Senator NELSON. In your review of drug purchasing policy do you also intend to look into the fixed combination drugs of all kinds? I have a list of fixed combinations purchased by your Agency, and it is a long one. As you are aware, I am sure, the position taken by the National Academy of Sciences-National Research Council was against fixed combinations as a general proposition and those that they approved were simply exceptions to their general position.

When Dr. Edwards was before the committee I asked the question: "Is it not, however, correct that the NAS–NRC position thus far on fixed combination dosage form is that the fixed combinations that they have endorsed have been an exception to the rule?" Dr. Edwards said, "That is correct."

Dr. Simmons, Director of the Bureau of Drugs, FDA, commenting, stated: "No drug should be present in a fixed dose combination unless its presence clearly enhances safety or efficacy, and unfortunately most combination drugs to this point have not developed that type of efficacy."

Are you reviewing that question of fixed combinations, also?

General HAYES. We have reviewed this. We did not have for some time now any of the anti-infectives such as Panalba, and so on. We have some combination drugs such as Ornade, Tuss-Ornade. These are included in this review group that I just have been speaking about.

These are going out for review as to "do we include them"? Do we diminish their use? Do we control their use?

This will be a professional recommendation from our using professional people.

Mr. GORDON. General, Mr. Staats, the Comptroller General, said that there is no routine exchange of inspection information between the DSA and the Food and Drug Administration. Do you have any changes in mind or are you planning to get together with the FDA to exchange inspection information?

General HAYES. Mr. Feinberg will answer that question.

Mr. FEINBERG. Mr. Gordon, we do have extensive exchange of information through the IPADD organization—the Intra-Professional Advisory Council for Drugs and Devices. We exchange with—I will list some of the points that we cover—all specifications are sent to the FDA, the VA, GSA, Public Health Service, the NIH for biologicals, and we also exchange this information with the USP, NF, and HEW.

Insofar as the plant information is concerned, at one time we did prepare a list. We found that this list was antiquated by the time we finished typing it because of the surveys that we perform, the fact that we guided toward a product in a different determination, that the list in fact was never up to date and we felt that may be prejudicial to some of these companies who had been rejected and we may not have returned for a survey because they did not—they were not in contention for another award to have this as an indication to the other activities that they are a rejected company.

Now, we do, however, communicate on about a weekly basis with the VA as it pertains to qualification of companies. Before they go on the survey, they ask us by telephone what our last findings have