

AUG 1 1969

14 July, 1969

Dear Dr. Muelson,

I just heard your television interview concerning the use of C.S. gas in Vietnam. Next summer I will be graduated from the United States Military Academy and commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Army. In all probability I will serve in the Infantry.

Please consider the value in the use of C.S. gas against an entrenched enemy. If the gas cannot force the enemy into the open, then men must be sent forward to drive the enemy out of his positions. As I see it, there exist two alternatives. One choice is to accept

non-lethal gases as a legitimate weapon
and use them to arrive at the destruction
of the enemy. The other choice is
to deny the use of gas and use men
to "close with and destroy the enemy."

To choose the first alternative
is to run the risk of full acceptance
of all gases as a weapon. To choose
the second is to cause many American
deaths in the present war.

I firmly believe that it is
better to save lives and accept
what I consider to be a small risk,
rather ~~that~~ than to discard a valuable
weapon for the sake of a minute
increase in security.

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