

gun was approved in 1957 and production will run concurrently with the rifle. Early in that year, a contract was placed in Canada for a British sub-machine gun adopted by Canada.

The production of ammunition generally declined in both 1956 and 1957. However, ammunition production for the 7.62mm rifle was increased to permit general issue. A propellant for this ammunition, which has met NATO standards, was developed by Canadian Arsenals Limited, extending the storage life of the ammunition. Production continued on other types of small arms ammunition: .30, .303, 9mm, 20mm, and numerous pyrotechnics and explosive stores for the three Services; 40mm, 3"50, 4", and anti-submarine devices for the Navy; 2", 60mm, 81mm mortar and 105mm howitzers for the Army; 2.75" air-to-air rockets and marine markers for the RCAF. Canadian production of Army mines, fuze 410, certain anti-submarine projectiles, double-base rocket propellant grains, echo ranging bombs, and certain pyrotechnics occurred for the first time. A production program for 20-pdr. tank ammunition, incorporating three years of pre-production work on improvement, got under way.

Construction.—Defence construction activity in 1956 was exceeded only in 1952, mainly as a result of work on the Mid-Canada radar line and the Army home station development program. The completion of the Mid-Canada project and reduced work required for the home station development program caused a significant drop in defence construction in 1957. The Mid-Canada line was the largest single project undertaken by Defence Construction (1951) Limited on behalf of the Department of National Defence, and construction of Camp Gagetown, N.B., one of the seven home stations, was the largest project undertaken on a single site. The other home stations under construction were at Valcartier, Que., London and Petawawa, Ont., Winnipeg, Man., and Edmonton and Calgary (Camp Sarcee), Alta.

General Purchasing.—The general purchasing program is primarily concerned with the clothing, equipping, feeding, maintaining and servicing of the Canadian Armed Forces, and the purchase of certain supplies for the Defence Research Board and the Inspection Services of the Department of National Defence. These general purchases of supplies and services not normally requiring special production facilities include such items as: textiles and all types of clothing, footwear and leather goods, transport equipment (military and commercial) together with parts and replacements, the repair and reconditioning of all types of service vehicles, food and catering services, furniture and furnishings, petroleum products and hard fuels, medical and dental stores, aerial surveys, building supplies, and all types of barrack stores. Some of the major contracts placed during 1956 and 1957 were for electrical aircraft spares for *F-86 Sabre* aircraft, shipboard cable for the destroyer-escort program and for normal maintenance needs, certain requirements for the Mid-Canada project, fuel for aircraft, equipment for winter maintenance of airdromes, refueling and crash fire trucks for the RCAF, maintenance equipment for the Air Division in Europe, and a number of aerial surveys.

The fourteen district offices maintained by the Department of Defence Production across Canada continued to purchase food and other defence supplies and services of a local or urgent nature needed by defence establishments in the vicinity of such offices. Other purchases included hardware and building materials, electrical and electronic equipment, petroleum products, furniture, and barrack stores. Service contracts were arranged for minor repairs to ships, minor alterations and repairs to buildings, laundry and dry cleaning, coal hauling, disposal of ashes and refuse, snow removal, transportation, consulting engineering services, and repairs to footwear and clothing.