

MANAGEMENT OF GENERAL MOBILIZATION RESERVES

On May 10, 1968, an agreement was reached with DSA whereby general mobilization reserve responsibilities would be transferred to GSA for the items it manages and GSA would assume full responsibility for supply support of military activities during periods of mobilization or war. In essence, this agreement provides that GSA will conduct industrial mobilization planning, will determine the items and depth of stocks required, will consider and use the planning information provided by DOD activities in arriving at these judgments, will finance and acquire stocks to meet these requirements, and will advise the DOD activities needing such information of the support capability we have developed to meet contingency or related mobilization plans.

FEDERAL SUPPLY SERVICE OPERATIONS

Four methods of supplying are employed by GSA in carrying out our supply responsibilities. First, we have the Federal supply schedule program. These are open end contractual arrangements with thousands of suppliers whose products are made available to requiring activities at reasonable and competitive prices. A second method of supply is direct delivery procurement. Items in this category are centrally procured but not stocked, such as quarters furniture, household furnishings, etc. Our third supply method, and by far the most responsive to military priority needs, is our depot stock program. Lastly, we use the decentralized method of supply known as the local purchase program for items which are considered to be readily available on the local market.

If a GSA decentralized item is not available at a particular location or the requiring activity does not possess a procurement capability, we are prepared to buy these items for any requisitioner.

To provide effective supply support to DoD and civil agencies, GSA's Federal supply service maintains inventories in 27 depots which are geographically dispersed throughout the United States. These GSA regional offices are located in Boston, New York, Washington, D.C., Atlanta, Chicago, Kansas City, Fort Worth, Denver, San Francisco, and Auburn, Wash. Overall administration is provided by the GSA central office in Washington, D.C. The GSA regional offices located in Washington, New York, Fort Worth, San Francisco, and Auburn, Wash., support overseas DoD and civil agency activities. Most of our export operations are in support of the military services, however, we have a sizable AID support mission for Southeast Asia which is controlled through a special aid logistic support control office located in San Francisco. On each regional staff we have assigned specialists known as supply service officers who maintain frequent and direct contact on site, with our supported activities here in the United States as well as overseas. At the present time, we maintain GSA representatives overseas in South Vietnam, the Philippines, Okinawa, and Germany, who serve all of the military and civilian activities in those general geographical areas.

Beginning in 1962, GSA developed a system capability to interface with DoD activities in the use of the DOD standardized requisitioning system—MIL-STRIP—and the uniform military materiel issue priority system—UMMIPS. Since that time we have jointly participated with DOD in a significant array of procedures and systems development programs which allow us to interface with the military activities in all major aspects of supply operations such as the transceiver network for receipt of requisitions, the automatic addressing system, cataloging, and data flow systems. To further enhance our supply processing and control operations, we recently installed a standardized computer processing system at each of our regional offices with a centralized high speed update of our national supply asset picture. This latter office located in Washington, D.C. is known as GSA's National Inventory Control Center.

In support of military service overseas activities we are capable of reacting to a number of unique service requisitioning channels. For the Air Force, which does not maintain overseas depots, we accept requisitions via the transceiver network directly from each overseas base. In the case of the Army, which operates out of overseas depots, GSA accepts generally larger orders from those overseas depots or inventory control centers, again via transceiver facilities or through other electrical or mail channels. Navy overseas requisitions are generally processed through the Naval Supply Centers at Oakland, Calif., and Norfolk, Va., then to GSA in case stocks are not available at the centers. The bulk of the overseas Navy requirements, however, are requisitioned by the major