



April 2, 1984

Professor Matthew S. Meselson
Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Harvard University
7 Divinity Avenue
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Professor Meselson:

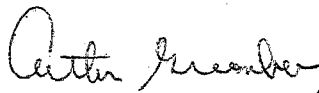
I am writing to you because of your well known interest in chemical warfare. I share the widespread alarm at reports of potential large-scale use of chemical warfare agents in the Persian Gulf War. (I am aware that reports of the use of Yellow Rain, as indicated by a Belgian toxicologists, are not at this moment corroborated, nor would use of Yellow Rain make much sense to me in the context of that war). However, it appears that mustards and nerve agents have been used.

Do you have any suggestions for how the ACS may work at the grass roots level to affect both U. S. posture, policies of our allies and the eastern block, and the combatants? Would letters to the corresponding chemical societies bear any fruit? Would there be a point in cutting off scientific exchanges with chemists from combatant nations? I think that once these agents are tested in combat, chemical warfare may become much more feasible.

I am currently a member of the Executive Committee of the North Jersey ACS and am a candidate for Chairperson of the section. I would be interested in seeing what actions (if any) our section, with 7,000 members-the largest in the U.S., might take.

Thank you very much for your attention.

Sincerely,



Dr. Arthur Greenberg
Associate Professor

AG:jh