

SLAVE LABOR BILLS PUSHED THROUGH TO HIRE MUNICIPAL WORKERS

Dec. 12 (IPS)--Both the House and Senate today approved legislation to provide hundreds of thousands of slave-labor, "public service" jobs at the same time that New York City took the lead in laying off thousands of municipal workers. The bills would provide funds for cities to rehire laid-off municipal workers at a minimum of their former salaries. The money will be funnelled through the CETA (Comprehensive Employment and Training Act) manpower apparatus, the coordinating body for slave-labor employment.

Rushed through to defuse the rapidly mounting unrest among the increasing numbers of unemployed, the bills are just a foot-in-the-door for full-fledged slave-labor programs to be implemented by Congress next year. Rockefeller's psychological warfare tactic will be to create rumors of available jobs to attract migrating job seekers who eventually will be demoralized enough to work at any wage.

The House bill, sponsored by Rep. Dominick Daniels (D.-N.J.), authorizes \$2 billion. The Senate bill, sponsored by fascist Jacob Javits (R.-N.Y.), allows \$4 billion for public service employment and \$3 billion for additional unemployment funds. A conference committee will meet to come up with a compromise figure for the slave-labor jobs.

Reports this past week estimated that up to 600,000 slave-labor jobs could be created by June 30, with only the \$2 billion appropriation. This is in addition to the 170,000 slave-labor jobs for which funds already have been allocated this year. It is also reported that President Ford--in view of rapidly increasing unemployment--is ready to accept a public service employment bill in the range of \$2 to 3 billion. Thus the legislation seems certain to become law by the end of the year.

SPD PROTECTS NAZI STRAUSS

WIESBADEN, BRD, Dec. 12 (IPS)--The leadership of West Germany's Social Democratic Party (SPD) today publicly assumed the role of protector of fascist strongman Franz-Josef Strauss.

Christian Social Union head Strauss and his henchman Karl Carstens ventured into the city of Duisberg in West Germany's industrial Ruhr region, where elections in May 1975 will determine whether the working-class based SPD will survive as a party. A counterdemonstration was launched by various student groups, the West German Communist Party, and the SPD's youth organization, the JUSOs, including a petition against Strauss' Duisberg appearance.

Today old left-winger Herbert Wehner, the SPD's parliamentary fraction leader, hurried to be of service to Rockefeller when he discovered that some Social Democratic youth had joined with Communists against the notorious Nazi Strauss. "Those who belong to the SPD," announced Wehner, "must remove their signatures [from the petition] by noon tomorrow or lose their membership in the party."

IS NAVAL HOSPITAL BRAINWASHING MILLS?

Dec. 13 (IPS)--A spokesman for the Bethesda Naval Hospital, interviewed last week by IPS, would not deny that Congressman Wilbur Mills is being held there against his will. There is every indication that Mills is being subjected to brainwashing.

Ensign Brown of the hospital's Public Affairs Office informed IPS that the "Naval Department would take offense" at questions about Mills' treatment. But he would deny neither that Mills is being held a prisoner there nor that behavior modification was being performed on the once powerful Congressman. Bethesda Hospital is known to have capabilities for such behavior modification.

It appears that Mills is under intense psychiatric care. The chairman of the hospital's department of psychiatry, Capt. Victor Holm, would neither confirm nor deny to IPS that he is in fact caring for Mills, but stated that he would be responsible if such psychiatric care were being given. According to staff members at the hospital, Dr. W. R. Davis, who has the psychiatric night watch, is responsible for making any decisions on the Mills case that become necessary during the night.

When IPS asked Congressman Mills' chief aide Gene Goss whether Mills was being held against his will at the Bethesda hospital, Goss answered in a frightened voice, "I don't know." Goss then asked, "Did Capt. Holm tell you that Mr. Mills is his patient?" When told about Holm's cryptic response to IPS' questions, Goss refused to say anything further.

A Little Help from His Friends

Following a series of increasingly ugly attacks against him by the Rockefeller-controlled media for his suddenly developed pattern of strange and foolish behavior, Mills was convinced by other congressmen to enter the hospital last week. There he was reportedly placed under heavy sedation, even though the nature of his illness was never explained to the public. After Mills spent a week in the hospital, the media announced that Mills had decided to relinquish his post as chairman of the powerful House Ways and Means Committee.