

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY

Hutchins

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND CULTURE

Matthew Meselson
Professor of Biochemistry
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July 14, 1991

Dear Matt:

First I want to thank you for all the help you have given me over the past half year. Having access to your papers and to you have been a real pleasure. Also, I enjoyed getting to know the other folks in your lab, especially Barbara Ring. They have all been great.

Concerning the research I was able to do on herbicide use in Vietnam, the experience has been both interesting and frustrating; interesting because I think I learned much about how the military ran its affairs during the war, and more importantly how scientists, including yourself, became involved. But it has also been frustrating because I knew from the beginning that I would only be able to work on the material as it related to the exhibition at the museum. I also felt torn between pursuing the herbicide story further (the basis for a dissertation) or continuing my career in exhibition research. I don't think that I have dismissed the possibility of pursuing a degree forever; for now, though, I have decided to continue my work in the museum field.

As far as the exhibition is concerned, I had hoped we could tape the interview with you and John Constable sometime this summer. Unfortunately, because of scheduling at the museum, we will not be able to do it in the next few months. The script is now going through extensive review. When this process is completed I will write you and let you know where we stand. I'm sorry that we were not able to conduct the interview this past Spring when I was deep in the records and you were helping me understand the herbicide story.

I hope you are well and that your work in chemical arms control continues to be productive.

Most Sincerely,



Louis P. Hutchins
Science in American Life
Exhibition

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