

the victims of floods, hurricanes, other catastrophes, economic injury, and product disasters (table 22).

We have recently completed a review of loan policies and eligibility criteria covering this program and have instituted necessary or desirable changes.

Federal prime contracts placed with small business concerns have risen from \$4.7 billion in 1960 to \$10.2 billion in 1967. The small business share of total procurement rose from 18.3 percent to 20.5 percent in the same period. We are also progressively expanding our cooperative efforts with large prime contractors to maximize subcontracts to small firms.

The CHAIRMAN. If I might interrupt there for just a moment, I recall a few years ago we set a target in this committee of 25 percent as the goal for procurement participation by small business, and your statement here indicates it has now reached 20.5. We are approaching that goal, and I commend you. I think it is a very interesting fact.

Mr. MOOT. Thank you, sir.

We are, as you know, embarking upon a new program which we hope will add additional stimulus by the reestablishing of our procurement center representatives in this room.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you.

Mr. MOOT. Defense prime contractors report that they have placed \$7.3 billion in subcontracts to small business in fiscal year 1967. [See table 23.]

Following a 2-year hiatus, we resumed operation of the procurement set-aside program on November 1, 1967. In addition, we have added emphasis to our efforts to encourage the development of State and local small business procurement programs.

We are continuing a moderate expansion of our management assistance program in response to the expanding needs of the small business community. The number of SCORE volunteers has reached 3,210 and continues to grow. We are intensifying our efforts to promote greater participation by small business in export trade and to broaden and expedite the transfer of federally financed technology to small firms.

We have entered into a number of lease guarantee transactions under the original limited authorization and others are in process. We believe that a sound basis has been laid for expansion of the program under the broadened program authorized by the Congress, effective January 9, 1968. We expect a substantially larger volume of guarantees in the current and future fiscal years, with increased private participation.

We have initiated a study of the impact of crime on small business, as directed in the 1967 amendments to the Small Business Act. A report, with appropriate recommendations, is to be submitted to the Congress in October 1968.

Finally, the 5 million small business concerns spread through every community of the Nation are vitally involved and acutely interested in the major Federal, State, and local programs which have been launched to promote balanced economic growth and to cope with the problems of urban decay and rural stagnation.

We believe that the utilization of the actual and potential economic capacity of small business in support of these programs is clearly in