IF SUCH IS THE CASE, PHARMACISTS AND PHYSICIANS SHOULD BE MADE AWARE OF THE FACTS, IN ORDER THAT THEY MIGHT TAKE APPROPRIATE PROFESSIONAL ACTION EVEN BEFORE FDA TAKES LEGAL ACTION TO REMOVE SUCH PRODUCTS FROM THE MARKETPLACE. IN APHA'S ROLE, OF MONITORING AND DISSEMINATING SUCH INFORMATION, WE HAVE ATTEMPTED TO OBTAIN SPECIFIC DETAILS FROM DPSC AS TO WHICH DRUG PRODUCTS HAVE BEEN REJECTED AND THE BASIS FOR REJECTION, AS WELL AS WHICH DRUG MANUFACTURERS HAVE BEEN JUDGED TO BE UNSUITED TO MANUFACTURE PRODUCTS OF ACCEPTABLE QUALITY. REGRETTABLY, OUR EFFORTS IN THIS REGARD HAVE TO DATE MET WITH ABSOLUTELY NO SUCCESS. IN LIGHT OF THE FACT THAT OUR INFORMAL REQUESTS FOR SUCH INFORMATION HAVE BEEN REPEATEDLY REJECTED, THIS PAST SEPTEMBER A FORMAL REQUEST FOR SUCH INFORMATION WAS FILED WITH THE DEFENSE SUPPLY AGENCY OF DOD UNDER PROVISIONS OF THE REGULATION ENTITLED, "AVAILABILITY TO THE PUBLIC OF OFFICIAL INFORMATION," AS PROMULGATED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER DATED SEPTEMBER 6, 1973; AGAIN, THIS EFFORT FAILED TO ELICIT THE KIND OF INFORMATION WE SEEK (SEE CORRESPONDENCE APPENDED AS EXHIBITS F AND G).

MR. CHAIRMAN, IT IS OUR POSITION THAT PHARMACISTS REQUIRE FACTUAL INFORMATION IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO SELECT AND DISPENSE QUALITY DRUG PRODUCTS WHICH WILL BE SAFE AND EFFECTIVE FOR THE NEEDS OF THE PATIENT. MOREOVER, IT IS ALSO OUR POSITION THAT THE PHARMACIST REQUIRES SUCH INFORMATION IN ORDER THAT HE MIGHT BE ABLE TO SELECT FROM DUPLICATIVE DRUG PRODUCTS OF COMPARABLE QUALITY THAT