

The Army is aggressively pursuing programs to overcome the indicated problems of asset visibility and fast movement of supplies, concurrently with other programs that I will discuss later.

The visibility and movement programs involve improvements in asset visibility, whether or not ownership changes, and stockage reduction overseas when improved transportation can provide resources on a comparable basis. Economical fast transportation can aid in reduction of stocks in transit.

PLANNING FOR FUTURE IMPROVEMENTS IN LOGISTIC OPERATIONS

Major changes in the Army's logistic system are under study or in progress. In the transportation area, a major study effort is underway to determine how we can best use the rapidly advancing air transport technology in the 1970-75 time period. This study, called Army Logistics Support Concepts—air lines of communication, examines several different concepts of supplying troops using an air line of communication, and develops possible savings in both personnel and stockage levels that could accrue from the use of such concepts.

The first part of this study has been completed, using scenarios depicting conflict in Africa and Asia and is currently being staffed. A follow-on portion of the study will use scenarios prepared for Europe and the Mideast and this study is scheduled for completion in August.

A study is in progress to provide the information and analysis essential for determining the optimum peacetime employment of military airlift and sealift systems. The study will lay the necessary ground work for insuring that efficient use is made of the growing airlift force. It will identify those items which are economically eligible for air delivery overseas considering total distribution costs, including investment in pipeline inventories.

Toward this end, as I indicated earlier, the study is providing a list of Federal stock-numbered items and the corresponding costs per ton-mile at which the items are air eligible. And today we are using these outputs of the study to determine what we should be doing today and between now and 1970 on time frame, Mr. Chairman.

There is a need for expeditious standardization of supply systems to take advantage of advances in computer and communications technology. Greater emphasis is being placed on the design, development, implementation, and maintenance of standard logistics automatic data processing systems by the Department of Army.

The reorganization of the Army in 1962, which eliminated the technical services and established the Army Materiel Command, had a profound impact on the Army logistics system and its traditional methods of providing logistic support.

In the spring of 1966, the findings of an Army study group indicated that as a result of that reorganization, control of the key functions of logistics doctrine and logistics systems development had been fragmented to an undesirable degree. The study recommended that those functions be brought together into a new staff element under the Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics and adequately staffed as a means to improve his control and management of the Army logistics system.