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TO INSURE PROMPT ATTENTION  
IN REPLYING REFER TO:

WAR DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF ORDNANCE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

*Horn/jdg/71969*

400,702 / 1113  
13 SEP 1945

No. \_\_\_\_\_

ATTENTION OF

~~SPOTR - Service~~

7 September 1945

**SUBJECT:** CARRIAGE, BARBETTE, 6-INCH, M1900; GUN, 6-INCH, M1900 -  
Reclassification from Limited Standard to Obsolete  
Recommended.

**TO:** The Commanding General, Army Service Forces

**ATTENTION:** Director, Research and Development Division

1. There are thirty-eight (38) of the weapons consisting of the 6-Inch Gun, M1900 on the 6-Inch Barbette Carriage, M1900 now mounted in the seacoast defenses of the Continental United States; none are mounted elsewhere. In view of the fact that this material was manufactured approximately forty-five years ago, it is obvious that the best constructional features are not embodied therein and that the armament cannot be considered as a preferred type. Furthermore, the missions now assigned to these 6-inch weapons can be filled with greater effectiveness by the use of the 155-mm Gun Carriage, M1 seacoast material in conjunction with the gun data computer of the M8 type and the data transmission system of the T21 type.

2. Accordingly, the reclassification of the 6-Inch Gun, M1900 and 6-Inch Barbette Carriage, M1900 as obsolete and subsequent disposal thereof in accordance with regulations is recommended in Item 28961, Ordnance Technical Committee Minutes for 6 September 1945. The recommendations contained therein are submitted herewith for formal approval.

FOR THE CHIEF OF ORDNANCE:

78

W. R. GERHARDT  
Colonel, Ordnance Department  
Assistant

1 Incl.

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS  
OCM Item 28961 (in dup.)



472,3/S

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DECLASSIFIED

Authority *NW 576-0026*

By *SLC/PARA* Date *11-17-10*

SPOPS 472 (18 Sep 45) Carriage, Barbette, 6-Inch, M1900; Gun, 6-Inch, M1900 -  
Reclassification from Limited Standard to Obsolete.

TO: Dir, Research & Development Div, ASF FROM: Seacoast Def Proj Br, Planning Div, ASF DATE: 21 Sep 45 COMMENT NO. 2 EGC/hhn/4888

1. With the reservations stated below, this office concurs in the action to reclassify as obsolete the Carriage, Barbette, 6-inch, M1900 and Gun, 6-inch, M1900.

2. Each 6-inch battery mounting this type of armament was retained in the modernization program for a definite mission which remains unchanged in most instances, though relocation of mine fields in some harbor defenses may make changes in a few battery sites desirable.

3. In accordance with the War Department policy that all materiel pertaining to seacoast defenses be installed and maintained in the harbor defenses, it is considered essential that the new guns be mounted as the old ones are removed.

4. The 155mm gun on a suitable pedestal mount is believed to be entirely satisfactory as a replacement for the 6-inch gun, M1900, on a gun for gun basis in existing 6-inch emplacements, pending the standardization of a turret mount of this caliber as recommended in the 11th Indorsement on letter, Coast Artillery Board, Project 1272, 27 January 1945, subject: "Final Report on Study of Adaptation of Naval Armament for Seacoast Defense Purposes."

5. Existing fire control and communications systems can be used. The replacement program need not be delayed for procurement of gun data computers and gun data transmission systems.

HENRY C. WOLFE,  
Brigadier General, USA,  
Director, Planning Division, ASF.

*EGC*  
E. G. COWEN,  
Colonel, CAU,  
Chief, Seacoast Def Proj Br,  
Planning Division, ASF.

1 Incl:  
n/c

FOR RECORD ONLY:

1. Basis is TS, no file number, 18 September 1945, subject as above. In- with TS is ltr, same subject, Ch/Ord, 00400.702/112-(c), 7 September 1945, and OCM Item No. 28961, 6 September 1945, same subject.
2. Comments and redommendations are requested.

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*472.3/S-1*

SPOPS 472 (25 Sep 45) Carriage, Barbette, 6-Inch, M1900; Gun, 6-Inch, M1900 -  
Reclassification from Limited Standard to Obsolete.

TO: Dir, Research & Development Div, ASF FROM: Seacoast Def Proj Br, Planning Div, ASF DATE: 27 Sep 45 COMMENT NO. 4 EGC/hhn/4888

1. In amplification of remarks contained in Comment No. 2 hereon, the Firing Platform M1 is considered to be an item of field equipment, unsuitable for continued use in fixed seacoast defenses and, in particular, for use in existing 6-inch gun emplacements. If 155mm guns with Firing Platforms M1 are supplied to fill the gaps in the defenses occasioned by the withdrawal of the 6-inch M1900 material, new positions will have to be selected on terrain which can accommodate the platforms and, at the same time, command the required fields of fire. This will, in turn, call for new magazines, modification of fire control equipment, revision of communications systems, increased personnel for maintenance and, where the guns are actively manned, for new troop housing.

2. The pedestal mount, however, will permit installation of the 155mm guns in the exact positions now occupied by the 6-inch guns and will thereby continue in use the bombproof emplacements and magazines, the fire control equipment and communications systems now provided for the 6-inch guns.

3. Coast Artillery Board reports and Ordnance Technical Committee items indicate that development work on the 155mm Gun Pedestal Mount T12, for the 155mm Gun M1, is now essentially completed. Production can probably begin at an early date.

4. It is believed that, in the long run, provision of pedestal mounts and continued use of existing facilities will prove to be far less expensive and much more satisfactory than the establishment of hybrid defenses, employing the 155mm gun with the M1 platform.

HENRY C. WOLFE,  
Brigadier General, USA,  
Director, Planning Division, ASF.

*EGC*  
E. G. COWEN,  
Colonel, CAC,  
Chief, Seacoast Defense Proj Br,  
Planning Division, ASF.

2 Incls:  
n/c

FOR RECORD ONLY:

Basic is TS, no file number, 18 September 45, subject as above.  
Reference is made to For Record Only on Comment #2 by this office.

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