Army Logistitician

Volume 9, Number 3
May-June 1977

The Official Magazine of United States Army Logistics

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Army Logistitician is devoted to the publication of timely, authoritative information on Army and Defense logistics for the Active Army, Army National Guard, Army Reserve, civilian employees of the Army, and the public. Our purpose is to increase knowledge and understanding of logistics and to encourage and stimulate innovative thought in the subject areas of logistics by providing a forum for publishing and presenting those ideas. The views expressed in the articles in this publication are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the Department of Defense or the Department of the Army.

Army Logistitician is an official Army periodical published bimonthly and sponsored by the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Installations and Logistics), the Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, and the Commander, Army Materiel Development and Readiness Command. Photographs are U.S. Army unless otherwise noted. Material may be reprinted if credit is given to Army Logistitician and the author.

Articles, photographs, illustrations, and items of interest on any facet of Army logistics are invited. Direct communication is authorized to: Editor, Army Logistitician, Army Logistics Management Center, Fort Lee, Va. 23101.

Use of funds for printing of this publication was approved by Headquarters, Department of the Army, on 1 October 1976 in accordance with AR 310-1.

Active Army units receive distribution under the pinpoint system outlined in AR 310-2. DA Form 12-5 must be sent to CDR, AG Publications Center, 2801 Eastern Boulevard, Baltimore, Md. 21220. Army National Guard and Army Reserve units must submit requirements through State adjutants general or Army Reserve channels.

Subscriptions are available through the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Annual rates are $7.65 for mailing to a domestic or APO address and $9.60 for mailing to a foreign address. Single copies are $1.35. Checks should be payable to the Superintendent of Documents.
Logistics support of U.S. Army, Europe, is a huge operation. It is accomplished through operation of port activities, an automated supply system, and an extensive line-haul transportation network. Most supply stocks are kept in general support storage activities. Some types of supplies, however, must be stored in special storage facilities: ammunition, for example, must be stored separately for safety reasons, and medical facilities must be separate because they display the International Red Cross symbol.

The 8th Support Group, based in Livorno (Leghorn), Italy, supports the U.S. Army Southern European Task Force. Each of the two corps, V and VII, has its own corps support command.

The logistics system of the command permits rapid transition to wartime operations. Supplies of all classes are stocked within the corps to insure that combat troops will be self-sufficient in the early phase of hostilities. These supplies are both with the units and at certain stock points located throughout the command.

Resupply to U.S. Army, Europe, from the continental United States is made primarily by sea; however, high-priority items are currently being airlifted across the Atlantic. Most U.S. cargo is discharged at European ports and delivered to its destination by commercial carriers. Reliance on host-nation transportation support would continue in wartime, because there is no requirement for the United States to supplement the highly developed European transportation system.

U.S. Army, Europe, supplies petroleum, oils, and lubricants and subsistence and gives construction support to the U.S. Air Force. It gives full logistics support to Headquarters, U.S. European Command, and the U.S. elements of the various North Atlantic Treaty Organization commands. It also supports military assistance advisory groups and certain other agencies.

With its effective logistics support, U.S. Army, Europe, continues to serve as the backbone of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's shield forces.