

TC MOVEMENT CONTROL OFFICE
Redstone Arsenal
Huntsville, Ala.

TCRAM

16 March 1955

SUBJECT: Nike Unit Training at Fort Bliss, Texas

TO: Chief, Field Service Division
Redstone Arsenal
Huntsville, Alabama

1. This office has noted that the unit training procedure for Nike units includes specifications that equipment "packages" will be forwarded from manufacturers or depots to Fort Bliss. There, the equipment is broken out, checked, and used by the units during the cycle of training conducted at Fort Bliss and White Sands. After the training is completed, the equipment is checked, repackaged, and forwarded to the tactical sites. Any items requiring replacement are forwarded from depot stocks to the tactical sites.

2. A spot-check of this system indicates that considerably higher transportation costs are incurred by this procedure than might be incurred through an alternative plan. This alternative would include that training equipment be permanently located at Fort Bliss, the equipment for sites being forwarded directly to the metropolitan areas from manufacturers or depots. It seems that savings would also accrue to Ordnance by this alternative, in that the recurrent packaging and checking now required could be eliminated. Another benefit lies in reducing the exposure of such highly priced equipment to hazards incident to transportation by having no more shipments than are absolutely required.

3. That this alternative seems to be a realistic potential is supported by the fact that retraining of units is accomplished on equipment permanently located at White Sands Proving Ground. An accurate evaluation of the potential savings in transportation costs requires information in addition to that now available to this office. This includes:

a. A list of major items forwarded to Fort Bliss for Nike unit training by the several technical services.

b. The sources of these items.

c. The frequency of package shipments.

d. Notation of which items sent to Fort Bliss are subsequently re-shipped to other locations.

e. A list of such secondary locations with an indication of the volume to each location.

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4. Request the foregoing information be furnished to this office so that accurate cost data may be developed. Appropriate action as a result of the conclusions will, of course, be coordinated with your Division.

GEORGE A. LUTZ
Major TC
Chief

ORDDW-FS

1st Ind

SUBJECT: NIKE Unit Training at Fort Bliss, Texas

Dep Chief, Fld Svc Div, Redstone Arsenal, Huntsville, Ala., 28 Mar 55

TO: Chief, Transportation Corps Movement Control Office, Redstone Arsenal, Huntsville, Alabama

1. Information requested in basic, plus background information leading up to the present method of shipment, is furnished in subsequent paragraphs.

2. a. Allocations approved by Assistant Chief of Staff and implemented by OCO for the first twenty (20) sets of NIKE battery equipment provided for certain sets to be allocated to Ft Bliss permanently for training of tactical battalions under the package training procedure. It was the thinking at that time that technical personnel (package) would leave the conventional battalion (90mm or 120mm) on site and go to Fort Bliss Area and fire on sets permanently assigned to Ft Bliss for training of packages. This package personnel would then return to tactical site and there receive complete sets of equipment shipped direct from contractor facility and/or depot stock.

b. In view of pressure that was brought to bear by 1st Guided Missile Group staff officers, allocations were revised by staff to provide for the shipment of all NIKE equipment to Ft Bliss to fulfill package training requirements and for subsequent shipment to tactical site. The purpose behind such revision was that brigade wanted each package to train on its own equipment and take the same items to tactical site. This method provided an opportunity for the troops to become familiar with the peculiarity of the individual item of equipment. In other words, they would be training on the same model equipment they would use on tactical site.

3. In making possible the shipment of all NIKE Battery Equipment to Ft Bliss, the Brigade apparently did not take into consideration the capabilities of Post Ordnance to receive, check, reissue and inspect after turn-in by package personnel and to reship to tactical site. Since no consideration was given to this, there resulted a burdensome operation for Post Ordnance which was far beyond capabilities of that facility. Subsequent recommendation emanating from two sources, i.e., Pueblo Ordnance Depot and Post Ordnance, Ft Bliss established the fact that Post Ordnance, Ft Bliss, should be relieved of the mission of receiving, storing and assembling of NIKE I Battery Equipment at Ft Bliss, since that is considered a distribution depot mission and was causing a very heavy workload on Post Ordnance personnel and storage facilities at Ft Bliss. These recommendations were forwarded through 4th Army and the

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National Stock Control Point to OCO, ATTN: ORDEFT for consideration. As far as known by the National Stock Control Point, these recommendations were not given favorable consideration by higher headquarters. In transmitting these recommendations to OCO, it was pointed out that all shipping instructions issued by National Stock Control Point directing the shipment of NIKE I Ground Equipment into Ft Bliss were based on the package training requirements and in consonance with approved Assistant Chief of Staff, G4, allocations.

4. With reference to the information requested in paragraph 3 of basic letter, the following data is furnished:

a. By reference to OCM and Contract Nomenclature List for NIKE I Major Items, dated 15 Oct 54, it can be determined, by review of the notes on each page of the equipment list, what items are shipped into Ft Bliss and subsequently reshipped to site. Briefly, these items include all items of Ground Guidance Battery Equipment with the exception of Inter-connecting Group, Cable, XM1, but to include the following items of launching area equipment: Launching Control Station, Trailer Mounted XM307; Test Set, Launching Area, Portable Electrical Equipment, XM20; Launching Section Operating Equipment and Box 1 of the ORD 7 organizational launching area tools and equipment. It will be noted that this list only includes Ordnance items of equipment and any information required concerning other technical service items will have to be obtained by TCMCO direct from the technical service concerned. It will also be noted that all assembly area equipment required for package training is made available from the allocated sets assigned to AAA & GM Center.

b. All items of battery ground guidance equipment are shipped from WECO, Burlington, North Carolina, and all items of launching area equipment are shipped from the Los Angeles Area and/or Pueblo Ordnance Depot.

c. In an effort to give some idea of the frequency of package shipments, supporting data is furnished on Inclosure 1 and 2, attached. By reference to these inclosures, it will be noted that for a three-month period, there were twenty-two (22) sets received at Ft Bliss and sixteen (16) sets shipped out. The time for processing NIKE equipment from the date it leaves the factory until the time it arrives on tactical sites has been reported as follows:

- (1) Average time per system through August
1954 152 days.
- (2) Shortest time for any system through
August 1954 66 days.

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- (3) Average time per system for the past
two months 92 days.
- (4) Shortest time for any system for the past
two months 60 days.

d. All items noted in paragraph a. above, are subsequently re-shipped to other locations. In accordance with the request of Post Ordnance, Ft Bliss and concurred in by Brigade, National Stock Control Point established an equipment pool of the following items of NIKE equipment:

Interconnecting Group Cable, XM1
Interconnecting Group Cable, XM8
Interconnecting Group Cable, XM9
Interconnecting Group Cable, XM10
Missile Capping Compressors
Launcher-Loaders

e. Attached as Inclosure 3 is a list of secondary locations to which 4 to 8 sets of NIKE battery equipment have been, or will be shipped consisting of the items referred to in paragraph a. above.

5. In addition to the feature of training on equipment to be used, mentioned in paragraph 2 above, this is the only chance the unit gets to actually fire the weapon, prior to an actual tactical requirement. With the system as complicated as it is, this gives some measure of assurance that the system will function when needed.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

3 Incls
a/s

CLINTON A. WAGGONER
Lt Col, Ord Corps
Dep Chief, Fld Svc Div

Shipment of Nike Ground Equipment to Ft Bliss for Package Training

Prod Schedule	Set No.	S/O No.	Date of S/O	Date Shipped	
Aug	89	15835	6 Jul 54	27 Aug 54	
	90	15836	6 Jul 54	31 Aug 54	
	91	15916	25 Aug 54	3 Sep 54	
	92	15917	26 Aug 54	17 Sep 54	
	93	15918	27 Aug 54	10 Sep 54	
	94	15919	25 Aug 54	29 Sep 54	
	95	15920	27 Aug 54	23 Sep 54	
	Sept	96	15921	27 Aug 54	24 Sep 54
		97	15922	25 Aug 54	29 Sep 54
		98	16063	26 Aug 54	1 Oct 54
99		16064	26 Aug 54	7 Oct 54	
100		16065	26 Aug 54	14 Oct 54	
101		16066	26 Aug 54	22 Oct 54	
*102		16112	30 Sep 54	19 Oct 54	
Oct		103	16068	2 Sep 54	28 Oct 54
		104	16069	2 Sep 54	28 Oct 54
		105	16107	2 Sep 54	5 Nov 54
	106	16108	30 Sep 54	5 Nov 54	
	107	16109	30 Sep 54	12 Nov 54	
	108	16110	30 Sep 54	23 Nov 54	
	109	16111	30 Sep 54	16 Nov 54	
Nov	<u>*110</u>	<u>16067</u>	9 Sep 54	19 Oct 54	

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	94	15919	25 Aug 54	29 Sep 54
	95	15920	27 Aug 54	23 Sep 54
Sept	96	15921	27 Aug 54	24 Sep 54
	97	15922	25 Aug 54	29 Sep 54
	98	16063	26 Aug 54	1 Oct 54
	99	16064	26 Aug 54	7 Oct 54
	100	16065	26 Aug 54	14 Oct 54
	101	16066	26 Aug 54	22 Oct 54
Oct	*102	16112	30 Sep 54	19 Oct 54
	103	16068	2 Sep 54	28 Oct 54
	104	16069	2 Sep 54	28 Oct 54
	105	16107	2 Sep 54	5 Nov 54
	106	16108	30 Sep 54	5 Nov 54
	107	16109	30 Sep 54	12 Nov 54
	108	16110	30 Sep 54	23 Nov 54
	109	16111	30 Sep 54	16 Nov 54
	Nov	*110	16067	9 Sep 54

NIKE I BATTERY SET NUMBERS AND SHIPPING DATES
 (Out of Ft. Bliss to Tactical Sites)

Pkg. No.	Date on Site	Battery Set No.	Date Shipped
14	Sept 54	73	14 Aug 1954
		74	2 Sept 1954
		75	4 Sept 1954
		76	9 Sept 1954
15	Sept 54	80	4 Sept 1954
		79	11 Sept 1954
		63	23 Sept 1954
		77	30 Sept 1954
16	Oct 54	82	7 Oct 1954
		83	23 Oct 1954
		84	26 Oct 1954
		60	30 Oct 1954
17	Nov 54	85	23 Oct 1954
		87	5 Nov 1954
		89	20 Nov 1954
		88	23 Nov 1954

NIKE I BATTERY SET NUMBERS AND SHIPPING DATES
 (Out of Ft. Bliss to Tactical Sites)

Pkg. No.	Date on Site	Battery Set No.	Date Shipped
14	Sept 54	73	14 Aug 1954
		74	2 Sept 1954
		75	4 Sept 1954
		76	9 Sept 1954
15	Sept 54	80	4 Sept 1954
		79	11 Sept 1954
		63	23 Sept 1954
		77	30 Sept 1954
16	Oct 54	82	7 Oct 1954
		83	23 Oct 1954
		84	26 Oct 1954
		60	30 Oct 1954
17	Nov 54	85	23 Oct 1954
		87	5 Nov 1954
		89	20 Nov 1954
		88	23 Nov 1954

List of Post Ordnance Installation Supporting NIKE Unit

Ft. Meade, Md.
Ft. Wadsworth, N. Y.
Ft. Sheridan, Ill.
Ft. Wayne, Mich.
Ft. Belvoir, Va.
Ft. Tilden, N. Y.
Philadelphia QM Depot, Penna.
Camp Hanford, Wash.
Presidio of S. F., Calif.
Ft. MacArthur, Calif.
Ft. Lewis, Wash.
Ft. Story, Va.
Ft. Devens, Mass.
Ord Fld Maint Shop, Neville Island, Pittsburgh, Penna.
Army Chemical Center, Edgewood, Md.
Ft. Eustis, Va.
Ft. Niagara, Model City, N. Y.
Loring AFB, Limestone, Maine
Ellsworth AFB, Ft. Carson, Colo.
Fairchild AFB, Wash.
Travis AFB, Calif.

21 April 1955

SUBJECT: Nike Unit Training at Fort Bliss, Texas

Gh, TC Movement Control Office, Redstone Arsenal, Huntsville, Ala.

TO: Chief of Transportation, Department of the Army, Washington 25, D.C.
Attn: Asst. Chief of Transportation (Traffic)

1. Attention is invited to the basic letter and 1st Indorsement concerning the training of Nike units. As will be noted in the basic letter, it is the opinion of this office that units training at Fort Bliss should use other than organic equipment, thereby saving considerable transportation costs.
2. To appreciate the length of the supply lines of the items involved in this training, a brief resume of the shipment of the Launching Control Station, Trailer Mounted, XM307 follows. The undercarriages are manufactured in Cleveland, Ohio and sent (less truckload) to Los Angeles. From there, the trailers are shipped by rail to Burlington, N.C. Then, shipment is again made to Fort Bliss, Texas. From Fort Bliss, as is indicated in the basic letter, the trailers are shipped to the tactical sites, the locations of which are known by your office. In summary, the supply line of this item in the United States alone is over 11,000 miles long.
3. This office has attempted to have the contract for procurement of these items changed, through the Industrial Division, this Arsenal, to eliminate at least so much of the shipment cited in para. 2, above, as is now involved from Cleveland to Los Angeles to Burlington, substituting a line movement from Cleveland to Burlington. We are advised, however, that no immediate change of this sort is possible. It has been indicated that the procurement agencies are unable to instruct the prime contractor, Western Electric Company, to sub-contract with vendors more proximate to related production facilities.
4. To assist in the evaluation of the current requirement, a traffic study on Ordnance equipment only has been conducted by this office. Incl. 4 shows the equipment presently moved to and from Fort Bliss. Incl 5 outlines the present costs of movement. Incl 6 reflects the potential costs of movement, if shipment is made directly from manufacturer to tactical sites. Incl 7 compares the current and potential costs and tabulates the "excess" transportation charges which will be paid on the twenty-one packages to be shipped to Fort Bliss during the period 1 Jan - 31 Dec 55. This amount, it will be noted, is \$13,341.26 per package or a total of \$280,166.38 for this period.

5. It is the opinion of this office that the cost of shipping packages to and from Fort Bliss should be considered by the authorities which directed this procedure be established. This consideration should include an evaluation of whether the benefit of training on organic equipment is worth the cost involved. There is a variety of test equipment available to determine at the tactical site, just as at the training site, whether or not the ground guidance equipment is serviceable. This check-out is required on-site anyway, in that the items are re-packaged and re-shipped from Fort Bliss to the tactical sites, exposing the equipment to the hazards of transport. The assurance that the system will function at Fort Bliss is no indication that it will function on the site as indicated in para 5, 1st Ind, without such a check-out. In any event, if a serviceability test of this nature is required, it is believed it could be more economically conducted at the source of supply than after shipment to Fort Bliss.

6. It is therefore recommended that the Department of the Army reconsider the requirement that Nike units train on organic equipment shipped to Fort Bliss and that the evaluation recommended in para 5, above, be made. If the benefits are not worth the cost, recommend appropriate instructions be issued by the Department of the Army to allow these potential economies be realized. Request this office be advised of the final determination.

7 Incls
1.-3., n/c
Added 4 incls
4.

GEORGE A. LUTZ
Major TC
Chief