

materiel and facilities needed for the support of the expanding operations in southeast Asia. And again, we will be in a much better position next January to provide these details and to state our additional requirements for the balance of fiscal year 1966. The \$1.7 billion amendment to the bill now before the committee which we are proposing at this time will provide the additional financing needed through January to gear up the production machine—to accelerate the delivery of essential items already in production and to initiate the production of new items required for the support of our forces in southeast Asia, as well as the construction of the most urgently needed facilities. We suggest that this amendment take the form of a new appropriation account—"Emergency fund, southeast Asia"—and that the language be similar, except for the amount, to the \$700 million fiscal year 1965 supplemental for southeast Asia.

As you know, we have planned in our fiscal year 1966 and prior year budgets a substantial buildup of war consumable stocks, particularly modern ordnance and ammunition. If we are to fulfill these plans, we must replace what we are drawing from these stocks for consumption in southeast Asia. Furthermore we must provide replacements for the aircraft being lost there in combat. And finally, we must buy some additional helicopters for the new Army and Marine Corps aviation units which we now plan to activate.

The higher activity rates planned for our forces in southeast Asia will increase considerably the consumption of spares and repair parts for many types of equipment. Stocks of these items must be restored through increased production. We will also need to replace in our inventories the additional quantities of equipment for the new bases being established or expanded in southeast Asia. Funds for these purposes are included in the \$1.7 billion supplemental.

Finally, the increased deployments of U.S. forces to southeast Asia will require an extensive program of construction in South Vietnam and along the lines of communication back to the United States. Included in this program are airfields, ports and troop support and logistics facilities.

SUMMARY

Last Wednesday in his statement on Vietnam, President Johnson said:

"I have asked the Commanding General, General Westmoreland, what he needs to meet this mounting aggression. He has told me. We will meet his needs."

The program I have outlined here today and the \$1.7 billion amendment to the fiscal year 1966 Defense appropriation bill now before the committee will, in the collective judgment of my principal military and civilian advisers and myself provide the men, materiel, and facilities required to fulfill this pledge, while at the same time maintaining the forces required to meet commitments elsewhere in the world. I earnestly solicit the full support of this committee and the Congress for this program and budget request.