

To insure that unnecessary delays are not encountered in evacuating recoverable reparable items to the repair facility, including CONUS depot facilities, disposition requests and instructions are transmitted electronically and retrograde shipments are assigned high priority. In some instances, fifth echelon (depot) rebuild is being conducted on Okinawa or Japan to provide needed repair without increasing the inventory of the item concerned.

The Marine Corps integrated supply system has been designed to provide the Commandant of the Marine Corps with a highly flexible and responsive logistics tool. This logistics tool is specifically tailored for the Corps amphibious role, its relatively small size, status as a constant force-in-readiness; and has the inherent flexibility to meet the needs of sustained operations in a low intensity conflict. It provides an operationally sensitive distribution system, under the Commandant's control, which is capable of immediate response to meet his responsibility for logistic support of Marine forces worldwide.

The Marine Corps supply system retains the most simple organic supply structure within the Fleet Marine Force (FMF). This doctrine has been deliberately maintained to permit tactical units to concentrate on the primary mission of combat. The assets held by FMF commands, in either service support or organic units, are controlled by that command. This concept is considered essential for timely response of the command to emergency deployment and combat situations.

Standardization and simplification of supply systems within the Marine Corps has been achieved within the constraints dictated by the operational environment of each system element and the relative sophistication of supporting data processing equipment.

There are four separate "procedural" echelons in operation within the Marine Corps supply system. Each of the separate echelons is tailored to meet the requirements of the activity or organization which it supports and each is integrated within the total Marine Corps system. These echelons of supply include:

1. The "in-stores" portion of the supply system is embraced by the Marine Corps Unified Materiel Management System, or MUMMS, which was mentioned earlier. MUMMS incorporates automatic data processing techniques and standardized requirements of the Department of Defense such as standard requisitioning and issue procedures (MILSTRIP), transaction reporting and accounting procedures (MILSTRAP), transportation and movement procedures (MILSTAMP), and supply and transportation evaluation procedures (MILSTEP). Through the medium of this standardized language, MUMMS is compatible and interfaces with the Defense Supply Agency, General Services Administration, and other military services.

2. Service units, or fleet stock accounts, located in the continental United States and Hawaii all follow one standard Headquarters, Marine Corps controlled system.

3. The fleet stock accounts located at the 3d Force Service Regiment on Okinawa and the Force Logistic Command at Danang, Vietnam, utilize a standard Headquarters, Marine Corps controlled system.

4. Organic ground, aviation, and reserve supply accounts use a single manual accounting system which is controlled by Headquarters, Marine Corps.

As previously mentioned, the Marine Corps is currently designing the Supported Activities Supply System known by the acronym SASSY. This new system, which will be initially tested on Okinawa during calendar year 1969, will eventually replace the system which is presently used by ground, aviation, and reserve organic supply accounts. SASSY will utilize third generation computers to provide supported units with centralized automated recordkeeping and is designed to increase asset visibility and control through modern management techniques. Actual equipment requirements will be determined on the basis of the field test and evaluation.

Acquisition of automatic data processing equipment (ADPE) is controlled and coordinated by Headquarters, Marine Corps. In order that this equipment will be applied in the most efficient, effective, and economical manner possible, Marine Corps policy dictates that automatic data processing equipment transcend functional and organizational lines and that it not be considered as the exclusive property of any one command function. For this reason ADPE is primarily acquired to meet total Marine Corps requirements and only incidentally to meet logistics or supply system requirements.

All requirements for ADPE within the Marine Corps are developed by the Data Systems Division, Headquarters, Marine Corps (HQMC), in response to