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THIRTIETH REPORT TO CONGRESS

(January 1, 1967, Through June 30, 1967)

OF THE

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

In Accordance With Section 2455, Title 10, U.S.C.
(Formerly Section 8 of Public Law 426, 82d Congress)

ON THE

DEFENSE CATALOGING AND STANDARDIZATION ACT OF 1952

REPORT

OF THE

SUBCOMMITTEE FOR SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETIETH CONGRESS
FIRST SESSION



AUGUST 21, 1967

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE,
Washington, D.C., August 21, 1967.

Hon. L. MENDEL RIVERS,
Chairman, Committee on Armed Services,
House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: As prescribed by section 2455, title 10, United States Code (formerly sec. 8 of Public Law 436, 82d Cong.), there is transmitted herewith the 30th Semiannual Report on the Department of Defense Cataloging and Standardization Programs. This report covers the period from January 1 through June 30, 1967.

Reports on these two programs have been combined in accordance with the provisions of section 2455. Inasmuch as the Congress, in its legislation, directed that the Secretary of Defense report any other data which he considers will best inform Congress of the status of the cataloging and the standardization programs, there is included information concerning such DOD programs as materiel utilization, NATO codification, item entry control, and provisioning screening. These programs are directly associated with the development and/or utilization of cataloging or standardization data and have been initiated to provide additional means to insure more effective utilization of materiel resources.

Sincerely,

GLENN V. GIBSON,
Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense
(Installations and Logistics).

30TH SEMIANNUAL REPORT, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CATALOGING AND STANDARDIZATION PROGRAMS, JANUARY 1 TO JUNE 30, 1967

Federal Cataloging Program

ITEMS MANAGED BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT

During the reporting period, 211,244 items were added to and 164,029 items were deleted from the U.S. Government portion of the Federal Catalog System files. This resulted in a Government-wide ending inventory of 4,293,066 items, a net increase of 47,215 during the period. This total includes Federal stock numbers (FSN's) assigned to items managed by the civil agencies as well as to items managed by the Department of Defense (DOD).

FEDERAL CATALOG SYSTEM TOTALS

In addition to the 4,293,066 items managed by the U.S. Government, 104,708 items were recorded in the central Federal Catalog System files at the Defense Logistics Services Center (DLSC) as being managed solely by NATO countries or agencies, or by other friendly nations. Thus, 4,397,774 FSN's represented items of supply on record as of June 30, 1967. The central file also contained 1,047,933 item identifications in an inactive status (without recorded managers). Item identification requests from participating activities are being screened in a single processing cycle against both active and inactive identifications in the total file of 5,445,707 items. The matching of incoming submittals against inactive item identifications makes possible the reactivation of some inactive numbers, thus avoiding the development of new item identifications or the assignment of new FSN's.

ITEMS MANAGED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

The ending inventory for this reporting period indicates 3,963,692 items managed by DOD, a net increase of 55,989 DOD items. This was the result of 202,465 additions to and 146,476 deletions from the DOD portion of the Federal Catalog File. 170,218 of the 202,465 additions were accounted for by assignment of FSNs to new item identifications and the remaining 32,247 were reactivations of inactive item identifications.

ANALYSIS OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ITEMS

As of the end of the period, and within the total of 3,963,692 DOD identifications, there were approximately 3,550,000 which reflected items subject to central procurement, management, storage, and

issue. Of this latter quantity, approximately 350,000 were designated as having no requirement for future procurement and should become inactive when existing stocks are exhausted.

ITEMS MANAGED BY THE MILITARY SERVICES

The following table reflects the total quantities of items recorded in the central files of the Federal Catalog System as being managed by Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps on the 30th day of June for the year 1964 through 1967. The figures include items for which the military services operate as their own inventory managers and also those items for which the military services operate only as retail managers. The Army figures also include automotive items for which the Army has been designated as the DOD integrated manager. For those items for which a military service acts only as a retail manager, the integrated materiel management function is performed for it by the Defense Supply Agency (DSA), the General Services Administration (GSA), or, in the case of automotive items, by the Army.

Military services	June 30, 1964	June 30, 1965	June 30, 1966	June 30, 1967
Army	1,015,439	1,122,632	1,160,086	1,173,404
Navy	1,306,287	1,366,280	1,450,494	1,520,680
Air Force	1,713,246	1,599,866	1,646,296	1,711,529
Marine Corps	260,180	263,104	265,567	278,270

COMMONALITY OF ITEMS AMONG THE MILITARY SERVICES

The total shown for each military service includes many stock numbers which arc managed also by one or more of the other three services and are, therefore, included in their totals as well. The degree to which this commonality exists among the services is revealed by the following table:

Military services	Total	Used also by 1 or more of the other services	Percentage commonality
Army	1,173,404	415,437	35.4
Navy	1,520,580	407,414	26.8
Air Force	1,711,529	449,032	26.2
Marine Corps	278,270	189,123	68.0

ITEMS MANAGED BY THE DEFENSE SUPPLY AGENCY

Of the 3,963,692 items recorded in the central files as being managed by DOD on June 30, 1967, 2,473,186 items or 62.4 percent were in the 288 commodity classes assigned to the general cognizance of DSA for integrated materiel management. Of these, 1,538,542 items or 62.2 percent were designated for central management by DSA, and 163,794 items, or 6.6 percent, were designated by DSA as authorized for local procurement. The remaining 31.2 percent are retained for management by the military services.

OTHER ITEMS SUBJECT TO INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT

On July 1, 1966, general cognizance of the three classes of tires and tubes was reassigned from DSA to the U.S. Army Tank-Automotive Center (ATAC). On June 30, 1967, there were 2,676 DOD items in these classes and ATAC was recorded as the integrated manager for 2,369 of these items. ATAC was also registered as the integrated manager for 51,191 items in the remaining 11 automotive classes still falling under the general cognizance of DSA.

Within the classes assigned to DSA for general cognizance, arrangements exist between DOD and GSA for GSA to furnish the supply support for 60,201 items.

ITEMS MANAGED BY THE CIVIL AGENCIES

As the central processing office for the Federal Catalog System, DLSC reviews, screens, approves, and assigns FNS's to item identifications generated by the civil agency program. GSA prepares and submits catalog data on behalf of all civil agencies except the Federal Aviation Agency (FAA), which prepares and submits its own data directly to DLSC. At the end of the reporting period, the central files included 329,374 items recorded as being managed by civil agencies only, and an additional 219,480 items managed in common with DOD, or a total of 548,854 items. During the reporting period, 37,332 items were reported as entering the civil agency supply systems and 30,673 as being deleted, resulting in a net increase of 6,659 items.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE FEDERAL CATALOG SYSTEM

At the end of the period, the central cataloging files and processing operations at DLSC were serving the needs of 65 wholesale and retail materiel managers in DOD and 79 in the civil agencies. In certain commodity areas, proposed new and revised DOD item identifications are first reviewed by the cognizant DOD technical review activity (DTRA), as a function of the DOD item entry control program, before being forwarded to DLSC for final review, and assignment of FNS's when appropriate. Currently there are 13 DTRA's, and each DTRA is a satellite submitter on the wire service of an established cataloging activity. Both GSA and FAA have their own wire facilities. In addition, DLSC furnishes cataloging services to eight NATO countries, three other friendly nations, and two NATO agencies. All of these submit their catalog data to DLSC by mail.

MANUFACTURERS' DATA

Latest records show 66,430 currently valid manufacturers' codes in the Federal Supply Code for Manufacturers, of which 46,185 represent United States and Canadian manufacturers, and the remaining 20,245 identify manufacturers in other NATO countries and other friendly nations. Of the total of 66,430 manufacturers' codes, 29,206 are referenced in the central files to 8,021,923 different manufacturers' part or reference numbers. These reference numbers are cross-referenced to 5,290,374 FSN's. The remaining 155,333 items in the central screening files are of a nature not requiring reference numbers for identification purposes. The other 37,224 valid manu-

facturers' codes are without part numbers in the central files. These codes include those assigned to manufacturers for purposes outside the Federal Catalog System, e.g., to identify manufacturers of industrial plant equipment recorded by the Defense Industrial Plant Equipment Center in Memphis, Tenn. Of the 66,430 valid manufacturers' codes, 16,986 have been assigned 3,006 "association codes," indicating that these manufacturers' codes relate to manufacturers who are members of a larger corporate complex, each association code representing one such complex. In cataloging operations, these "association codes" are helpful in revealing duplicates which otherwise would give the appearance of being separate and distinct items.

FEDERAL CATALOG SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

The following paragraphs detail actions taken during the reporting period to improve the comprehensiveness, quality, accuracy, responsiveness, efficiency, and utilization of the Federal Catalog System.

Federal item identification guides (FIIG's) improvement program

The FIIG improvement program, described in the preceding three reports, is proceeding according to plan. Development has been initiated on 77 FIIG's, approximately one-third of the presently scheduled total. Seven FIIG's have been published and distributed.

A system for the mechanized receipt, processing, and storing of coded characteristics data resulting from the FIIG's, and for decoding and printing of the data, has been developed and is currently being programed for automatic data processing application. Procedures for preparing and transmitting data in Military standard item characteristics coding structure (MILSTICCS) coded form have been developed and coordinated.

DLSC integrated data system (DIDS)

The development of a long-range system design for DLSC was discussed in the three preceding reports. The effort has progressed through the basic requirements stage and into the system design phase. An RFP (request for proposal) is being prepared for the computer equipment to handle the integrated system being developed.

EMERGENCY FILE SCREENING

The operations of the emergency file screening program were concluded in the first 4½ months of this reporting period. Termination of this separate program was made possible by an acceleration of the provisioning screening processing schedule which made it possible to handle emergency requests on a daily basis. Under this new arrangement, requests submitted to DLSC one afternoon are processed that same night and the screening results are returned the following morning. Consolidation of the two systems has reduced the expenditure of critical automatic data processing machine time, while, at the same time, rendering improved service to the customer. All former users of the emergency file screening program are now in a position to transmit data to and receive data from DLSC, utilizing a wire facility.

During the 4½-month period, 13,420 FSN's or manufacturers' reference numbers were received and processed under the emergency file screening program by DLSC. Of the part numbers screened, 82

percent matched items already identified and stock numbered in the Federal Catalog System.

REPRODUCTION OF DESCRIPTIVE METHOD ITEM IDENTIFICATIONS

The three types of machines (computer document recorder, automatic film processor, and two document printers) used together for processing and printing descriptive method item identifications have been operating satisfactorily for both quantity and quality of product. A technical explanation of those machines was included in the 29th semiannual report. During this reporting period, 1,405,259 card copies of original, revised, and canceled descriptive method item identifications were processed. In addition, 89,799 copies of original and revised descriptive method item identifications, containing reference drawing sketches or components listed in tabular form, were reproduced by offset press.

FEDERAL SUPPLY CLASSIFICATION

The following new class was established during the period:

Class 2305 Ground effect vehicles.

Proposed by the National Codification Bureau of the United Kingdom, this new class encompasses vehicles which are supported by a cushion of air directed at the surface beneath. These ground effect vehicles, also known as Hovercraft, do not require a paved roadway and, in fact, are as much at home on the water as on the land.

At the end of the period, the Federal supply classification structure was comprised of 76 groups and 587 classes.

MANUFACTURERS' NUMBERING SYSTEMS

During this period, DLSC published the new "loose-leaf" version of Cataloging Handbook H 7, entitled "Manufacturers' Part and Drawing Numbering Systems," dated February 1967. The basic publication, consisting of 415 numbered pages, describes and illustrates 195 different part numbering systems utilized by 345 firms, including both nonaffiliated firms and firms affiliated with a corporate complex, to identify their items of production. At the end of the period, the systems listed in the handbook accounted for 1,564,214 different reference numbers and 1,417,127 FSN's recorded in the Federal Catalog System. The basic publication is updated by quarterly change notices. Users are instructed to interfile the new pages and annotate minor pen and ink changes as applicable.

BOOK-TYPE FEDERAL SUPPLY CATALOG PUBLICATIONS

Automatic data processing (ADP) programing specifications are currently being developed for the publication of the master cross-reference lists (MCRL's). In accordance with the provisions of chapter M 1–7 of the Federal Manual for Supply Cataloging, entitled "Format, Content, and Preparation of the Federal Supply Catalog Publications," the MCRL's are scheduled to be published by DLSC and in the hands of the military users by January 1, 1968. The MCRL's will be consolidated or tailored as required by each military service. The consolidated catalog will contain all items in the Federal Catalog System. The

service-tailored catalog will contain all active items used within a given military service. The MCRL's will also be published in two sequences as specified by each military service: (1) Reference number to Federal stock number, and (2) Federal stock number to reference number.

ADP programing specifications are also being developed for the receipt of catalog management data notification (CMDN) cards prepared by the military services. These cards will contain all the management data to be published in the management data lists by the military services and are to be forwarded to DLSC beginning November 1, 1967. These data can be used as a management tool in the improvement of the DOD logistics management system.

RECORDING OF STANDARDIZATION DECISIONS

During the current reporting period, approximately 188,000 additional military supply standard (MSS) decisions were processed by DLSC. Since the implementation, on November 1, 1964, of the procedures for implementation of standardization decisions, approximately 1,171,000 MSS decisions have been processed. Standardization decisions are recorded in DLSC files and disseminated to registered users of the items following receipt of the MSS publications or prepunched cards from the standardization assignees.

MATERIEL UTILIZATION

The Federal Catalog System continues to be the "hub" of the utilization program. As the system becomes more efficient, the influence on utilization increases. During this reporting period, in the central mechanized screening program, 69,027 items of excess assets were matched with requirements and offered to customers. These offers priced out to $185.1 million.

There are three other utilization programs that depend upon Federal Catalog System data for their existence. All of these programs are resulting in increased utilization of excess materiel. A comparison of these programs for fiscal year 1966 with fiscal year 1967 is shown below:

[In millions]

	Acquisition value of materiel utilized	
	Fiscal year 1966	Fiscal year 1967
High-value program	$48.8	$55.1
Final asset screening program	3.0	8.7
Commerce business daily screening	----------	[1] .8

[1] In operation for 9 months of fiscal year 1967.

PROVISIONING SCREENING

During the reporting period, 2,873,261 manufacturers' reference numbers were screened against the master files in support of provisioning actions. Approximately 38.4 percent of the reference numbers were matched to existing FSN's. An additional 691,650 manufacturers' reference numbers and 382,776 FSN's were screened for purposes other than provisioning, utilizing the provisioning

screening procedures. Turnaround time for the provisioning screening program is now 12 hours by wire and 7 days by mail.

In addition to the above screening, all matched items were screened against the recorded excess and long supply assets in the master file. During this reporting period, assets were found to exist for 12.1 percent of the FSN's matched.

PARTICIPATION IN THE NATO CODIFICATION SYSTEM

The NATO Panel on Codification of Equipment held its 17th meeting at NATO Headquarters, Paris, France, on June 6 and 7, 1967. In addition to the United States, 10 other NATO countries were represented. U.S. representatives also attended meeting of six subpanels of the main panel during the reporting period.

Because of its great impact on the NATO Codification System as currently implemented in the other NATO nations, the U.S. FIIG improvement program has continued to be a major topic in the panel and subpanel meetings during the reporting period. As the various countries study the individual FIIG's upon release in draft form for coordination, their attitude appears to be changing to a position of general acceptance.

During the reporting period, arrangements have been made for DLSC to provide international cataloging services to the Federal Republic of Germany and the Logistics Working Group F104 (LWG) under foreign military sales (FMS) letters of offer and acceptance.

During the reporting period, DLSC screened 97,173 numbers (part numbers or FSN's) against the central files, processed 198,169 ownership registrations and furnished the pertinent EAM file data on cards or ADP tape, and reviewed 3,735 proposed original item identifications under the applicable international agreements. During this period DLSC also furnished foreign governments a total of 121,982 copies of descriptive method item identification cards as a part of the "secondary distribution" of such cards.

As of June 30, 1967, the DLSC files recorded a gross total of 1,017,824 management registrations for a total of 12 NATO countries, other friendly foreign governments and a NATO agency. The quantity of management registrations by country or agency were as follows:

NATO countries

Belgium	245, 105	Germany	73, 761
Canada	73, 200	Italy	58, 241
Denmark	175	Norway	215, 051
France	595	United Kingdom	99, 427

Other friendly governments

Australia	176, 632	South Africa	18, 334
Japan	13, 678		

NATO agency

NATO Supply Center	43, 625

The net total of FSN's with registered foreign managers was 620,139. Of this total, 104,708 were managed solely by foreign governments and the remainder, 515,431, were managed by one or more U.S. activities as well as by one or more foreign governments.

Defense Standardization Program

Typical representative management actions taken during this reporting period are listed below.

STANDARDIZATION STUDY OF AIRCRAFT CRASH FIRETRUCKS

The DOD study of standardization of aircraft crash firetrucks, which began in 1966, was completed and the report was circulated to the military departments during March 1967. In that connection, recommendations were made for future improvement and responses from the military services are now being considered.

ENGINE GENERATORS

The DOD Ad Hoc Working Group on Engine Generators submitted their report to the DOD Council on Technical Data and Standardization Policy. The report was approved; accordingly, a DOD project manager for Mobile Electric Power has been established and assigned to the Department of the Army. At present the project manager is organizing and staffing his office. The time-phased plan for assuming responsibility for the numerous functions has been approved.

AIR POLLUTION CONTROL INVOLVING GOVERNMENT SPECIFICATIONS

A study project was initiated January 6, 1967, in response to Executive Order 11282 of May 26, 1966, to identify, plan, program, and schedule necessary action to modify the requirements of Government specifications utilized in the procurement of items and services to comply to rule 66 of the Los Angeles Air Pollution Control District.

The study identified 343 specifications in violation of this rule. A plan with appropriate schedules is presently being incorporated in the 5-year Department of Defense standardization program to revise, if possible, the affected specifications to comply with Los Angeles rule 66.

The first specification to be revised under this program was MIL–T–81533 dated June 13, 1967. This specification now provides an alternate vapor degreasing compound "1,1,1 trichloroethane (methyl chloroform) stabilized" for "trichloroethylene" which is in violation with rule 66.

Proposed Federal legislation permits each municipality or State to issue regulations for use within its jurisdiction. The specifications involved would be continually in a state of flux whenever requirements became more stringent or different between jurisdictions.

STANDARD GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT

This program is a joint industry/DOD effort to standardize the statements of common technical requirements of 12 general specifications for electronic equipment design. The standard paragraphs when tri-service coordinated, are put into MIL–STD–454 as a holding document, from which they may be used or referenced in revisions of the general specifications. An additional 12 standard requirements have been added to MIL–STD–454 since the previous reporting, making a total of 53. The services are currently making changes to their general specifications to adopt these standard requirements.

The effort has been apportioned to various groups in the military departments and to industry association task groups, and put into a planned schedule. The target date for completion of the effort is the third quarter, fiscal year 1968.

Industry has estimated that this program, when completed, can lead to $12 million savings annually to the Department of Defense.

MAGNETIC TAPE STANDARDIZATION

A standardization area assignment has been made to the Navy Department for magnetic tape, regardless of application.

At the present time there are no adequate Government specifications for the procurement of magnetic tape for computer applications. It is procured primarily from computer manufacturers instead of from tape manufacturers.

The primary effort will be to develop a set of standard test procedures for the evaluation of tape performance. A set of coordinated specifications will be prepared to establish a competitive base for procurement.

The Navy's Naval Ship Engineering Center is developing a coordinated standardization program plan to accomplish the objectives of the assignment.

FIVE-YEAR DEFENSE STANDARDIZATION PROGRAM

The fiscal year 1968 updating of the 5-year defense standardization program is being prepared. The preliminary program, consisting of both coordinated and limited coordination projects, will be reviewed by DOD standardization activities and changed or corrected as required. The updated program is scheduled for approval and publication by October 31, 1967. Quarterly reports for management review and analysis of the program will be published starting with the first quarter, fiscal year 1968.

DOD ITEM ENTRY CONTROL PROGRAM

The implementation of the expanded DOD Item Entry Control (IEC) Program Technical Review, mentioned in the 29th semiannual report has been accomplished in accordance with the planned schedule. As of June 30, 1967, 67 FSC's, accounting for approximately 75 percent of all new item growth, have been brought under the program. As of June 30, 1967, the technical review of 404,189 items within selected FSC's during and subsequent to the pilot test resulted in 169,207 or 41.9 percent of all items being returned to the submitters. Of these returns, 131,457 or 32.5 percent were determined to be exact duplicates or possible duplicates of items already in the DOD supply system. The balance of the returns, or 37,750, were returned for various administrative errors.

The DOD standardization program has recently made a substantial contribution to the overall IEC effort by establishing policy direction which will expedite required standardization actions within the high growth FSC's. Guidance for the updating of the DOD 5-year standardization program establishes goals in support of both supply management and engineering. These new goals provide for the initiation of item reduction studies to achieve standardization status coding of 20

percent of the items not yet coded during fiscal year 1968 and additional programing to accomplish 100-percent coverage in these classes in a 5-year period. In support of engineering, goals have been established to prepare military standards that list parts preferred for use in new design in the high growth classes sufficient to achieve optimum coverage in Federal Supply Group 53 (hardware and abrasives) and FSG 59 (electrical and electronic equipment components) by the end of fiscal year 1970 and the balance of the high growth FSC's by the end of fiscal year 1972.

ILLUSTRATIVE STANDARDIZATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Clamps, loop-type

A project for the standardization of aluminum loop-type clamps has been completed by DSA in collaboration with the military services. Of 1,097 items reviewed for essentiality, 885 or 80 percent were declared nonstandard and will eventually be deleted from the supply system. These clamps are used to surround such items as cables, conduits, pipe, hose, or tubing and fasten them to other items or structures.

Pipe and tubing, plastic

The Defense Supply Agency, in collaboration with the military services has completed the standardization of plastic pipe and tubing. A total of 847 items consisting of different diameters, random lengths, and types of plastics were reviewed; 283 DSA-managed items with no military users and 76 items with no recorded users were excluded. From the balance of 488 items, 171 or 35 percent were eliminated and scheduled for deletion from the supply system.

Pest, disease and frost control

DSA and the military services have reviewed all areas pertinent to item reduction and requirements for pest and frost control equipment. The project combined two MSS's and initial research covered 136 items. The proposal was concurred in by the Pest Control Board prior to submittal to the services. This document forms a firm base for control of items in this area. Of a total of 136 items in the study. 99 were determined to be nonstandard.

Lumber, softwood, board

DSA reviewed 800 softwood lumber items, identified 411 items as nonstandard, identical, or nearly identical to the 328 items retained as standard items. The standardized descriptions utilize industry standards and production practices to the maximum extent possible. Not only will the expected operational savings in time and paperwork be realized in the record keeping activities, but the standardization of technical descriptions has enabled preprinted standard specification sheets to be prepared for inclusion in procurement documents. The preprinted forms greatly reduce the time needed to coordinate a procurement document, and also reduces the number of pages of the document.

Steel, tool, copper alloy, nontempering

The Naval Facilities Engineering Command completed a specification for steel, tool, copper alloy, nontempering. Format and technical requirements were brought up to date. Analysis data were corrected

and terminology was changed to conform with industrial practices. As a result, material purchased under this specification will be handled as a regular product rather than a speciality item, which will result in reduced costs.

Coat, men's combat, tropical

The U.S. Army Natick Laboratories has prepared a revision to the specification covering coat, men's combat, tropical. The change removed the requirement for an unneeded shoulder loop at an estimated savings of $0.13 per unit. Based on current and projected contracts through fiscal year 1969 for over 11,500,000 coats in which this change has been or will be implemented, a total savings of $1,500,000 is envisioned with approximately one-half of this amount occurring during fiscal year 1967.

Terminology used for clothing fabrication in procurement documents

The U.S. Army Natick Laboratories, in coordination with the military services and industry recently prepared a military handbook, "Glossary of Military Clothing Fabrication Terms," which will provide valuable information and guidance to personnel concerned with the preparation of specifications and procurement of military clothing items. The handbook, for the first time, assembles in one location the terms used in the fabrication of clothing items.

Trousers, men's combat, tropical

Through interdepartmental agreement obtained by the Army Natick Laboratories, the ¾-inch tape for the pocket tie tapes on men's combat tropical trousers was deleted from the specification. Based on procurement forecasts of 1,652,219 pairs of trousers in the fourth quarter, fiscal year 1967, and 1,814,400 pairs in the second quarter, fiscal year 1968, a total savings of $308,182.43 in the cost of labor, procurement, and material is estimated.

Trousers, men's cotton (utility)

The Army Natick Laboratories in coordination with the Air Force, Marine Corps, and Navy revised the specification for men's cotton trousers which deleted the bottom hem leg eyelet requirement. This will result in an estimated savings of $247,748.44 based on planned purchase of 8,369,833 pairs in the fourth quarter, fiscal year 1967, and the second quarter, fiscal year 1968.

Metal castings

Specification QQ–C–390, copper alloy castings (including cast bar), was developed to consolidate the requirements of all previous copper castings specifications. Its publication permits the cancellation of 22 Federal and military specifications.

Corrosion prevention and deterioration control of electronic components and assemblies

MIL–STD–1250 (MI) was approved during this reporting period. The purposes of this standard are to draw attention to the importance of corrosion as a major factor in the degradation of performance of electronic items; to establish minimum requirements for the control of corrosion and deterioration; and to provide a guide to the selection of protective measures. It is the aim of this standard to aid designers in selecting from suitable materials and processes, those which will

withstand the attack of adverse environments during storage, shipment, and service. This standard supplements the more general requirements of MIL–STD–454, standard general requirements for electronic equipment, with detailed information on the maintenance of desired characteristics during and after exposure to anticipated environments. Compliance with this standard will promote reliability of electronic components and assemblies by preventing or minimizing deterioration from environmental causes.

Lightweight air conditioners

An interdepartmental meeting was held to resolve technical differences between the Air Force and Army series of limited coordinated specifications covering compact, lightweight air conditioners. Agreements achieved at the meeting will result in the preparation of fully coordinated specifications and the cancellation of 14 limited coordinated documents. This, in turn, will result in a standard family of air conditioners for DOD-wide use, eliminate nonstandard items, provide for interservice supply support, and reduce costs through quantity buying.

REDUCTION IN NUMBER OF SIZES, KINDS, AND TYPES OF ITEMS THAT ARE GENERALLY SIMILAR

Coordinated decisions were made during this reporting period under the policies and procedures of the DOD standardization program to eliminate 47,029 items from the DOD supply systems. Of these, 46,461 were made in the Federal supply classes assigned to the Defense Supply Agency, and resulted from the review of 171,143 items.

Unilateral decisions of the military departments and agencies of the DOD resulted in the identification of an additional 20,234 items for elimination from DOD supply systems.

NUMBER OF SEPARATE SPECIFICATIONS CONSOLIDATED INTO SINGLE SPECIFICATIONS

During this reporting period, 152 separate specifications were consolidated into 46 specifications. Since passage of Public Law 436, 82d Congress, 3,484 specifications have been consolidated into 1,294 specifications.

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