



Washington, D. C. 20505

OCT 11 1985

Dr. Matthew Meselson  
Department of Biochemistry  
and Molecular Biology  
Harvard University  
7 Divinity Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Dr. Meselson:

Thank you for the article describing your investigations of bee feces. While there is little doubt that some yellow spots collected in Southeast Asia and alleged to have come from chemical weapons attack sites are in fact bee feces, the identification of trichothecene toxins in other environmental samples and in blood and tissues of victims cannot be denied. Our results have been independently confirmed in multiple laboratories both domestically and abroad. Therefore, on the basis of all the information available to the Intelligence Community, we stand firm in our belief that trichothecene toxins have been used in Southeast Asia and Afghanistan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "John N. McMahon".

John N. McMahon  
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence