

Early in 1966, the supply centers assumed the purchasing responsibilities for decentralized and nonstandard items in DSA-managed classes of materiel required for support of Army and Air Force activities overseas; except for support of Air Force activities in the Pacific area which was assumed in January 1967.

DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

For assigned commodities, the Defense Supply Agency determines requirements for wholesale storage space; manages, controls, and operates assigned warehouses and depots; and arranges for the use of storage space and related services and facilities of the Department of Defense, other Government agencies and commercial warehouses as required. The Defense Supply Agency also arranges transportation for initial distribution of stocks from supplier to point of storage, from point of wholesale storage or the supplier direct to the customer, and for redistribution as required between wholesale storage points.

On January 1, 1962, items assigned to DSA or to be assigned to DSA were stored in 77 locations. On January 1, 1963, the DSA distribution system was implemented with 11 of the 77 becoming permanent DSA distribution activities and 18 becoming direct supply support points for support of the Navy.

The objectives of the distribution system were—

The establishment of a storage pattern based on the concept of positioning stocks close to the concentrations of military posts and ports of embarkation in the United States.

Centralization of all requisitioning procedures and stock control functions in the Defense Supply Centers, effective July 1, 1963.

The DSA distribution system consists of seven principal depots and four specialized support depots (fig. 8).

Principal depots.—These depots are responsible for the receipt, storage, stock readiness, inventory, and issue of DSA items of supply, including general mobilization reserve stocks for the support of specific areas, activities and/or forces designated by Headquarters, Defense Supply Agency. These depots are:

Defense Construction Supply Center, Columbus, Ohio.

Defense Depot, Mechanicsburg, Pa.

Defense Depot, Tracy, Calif.

Defense Depot, Ogden, Utah.

Defense Depot, Memphis, Tenn.

Defense General Supply Center, Richmond, Va.

Atlanta Army Depot, Forest Park, Ga.

Specialized support depots.—These depots have functions similar to those of the principal depots, except that their missions are specialized as to type of material or scope of support. The specialized support depots are:

Defense Electronics Supply Center, Dayton, Ohio.

Defense Personnel Support Center, Philadelphia, Pa.

Naval Supply Center, Norfolk, Va.

Naval Supply Center, Oakland, Calif.

The two Navy-operated specialized support depots support the fleet, Navy overseas activities, and selected Navy activities within a 25-mile radius. In addition, they support all military service requirements in