

SBA also has programs to assist small firms in purchasing surplus Government property, to promote the interests of small business in the purchase of stockpile items and to encourage the Department of Commerce to keep in mind the interests of small business when preparing regulations governing the allocation of critical materials.

In summary, the major SBA procurement assistance events during the past year involved:

- Reestablishment of the agency's "procurement set-aside" program.

- Expansion of the subcontracting program to gain more Government business for the small producers.

- Increased activity in the certificate of competency program.

- Activation of the 8(a) procurement program in furtherance of the President's test cities effort to provide more jobs for the hard-core unemployed.

- Restaffing of the procurement centers with SBA representatives to assure continued attention to the small business potential by the procurement officer.

#### BUSINESS MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE

Our Office of Management Assistance conducts a number of programs designed to assist businessmen in their day-to-day operations. This Office—

- Publishes factual pamphlets and booklets covering the whole spectrum of small business operation.

- Provides counseling services through its own network of management assistance officers in 73 cities.

- Offers counseling at local levels program which brings the services of SBA counselors to about 500 cities per quarter.

- Makes arrangements with educational institutions to provide both day and evening training sessions in business subjects for established businessmen as well as potential entrepreneurs.

- Manages a cadre of 3,210 retired executive (Service Corps of Retired Executives) who volunteer to provide their expertise to small business free of charge.

During fiscal 1967, 3,400,000 copies encompassing 500 different business subjects were distributed.

Our publications are written by distinguished authorities in the business field, either as a public service or for a modest fee.

Interest in our publications is continually growing.

The overwhelming majority of all publications distributed was a direct result of specific requests from individuals, corporations, governmental institutions, State governments, foreign governments and banks.

Many police departments have very recently requested volume amounts of publications dealing with crime prevention measures which small businesses located in ghetto areas may be able to take.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Bothmer, are you telling the committee that you have a publication in SBA on how to prevent crime, and that the police departments, who are supposed to be experts, call upon you for these publications so that they may be better informed?

Mr. BOTHMER. Not a single publication, Mr. Chairman. We have some publications dealing with subjects such as shoplifting and the kind of preventive measures that small companies might take from a