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THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE
Executive Office of the President
Washington, D.C. 20506

APR 19 1989

Jack Gold, Esquire
Gold and Gold
144 South Beverly Drive
Beverly Hills, California 90212-3086

Dear Jack:

Thank you for your letter of March 13, 1989 informing me of the views of your cousin, Dr. Matthew S. Meselson, concerning a chemical weapons treaty and two pending Senate bills that would impose economic sanctions on countries having chemical warfare capability.


This Administration strongly supports a global chemical weapons ban that is verifiable and signed by all nations capable of producing chemical weapons. USTR has not played any role in the development of a chemical weapons treaty since export controls are the province of other agencies. The Departments of Defense, Commerce and State and the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency are responsible for the development of the U.S. position for the Forty Nations Conference on Disarmament underway in Geneva, Switzerland.

I understand that the Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearing on this issue at which Dr. Meselson will be testifying has been postponed until May. Your comments on the Helms and Pell bills are most timely since they are still going through interagency review. I will ensure that your views and those of Dr. Meselson regarding the denial of patent protection to nationals of transgressor countries receive careful consideration.

I appreciate you bringing this matter to my attention.

Warm personal regards.

Sincerely,



Carla A. Hills

CAH:pf