

trucks, and \$39 million more is included for support vehicles in fiscal year 1968. For tracked vehicles, \$4 million is included in the fiscal year 1967 supplemental and \$5 million in the fiscal year 1968 budget.

In the communications and electronics category, which includes such major items as radars and the Marine Corps tactical data system (MTDS), we have increased our fiscal year 1967 procurement to \$107 million, \$29 million of which is included in the supplemental request. Another \$145 million is included for communications and electronic equipment in fiscal year 1968.

#### AIR FORCE GENERAL PURPOSE FORCES

The Air Force General Purpose Forces shown on the classified table provided to the committee are essentially the same as those presented a year ago, with the exception of certain changes related to our operation in Vietnam.

##### *Fighter and attack*

Our long-range force objective in this category is the same as last year, namely, 24 wings of F-4's, F-111's, and A-7's. In the near term, however, we now propose to make several changes in the force structure and procurement programs. For the most part, these adjustments are related to operations in southeast Asia, in particular, the changes in our budget planning assumptions and the variations from the projected combat attrition rates reflected in our force planning last year. And, in a few cases, the proposed changes are the result of adjustments in production schedules.

The B-57's that we are using in South Vietnam will decline in number through fiscal year 1968, after which they are scheduled to phase out of active service completely.

With respect to the F-100's, we had originally planned to phase down the active force to fewer aircraft by end fiscal year 1967. However, attrition has been lower than forecast and we will have more squadrons in the force at end fiscal year 1967 than we had previously planned.

Last year we had planned to hold a large number of F-102's in the force through fiscal year 1967 and then phase down considerably in fiscal year 1968. However, in order to free F-4's for deployment to Vietnam, F-102's scheduled to phase out of the continental air defense forces were transferred to the tactical forces in fiscal year 1966.

Last year we had planned to retain the two F-104 squadrons through fiscal year 1967. However, we now plan to have only one squadron at end of fiscal year 1967 and phase this squadron out by the end of fiscal year 1968.

The number of F-105's in the active force is projected to decline, and ultimately these aircraft will be phased into the Air National Guard.

The F-4's are experiencing somewhat lower attrition than forecast last January and this will help the force to build up faster than planned.

The F-111 activation schedule is the same as planned last year, except, for a small slippage in a few of the later squadrons.

Last year, in order to help diversify the Air Force tactical fighter force, we proposed the procurement of the A-7, a relatively inexpensive subsonic aircraft with good range, large ordnance-carrying capa-