

for 100-44 file

June 13, 1955

TO: LEGAL COUNSEL

We are enclosing herewith a summary of the statistics for upper New York State, comparing the years 1931-1933 and 1951-1953, for the mortality of cancer rates

It is important to note that the quality of medical care in New York State (exclusive of New York City) has been rated "excellent" since about 1920, so that the quality of care should not enter into any discussion of these statistics.

It seems particularly important to us that even though cigarette smoking in men has multiplied, there is a profound reduction in the over-all mortality rate due to upper respiratory and oral cancers. Similarly important is the fact that in a well-informed medical community, the techniques of operation for these cancers have remained and still are almost identical, and the over-all survival rate in New York State exclusive of New York City is relatively unchanged according to our best information.

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