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Yale University *New Haven, Connecticut 06520*

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY  
*Kline Biology Tower*

August 23, 1974

Mr. Reed J. Irvine  
Accuracy in Media Inc.  
777 14th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Irvine:

I write to answer a few of the points raised in your letter, and also to terminate our brief correspondence. I feel that our interchange has gone as far as it can usefully go, especially in view of your last paragraph, which I find distasteful.

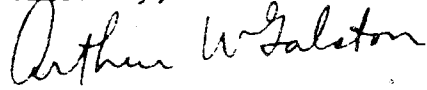
My visits to North Vietnam and China have always been an open book. On my return, I wrote articles in Science (Vol. 174: 379-385, 1971; and 175: 15-23, 1972) in Natural History 81(7):18-23, 1972; 81(8): 50-59, 1972; 81(9): 26-31, 1972; 82(4): 24-26, 1973; 82(5): 18-24, 1973; 82(6): 20-24, 76-78, 1973) and in Bio Science (22: 217-220, 1972). I offered information before Committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives, based on my unique meetings with three Premiers: Pham Van Dong, Norodom Sihanouk and Chou En-lai. I also briefed the National Academy of Sciences - sponsored Committee on Scholarly Communication with the People's Republic of China, a meeting at which representatives of the State Department, the White House Staff and (I am told) the CIA also were present. For these various services, I have received letters of thanks from Dr. Henry Kissinger, ex-President Richard Nixon and Senator J.W. Fulbright among others. You should read my reports and discount "biased" parts if you prefer to do so, but you will be better informed than you were before. And to see my "prejudices" fully revealed, you should read my "Daily Life in People's China", published by Thomas Y. Crowell and Co., New York, 1973 (\$6.95).

When data are equivocal, as the upland hardwood forest data are in the herbicide report, interpretations vary with the individual. Certainly subtle biases must intrude here, and attitudes on the Vietnam war are not excepted. I suggest that even members of the Committee that wrote the report (and even you yourself) are not excluded from such influences. There are other biases, too. Men who have invested their whole professional lives developing herbicides for new uses will not lightly discredit a massive herbicide operation. And especially men who have designed such operations in other parts of the world will have emotional biases that intrude on their thinking. That doesn't mean that such men

are dishonest or wilfully biased; it merely means that they are human, and possibly fallible.

My article in Natural History included both fact and interpretation; as any literary article should. I stand by it, and see no reason, based on your interpretations, to alter it in any way.

Sincerely,



Arthur W. Galston  
Eaton Professor of Botany

AWG/mb

cc: Dr. Anton Lang  
Dr. Philip Handler  
Mr. Alan Ternes  
Mr. Arthur Ochs Sulzberger  
Dr. Kenneth V. Thimann