

February 3, 1970

Mr. Howard Simons
The Washington Post
515 "L" Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Howard,

Here is a report written by Arthur Westing on herbicide damage in Cambodia. I also enclose a biography of Westing. As you probably know, a State Department team has also investigated the Cambodian defoliation. A team made up of Charles Minerick from Fort Detrick, Fred Tchirley from U.S.D.A. and two other persons went to Cambodia in July, 1969. Their observations are not greatly different from those described by Westing. You can get the State Department report from Thomas J. Corcoran at the Laos and Cambodia Desk of the State Department. I also have a copy.

I have been advised that it would be best to let my paper on toxins remain private. You are welcome to use parts of it without attribution at any time.

With warm regards,

Sincerely yours,

Matthew Meselson

MM:ls
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P.S. Westing and Pfeiffer have some rather nice photographs of the defoliated rubber plantations in Cambodia.