

# Marshall Gives Money To Start Up Youth Employment Programs

The Department of Labor's announcement last week that it has decided where to allocate nearly \$125 million in youth employment money marks the opening of an offensive aimed at creating a force of school-age youth to be deployed both as fodder for race riots and to depress trade union wage scales.

Under the plan, which is to be tested in six major cities and selected areas of several others, youth between the ages of 16 and 19 in areas of high unemployment will be guaranteed up to 20 hours of work a week during the school year and 40 hours a week during the summer at wage rates at or slightly above the minimum wage.

The limited size of the program and its label as a "test" are totally misleading.

For all effective purposes, the Department of Labor headed by British sympathizer F. Ray Marshall, with the Department of Health Education and Welfare, headed by British ally Joseph Califano, have already decided that what remains of the U.S. public educational system is to be overhauled and turned into a system of recycling human labor.

Since the collapsing U.S. economy does not produce jobs for skilled workers, doctors, scientists, teachers, etc., the school system must become a conduit for placement of low-skilled workers into both public and private sector jobs through "work-study" type programs.

"I don't know where the jobs will be," said a Labor Department spokesman this week. "It depends on the city. Most will be low-skilled...the key thing is to keep the kids off the street and give them some discipline...ghetto kids don't give a damn about math and science. They care about jobs. Give them a shovel and a paycheck..."

## *Reshuffling*

The more general manpower policy defined by such programs has been politely called "reshuffling of unemployment," given that there are a fixed amount of jobs available in the private sector, Eli Ginzberg, a self-proclaimed admirer of Nazi manpower policies, and others have argued, decisions have to be made as to who will get these jobs. Unemployment should be "reshuffled," with white semi-skilled workers being replaced by ghetto youth working at lower wage rates and skill levels; what such youth lose in skills can be made up by having larger numbers of them working in redesigned job categories.

The net effect of widespread implementation of such a pool of recyclable ghetto labor would be to simultaneously create the condition where sons are scabbing

on their parents while driving down overall union wage rates. "If you are talking about the unions," said a Labor Department spokesman, "we are going to scare the hell out of them by injecting these kids into the labor market." While he refused to be quoted, the spokesman indicated "off the record, that wage rates will have to come down to a more realistic level, kids are going to do their jobs for less, and we give them access to the jobs..."

This aspect of the program has been prominently featured in several think tank pieces (see accompanying section) in an effort to "sell" it to desperate and backward leaders of the business community. Such a sale is predicated on making the "buyer" believe that he has no option to expand the productive economy and therefore he had better accept a tax break or a wage subsidy thrown his way by the government. A second selling point is made that support for such programs are an effective buffer against the more expansive and openly anticapitalist policies espoused by the Institute for Policy Studies (IPS) and its Congressional supporters like George McGovern.

## *Riot Creation*

At present, massive, liberal spending programs for such job creation don't have the ghost of a chance of passing through Congress. To get their money such individuals are, therefore, openly conspiring with such people as Jesse Jackson to stage riots in the nation's ghettos to override conservative opposition.

Marshall and Califano, as well as Pat Harris in the Department of Housing and Urban Development, are consciously deploying their existing funds strategically to create the precondition for riots. The Youth Employment funds allocated this week are small when compared with tens of billions of dollars needed to create "full recycling" apparatus; they become significant when viewed as potential "walk-around" money to prepare youth shock troops for riot activity. The susceptibility of especially ghetto youth for such deployments appears to be the principal reason behind the increasing targeting of urban youth employment programs for government funds. "Ghetto youth especially have a tradition of parliamentary organization," said a DOL spokesman. "Street gangs make productive work units if they are handled right...ghetto youth can become an explosive force for change..."

—L. Wolfe