

1967, at a total cost of \$1,847 million. (Of the total, 102 aircraft costing \$457 million are in the fiscal year 1967 supplemental request.) For fiscal year 1968, 874 aircraft costing \$2,076 million are requested for these forces. Both the fiscal year 1967 and fiscal year 1968 programs provide for combat attrition through the normal production lead time. Accordingly, if the Vietnam conflict should end before that date, both the active and reserve Air Force structures would be modernized faster than now projected.

Last year, we had scheduled procurement of a sizable number of F-4 aircraft for fiscal year 1967 and a final procurement in fiscal year 1968. We now propose to increase the fiscal year 1967 program and buy an even larger quantity in fiscal year 1968.

With respect to the F-111A, we now plan to buy somewhat fewer aircraft in fiscal year 1968 than we planned last year so as to be able to include certain improvements, which are now being made, in more of the aircraft. The aircraft deleted from the fiscal year 1968 program will be added to the end of the line.

The Air Force's A-7 program has, as I indicated earlier, slipped substantially from that projected a year ago. The fiscal year 1966 buy has been deleted and the fiscal year 1967 buy reduced. For fiscal year 1968 we plan to buy a large number of A-7's, and additional offsetting upward adjustments in procurement in subsequent years should permit us to achieve the planned force level by the originally scheduled date.

Last year we had tentatively scheduled procurement of 157 OV-10's for the TACS force. However, the TACS requirement has grown sharply during the past year, leading to the decision to buy the O-2 and this, coupled with a delay in projected OV-10 deliveries and an increase in the cost of that aircraft, has caused us to revise our planned procurement program. Although we still plan to purchase 157 OV-10's for the TACS mission, the fiscal year 1967 buy has been reduced and the difference added to the fiscal year 1968 program. Further procurement of the OV-10 for the Air Force will depend upon a future decision to use it to help modernize the Special Air Warfare Forces.

As previously mentioned, action has already been initiated to procure 176 O-2A aircraft in fiscal year 1967 for the TACS force and SAW Force's program to provide for combat attrition replacement.

More A-37 aircraft have been added to the fiscal year 1967 program and still more will be procured in fiscal year 1968. We also plan to buy more F-5's, principally to help modernize the Vietnamese Air Force.

Finally, to offset projected attrition of reconnaissance aircraft in southeast Asia, the fiscal year 1968 quantity of RF-4 aircraft has been increased and more will be procured later for advance peacetime attrition. And, as previously mentioned, to maintain the desired level of RF-101 squadrons, we will convert a number of F-101's to the reconnaissance configuration in fiscal year 1968.

Other Air Force procurement

The Air Force's aircraft nonnuclear ordnance program for fiscal year 1967 totals \$1,739 million, of which \$438 million is included in the supplemental request. The proposed fiscal year 1968 program totals \$1,629 million.