

COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS, INC.
THE HAROLD PRATT HOUSE 58 EAST 68TH STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10021

CABLE ADDRESS: FORAFFAIRS, NEW YORK
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March 12, 1970

Dear Dr. Meselson,

I just want to say again what a particularly interesting and significant meeting you gave us. I also very much appreciate the trouble you took to think out so carefully what you wanted to say. I thought you outlined extraordinarily clearly and undogmatically for us the benefits and costs of using herbicides and also the problems of non-poisonous gasses. To me you made the case for ratification of the Geneva Protocol very convincing and also, I thought, the case for not submitting it to the Senate until we were at least a good deal further through our Vietnam mess.

What I hope from Council meetings is that the members will get not just better rehashes of what they already read about and know, but some thinking and perspectives which will be new to them and increase their understanding over the long pull rather than just in connection with immediate events. This I thought you did for us most admirably. I hardly need say that otherwise I would not immediately have thought of your talk as an article for Foreign Affairs. As you know, Mr. Armstrong had already asked for one from Dr. Bennett.

I spoke this morning with Rolland Bushner, the director of our Committees on Foreign Relations, and he is most anxious to have you visit some of them and will be getting in touch with you promptly. I do hope you can.

You asked me about Tracy Voorhees, who spoke to you last night. He is now about eighty and, as you could see, still a very interested citizen. He was a lawyer by profession, but became a colonel in the U.S. Army from 1942-1946 and I believe worked most of this time with Bush and Conant in OSRD. He was subsequently, during the late forties, Assistant Secretary of the Army and then Under Secretary, and was then, in the early fifties, Vice Chair-

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man of Conant's Committee on the Present Danger. In other words, he has had a long interest in military-scientific questions.

It was really good to have you and your wife here, and I hope our paths will cross again before too long.

Very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George S. Franklin, Jr." The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

George S. Franklin, Jr.
Executive Director

Dr. Matthew Meselson
The Biological Laboratories
Harvard University
Cambridge, Massachusetts