

January 18, 1971

Dr. Dvora Ben-Shaul
Wildlife Protection Division
Nature Reserves Authority
16 Hanatziv Street
Tel-Aviv, Israel

Dear Dr. Ben-Shaul:

Following your request I enclose two items presented by the American Association for the Advancement of Science Herbicide Assessment Commission at the annual meeting of the Association in Chicago on December 29.

The final report of the Herbicide Assessment Commission will not be completed until sometime this Spring. We will notify you when it becomes available.

Perhaps if you could let me know a bit more about the proposed use of Agent Orange and other herbicides with which you are concerned, I could provide you with some more specifically relevant materials.

Incidentally, although our trip to Vietnam convinced us that a sizeable amount of ecological damage has been done by the use of herbicides, we found many military men who believed that herbicides had not been effective militarily. Indeed, some officials even maintain that the use of herbicides had been counter-productive, for example, by greatly stimulating the growth of tall grass.

Sincerely yours,

Matthew Meselson

MM:mcm