

THE  
CHILDREN'S  
HOSPITAL  
MEDICAL  
CENTER

1869  
A Century  
of Service  
to Children  
1969

300 Longwood Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts 02115

Telephone: 734-6000 Area Code 617

January 27, 1970

Dr. Matthew Messelson  
Biological Laboratories  
Harvard University  
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138

Dear Dr. Messelson:

I enclose a copy of a letter just received from Dr. John Apley to whom I had written because he had been a pediatrician at the British hospital in Saigon for a year. This is a follow-up to the previous letter which you have been sent copies of.

I'm afraid this information doesn't help much. One problem is that you don't know the population base from which these patients have arisen. If they have all come from Saigon, then obviously their exposure to defoliants is minimal. On the other hand, if this hospital draws from a wide area in the countryside, it certainly provides very little support for the idea that defoliants may have increased the number of congenital anomalies and related tumors.

If I get any further information, I'll let you know.

Best wishes,

*Charles A. Janeway, M.D.*  
Charles A. Janeway, M.D.

CAJ/nd

Dictated by, but signed in his absence.