

WAR DEPARTMENT  
Army Service Forces  
Headquarters  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
Washington, D.C.

SPRMS 413.68

15 JAN 1944

CCR/mw  
Ext. 71656

MEMORANDUM FOR CHIEF OF ORDNANCE, AA & FC Section, SPOIR, Attn:  
Captain Davidson  
CHIEF OF ORDNANCE, War Plans Division, SPOGP,  
Attn: Mr. Christensen.

Subject: Fire Control Equipment for Old 6-Inch Batteries.

1. Reference is made to:
  - a. Ordnance Committee Item No. 19453 dated 2 December 1942, subject "Seacoast Data Transmission Systems - Designations Assigned".
  - b. Ordnance Committee Item No. 21345 dated 29 July 1943, subject "Gun Data Computer MB - Designations Assigned".
  - c. Memorandum to Chief of Ordnance, subject "Medium and Heavy Caliber Materiel" dated Requirements Division, Army Service Forces, 4 December 1943, (SPRMP 472.93).
2. Reference cited in paragraph 1 a, above, assigned the Data Transmission System M15 to 6-inch Barbette Carriages M1900 and M1910 (types not determined). Reference 1 b, above, assigned the Gun Data Computer MB to 6-inch Guns M1900 and M1908 on 6-inch Barbette Carriages M1900 and M1910, respectively.
3. This office has been furnished a copy of a 1st Indorsement dated Watertown Arsenal, 8 January 1944, (WTN SO 473.33/1723), on basic letter dated office, Chief of Ordnance, 26 November 1943, subject "Status of M1910 and M1900 6-inch Batteries" (SPOIR O.O. 472.16/4916). In cited indorsement it is stated that a considerable repair job will be required in order to adapt the carriages to a data transmission system.
4. The plotting rooms of the 6-inch batteries M1900 and M1908 were designed for the fire control equipment standardized at the time of their construction. Their size is entirely inadequate for the installation of an MB Gun Data Computer and associated equipment.
5. In reference 1 c, above, the procurement of Gun Data Computers MB was limited to one hundred (100) units which is inadequate to supply all 6-inch and 8-inch batteries with this equipment.

413.68/1

6. In view of the extensive modification required to adapt the carriages of the subject batteries to the use of the data transmission systems, the lack of floor space in their plotting rooms for installation of M3 Gun Data Computers and the possibility that the equipment may be required later for 155mm mobile batteries, it was determined, following a conference with the Army Ground Forces, that the subject batteries be not supplied with gun data computers or data transmission systems.

7. Necessary action has been taken to change the Tables of Allowances and Equipment.

8. It is desired that:

a. No Data Transmission Systems M15 and no Gun Data Computers MSD be procured.

b. No repairs or modifications of the M1900 or M1910 6-inch Barbette Carriages be undertaken to adapt them to the use of a data transmission system.

c. Appropriate action be initiated to change the Army Supply Program to eliminate the item Gun Data Transmission System M15.

For the Commanding General:

LEE A. DENSON,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Director, Requirements Division.

E. G. Cowen,  
Colonel, Coast Artillery Corps,  
Deputy Chief, Seacoast Defense Projects Branch.

For Record Only:

1. Basic is ltr, subj. as above, dtd C of O, 26 Nov. 43, (O.O. 472.16/4916) which requests info. whether a major repair job will be necessary in order to adapt M1900 and M1910 6" cges so that they may be used successfully with a gun data computer and data transmission system.

2. 1st Ind. dtd Watertown Arsenal, 8 Jan. 44, (Wtn SO 473.33/1723), is quoted below:

"1. According to information received in this office from the various installations, subject carriages have excessive clearance in trunnion and pintle bearings. Considerable repair will be required to place in condition for use on data transmission system.

"2. Designing engineers have expressed their opinion that it will probably be necessary they re-design the traversing mechanism in order to obtain accurate tracking with continuous data.

"3. It is our understanding that Field Service Division has also made a survey on these carriages and likewise reports them in unsatisfactory condition for installation of data transmission system".

3. For action taken see SPRMS Memorandum, subj. "Fire Control Equipment for old 6-Inch Batteries), (413.68), even date.