

These facilities were established to automatically address and route requisitions and supply transactions from the military service customer to the appropriate inventory manager. This is done utilizing computer techniques.

We have found over the years with this item management transition between the services to DSA and to GSA—

Mr. DAHLIN. Nobody but the machine knows where to send the requisition now; is that the point?

Mr. RIMKUS. No.

The catalog information still goes out to the customers, but there is a timelag in getting this information to the individual customer. So that in the event a requisition has the wrong addressee, by routing it through the Defense Automatic Addressing System it will mechanically check to see if the proper address or the proper inventory manager is indicated on the requisition. If not, it will correct and route it to the proper inventory manager, and then report back to the requisitioning activity that this item is no longer managed by the Defense Electronic Supply Center as an example, but is now managed by the GSA or by a particular service inventory manager.

This system started in 1965, but is not implemented across the Department of Defense as yet. Hopefully in the latter part of fiscal year 1969 it will be implemented across the DOD spectrum as well as the GSA activities.

Mr. DAHLIN. Is that where everybody's requisition has to go first nowadays? It has to go through the readdressing center to make sure it is going to the right place?

Admiral HADDOCK. When the system is completed.

Mr. DAHLIN. Are they coming through there now?

Mr. RIMKUS. A good number are. The Army particularly has considerable subscribers to the system. The operation is accomplished in microseconds and the requisitions are automatically addressed by the computer.

Mr. DAHLIN. Is this cards, tape? What is going through?

Mr. RIMKUS. Supply transactions flow through AUTODIN channels. The information is received in the computer from AUTODIN, checked and if it is properly addressed, the data is transmitted again through AUTODIN to the inventory manager. It will come out either on tape or card, depending on his capability to receive it. Primarily card out put as a rule.

ENGINEERING DATA

Mr. DAHLIN. One of the significant gaps in the past—one of the programs that never came to be, let me put it—was the so-called engineering data documentation system. I believe you transferred that out to Defense along with the standardization program, because it never got anywhere. It has always been hoped that somebody would get control of the engineering data and put it on microfilm or something.

Has DSA tried to do anything about that problem or has that been permanently transferred up to the next echelon?

Admiral HADDOCK. Well, any manager I think dealing with supply items is concerned about technical information. He needs an adequate description of what it is he is stocking or procuring. He might even