

Admiral COSGROVE. My people say 5 years, maybe.

Mr. ROBACK. Five years, maybe.

General RIEMONDY. Really as long as you have in being a rapid means of communication like the AUTODIN, this is effective in getting the word back to somebody that has to take action, to supply what is needed. The AUTODIN system is rather responsive. There is no doubt about it.

Mr. HOLIFIELD. How does AUTODIN work? Tell me how do you use that. Is that a satellite communication?

General RIEMONDY. No, we are not using satellite.

Mr. HOLIFIELD. It is processing.

General RIEMONDY. It is an acronym which means automatic digital network. Actually there are various circuits. There are electrical circuits or radio circuits or cable circuits which transmit data.

Mr. HOLIFIELD. I see.

General RIEMONDY. It transmits data in written form, or it actually does it in tape form or card form, and it is just a rapid electrical means of transmitting data from point to point.

The format that is used that makes it compatible with our computers, with the standard MILSTRIP requisitioning system and the data feeds directly into our computers back at our inventory control points. They do this through various switching stations, relays and so forth, but it is an electrical transmission device.

Mr. HOLIFIELD. I understand.

Mr. HORTON. I was going to ask whether you are utilizing the communications satellite to any extent with regard to your supply problem?

General RIEMONDY. Not in the supply business as yet.

Mr. HORTON. Do you anticipate any such use? Have you made any request?

General RIEMONDY. Not to my knowledge.

Mr. HORTON. For utilization?

General RIEMONDY. Not to my knowledge. I don't think it is beyond the realm of possibility that we will use it.

We are always striving for a means of being more and more responsive. As you can improve on your communications from point to point, you cut down the time. Anything that you can do to cut down the time, that is part of this order and shipping time, you can be more and more responsive and continue to cut down on levels.

AIR FORCE QUICK REACTION PLANS

Mr. HOLIFIELD. Mr. Dahlin?

Mr. DAHLIN. General Riemony, you emphasized some of the common service problems in supply. In this connection, the Army in its testimony talked about creating a quick reaction inventory control center for any future crises overseas.

We asked the Army why shouldn't the needs of all the services be considered? If you are going to actually create this sort of capability, common supply problems seem to lie in this area. What is the Air Force planning in arrangement for responding quickly to a need of this kind?

General RIEMONDY. I think within the last few years we have gone to various systems which get the job done, and get the job done real