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EMBASSY OF INDIA
BERNE

Amb/Dis/70

February 20, 1970

Dear Mr. Meselson,

I received your letter of 17th November, 1969 while I was attending the General Assembly session in New York. I am sorry not to have thanked you for sending me the proceedings of the Conference on Chemical & Biological Warfare earlier and my only excuse is that I wanted to write to you after I had read the proceedings which you had so kindly sent me. I have just finished reading it and wish to express my thanks not only for bringing this to my notice but also for the very enlightening document which has enabled me to understand better the problem of C & B weapons, as also the thinking in non-official circles.

2. If I may say so, from the Indian point of view, it is a pity that the conclusions reached in your proceedings have not been reflected in the recent decisions of the United States Government announced last December. We have also noted with some disappointment the recent decisions of the United Kingdom Government, contrary to their traditional policy, to exclude tear gases from the comprehensive nature of the Geneva Protocol. In this connection I have read with special interest and appreciation your letter to the London Times. However, you will have noticed that through the efforts of the Group of Twelve of the CCD the General Assembly passed a resolution stressing the comprehensive character of the Geneva Protocol. In the CCD session which has just commenced, the Indian Delegation and other like-minded Delegations would continue to express their point of view which has now the endorsement of a General Assembly resolution. It is heartening to us that you and your other colleagues take an interest in our efforts in the cause of peace and greater security for the world.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Mathew Meselson,
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Harvard University,
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M.A. Husain