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CB Assertation's Branch
Bio-Che Leaf Division
Air Force Armament Laboratory
Eglin AFB, Florida

Subj: Talp Report, Las Vegas, Nevada, 10-14 Feb 69

To:

Branch Chief BCW Fivision Chief ATCA File IN TURN

1. The Weed Science Society of America (NSSA) held its national meetings 10-14 Feb 69 in Las Vegas, Nevada. As to the purpose of the meetings, the first session's opening comments by the Society's President, Dr Boysie fi. Day, are most appropriate:

"being the past year, there has been increasing attack in both the public and scientific press by many well-meaning but uninformed individuals on the use of herbicides.

Recordly, I had the opportunity to review a substantial body of this literature which reflects the current concern shared by all of us over increasing problems of chemical pollution of the environment. Few of these authors have presented any rational or objective treatment of the problems of herbicide usage. I believe it is vitally important that all of us in the field of weed control recognize that we have a duty to help educate the public about herbicides and to attempt to correct disseminated misinformation."

It was my opportunity to attend these meetings, not only as a herbalide appearance like the state of the Air Force. Many of the papers particular, but as a representative of the Air Force. Many of the papers particular were directly related to the current AFATL in-house studies outlined under Project 2552. In particular, such topics as: "Herbicide heldues in Irrigation Water," "Monitoring the Agricultural Environment Pesticide Residues," "MSMA (an organic arsenical related to cacodylic and ) Absorption, Translocation and Toxicity," and "Measurement of Picloram "Arsistance in Two Western U.S. Soils," were of value in developing analysis of in-house studies.

5. Since I attended these meetings in support of Air Force projects, and since I was in uniform during the sessions, it was of interest to note the response of WSSA members to me, not as an individual, but as a suppresentative of the Air Force. To my surprise, this response was

one of respect, friendliness, and interest. I attribute these attitudes to the following:

- a. The favorable impression of the military's capability to handle herbicides as was outlined in a presentation at the first session by Dr F. W. Tschirley. Dr Tschirley (Grops Research Division, Agricultural Research Service, Beltsville, Md) presented a paper on "Herbicide Usage in Wild Lands Including Military Usage." This paper was a partial summary of a report submitted to the U.S. Department of State as part of an exerall review of the defoliation and crop destruction programs in Vietnam.
- b. The favorable impression left by Capt Jon H. Arvik (ATCB) at a previous WSSA Meeting.
- c. My own particular interest and willingness to discuss the herbicide residual program currently underway in ATCA.
- 4. In evidence of the favorable support for Air Force programs, a great deal of literature and methodology has been received since I returned from the meetings. Of particular value has been the technical literature sent to ATCA by the Dow Chemical Company. This consists of 23 volumes of Down to Earth, a scientific journal published by Dow Chemical Company on posticide use, formulation, degradation, and plant response. Also, Dr F. W. Tschirley has furnished ATCA with herbicido research reports on Southeast Asia and Puerto Rico.
- 5. The following recommendations are given:
- a. That the Bio-Chemical Division continue to send an individual(s) to the Wood Science Society of America Meetings and that this individual(s) be encouraged to wear his uniform at all sessions.
- b. That ATCA be prepared to submit and present formal papers at the 1970 NSSA Meetings in Montreal, Canada.
- c. That the communication established by Lt Young with other scientists be encouraged by the offering of invitations to visit and view the research facilities at Eglin AFB to those scientists who are conducting research along similar lines and who wish to see such facilities.

6. Attached is a list of the individuals contacted, including their position, address, and telephone number.

ALVIN L. YOUNG, 1st Lt. USAN

Research Scientist

1 Atch List of Individuals Contactou at 1969 WSSA Meetings

## LIST OF INDIVIDUALS CONTACTED AT THE 1969 WSSA MEETINGS

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