

The requisition goes to the continental United States through Okinawa. Why does it not go to the continental United States which would, let's say, have information on Okinawa.

General HEISER. Sir, actually your question is not far from our objective in terms of the 14th ICC placing a direct requisition on the continental United States in ICP's. In fact, as we go further, you will see that to some extent we are already doing this.

However, sir, I think it well to bring out at this point that while we had the objective of cutting out 2d Log Command it would be inefficient and uneconomical to do so at the present time, because of the number of requisitions that can still be filled out of the 2d Logistical Command, and the reason for this involves the support of the 2d Logistical Command for the U.S. forces in Vietnam.

In Vietnam we have a peculiar structure in that the land mass involved and the combat action involved would normally compare what is in-country to what might be called logistically at least a field army, and to back up a field army you would have a communications zone.

Now, the communications zone to a large extent would be the 2d Log Command in the case of the situation we have in the Pacific. The 2d Log Command is still responsible for providing certain support to the U.S. Army, Vietnam.

One of the things that they are now doing is, for example, when we have a problem in Vietnam that we cannot fully handle by the forces in there, such as, for example, the identification of boxes of material that have accumulated and they needed identification classification, and they are in the way in Vietnam, we evacuate these to Okinawa, 2d Logistical Command.

At this point they identify it and pick it up, most of which is serviceable, and we find, for example, that by requisitions continuing to go through 2d Log, we are able to fill a continuing significant amount, and to some extent it increases, depending upon how much more, how many more items are identified.

For example, 41 percent of the requisitions out of Vietnam in January, that is just one I have in my mind, 41 percent of those requisitions out of Vietnam were filled by 2d Logistical Command on those requisitions that went in. Now this is not normal. It is closer to 20, 25, 30 percent, but it does indicate the significance of passing these requisitions through 2d Log.

At some point in time, sir, it is the objective of the Army to cut this out.

Mr. ROBACK. So that Okinawa serves in a sense as a communications zone parallel to the communications zone in Europe.

General HEISER. To some extent; yes, sir.

Mr. ROBACK. In a sense?

General HEISER. Yes, sir.

Mr. LUMAN. May I ask this: General, would not the ideal objective be to treat Okinawa just as you do any of your depots in the States? If you had the communications capability to tax CONUS for all the equipment, and they could either go to one of the points in the States and tell them to ship or go to Okinawa and direct them to ship. If you had the communications, could you do this?