

CBW  
letter mailed  
1 July 1983

June 27, 1983

Mr. Thomas D. Cabot  
125 High Street  
Boston, MA 02110

Dear Tom:

The Soviets are dangerous and ruthless but lets keep the Americans honest and accurate. On the very serious matter of alleged Soviet violation of the Biological Weapons Convention of 1972, the State Department's case is scientifically weak and there is a continuing failure there to seek the best scientific advice.

The yellow spots and powders which State has considered to be chemical warfare agents have many properties which closely fit what would be expected if they were bee excrement instead. This finding, however, does not explain the detection of fungal toxins in some spots or in samples of human blood. The toxins could be due to chemical warfare but could be natural. The controls done thus far are completely inadequate. I enclose a copy of what we presented at the AAAS meeting at Detroit on May 30, along with some related items. The idea that the spots are excreta of bees of the genus *Apis* is Tom Seeley's. Tom worked on the genus *Apis* in Thailand while a Harvard Junior Fellow.

Warm regards to you and Virginia,

Matthew Meselson