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May 15, 1998

**Professor Matthew Meselson  
Professor of Biotechnology  
Harvard University  
Cambridge, MA 02138**

**Dear Professor Meselson:**

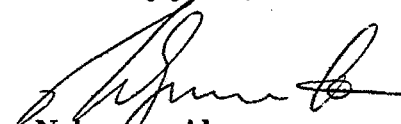
**As one who is involved with the negotiations of a biological weapons verification protocol, I read with interest your article "Holding Saddam personally accountable for his chemical weaponry." As any multilateral verification regime especially one on biological weapons may have a limited capability to uncover clandestine biological activities, I am becoming to think that criminalization of biological offenses may be an important means to deter offenses involving biological weapons.**

**When I went to Washington after Boston, reactions to the idea of international criminalization was mixed. While many acknowledged the value of it as a deterrent, some shied away from the possibility of submitting American citizens or soldiers to any international criminal court.**

**I had a very useful discussion with Dr. Chevrier on various aspects of biological weapons prevention.**

**Please be good enough to keep me posted.**

**Sincerely yours,**

  
**Nobuyasu Abe**