

13 August 1970

Dr. Julius E. Johnson
Vice President and
Director of Research and Development
The Dow Chemical Company
Barstow Building
2020 Dow Center
Midland, Michigan

Dear Dr. Johnson:

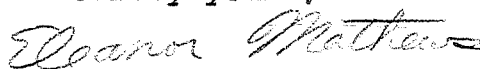
Dr. Westing appreciated very much your sending him copies last May of your testimony before the Senate Commerce Committee on 2,4,5-T.

I am now writing to make another request. In connection with the work of the Herbicide Assessment Commission of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, we are investigating the ecological and public health consequences of the defoliation program in Vietnam. We wish to conduct chemical analyses of representative samples of Agent Orange. I am writing to inquire about the possibility of obtaining samples from lots that were produced in 1966, 1967, 1968 and 1969. Samples of approximately 200-ml would be needed.

If such samples can be obtained, they will be analyzed with particular interest in those impurities that might be present, including dioxins. In connection with this we would appreciate any available information regarding the nature and presence of dioxins in either Orange or parent bathes of 2,4,5-T acid in the production from the years cited above.

The AAAS is prepared to defray the costs which would be entailed in supplying the samples we request. We believe that your help and cooperation will support our mutual interest in determining the nature and consequences of extensive herbicide usage in a tropical environment. Of course all of our findings will be made readily available to you. I thank you for any help you can give us in this investigation.

Sincerely yours,



Eleanor Mathews
Assistant Director
(for Dr. Meselson and Dr. Westing,
in their absence)