

March 17, 1969

Mr. William Epstein
UN Disarmament Staff
United Nations Building
New York, New York

Dear Bill:

I enclose a copy of a summary of the work of the League of Nations Disarmament Conference on the subject of chemical and biological warfare prepared by the President of the Conference, Arthur Hendersen.

You will note that the General Commission of the Disarmament Conference appointed a Special Committee to consider chemical and biological warfare. Whether or not any of their discussions would be of use to the present United Nations study, I do not know. However, you may wish someone on your staff to make a study of the old League of Nations discussions, in case there should be something useful there.

On a related matter, there was an extended discussion of the applicability of the Geneva Protocol of 1925 to tear gas as a result of a British query regarding the status of tear gas directed to the Preparatory Commission of the Disarmament Conference. I enclose a copy of the relevant minutes of the Preparatory Commission.

I am sorry I missed hearing you speak on the Today show. I almost invariably watch it but must have slept late that morning.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

Matthew Meselson

MM:ls
Encl.