

Admiral COSGROVE. I cannot answer that. I do not know. Right now there is no communications problem between different computers. We have, for example, the Univac computers at our inventory control points, and we transaction report information from our IBM computers over AUTODIN into——

Mr. ROBACK. I am raising the question as to what extent of multipurpose functions you can get in computers, so that theoretically all Navy operations that go through a center, to a headquarters, you can use them for logistics, command and control, or anything else conceivably?

You see, the Air Force is buying certain kinds of automatic data processing equipment for various purposes. In other cases the equipment may be used only for supply purposes. In some cases you have got separate equipment for command and control purposes.

I am raising the question, How do you divide the labor of communications and data handling to accommodate different functions?

Admiral COSGROVE. You can use one for several purposes.

Mr. ROBACK. To what extent can they be multipurpose? That is what I am asking.

Admiral COSGROVE. What happens is that each of the responsible agencies puts in the specification on what a computer has to do. Now you can find a computer big enough that can run a supply program, that can run a public works center program, that could run possibly a command and control. I cannot envision command and control, but this is a possibility.

Most anything is possible in the computer field according to the manufacturers, if you want to pay the price. You can get computers with fantastic memory and speeds. So what you have to do is have the final selection authority decide whether he wants to go with a large computer that will handle all functions, or whether it would be more economical to have two or more computers and specialize them.

Mr. ROBACK. That is not your level of concern.

Admiral COSGROVE. No, sir; thank goodness.

SUPPLY FOR MARINE CORPS

Mr. ROBACK. We will not pursue that with you. Let me ask you this. To what extent do you supply the Marine Corps?

Admiral COSGROVE. In aviation material we provide complete support to the Marine Corps. We provide support in Vietnam, as I mentioned, in the I Corps area of common supplies such as concertina wire, sand bags, and food to the Marine Corps.

Mr. ROBACK. On shipboard do you supply the Marine Corps?

Admiral COSGROVE. And medical supplies, General Tyler says. Shipboard we do not have many marines any more.

Mr. ROBACK. You have no marines on shipboard?

Admiral COSGROVE. We have the admiral's orderly.

Mr. ROBACK. Is that all you have?

Admiral COSGROVE. Just about.

Mr. ROBACK. I thought you have marines who are doing——

Admiral COSGROVE. General Tyler knows more about this than I do. We do have marines that are permanently on amphibious ships, which we would support aboard ship. But for their own repair parts——