

We believe that the actions taken and proposed by GSA are adequate, pending developments from the tire research, testing, and development program of the National Traffic Safety Agency.

The Post Office Department, whose practice is to rebuild all tires that have sound casings, agreed with our proposals. The Soil Conservation Service and the National Park Service, however, indicated that they would continue to discourage the use of rebuilt tires.

[Index No. 21—B-146772, July 31, 1967]

TRANSFER OF EXCESS MATERIALS BETWEEN THE ARMY AND MARINE CORPS EXPEDITED BY IMPROVED PROCEDURES

The General Accounting Office has made a review of Army and Marine Corps procedures for the transfer of excess material.

We found a need for improvement in the procedures of the Army and the Marine Corps, relating to the exchange and use of information on stocks of excess material available for redistribution.

Our review showed that, during 1964 and 1965, the Marine Corps had on hand significant quantities of excess tank-automotive repair parts and other material which could have been used by the Army for high-priority requirements, such as those in Vietnam. Because there were no procedures for the regular exchange of information on such excesses, notification by the Marine Corps that it had \$9 million worth of excess material available for transfer received no review by the Army, and notification by the Army of its critical need for certain items received no review by the Marine Corps.

When we brought these matters to the attention of Marine Corps and Army officials, the Marine Corps transferred about \$1.9 million worth of excess material to the Army for use in meeting urgent requirements.

Commenting on our findings and proposals, the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Supply and Services) informed us that closer logistical coordination had been established between the Army and Marine Corps through a realignment of responsibilities within the Marine Corps supply system and that audit coverage of the supply system would be increased. Also, he advised us that the Marine Corps was now operating under new guidelines which had resulted in large quantities of excess material being transferred to the Department of the Army. In future audit work, we will inquire into the effectiveness and adequacy of the corrective actions taken.

[Index No. 22—B-118634, Aug. 3, 1967]

NEED FOR IMPROVED REVIEWS OF QUANTITY ESTIMATES PREPARED BY ARCHITECT-ENGINEERS FOR SOLICITATION OF CONSTRUCTION BIDS, CORPS OF ENGINEERS (CIVIL FUNCTIONS), DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

In August 1967, we pointed out to the Congress that although the importance of accuracy in estimating quantities is stressed by the Corps of Engineers (Civil Functions), Department of the Army, in