

Colonel REGAN. We are broken down into the Foreign Excess Sales Office, which Mr. Sidman will brief you on.

We have a field operations office. We have broken France into three sectors, the western, eastern, and central sectors. We have small detachments at each area responsible for all these facilities that now belong to the Military Liquidation Section.

We have an installation office that takes care of all our records on Army and Air Force installations the Military Liquidation Section has taken over and does all our engineering work.

We have a security office responsible for all the guards at the various locations, not including Evreux at the present time but all the various bases we have.

We have an administrative shop which does regular administration; and a management office that takes care of our budget and financial problems.

We have an information and reception office that takes care of our visitors and furnishes information.

We have a coordinating office that coordinates our activities and works daily with the French on coordinating matters.

And we have a liaison office that works with French-speaking personnel and does translation of correspondence.

I want to make a correction about the coordinating office. It coordinates activities in the service but does not deal with the French.

UMD calls for 507 in the Military Liquidation Section. Our current strength is slightly under 400. We thought we would have 507 by the 1st of July. However, we will never reach this peak strength because we have frozen our hiring. We have found we do not really need all this strength and we feel we do not need to fill these vacancies, so we will not reach our 507.

Under the terms of reference our mission is:

The Military Liquidation Section is responsible for the disposition of matters of military interest, including the disposition of property, remaining after the relocation of U.S. military forces from France.

This is either by negotiated sale or sales through the Foreign Excess Sales Office, or removing items to where they are required by the component commanders of the Army, Air Force, or other commanders.

Our functions and responsibilities are limited to those which are directly related to the liquidation of U.S. military interests as a result of the military withdrawal from France, and the functions include the following:

Acceptance of custodial responsibility, including control, ownership, security, protection and accountability for U.S. installations and facilities, including all real, personal and related personal property contained therein, on "A" date.

And I will explain what "A" date is. "A" date is described as follows:

The date on which operations at a base or installation have terminated, all stocks, supplies and troops (except for the custodial force) have been withdrawn and all personal and related personal property for which there is a U.S. requirement has been removed.

We came into business on the 1st of March. Prior to the 1st of April MLS had taken over all the U.S. facilities in France from the component commanders, USAREUR and USAFE, with the exception of 32 real properties that belonged to the Petroleum Distribution Command