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Dear Dr. Davey,

A letter from Thomas Sinks, PhD, Deputy Director of the National Center for Environmental Health and Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, dated January 25, 2012, noted that he could not exclude inhalation exposures to TCDD, the toxic substance in Agent Orange, in C-123 aircraft by crewmembers. However, he stated that the “information available is insufficient to establish with accuracy the degree of exposure (low or high) or the risk of adverse health effects to this population. However, it is important to note that even precise environmental or biologic testing data are not predictive of adverse health effects in any individual.” In summary, there is no conclusive evidence that TCDD exposure causes any adverse health effects.

This is the Compensation & Pension summary of the ATSDR finding provided by Dr. Tom Sinks, Deputy Director. The last sentence does not appear on Dr. Sinks' finding and was added by C&P in a claim denial. It does not properly to reflect the actual ATSDR perspective on TCDD, and mischaracterizes the entire finding he submitted to confirm C-123 exposures for the apparent purpose of denying the claim.