

Dr. TAUSSIG. Thank you very much.

Senator NELSON. I want to thank you very much, Dr. Taussig. Your testimony has been very helpful to the committee, and we appreciate your taking the time to come here.

Dr. TAUSSIG. Thank you.

Senator NELSON. Senator Hatfield, did you have any questions?

Senator HATFIELD. I have no other questions.

I note that you have inserted Mr. Mintz' article in the record. There are a number of other articles that I have seen, and it seems to me that they might all be made at some point appropriately a part of this record.

Dr. TAUSSIG. If you would like, I would be glad to send you a list and you can select what you wish.

Senator NELSON. There have been some very fine articles on thalidomide that are appropriate at this point, and if the minority and majority counsel could call them to our attention, we will insert them at the proper place in the record. And, Dr. Taussig, if you have any additional articles relevant to the testimony you have given today that you think would be helpful to the committee, and valuable to the hearing record, we would appreciate your sending them to us.

Dr. TAUSSIG. Thank you very much. I will be glad to.

Senator NELSON. Thank you very much, Doctor.

Dr. TAUSSIG. Thank you.

(The prepared statement and supplemental information submitted by Dr. Taussig follow:)

STATEMENT OF DR. HELEN B. TAUSSIG, PROFESSOR EMERITUS OF PEDIATRICS, JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

I am Dr. Helen Taussig, Professor Emeritus of Pediatrics at the Johns Hopkins University, and best known as co-developer with the late Dr. Alfred Blalock of the "Blue Baby" operation, and also known to this committee as the doctor who alerted the medical profession and the country to the dangers of thalidomide.

By way of introduction may I explain to you how I first heard about thalidomide. One of my former fellows, Dr. Alois Beuren of West Germany had studied with Dr. Bing and Dr. Andrus and then studied with me for a year in the days when Congress permitted post-doctoral trainee fellowships of the National Institutes of Health to be granted to foreign doctors. I emphasize this because although some foreign fellowships have been abused, others have brought rich returns. In a very real sense the same is true about trainee fellowships as is true of research fellowships. Just as only a small percentage of research pays off but that which pays off, pays off with such high dividends that it justifies all the other money which goes into research. So it is in traineeships. Only a few pay off with high returns both to their own country and to ours. The only difference between the two is that virtually every doctor is a better doctor for having had an additional period of training. Dr. Beuren's training brought rich returns in Germany and here. Thanks to his training in this country he was given the first Chair of Cardiology in Germany. Thanks to an evening he spent at my house when he returned for a brief visit that I heard about thalidomide. That evening he told me that the doctors in West Germany were seeing a great number of children born with gross malformations of the extremities, little flippers instead of arms or legs, or no arms or no legs; and what was more, that Dr. Lenz thought the malformation was caused by a sleeping tablet. It was the next morning before 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. Dr. Beuren had left for Germany so I wrote, air mail, asking if I would be welcome to investigate the situation? Dr. Beuren telephoned transatlantic "yes" and three weeks later I landed in Hamburg and Dr. Beuren's Chief, Dr. Joppish, loaned me their best resident to help with my travels.