



STANFORD UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

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STANFORD UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
Department of Pharmacology

April 6, 1971

Dr. Matthew Meselson
Professor of Biology
Department of Biology
Harvard University
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Meselson:

I hope to bring you up to date on my various activities regarding riot control agents.

I am well aware that I did not get a report back to you about that case of contaminated (?) aircraft somewhere in Pennsylvania. Much of the confused state of my correspondence is due to the fact that I do not have any personal funds for secretarial help and am dependent entirely on the department, which has been financially in bad shape.

In any case, I have lost the name and address of that union official in the Pennsylvania affair. If you have it, I'll write to him again. I did telephone and I did write to him about what to do when you got in touch with me.


I have become involved in a case at San Quentin where a young black man was apparently killed after being placed into a special retention cell. He died of pulmonary edema following a burst of tear gas delivered into a relatively small cell for about 45 seconds. A long delay has ensued because the plucky young attorney (gal) in this case had to get a court order to protect the witnesses from harassment, allegedly by the guards. I see that I am speaking and writing more and more like a lawyer. It's due to the cross-examinations.

Through your recommendation, I have testified last week in the case of 8 prisoners (of an original 11) who were confined in a 9x12x6 space and subjected to Mace Mark IV of unknown amounts and from apparently close quarters. They are suing the State of Missouri for \$725,000 on the basis of cruel and unusual punishment. I think I did some good in behalf of their attorneys, the Legal Aid Society.

I do need to do a few experiments with CN and CS because I am constantly confronted with cross-examinations that try to discredit my testimony on the basis of lack of direct field experience. Can you help me get some of these including the solvent systems without the active agent? My own attempts to get these through police or police supply houses have failed.

I have decided to write a monograph about civil uses of these squirt cans to try to put them into better perspective for legislators, police and people!

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sumner M. Kalman".

Sumner M. Kalman, M.D.
Professor of Pharmacology

SMK:mv