

23 November 1971

William Epstein
Disarmament Affairs Division
Room 3570
United Nations Building
N.Y., N.Y.

Dear Bill,

I was very glad to see the Canadian statement of last Tuesday. Although the implication may be there, it is not clear whether Canada now views herbicides and riot gas as prohibited by the Geneva Protocol. If you have any information on this point, I would very much like to have it.

Would it be asking too much for you to send me copies of items from the current First Committee discussions relating to CBW and from the upcoming discussions in the General Assembly?

It's certainly a pity that the Canadian announcement got no publicity. I contacted several dailies but news two days old is pretty hard to sell.

I am particularly anxious to know what position Japan will take on riot gas and herbicides this year at the UN. Is it expecting too much to hope for some forward motion there?

With warm regards and thanks,

as ever,

Matthew Meselson

P.S. I am almost certain that I sent you a copy of the Sierra Club Bulletin long ago but, just in case, I enclose one now.

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