

Senator NELSON. We will accept those for the record, Dr. Taussig.¹

Dr. TAUSSIG. Thank you. I would like to add right here that when you see a picture of a child with a little flipper of a hand arising from the shoulder, it may seem bad but when you see the child in life, it is infinitely worse because you have got a child that can't do anything, and that wants to do something and it can't.

It was the next morning, after Dr. Beuren had been talking to me that I realized the full implication of the situation, namely, the danger which might lurk in drugs if indeed it were true that a sleeping tablet did cause such a malformation. By then Dr. Beuren had left for Germany so I wrote, airmail, asking if I would be welcome to investigate the situation. Dr. Beuren telephoned transatlantic "Yes" and 3 weeks later I landed in Hamburg and Dr. Beuren's chief, Dr. Joppish, loaned me their best resident to help with my travels.

Two points must be clearly held in mind. I went to Germany because I realized that if true, the phenomenon had a deep, wide, and serious implication. Nevertheless, Dr. Frances Kelsey in the Food and Drug Administration was the person who refused to release thalidomide for sale in this country.

Senator NELSON. Let me ask you, if I may at this point, Doctor, a couple of questions for the record.

Clinical tests were conducted in this country in any event, weren't they?

Dr. TAUSSIG. Clinical test were conducted in this country and I think was the tremendous effort to obtain a rapid clinical test and wide distribution of the drug that inflamed the country. It was then the law of the land that clinical tests were allowed without the control of the FDA at all. It was only when the drug was released for sale that it came under the surveillance of the FDA.

Senator NELSON. And there were some proven cases of deformities in this country as a consequence of the clinical testing, is that correct?

Dr. TAUSSIG. Yes, I think so. I believe that lawsuit is still coming up in this country.

There were some cases where it certainly was strongly indicated or known that the mother had taken Kevadon and had a malformed baby. There were other drugs which have been brought into this country which resulted in malformed babies.

Senator NELSON. Who discovered this drug?

Dr. TAUSSIG. The drug was developed by Chemie-Grünenthal. I heard stories that it had been developed by another company, and then thought it was not worth producing, and then that company denied doing it. Certainly Chemie-Grünenthal in Germany developed and manufactured the drug and put it on sale in Germany in large quantities.

Senator NELSON. I don't recall that you state this in your testimony, but do you know the date on which the drug was first used anywhere in the world?

Dr. TAUSSIG. Well, let's not say anywhere, but first used widely in the world. I believe it was 1958. I have it in the article here and can check it in a moment, but it was either 1958 or 1959, and it was fairly widely sold by 1961, and the country was in trouble by 1961. I think 1958 was the first time they marketed the drug.

¹ See supplemental information beginning at p. 1522, *infra*.