



ARMY LOGISTICIAN

MAY-JUNE 1979



Assistant Secretary
of the Army
(Installations, Logistics, and
Financial Management)

Alan J. Gibbs

Deputy Chief of Staff
for Logistics
Department of the Army

**Lieutenant General
Eivind H. Johansen**

Commanding General
U.S. Army Materiel Development
and Readiness Command

General John R. Guthrie

Commandant
U.S. Army Logistics
Management Center

Colonel James E. Harris

Editor-in-Chief

Thomas A. Johnson

Associate Editors

Terry R. Speights

Jacqueline Patterson

Assistant Editors

Richard Ford

Ann P. Evans

Art Director

Charles Marie

Staff Artist

Joseph A. Wells

ABOUT THE COVER

No, this isn't a "close encounter" with a flying saucer, nor is it a refugee from a distant "star war." This is part of an automated storage and retrieval system used by the Directorate of Maintenance, Red River Army Depot, Texarkana, Texas. Other examples of the depot's use of automation may be found on page 26.

ARMY LOGISTICIAN

VOLUME 11, NUMBER 3
MAY-JUNE 1979

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF UNITED STATES ARMY LOGISTICS

ARTICLES

- 2 **Project Depot Round Out**—Colonel Rudolph D. Descoteau
- 6 **Call the NICP!**—Lieutenant Colonel Jerry W. Betts, USA (Ret.)
- 8 **Logistically Speaking—Posture of the Army**—ALOG Staff Feature
- 12 **Why MAIT Works**—Lieutenant Colonel Robert L. Clewell
- 14 **Interoperability of Maintenance Support**
—First Lieutenant Roger L. Carter
- 18 **Managing OST**—Major John C. Bush
- 22 **It's a PIP!**—Colonel Lloyd A. Gimple
- 26 **Dynamic Depot**—ALOG Staff Feature
- 30 **DARCOM Determines Manpower Requirements**—Charles B. Einstein
- 37 **Express Warranties**—Charles T. Gebhardt
- 40 **Digging Rigging**—ALOG Staff Feature
- 42 **Materiel Testing in Natural Environments**—William J. Haslem

DEPARTMENTS

- 1 **Emphasis**
- 46 **Digest**
- 50 **Career Programs**
- 52 **Research Reports**
- 52 **Coming Events**
- 53 **Recently Published**
- The Quality of Logistics**
(inside back cover)

Army Logician 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 areas of logistics by providing a forum for those ideas. The views expressed in the articles are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the Department of Defense or the Department of the Army.

Army Logician is an official Army periodical published bimonthly and sponsored by the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Installations, Logistics, and Financial Management), 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 Logician* and the author, unless otherwise noted.

Use of the third person pronoun "he" and any of its forms, as used in this periodical, is intended to include both mas-

culine and feminine genders. Any exceptions will be indicated in the text.

Articles, photographs, illustrations, and items of interest on any facet of Army logistics are invited. Direct communication is authorized to: Editor, *Army Logician*, Army Logistics Management Center, Fort Lee, Va. 23801.

Use of funds for printing of this publication was approved by Headquarters, Department of the Army, on 1 October 1978 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, 2800 Eastern Boulevard, Baltimore, Md. 21220. Army National Guard and Army Reserve units must submit requirements through State adjutants general or Army Reserve channels.

Annual subscription rates are: \$9.00, mailed to a domestic or APO address and \$11.25 to a foreign address. Single copy rates are \$1.50 domestic and \$1.90 foreign. Order through and make checks payable to Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

The Quality of Logistics

“Advantage in terms of support is less easy to assess. However bright and shiny your equipment, and however well it measures up to all the criteria of efficient deterrence, it will soon run out of gas or ammunition, it will soon need maintenance or overhaul, it will need repair if it is damaged, it has to be brought to where the action is, and it has to be able to receive and understand and comply with instructions about what to do when it gets there. It may even have to be replaced if put out of action and certainly protected so that it is not. The men who do all these things for it have to be fed and watered; they also have to be protected, and they also need repair and replacement.

“These are the functions of support, and it is worth looking rather more closely at one of them, after noting that the short and simple word ‘support’ embraces the whole enormous field of logistics, stocks and transport, supply and re-supply, reserves and reinforcement, the apparatus of command and control, and the communications without which the whole enterprise of war would almost immediately collapse. It also embraces passive defence, including hardened headquarters, aircraft and personnel shelters, not only for the teeth arms but also for what has often been poetically described as the man behind the gun, or the man behind him.

“What is quite beyond argument is that bright and shiny equipment manned by battle-worthy and dedicated men is not going to frighten or deter a potential aggressor, unless he can perceive that all these components of support are also in the order of battle. If the words ‘Don’t start something you can’t finish’ should be pinned above every Commander’s desk (and over his Minister’s too), then only the logistician can provide the means by which the same Commander can be sure of finishing the business he (or his Minister) started.”

—Admiral of the Fleet Sir Peter Hill-Norton, *No Soft Options: The Politico-Military Realities of NATO*, p. 33
(McGill-Queen’s University Press, Montreal, 1978)

