

WORLD HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



ORGANISATION MONDIALE
DE LA SANTÉ

1211 GENEVA 27 - SWITZERLAND
Telegr.: UNISANTE-Geneva

Tél. 34 60 61 Télex. 22335

1211 GENÈVE 27 - SUISSE
Télégr.: UNISANTÉ-Genève

In reply please refer to:
Prière de rappeler la référence:

8 May 1969

Dear Matt,

Since dictating the first letter enclosed I have spoken with Robert Neild.

We discussed at length the issues you raised, concerning which we share your anxiety. Robert will go over the UN draft with Julian to see whether specific suggestions could be made to Zuckerman to tighten up the soft spots on non-lethal gases. We feel there should be no difficulty with respect to the so-called incapacitating agents and we are optimistic that a very firm stand could be made on these. The limitation in obtaining any modifications at this stage may be the terms of reference of the UN Group which state that presumably only a technical assessment of possible effects of CBW has been requested, and that it would be outside the terms of reference to resolve other problems. I pointed out to Robert that the draft as it stands is full of political overtones and that perhaps some modification may be made under this umbrella. Robert will study the draft carefully, and if he can make specific suggestions he will do so by a letter to Zuckerman this week-end so that it will reach him before his trip to Moscow. If Robert cannot make specific suggestions he will wait until his trip to London in about 10 days, at which time he will speak to Zuckerman personally about the matter and see what can be done. In any event Zuckerman will be contacted before he goes to New York for the final revision of the UN draft.

Martin Kaplan

Professor Matthew Meselson
Harvard University
The Biological Laboratories
16 Divinity Avenue
Cambridge
Massachusetts 02138
USA