

Admiral COSGROVE. Within the computer itself, the way the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, and Air Force determine their requirements will be different in all probability.

INTERCHANGEABILITY OF PARTS

Mr. DAHLIN. You indicated, Admiral, did you not, that there was some problem in trying to figure out whether parts were interchangeable and whether your system indicated which parts would work in Marine Corps, Army, Air Force equipment or not, that it is a specific item to go into a larger assembly and so forth—interchangeability.

Admiral COSGROVE. We are getting into another area now. The Defense Logistic Service Center assigns all stock numbers to all services.

Mr. DAHLIN. They assign it, but you people are the only ones that can tell whether they actually work in the field, is that not right?

Admiral COSGROVE. That is right, but what they do at the time new parts are added to a service system, that service submits his part number description and gets a stock number. Now the stock number is the common denominator.

WEAPON SYSTEM SUPPLIES

Mr. DAHLIN. If that is all the problem, Admiral, why do you go to a weapons parts list?

Admiral COSGROVE. We go to that for our own internal management purposes.

Mr. DAHLIN. Why do you need that?

Admiral COSGROVE. Because we feel that we have to become more oriented toward individual weapons.

Mr. DAHLIN. Why will not the catalog system kick out items that belong to your weapons system?

Admiral COSGROVE. We can do this. Right now we do not have equipment-related capability.

Mr. DAHLIN. In fact the catalog does not kick out items related to a weapons system.

Admiral COSGROVE. No, sir.

Mr. DAHLIN. So you had to spend a good deal of money to get your own internal inventory control system to work with the weapons system, that really is the root of the problem; is it not?

Admiral COSGROVE. That is right.

Mr. DAHLIN. Did you ask DSA to try to do something about that problem or is that system not compatible?

Admiral COSGROVE. DSA is not oriented toward weapons support. They are oriented toward commodity support.

Mr. DAHLIN. Did your programmers take a look to see if there is any way it could be made compatible to serve Navy needs? How did you go about trying to solve that problem before you spent money on a uniform data system based on weapons orientation or systems orientation?

Admiral COSGROVE. No one can help us except ourselves in this regard. It has to come from our own data files.