



Robinson
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15th July 1985.

Dear Matt,

Among the enclosures you will find copies of two of my MemCons on chats with you. You will see that they are full of lapses of memory. It would be nice if you could annotate them with corrections &c and send them back sometime. I have in mind taking all my YR material with me to France in August with a view to making detailed suggestions to you, when I get back, on how your Scientific American piece might be expanded into a SIPRI occasional paper such as the one enclosed.

One other thing. You once said you could get for me copies of some of the manuals you have in your office. If there really is some relatively trouble-free way you could do so, the ones I would most like are:

- FM 3-10-1/AFM3-10 Vol 1/NWP 18-1/FMFM 11-3 (25 Dec 80), 'Employment of Chemical Agents'.
- FM 30-102 (18 Nov 77), 'Opposing Forces Europe'.
- JCS Pub.1 (1 June 79), 'Department of Defense: Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms'.
- *AOR 310-25 (15 Sept 75), 'Military publications: Dictionary of United States Army terms'.

If there are costs, maybe they could be charged to the MacArthur account, which should by now have some money from Sussex in it.

As ever,

J. P. Perry Robinson

Encs.

MemCon: Matthew F. SELSON, 27-29 April 1985

At Harvard.

1) About a week before, he had met with Dennison LANE in Washington and had had long chat about YR. Some points:

- a. Lane's recollection was that the original leaf-and-stem sample had been collected by McWilliam and Wilde, the latter a medical officer at the US Embassy in Bangkok.
- b. Lane said that SCHWAB (aka STEARNS aka SCHRAMM--but which of these was it that Lane knew him as ?) used to work (when ?) for Rep Wulff, or was it Rep Unger ? Lane also said something to MSM which implied that Schwab's appearances were deceptive--perhaps hinting that he was a spook of some sort.
- c. Lane said that, way back (when ?), he had called Sterling SEAGRAVE to tell him that SCHWAB was in town (which town ? DC ?) and that Seagrave ought to meet him. Schwab then invited Seagrave (not the other way about ?).
- d. MSM asked Lane who had been the most sceptical people in USG re YR. Lane said that the most sceptical had been Jerry DANIELS, followed by Mac-somebody, the USAID person who had discovered Daniels' body.
- e. Kit Green had now left the CIA and was working for Ford Motor.
- f. Lane said that, in late 1980 (not 1981 ?), Kit Green had been visiting with him in SEA. Green had mentioned the trichothecene theory then, but without conviction.

2) Bill GARETT (sp ?) of National Geographic had told MSM that Seagrave had had an assignment from NG to write vignettes of life in Thailand. One of NG's best photographers had been assigned, but Seagrave didn't show. It was at that time that the Army Surgeon General's team had been in Thailand. When Garrett read Yellow Rain, his reaction was that Seagrave couldn't have written it.

3) Could it have been Levi ROCQUE of World Vision who had been paying SCHWAB-SCHRAMM-STEARNNS ? (What put this thought into MSM's head ?)

4) MSM had asked Howard SIMONS (ex Editor of WP) currently a Niemann Fellow at Harvard about STEARNNS. Simons had written to an old Post reporter in Thailand, Alan DAWSON, who had written back on 15 Apr 85 (MSM had a copy of the letter, which he showed me) to say STEARNNS knew the YR issue very well, did not work for any government, and was absolutely to be believed. MSM reckoned this to be a tissue of lies.

5) Charles WHITNEY had had the YR sample that went to ABC news in his fridge for a year and a half previously. (Did MSM have this from LANE ?) /NOTE: Esmat Ezz had contact with Whitney in Thailand; check with him ?/

6) MSM gave me a copy of the new Sharon WATSON document dated 18 June 1984, its unclassified excerpts only. The person who had given it to him would get really screwed if that became known. MSM had also shown it to Peter PRINGLE, who is now trying to get the complete thing through FOIA.

7) Phil HILTS is a Niemann Fellow until June 1985. He is working on a YR book, and is inquiring closely into the early days of YR.

In London, while comparing his and my copies of the YR-sample tables.

Note: what is recorded here comes solely from the annotations I made during the conversation(s) onto my copy of the tables

- 1) During a conversation which MSM had with Gary CROCKER in Geneva on 9 November 1983, CROCKER said the following:
 - a. It was Kit Green who had collected the original leaf-and-stem sample ('FS698A') in Kampuchea. Many leaves were gathered then. No one has reported on the delivery means supposedly used in the attack.
 - b. The 'water and floating material' sample ('FS704A') was collected at the same time.
 - c. Lafond had found 96 ppb T2 in a sample from the 19 Feb 82 episode in Thailand.
 - d. In samples from that same episode, trichoths had been found by Thai analysts using GLC.
- 2) The spotted-leaf photo in that USICA brochure on YR is not of the sample from which 'FS698A' originated, of which MSM now does have a photo.
- 3) MSM had heard (from Dennison LANE ?) that, very shortly after Haig's Berlin speech in Sept 1981, a signal had come into LANE's office in Bangkok asking him to arrange immediately for the collection of 'control' samples.
- 4) Re sample 'US/UN-2': Gary CROCKER and Kit GREEN had been together in March 1982 when a group of 70 refugees came into Ban Vinai.
- 5) The Kabul gas-mask ('Shultz-10'): the source for this having been purchased was Gary CROCKER talking to Phil HILTS. Hiltz has assured MSM that Crocker's statement is recorded in his interview notes.
- 6) Re 'Shultz-12' (the 'unspecified vegetation' from Afghanistan), Gary CROCKER had told MSM (during that Geneva conversation--1 above ?) that he would not place great emphasis on the samples. One lab--perhaps Mirocha's--had thought it had found trichoths, but no other lab could confirm this, suggesting a false positive.
- 7) Or was it 'Shultz-10' (the Kabul gas-mask) on which CROCKER had said he would not place great emphasis ?
- 8) The three labs reporting positives on Shultz-10 were Sarver's, Mirocha's and Epply's.