Admiral COSGROVE. Yes, sir; we have a master plan for the other stock points.

Mr. DAHLIN. Is your present procurement that you talked about related to that UADPS master plan for the other stock points?

Admiral COSGROVE. Yes, sir.

Mr. DAHLIN. Or is it just for that one? In other words, you are buying a whole new system. Is this a specified sole-source system or is this a competitive buy?

Admiral COSGROVE. It will be competitive. We expect to—we have got the approval but we had to reformat our specifications. We expect to have these specifications on the street in August. We will give, because of the magnitude of this, we will give the suppliers until January to respond, and it will probably take 3 months, from January to April, to make a final selection. This will be on a competitive basis.

Mr. ROBACK. Did I understand you to say that these were not exclusively for logistics?

Admiral COSGROVE. They are for logistics as opposed to command and control but not exclusively for supply.

Mr. ROBACK. How do you break down the division of labor in the computer? I notice a statement by Mr. Brooks, who is a member of the committee, reported in a recent issue of the Federal Contract Report, and he is urging the Defense Department to have standardized computer language which would make it possible to bring in all competitive offers, so you do not have to get stuck with one particular system, one particular hardware system. And he refers to the Navy as having a Cobol system for command and control.

Do you have a computer that has both logistics and command and control? Where do you break it?

Admiral COSGROVE. These computers are under the control of the Chief of Naval Operations, command and control computers, and I have very little knowledge of this. When our third generation stock point equipment—which as I said we now have the specifications for—we intend to rewrite all of our programs into Cobol, and this will take us we estimate about 18 months.

Mr. ROBACK. You write all programs into Cobol?

Admiral COSGROVE. Yes, sir.

Mr. ROBACK. Cobol refers to what now?

Admiral COSGROVE. This is a common machine independent language. I am not technically competent to talk about it in detail except right now, for example, our stock point application is on IBM equipment. This is written in programs dedicated to that equipment which means that at every stock point we have to have this same equipment. We are trying to get away from equipment orientation and dedication. This common business oriented language I think, which is what Cobol stands for, will do this. In other words, once your programs are written into this language, you become machine independent in the sense that when you go from one generation of hardware to the next you do not have to rewrite all your programs. The same program, as I understand it, can be run on different generations of computers that different manufacturers make. This is our goal. We are not there at all now.

Mr. ROBACK. If it is written in language of Cobol, can you use Cobol communications between logistics computers?