

To M. Meselson

Deutch

Confidential

November 7, 1996

Dr. John Deutch
DCI

Dear John:

Before you leave being Director I urge you to put George, or someone of equal weight, in charge of clarifying CIA's role in the mycotoxin case. Porton Down, as well as Swedish and French intelligence, do not believe that mycotoxin was used in Southeast Asia and Meselson convincingly refutes the positive tests done by the DIA's contractor that became the basis for US claims and policy. Moreover, the many US Army tests (Edgewood) of environmental samples did not find any positives. In this situation CIA's role needs to be mercilessly scrutinized. If it cannot stand muster, an admission should be made in order to contribute to the Agency's credibility and to correct our own policy claims. Otherwise the dispute will eventually leak. Oehler is working on the case but I fear he will not do the job that is needed.

Sincerely,

Paul