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Dr. Michael A. Guhin  
National Security Council Staff  
Executive Offices of the President  
Washington, D.C. 20506

Dear Michael,

Here is my latest contribution toward complicating your life. The enclosed represents a possible alternative to the three-quarters approach. It is somewhat gentler in that it does not cast the United States in the role of being the election authority for the Geneva Protocol. If one is concerned that such a role would be resented by other nations to the point of causing their nonparticipation, the "Note of inquiry" may be a more attractive procedure.

The inquiry would be conducted before requesting the Senate to reconsider the Protocol. If it reveals that a sufficiently large majority of the parties are willing not to use teargas and herbicides (or already consider themselves prohibited from doing so), the Administration would be free either to continue with the inquiry approach or to put it aside and simply state its willingness to accept an obligation under the Protocol not to use the weapons.

Zoe has taken possession of your generous candle and occasionally allows us to admire it. I may be in Washington late next week. Perhaps we could meet somewhere dark enough that you would be spared having to see the magnificent suntan I acquired over the holidays in the Caribbean.

Best,

Enclosure