Dr Oftedal
2/22/82

The genetic effects of nuclear war are of much less concern to me than the immediate (and delayed cancer) somatic ones

Hiroshima / Nagasaki show this all too clearly.

Long discussed UN/AEC studies showed that survivable doses of radiation (say 100 – 300 rem) barely double the existing genetic load, and should have an impact on at most 1-3% on following generations against a nearly 50% lethality on those directly exposed.

Of course, if mutants were to be exposed to only sublethal doses, that would loom as a larger catastrophe; but in almost every imaginable (?) scenario the somatic effects would greatly exceed the genetic ones.

J. F.