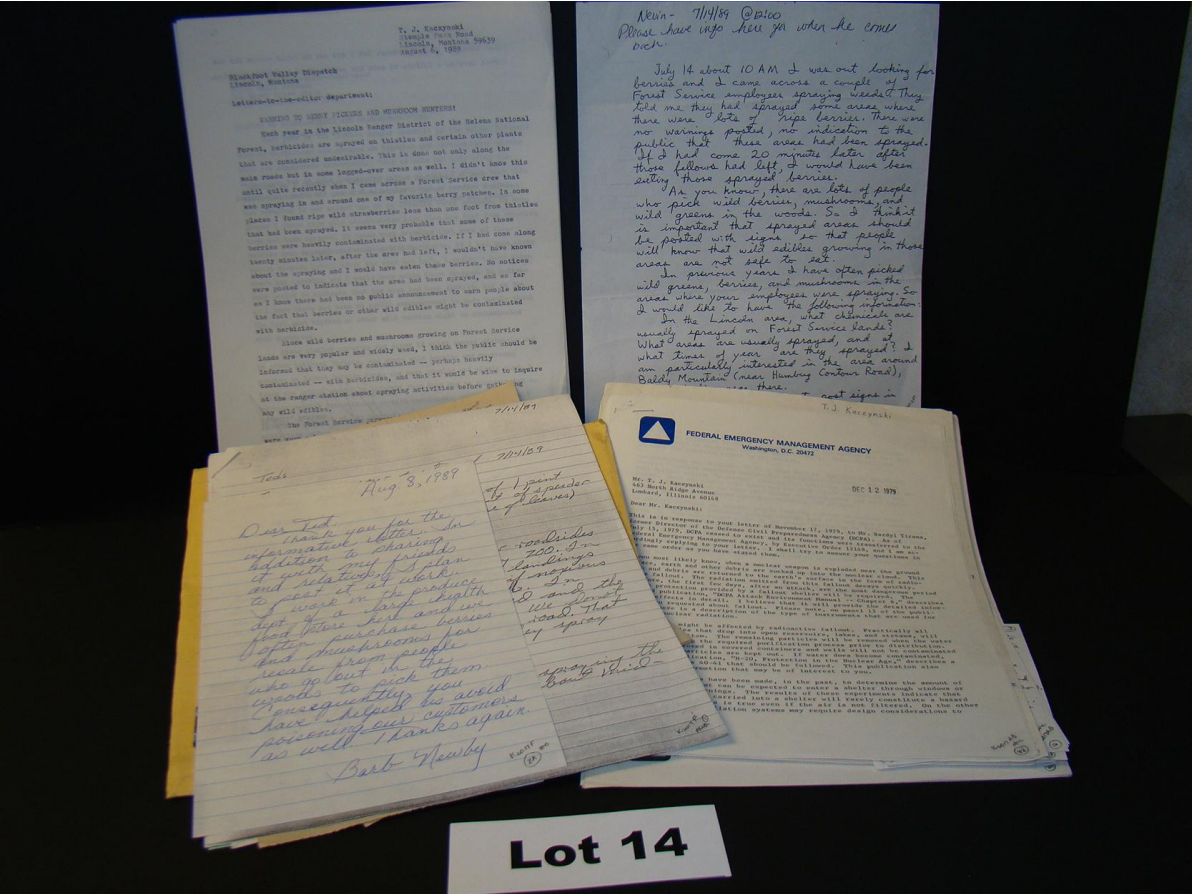
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The Ted K Archive

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A Review and Compilation of the Writings of Ted Kaczynski & U.S. Marshals to
Auction Unabomber's Personal Effects

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