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26 October 1993.

Dear Matthew,

Thank you for continuing to send me the Chemical Weapons Convention Bulletin, which I believe still fulfils its aims. I personally find the News Chronology of great interest. It is good that the work of the Prep Com for the CWC is going ahead at what seems to be a good rate. I think Peter Dunn is in New York right now as a Commissioner for UNSCOM. He is happy that the demil of the Iraqi CW stockpile is well under control. It remains to be seen of course if they have hidden anything, however the fact that so much of their stockpile was leaking and of low potency suggests that it would not be worth while to keep any!

I was saddened to read of Charles Flowerree's death. He was the very best sort of person. I see that we have a new board member. On that note I must confess that I feel rather embarrassed to be a board member when I do nothing for the Bulletin; I do some book reviews for "Pacific Research", is there nothing I can do for the Bulletin?

You were looking at one stage for new directions for the Bulletin. I wonder could you review the status of States still non-party to the CWC. The Middle East States are of course the main interest here. No doubt you have read Peter Herby's book "The Chemical Weapons Convention and Arms Control in the Middle East". He favours a step by step approach to persuade the non-signatories to join; this would to some extent reiterate the steps that led to the drafting of the CWC. I seems to me that a bold initiative might be quicker and more successful, while the political climate in the Mid East is still fairly benign!

I have just written, in collaboration with my daughter Helen who is a physicist, an article on "The health hazards of plutonium" which we hope will be published in Medicine and War, the journal of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War. So far we have not heard from them. It is of course missile technology the links nuclear, chemical and biological weapons.

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I hope that you and Julian are well.

With kindest regards,

Shirley