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September 25, 1973

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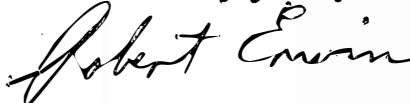
Professor Meselson:

Jeremy Stone and I are more or less united in feeling that the anonymous paper on binary weapons ought to cover a bit more ground. The paper establishes in general how the weapons work and why the Army expects to make a public relations gain by stocking nerve gas in this form rather than the old, immediately lethal forms. But it slights the question of why the Army wants nerve gas at all. It furthermore omits altogether the question of where binary weapons are in the Pentagon and Congressional pipeline.

We also wonder whether two or three other problems in the area of chemical warfare might not deserve the attention of concerned scientists and citizens at this time. The bulk and flexibility of the FAS format would permit several papers to be issued in a single publication. Along that line, are there topics or authors that you recommend?

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Cordially yours,



Robert Erwin
Consulting Editor

P.S. Despite the FAS letterhead, please continue to write me at the Brookings Institution, 1775 Massachusetts Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.