



Brown

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Mr. Matthew Meselson
The Biological Laboratories
Harvard University
16 Divinity Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Matt:

The enclosed photos are yours to use as you see fit. Most are not very good, I'm sorry...and embarrassed to say. Just return them when you're finished.

I've attached the transcript of my story, as well as some other print material that I received from the Air Force. Duplicate what you need and return this material as well.

My over-view is that the real thrust is on defensive material. I found no one from the services who was pushing for a stronger offensive capability. That doesn't mean that won't follow. It's just that no one was propagandizing me regarding the need for a new generation of chemical weapons while I was doing the story.

As far as I was able to make out, virtually everyone in the Air Force and the Army in Germany has at least one chemical/defense outfit to use for training. These suits, of course, are useless in an actual attack. The Air Force, as far as I was able to determine, has issued one suit in addition, that remains sealed in a bag, for use in case of an attack. One suit only - at the ready. They hope to have a few for everyone by the early 1980's. The Army, on the other hand is in worse shape. Everyone has the old mask, as does the AF, but many units still do not have any other defensive equipment.

My guess is that the Army will have all they need later than will the AF. There is no doubt that as recently as two years ago there was virtually no training in chemical warfare defense. Today, as

my story pointed out, it is pervasive and extensive. Each Army man must go through the "chamber" drill with and without mask with tear gas present..... four times a year. The Air Force requires one time a year....and that's everybody...from PFC to Commanding Officer. At no time did I come across any offensive training..or plans for it.

Finally, all troops I spoke with talk about the discomfort in warm weather, and the pilots talk about the additional difficulty of flying, and targeting with all the additional gear on.

I hope this all has been of some help. Call me at any time if you think I can help in any other way.

Best regards,



Bill Brown
Producer
PRIME TIME SATURDAY