Mr. ROSENTHAL. This new procedure is already in effect or will go into effect?

General LEE. Will go into effect.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. When?

General LEE. I don't have an estimate as to when that will be. This is about ready to go. I would say within a week or so it will be out.

This will require:

(*a*) Field inspectors in Department of Agriculture regulated food establishments to routinely report day-to-day rejections directly to the Department of Agriculture officer in charge of the establishment. Judgment as to whether or not follow-up action is required will be made by the officer in charge.

(*b*) Rejections occurring in food establishments not regulated by the Department of Agriculture will be reported routinely to the procuring subsistence regional headquarters. That headquarters will inform the Food and Drug Administration regional liaison representative of all such rejections.

(*c*) Rejections occurring at destinations—post, camp, station, depot, port—will be reported to the procuring subsistence regional headquarters. Information on the rejections will then be furnished directly to the appropriate regulatory agency for further action.

In the case of medical items a judgment as to the significance of the cause of the rejection is made by medically qualified personnel based on information received from the field inspector.

The interchange of rejection information on medical items has been handled on an informal basis. Day-to-day significant rejections are discussed between our medical personnel and FDA personnel.

In general an interchange of recall and rejection information is made through the Intragovernmental Procurement Advisory Council on Drugs—IPAD—consisting of representatives from the Food and Drug Administration, the Veterans' Administration, Public Health Service, the Department of Defense, the military services, the Defense Supply Agency, the General Services Administration, the National Institutes of Health, the National Research Council, and the Defense Medical Materiel Board.

Through IPAD Federal agencies have freely exchanged information on adverse reactions, plant survey results, laboratory results, as well as rejection information. As a member of IPAD, DPSC routinely provides the FDA IPAD member with information concerning rejected items where consumer safety is involved.

The FDA representatives on IPAD have been extremely responsive to this program and have routinely provided DPSC with information on items recalled by the manufacturer. Recently this type of notification has been extended to include information on items seized by FDA. DSA is now taking steps to formalize these procedures. They will be a little behind the ones on food but will be out shortly.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. Do you mean—say, within 2 weeks?

General LEE. We are first going to do some studying on this one. We have a few more problems in the drug area. We will shoot for the first of the month.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. Very good.

General LEE. Question IIIB(1).—You asked if DSA notified the Department of Agriculture or the Food and Drug Administration