

COMPLEMENTARY NATURE OF TWO OPERATIONS

The Corps of Engineers at the present time carries on two inter-related programs: One for military construction, which has aggregated \$11.5 billion in the past decade, and the other for civil works, which has involved \$10.7 billion in the same period. This conjunction of responsibilities permits the two programs to be run on a complementary basis, with one overhead of technical and administrative personnel rather than two. Throughout the country the military construction activities of the Corps of Engineers, including the important work it does for the Air Force and NASA, are carried out through the same district and division offices that are responsible for the civil works program. Military construction requirements would demand that a substantial part of this organization continue even if civil works responsibilities were eliminated. Yet in such a case many of the same jobs and functions which now use one set of employees and funds is in the other direction as the civil works program becomes the main activity. The overall program of the corps, therefore, is at the same time flexible and stable, with advantages in efficiency and economy which would be lost if the programs were to be separated.

CORPS' CIVIL PROGRAM STRENGTHENS MILITARY CAPABILITY

In addition, enactment of S. 886 in its present form could adversely affect the military capability of the Army. In part, the success of the Army Engineers in the military field may be credited to the fact that the corps has, for a period of 143 years, also been responsible for the civil works program. A trained organization in being and capable of taking immediate action has been of inestimable value in military as well as natural disaster emergencies. The 1965 report of the Army's Civil Works Study Board concluded that conduct of the civil program by the corps "strengthens the Army's competence to support