Other specialized activities

The specialized activities program also includes the overseas administration and grant aid portions of the military assistance program, and such other mission-related activities as weather service, oceanography, aerospace rescue and recovery, etc.

Because the military assistance program is not included in the legislation being considered at this time, only the last category of

activities will be discussed here.

Weather Service. The Air Force and Naval Weather Services collect, analyze, predict, and disseminate, globally, meteorological and geophysical information for the support of military operations, NASA's space program (including manned space vehicle reentries and recoveries), research and development missile test firings, and they conduct hurricane and typhoon tracking and forecasting, and collect nuclear debris air samples for the AEC in connection with the test ban treaty safeguards.

Oceanography. This category comprises the activities of the Navy's Oceanographic Office, Defense support of the National Oceanographic Data Center and their related research aircraft and survey ships. During the coming fiscal year, the Navy will significantly expand its oceanographic effort. For example, in the "broad ocean survey"

program the range of data collected will be greatly increased.

At the end of fiscal year 1966, nine oceanographic research and survey ships (three manned by Navy crews and six operated by MSTS) and two environmental production research aircraft were employed in the program. Seven of these are converted World War II ships but the other two are new oceanographic survey ships (AGS's) which entered the force during fiscal year 1966. In fiscal year 1967 two more new ships—oceanographic research vessels (AGOR's)—will be commissioned, increasing the force to 11 ships and making possible an expansion of the program. The AGS funded in fiscal year 1967 should enter service in fiscal year 1969. No new ships are being requested in fiscal year 1968 for this "operational" program, although two oceanographic research ships are included in the budget for the research and development program with which this survey effort is closely integrated.

Air rescue and recovery. The air rescue and recovery program comprises the Air Force Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service (ARRS), certain specialized forces of the Navy, and certain assigned forces of

the Army and Marine Corps.

To provide increased aircrew recovery capability in southeast Asia, additional ARRS helicopters will be procured in fiscal year 1967

and fiscal year 1968.

Traffic control, approach, and landing system. The Traffic control approach and landing system (TRACALS) element encompasses those 'common system" air traffic control facilities not provided by the

Federal Aviation Agency.

There are two prominent current programs. The first, the AIMS program, is concerned with the addition of the air traffic control radar beacon system, which provides positive identification and location of aircraft to all air traffic control radar facilities. The second is concerned with the replacement of current VHF and UHF airground-air communications systems in order to meet the more stringent requirement of 50 kilocycle spacing between channels in