No. 4 Product Testing

No. 5 Certification List

Each group was charged with the purpose of determining what has been done--whether the function, in whole or in part, should come under the FDA. Whether FDA has resources necessary to carry out and develop the time frame for implementation of the functions upon transfer, were matters considered. All Task Group Panel reports have been forwarded to Mr. Tom Brown, FDA, and Colonel T.C. Wood of DMMB, Chairman of the Interagency Departmental Steering Group. No final determination of the Interagency Steering Group has been made based on the recommendations presented by the various Task Groups. As stated in our testimony of March 5, 1974, before the Monopoly Subcommittee, "our position is-- and consistently has been--that we are willing to rely upon FDA for a comprehensive quality assurance program provided FDA makes the necessary information available to us in a reliable and timely manner."

In summary, except for those actions which await final determination by the 5-agency implementation program and final action to transfer quality assurance functions to FDA, we believe VA is in substantial compliance with the recommendations of the Comptroller General.

Action Taken on Recommendations of OMB to Develop a Single System for the Procurement and Management of Pharmaceuticals

On September 9, 1974, the Chairman of the Interagency Medical and Nonperishable Subsistence Supply Management Implementation Committee established a Task Group to determine criteria for defining categories of medical items. The Group is to determine criteria for defining categories of medical items for the purpose of assigning purchasing responsibility. Representatives of DoD, HEW, GSA and