

DEPARTMENT OF BIOCHEMISTRY AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

cw file



7 Divinity Avenue
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138

May 10, 1982

Mr. Warren Buffett
1440 Kiewit Plaza
Omaha, NB 68131

Dear Mr. Buffett:

I greatly appreciate your interest in supporting my studies on chemical warfare and chemical arms control. I had been going more and more into the red, and even so without being able to do the kind of job I would like to do.

I could readily use \$20-25,000 a year, especially this coming year when I will be on sabbatical leave of absence and able to devote a larger fraction of my time to chemical arms control matters. This amount would cover quarter-time secretarial assistance, a student research aide, xerox, postage, telephone, computer time in connection with my studies of the number of civilian casualties that could result from chemical warfare in Europe and travel, mainly to Washington.

My objective in this area is to help provide the studies and analysis required to achieve a satisfactory treaty prohibiting the manufacture and possession of chemical weapons. Together with the already existing U.S. renunciation of biological weapons and the Biological Weapons Convention of 1972, we would then have a situation in which the life sciences might in future be kept outside the military domain.

My activities involve conducting studies and writing articles for publication as well as reports which are circulated mainly within the Government. This requires a fair amount of research to keep up to date and to break new ground. I also try to maintain personal contact with knowledgeable and influential persons in the area, both in the U.S. and abroad. For your interest I enclose three items on the subject plus a bibliography of other things I have written.

Continued.....

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Your contribution to my studies should be made over to Harvard University and sent to Mr. Michael McGrath, Department Administrator, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, 7 Divinity Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02138.

Sincerely yours,

Matthew S. Meselson
Thomas Dudley Cabot Professor
of the Natural Sciences

MSM/db