

Mr. ROBACK. What U.S. forces in Vietnam or engaged in the Vietnam conflict are not supported by the Army?

General HEISER. There is none, sir.

Mr. ROBACK. I mean you do not support the Marines, do you?

General HEISER. We support the Marines partially, sir, depending on where they may be located.

Mr. ROBACK. Could you tell us at this point what is the allocation of responsibilities for support for Vietnam?

General HEISER. Yes, sir.

Basically, each service supports itself. However, in an effort to avoid duplication, where a service responsibility cannot be included entirely within a certain geographical area, there have been arrangements made, as they are made throughout the services to assure that we do not duplicate the efforts of one another to the extent that this can be avoided.

Now, sir, for example, basically the South Vietnam combat area is divided into four Corps Zones. Starting at the north, at the DMZ and working south, we have the I Corps Zone, which is primarily and has been, as you know, a responsibility of the Navy and the Marines.

This has become more complex since the first of this calendar year, when Army troops were moved up in considerable numbers into this area.

There is then the second, third, and fourth Corps Zones progressing down to the Delta area. In the second, third, and fourth Corps Zones, since the Army's combat units predominate, it is basically an Army mission to support those Corps Zones. In the I Corps Zone, it is basically a Navy mission to support those Corps Zones.

Within this rather simplified approach, it becomes a little complex, and I can go into this to the extent that you desire. However, in the I Corps Zone, I think we might examine this and indicate what does happen.

The Army has moved up into the I Corps Zone into an area at Da Nang, for example, at which the Navy has a base development plan with the Marines and in which the Navy has been the principal agency responsible, including port operations.

The Army is supporting Army units to the extent that it has been determined practicable, using common supply through the Navy to support Army units.

For example, food. Food to Army units in I Corps Zone is supplied through the Navy. It becomes more complex when we get into repair parts and support of equipment, because of the fact that we are talking about different types of equipment in many cases, and so what we have to do, and what Army policy in this regard is that we will not duplicate anything that we can get through the Marine supply system in I Corps Zone, but we will support the Army requirements on those items that are not available through the Navy supply system in I Corps Zone.

Now that can be applied, I think, pretty generally across the entire South Vietnam area.

I would like to add to this that there has been considerable inter-service supply support agreements, both in Vietnam and outside of Vietnam, whereby the services support one another depending upon the economics of the situation as they are seen, sir.