

June 27, 1969

Dr. J.H. Humphrey
National Institute for Medical Research
Mill Hill
London, N.W.7.
England

Dear John,

Thank you for your long letter of last month. It is very good news that the preamble to the new draft convention will stress the value of the Geneva Protocol. I continue to hope, not without some solid basis, that the United States will find a way to ratify the Protocol without special reservations regarding tear gas. In assessing the American "attitude" one must take into account the fact that attitudes on military questions are undergoing important changes just now and that expressions from government officials may not quite keep up with the change. I believe time is on our side so long as we use it energetically to explain, educate, and influence.

I enclose for your interest a copy of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearing on chemical and biological warfare. The hearing was held on April 20 but released only this week. You may be somewhat startled to see the word "sanitized" on the cover page. At least it suggests a perception that secrecy is somehow not clean.

I also enclose a memo concerning the use of CS in Vietnam. I do not know if the Army procurement figures used there reflect total procurement for Vietnam or if the other armed services procure their own.

With best regards,

As ever,

Matthew Meselson

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Encl.