

MEMO FROM
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TO: Harold Wolf

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It had not occurred to me to connect plant hormones with defoliation in VN; but of course this would have been a very striking further example of the problem of assigning "responsibility" to the scientist. So I was not as perceptive as you were, or perhaps gave me credit for, but I am glad to have your chuckling comments -- any good cheer is always welcome!

I have been thinking a good deal about "technopathy", but am still struggling to find a useful conceptualization of it. I guess that I would say that the repudiation of knowledge comes close to a repudiation of the social contract, i.e., the faith that our social mechanism can, on balance, support the best interests of individual people. If I ever reach the point of accepting a "moratorium^m on science" I guess I would also stop paying taxes. There are times....

Sincerely
Joshua.