"Iron bombs," which are being consumed at high rates in southeast Asia, will continue to dominate the fiscal year 1967–68 procurement programs. For these 2 years, $1,400 million will be spent on these bombs, including 250-pound, 500-pound, 750-pound, and 2,000-pound bombs; $31 million is for napalm bombs and $463 million is for 2.75-inch rockets and 20 mm. ammunition. For certain special purpose ordnance, $888 million is requested.

Also included in the Air Force's fiscal year 1967–68 program is $241 million for TV-guided Walleye's, antiradiation missiles, and Sparrow air-to-air missiles.

*Theater airbase vulnerability*

The theater airbase vulnerability program is designed to minimize the damage an enemy could do to our overseas airfields, and the aircraft on them, in a nonnuclear attack.

This year's request for $26 million will provide various vulnerability reductions measures (shelters, paving for dispersal sites, POL facility hardening, etc.) at a number of European and Pacific bases. The total program presently envisioned would ultimately provide shelter for a significant number of aircraft and other high-value aviation equipment, together with the full range of other vulnerability measures—at a total cost of about $178 million. I urge the Congress to provide the $26 million included in our fiscal year 1968 request so that we may get started promptly on this critical program.

## TACTICAL EXERCISES

Under normal peacetime conditions, large scale strategic mobility and tactical exercises contribute to the maintenance of high combat readiness, provide highly visible demonstrations of our capabilities, help test new operational concepts and weapon systems, and permit U.S. and allied forces to perfect coordination procedures which they would have to use in wartime. However, with the expansion of combat operations in southeast Asia during the past 18 months, the importance of simulating such operations has dropped sharply and in fiscal year 1966, only about $9 million was used for the larger exercises "directed" or "coordinated" by the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Therefore, on the assumption that the Vietnam conflict will continue through fiscal year 1968, we have budgeted only $27 million for this purpose, far below the $100 million plus level of pre-Vietnam years.

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The General Purpose Forces program outlined above will require total obligational authority of $35.4 billion in fiscal year 1968.

A comparison with prior years is shown below:

[In billions of dollars]

| | Fiscal year— | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1962 actual | 1963 actual | 1964 actual | 1965 actual | 1966 actual | 1967 estimate | 1968 proposed |
| Total obligational authority | 18.0 | 17.9 | 18.0 | 19.1 | 29.5 | 34.3 | 34.4 |