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307 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002 (202) 546-3300

Mirzayanzov

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FAX COVER SHEET

To: Matt Kesselson

Rc: Jeremy J. Stone

Date: _____

No. of pages: 3 (including cover sheet).

Comments:

In case you did not get this responsive letter from Mirzayanzov directly, I guess I am glad we wrote _____

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Mirzayanov

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

October 12, 1993

Dear Esteemed Professor V. Mirzayanov:

We honor your act of conscience in raising alarms about new kinds of chemical agents which may be under development or production in Russia. But we write to express certain concerns about the wisdom of your going further in your disclosures, as suggested in your recent letter to us and to the American Chemical Society, in any way that would be interpreted by some as a violation of the Russian law thus further complicating your life. We make these points:

i. Only when the Convention enters into force will such activities as you allege be a violation of the Convention. No doubt other countries are also still engaged in activities that will, after ratification be violations. Until then, such disclosures could have the unintended effect of making the Convention seem unverifiable, a contention with which we do not agree. Worst of all, if you are correct, the disclosure of the formula could encourage others, around the world, to do the same thing--creating new dangers.

ii. Once the Convention is ratified, the machinery of the Convention, including challenge inspection, will be much better able to deal with these violations than can be done by any one person. And you may be assured that the activities which you have alleged would then be violations--notwithstanding the nature of the precursors--and there would be questions about them.

iii. No doubt the potential willingness of persons like yourself to come forward would, at that time, help in the verification of the Convention. And, quite possibly, the machinery of the Convention, backed by the potential acts of conscience of Russian scientists, would by then have forced disclosures that would preclude any violations.

Rest assured that we will continue to respect you, and defend your rights, whatever you decide. But while it is the policy of our Federation of American Scientists to support scientists of conscience in their acts of conscience, it is also our policy to urge them, before they act, to consider the consequences for themselves, and for our common long-term objectives, and to act only from a sense of real dire necessity.

Sincerely,

Jeremy J. Stone

Matthew S. Meselson

Mr. Jeremy J. Stone
President of FAS

Mr. Matthew S. Meselson

Dear Mr. Stone and Mr. Meselson,

I am deeply grateful for your letter, sent to me via my wife. I would also like to thank through you the Federation of American Scientists, which from the very first days of my prosecution has afforded me priceless support. This support is a source of strength for me in my unequal struggle against the military chemical complex, and the totalitarian system of persecution.

At this moment the investigation is finished. The case file has been handed over for approval to the Procurator General's office. On 22.11.93 myself and my attorney Mr. Anis separately, but by agreement sent complaints to the Procurator General Mr. A. Kazannik about illegal and unfair methods of investigation. We asked that the case be forwarded for a secondary objective investigation.

On 25.11.93 it became known that the case, even without a formal review of our complaints was forwarded to the Supreme Court.

Finally, on 7.12.93 Mr. Anis found out that the case was forwarded from the Supreme Court to the Moscow Municipal court.

In the complaints addressed to A. Kazannik I called his attention to rude violation by the investigation of article 66 of the Constitution of Russian Federation, and point 3 of article 15 of the project of the new constitution. These articles refer to the fact that laws that have not been officially published can not be the basis for criminal prosecution.

Therefore, I doubt that I will go of my own free will to the court, which in contravention of the Constitution will attempt to dispense "justice".

Now, in regard to your concerns. After serious thinking (this was the cause for a delay of my reply) I concluded that your arguments are apparently more rational. Perhaps the legal logic of your arguments is the only rational approach at this moment. The only trouble is to ensure that after the ratification of the Convention there will be honest cooperative partnership on the part of those whom Bill Richardson, who retired in July as deputy assistant to the secretary of Defense for chemical matters called "those conniving bastards aren't dealing with us honestly" (M. Satchell, US News and World Report, September 13 1993, p. 58).

May God grant this.

In any case, I agree with your good advise. However, I yet again call your attention to my argument, which is based on the fact that realistic ban of chemical weapons can only be provided by a total ban, under the threat of criminal proceedings, of conducting research with the goal of synthesis, testing, and perfection of military poisoning substances.

A necessary condition for the realization of an improved Convention, in my opinion, would be independent international control, conducted by honest specialists, who were involved in the development of the chemical weapons.

Naturally, I myself remain open for cooperation in this field.

With respect,

Vil Mirsayanov

