

logistic and training support as well as to equip the new facilities being built in southeast Asia.

INCREASES IN PRODUCTION RATES

To support these higher rates of consumption and combat attrition, rebuild inventories and provide for the additional forces, we have greatly increased production rates and started new production lines. Planned production rates of the principal types of helicopters used in Vietnam have been just about tripled and certain fixed-wing types just about doubled. Production rates of the principal munition items have been increased many fold and major increases have been made in the production of tropical uniforms and jungle boots.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST, AND EVALUATION

The \$152 million included in the fiscal year 1966 supplemental for R.D.T. & E. is to accelerate certain development projects of particular interest to our operations in southeast Asia. You may recall that one of the items included in our first set of amendments to the fiscal year 1962 budget was the sum of \$122 million for research and development of nonnuclear weapons and equipment specifically designed for limited wars and counterinsurgency operations. Since that time, we have vigorously pursued our efforts in that area and many of the new weapons, equipment and techniques now being employed in Vietnam came out of this work, e.g., the armed helicopter, jungle communications equipment, battlefield radars, defoliation agents, emergency airfield equipment, lightweight body armor, minigun armed aircraft, ammunition for M-79 grenade launchers, jungle boots, etc.

Many other items of this type are now well along in development. In order to make them available for use in Vietnam at the earliest possible time, we have undertaken a new effort called Project Provost (priority research and development objectives for Vietnam operations support), designed to identify those current R. & D. projects which could make a significant contribution to our military operations in Vietnam, and which, with additional funds, could be brought to fruition relatively quickly. So far the military departments have identified over 150 items of this type, and we have already utilized about \$58 million from the fiscal year 1966 R. & D. emergency fund for their support. We are now requesting an additional \$152 million for fiscal year 1966 to continue and expand this effort and to meet other urgent requirements. Among the items to be supported with these additional funds are the development of a therapeutic drug for *fulciparum* malaria and a wide variety of surveillance devices, weapons, munitions, and personal equipment.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION

As shown on table 3, the bulk of the \$1.2 billion requested for military construction is for facilities in southeast Asia. The balance is for a variety of supporting facilities along the lines of communication back to the United States, and, to a small extent, for training and troop facilities within the United States. The \$1,238 million requested in this supplemental, together with the \$166 million provided by the