

ever than has previously been stocked. So we do accomplish quite a bit in that area.

With respect to repetitive small purchases, for the items we stock, we attempt to maintain a wholesale stock in order to be able to fill smaller requirements quickly, and we follow these small requirements for items which we may not have stocked before, and if they are repetitive, lay down a stock, so that we are entering the market with larger buys periodically, once a quarter, once every 6 months, rather than with single purchases.

We have, particularly since the Vietnam war, adopted a challenge system, whereby each of our centers sets up a limit beyond which they will not issue, without challenge of the requisition. Someone asks for a quantity of supplies at a given Army activity or Air Force activity, which represents more than our total system issues for a quarter. We will challenge that and have been successful in correcting such inadvertently large requisitions.

CHALLENGE SYSTEM

Mr. ROBACK. This is a challenge against quantities only?

Admiral HADDOCK. Yes.

Mr. ROBACK. Not against quality?

Admiral HADDOCK. No.

Mr. ROBACK. That is to say, regarding priority of items in a criticality sense, no type of challenge like that. That would be within the problems of each service?

Admiral HADDOCK. Not on a systematized basis.

Mr. ROBACK. Excuse me?

Admiral HADDOCK. Such a challenge system for priorities is not systematized with us. We have to do it occasionally, but we do not challenge on a regular basis any priorities.

Mr. ROBACK. Your challenge is to gross inconsistencies or what appear to be unreasonable quantity demands?

Admiral HADDOCK. Yes, sir.

Mr. ROBACK. If there are any other kinds of challenge, presumably that would be a responsibility within the service?

Admiral HADDOCK. Yes.

Mr. ROBACK. Is that right?

Admiral HADDOCK. Yes, sir; as to the priority requisitions.

DSA STANDARDIZATION EFFORT

Mr. ROBACK. Do you have a list of the types of standardization in which DSA has been instrumental, that you can supply? You do not have to do it right at the moment.

Admiral HADDOCK. I can give you some data on numbers of items. Since 1962 we have reviewed a total of 1,567,926 items, to see whether we could standardize them. By this review we have eliminated from future stockage and issue to services 508,078. So it is a useful program.

If we had not eliminated these items we would be managing today that many more than the 1.7 million items we are now managing.

Mr. ROBACK. Your management is 1.7 million items?

Admiral HADDOCK. Yes.