DEA's predecessor agency began a study of the abuse potential and actual abuse of the amphetamines and methamphetamine then in Schedule III and in February of 1971 forwarded the results of its study to HEW. In April, HEW agreed that the amphetamines and methamphetamine belonged in Schedule II and on May 25, 1971 we proposed in the Federal Register that the rescheduling take place. Thirty days were given for objections by interested parties.

Three major manufacturers filed objections:

1. Smith, Kline & French Laboratories requested a hearing on the transfer of its product, Eskatrol.

2. Mission Pharmacal Company requested a hearing on the transfer of its product, Fetamin.

3. Pennwalt Corporation requested a hearing on the transfer of its product, Biphetamine.

On July 7, 1971, all amphetamines and methamphetamine, with the exception of the three drugs for which hearings had been requested, were ordered transferred from Schedule III to Schedule II. As to these three, application of the order was reserved pending a review of each drug and subsequent administrative hearings. Our review began with service of