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Subject: BW Attribution Project

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Dr. Meselson-

It has been a long time since we have spoken, and I hope you are well.

My understanding is that we have both been contacted by Peter Lavoy about writing a chapter on Yellow Rain for their BW attribution book/conference. While I reached a different conclusion about YR (some type of CBW event- even if not T2) I believe many of the lessons learned for attribution assessments (section 3) are the same regardless of whether one believes YR was a natural occurrence or not.

I guess my question is whether you think it is useful for us both to follow the case study guidelines and then we (and the rest of the conference attendees) can compare and contrast the chapters, or if you think it might make more sense to follow a different outline. For example, I could write about just about the T2/CBW hypothesis and assessment, and you could write the 'counterfactual analysis' and assessment. Or, if you were willing, we could even attempt to co-author the chapter (with the same breakdown- I could write about the T2 hypothesis, you about the bee feces hypothesis, and we could attempt to combine our thoughts on the overall assessment. If you are willing to consider working together on the chapter, I think the results could be pretty great- and also further demonstrate that regardless of what YR hypothesis one believes the evidence most strongly supports, there are many lessons to be learned for how (not!) to conduct a BW attribution assessment.

I look forward to hearing from you  
Best Regards  
Rebecca Katz

(I can be reached at this email (katzrl@state.gov) or at rk328@yahoo.com. I'm currently a consultant at the State Department, an adjunct at GW medical school, and most importantly- a mom to a 9 month old little girl.)