

Y. Ingersoll
June 20, 1984

Dr. Matthew Meselson
Dept. of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
Harvard University

Dear Dr. Meselson,

Thank you for your extraordinary efforts over the years to stem the development and use of biological (and chemical) weapons.

It is extraordinary (to be redundant) that in this topsy-turvy world that I also want to thank you for exposing the non-development and non-use of bee frass.

It also sounds as if I am being sarcastic. When you began to object to the propagandd about "yellow rain," it seemed utterly outrageous; yet so scatological, I had to cheer -- that is last fall sometime. However, you

provided Lois Ember facts and data for her article in Chem & Engineering News which changed my mind.

Her article, viewed from my somewhat whop-ee-jawed perspective, was a masterpiece of satirical writing. I would like you to praise her for me. It was impossible to read more than a few sentences without laughing for fifteen minutes -- the sociological analysis of the Hmong peoples was not funny. Basically, it seems to boil down to:

"Tell me what you want to know Yank, and I'll tell you what you want to hear..."

When Jeanne Kirkpatrick mentioned trichothecene mycotoxins on MacNeil-Leher last Christmas break, I didn't know what she was talking about. She kind of slipped mention of them under her breath as if she were slipping "hate-mail" under

the office door. That aroused my suspicions about her intent.

It is perfectly clear from your patient probing the facts and publishing results that the Depts. of State & Defense are mounting a campaign to justify starting up "biological weapons" research again. The danger really lies in their use in brush fire wars against purported threats to our national security such as Nicaragua. Turning Freeman Dyson's argument "in providing opportunities [against] small and poor countries." (Disturbing The Universe pg 174.)

I cannot praise your diligence and hard work on the behalf of the people of the world enough. Especially in view of the burgeoning of genetic knowledge which, if you had your full freedom, you would be able to participate in fully and with greater joy.

I thank you again,
Phil M Goldrick.