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Nixon Renounces Germ Weapons, Orders Destruction of
Stocks; Restricts Use of Chemical Arms

by James M. Naughton

Washington, Nov. 25 - President Nixon pledged today that the United States would never engage in germ warfare weapons.

However, the White House made it clear that Mr. Nixon would exempt the use of tear gas and chemical defoliants, which the United States has been using in Vietnam.

The President pledged unilaterally not to make any use of bacteriological weapons, even to retaliate against an enemy attack. He ordered existing American germ warfare weapons destroyed and asked the Defense Department for recommendations on the disposal of the stocks.

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From text of Nixon statement: "The U.S. will confine its biological research to defensive measures such as immunization and safety measures."