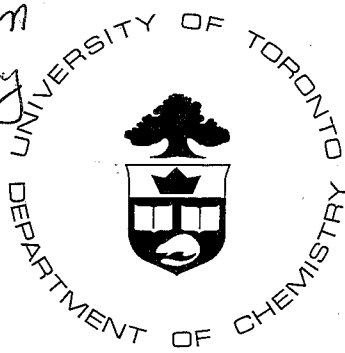


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LASH MILLER CHEMICAL LABORATORIES  
80 ST GEORGE ST TORONTO 5 CANADA

March 31, 1971

Professor Matthew Meselson  
Department of Biology  
Harvard University  
12 Oxford Street  
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138  
U.S.A.

Dear Mat:

It was very kind of you to phone, and especially to offer to send me xerox copies of your testimony, McGeorge Bundy's testimony, plus if possible the Washington Post editorial. I think that I can put all such material to good use. I mean, I know I shall try.. I will not (as I would have a few years ago) correspond with some phantom Minister (i.e. his ghost writer) but will make very sure that my message gets through. Whether anything will be done thereafter is more problematical -- by a long chalk.

I do know from friends that, because of your good briefing, my talk with Donald Macdonald, Minister of Defence, led to his circulating a confidential memorandum on the topic. Mr. Mitchell Sharp, Minister for External Affairs, said privately that he had changed his mind on the subject following our talk (sounds like a fairy story). All this made me over-optimistic. I'll try again.

The stumbling block, so far as I can figure it out, was (a) opposition from the Deputy Director of the Defence Research Board (I went and talked to him for an hour -- he was the author of my unattributed quote that arms control agreements are "scraps of paper" -- hardly news), and (b) public apathy so that there was no incentive for the politicians to get a move on.

Since we met last, I heard Dudley Herschbach singing on stage at the Mormon Tabernacle in Salt Lake City. Did you know he sang? Congratulate him when next you see him.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of J.C. Polanyi.

J.C. Polanyi



P.S. Any public indication I can point to that there will be a movement among conservative Senators to facilitate ratification without reservation? Seems quite remarkable!