



Council for a Livable World

CBW-B

June 28, 1974

Professor Mathew Meselson
Dept. of Biology, A-411
Harvard University
Cambridge, Mass.

JUN 01 1974

Dear Mat:

While you were in Aspen I talked briefly to Dick Moose who said action on the Administration review of the Geneva Protocol has been delayed again, largely because of Kissinger's absence.

At the June 8 Board meeting, there was some brief discussion of the issue....and Dr. Fisher offered a proposal for separate legislation prohibiting use of herbicides and riot agents.

Dr. Price subsequently picked up on that and met with Moose on Tuesday of this week. A memo covering that discussion is enclosed for your reference.

I will be pursuing this with Dick after the July 4th holidays. In the meantime, I wanted to bring you up to date, and to ask for your advice and comment.

Thanks and best regards.

Sincerely,
Charles Bosley
Charles Bosley

cc: CPrice
RFisher
enc.

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FILE MEMO:

(Geneva Protocol)

Re: Moose Comments on Fisher Proposal

On June 25, 1974, Dr. Price met with Dick Moose of Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Point of discussion was proposal by Dr. Fisher at June 8 CLW Board Meeting that the Senate might approve the Protocol, with the Administration's reservations, and at the same time pass a separate measure limiting U.S. use of riot agents and herbicides.

Dr. Price prepared the following memorandum of conversation:

"We discussed the Roger Fisher idea of enacting legislation making it illegal for U.S. to use CW, including riot control agents and herbicides, except in territory controlled by U.S. Moose suggested such language could be incorporated as an amendment to the Geneva Protocol ratification. This has the advantage (over the separate bill) of requiring action only in the Senate, of going to a more friendly Committee, and of probably being more likely not to be vetoed by the President.

"Our discussion indicated our role could be to draft language suitable for an amendment to the treaty ratification and then exploring to see what kind of support ratification with such an amendment could muster. It would be especially important to see whether liberal Senators opposed to ratification with the present Nixon reservation would accept approval of our use of riot control agents and herbicides in territory we controlled.

"Possible language for a Geneva Protocol amendment might be as follows:

(After reservation statement) Nevertheless, it is U.S. policy not to initiate the use of riot control agents or herbicides in war. This does not preclude use during wartime within the United States or territory clearly in control of the United States. "

CBosley
June 28, 1974