

Budget Aspects

It is expected that the program will require a budget of approximately \$12 millions. The program is, however, nonrecurring in nature: a single appropriation for the total program is contemplated, which will be expended for the most part over a period of five fiscal years (1955-1959 inclusive), but obligated for the most part in the coming fiscal year. By way of example, a considerable amount of instrumentation and equipment must be ordered in the coming fiscal year if the scientific program is to be begun in calendar year 1957. An added consideration with respect to the timing is the need for coordinating the various programs of the participating nations, scheduled for October 1-4, 1954, in Rome. More than 20 nations will then integrate the various programs; this will require rather definite knowledge as to the technical contents of each program and as to the scope of effort contemplated by each nation.

Federal Aspects

The need for Government support rests largely (1) on the nature of the program. Concerned as it is with phenomena that affect our entire civilian and defense economies and each and every citizen; (2) on the traditional and Congressionally-recognized interest of the Government in such problems as weather, communications, surveying and mapping, and national defense; (3) on the magnitude of the program, which is beyond the means of private interests; and (4) on the international aspects which have been discussed above.

The participation and cooperation of a number of Federal agencies has already been a matter of informal agreement in many instances. The program as a whole is of particular interest to the Departments of Defense and Commerce.

Several aspects characterize the nature of such cooperation. First, the data now accumulated by such agencies as the Weather Bureau as part of its current functions and responsibilities represent a background desideratum of considerable value in the total effort. Second, the special geophysical projects making up the new, non-recurring program may in some instances best be given overall supervision by such agencies. Third, in some instances existing field facilities of these agencies in out-of-the-way places can be used.

One of the important remote regions in the U. S. program is the Antarctic. The antarctic requirements of the program envision the establishment of a base at Little America and two satellite stations, one at the geographic South Pole, the other at the suspected "source" of Antarctic weather. While the scientific costs are to be presented in the forthcoming budget, the expeditionary costs remain a subject for additional exploration with the Department of Defense.

Other Cooperative Aspects

In the course of the preparation of the program by the National Research Council, it has become apparent that a large number of private