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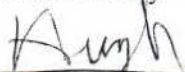
Prof Matthew Meselson,
Dept. of Molecular and Cellulor Biology,
Harvard University,
7 Divinity Avenue,
Cambridge, Mass., 02138,
USA

Dear Matthew,

This is to say that I am leaving the Public Service on 26th September, but not to abandon science. In fact I hope I have the energy to spend more time on the popular interpretation of science, along the lines of "Chemicals and Society". This may include studies on the two issues we both have been concerned with, Agent Orange and Yellow Rain. On the former, I believe another review could be useful now after a lapse of time and another round of veterans' problems (Gulf War Syndrome). Yellow Rain may be different; I do not believe there is much public interest now, and there never was any deep understanding of the issue. The only conclusion to be discussed from that episode is a technical one; biologists are concerned about morphology and examine appearance, whilst chemists extract yellow powders and analyse the extracts without regard to form. Not quite true: my father (as map curator of the Royal Geographical Society) challenged the authenticity of the Vinland Map (held by your colleagues at Yale) which caused a fuss. Later, the McCrone Research Institute also challenged the Map based on microscopy and analysis, and later again they also examined the shroud of Turin.

I keep in touch with Shirley Freeman, who is well despite being rather stiff from arthritis. My card is attached with my private contact details so if you are ever in this part of the world, phone me and we can meet. I hope all is well with you and that you can keep on questioning the received wisdom of officialdom in the interests of science and society.

Yours sincerely



(HUGH CRONE)

NBC Defence and Disarmament

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