

Weapons and Ammunition.—Production was completed in 1959 on the third order of 105mm howitzers and on two substantial orders for long-term howitzer spares. Production of anti-submarine torpedoes for the Royal Canadian Navy was also completed but manufacture continued in order to fill a large order of these torpedoes for the Royal Navy. Further deliveries of anti-submarine mortars and of weathershields for 3"/50 calibre guns were made to the Royal Canadian Navy. Shipments of the 7.62mm C-1(FN) rifle, the heavy barrelled automatic version of this weapon, and the 9mm sub-machine gun continued to be made to the Canadian Army. Action was taken to provide for the manufacture of long-term spares for these three weapons while the production lines were still set up. Deliveries of a Canadian-designed artillery director were begun in 1959. A quantity of 3"/70 calibre twin naval guns and mounts for the new destroyer escort program was ordered from the United Kingdom.

Delivery of substantial quantities of ammunition was made to the three Armed Services. In 1959, production was completed on orders for 2.75" rocket heads, 40mm rounds, a variety of small arms ammunition, 81mm, 60mm and 2" mortar bombs, and 3"/50 calibre and 4" cartridges. Production was also completed on an initial requirement for 17" rocket components and 105mm improved performance projectiles for the Defence Research Board. Production continued throughout the year on anti-submarine fuses, practice depth charges, 7.62mm small arms ammunition of all types, several kinds of 105mm, 20 pdr. and naval rounds, 2.75" rockets, and pyrotechnics. Various rockets and 20 pdr. shot were modified to meet Army training needs. Production of a Canadian-designed anti-personnel mine, 20 pdr. target practice rounds, training aids and pyrotechnics was begun. Development was undertaken or planned for anti-tank shot, improved fuses, anti-submarine devices, and screening smoke rounds.

Construction.—Construction activity for the Canadian Armed Forces increased substantially to \$67,723,000 in 1959, as measured by payments to contractors. The largest contracts placed by Defence Construction (1951) Limited were for hangars and other improvements at Trenton, Ont., Greenwood, N.S., and Summerside, P.E.I., and for the paving of part of the Northwest Highway System. Work in connection with construction for the Bomarc missile and SAGE (semi-automatic ground environment) projects for the Royal Canadian Air Force was begun. There was a large amount of construction activity in 1959 for the United States Air Force, primarily on refuelling facilities for the Strategic Air Command and on the Ballistic Missile Early Warning System (BMEWS).

General Purchasing.—The procurement of supplies and services not normally requiring special production facilities increased slightly in 1959 to about \$176,000,000. Material purchased at headquarters included such items as clothing, footwear and leather goods, medical and dental stores, canned foods, petroleum products and hard fuels, electrical equipment and cable, furniture and furnishings, building supplies and hardware, barrack equipment and naval stores, as well as mechanical transport, construction, road maintenance and aircraft ground support equipment, together with their necessary maintenance spares and servicing. Services included aerial surveys, engineering, food catering, and certain research and development projects. In this latter field, contracts were awarded for work in such widely diversified fields as the development of fabrics that will afford protection against nuclear, bacteriological and chemical warfare; the extension of certain research and development programs with Canadian universities; and for further development of a family of light-tracked vehicles known as the Bobcat.

The Canadian Army's new role in civil defence necessitated substantially increased procurement of medical and surgical supplies and equipment, litters, floodlights, generators, ladders and demolition jacks.

The 14 district purchasing offices across Canada continued their essential role of arranging for services required by the defence establishments located in their vicinities, as well as purchasing fresh food and supplies of a local or urgent nature.