

# WASHINGTON REPORT

It is generally agreed a flying fish, upon leaving the water, is merely trying to escape from a predatory fish and is sustained in the air for a few seconds by large pectorial fins.

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Telephone Talk

By R. B. MOORE



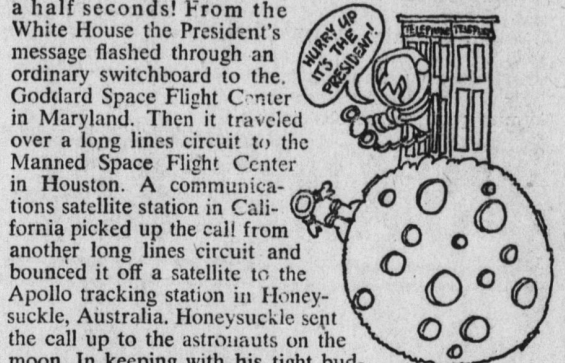
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The legislative battle over the anti-poverty program finally surfaced in the House of Representatives last week. It has seemed to me that evidence presented during the long consideration of the bill in Committee hearings and in the Floor debate showed

the extent of the waste, inefficiency and mismanagement in this program. I have opposed the program, or these reasons in the past and I will continue to oppose it until we can make the same kind of broad changes that are so sorely needed. Unfortunately, these efforts fell short of success in the House.

It has been my conclusion that redirection of the anti-poverty program needs to be made through legislation to assure as much as possible that the scandals and bogglers that have been so apparent in the program are corrected and that more specific guidelines are provided. Administrative changes have been made to improve the anti-poverty program in recent months and more changes are being developed at this time, but believe that by passing the legislation agreed to last week, the House has failed again to meet its responsibilities. In taking this action, it has essentially extended the mish-mash of loose legislation it wrote some time ago.

Five years of spending amounting to \$7.5 billion have gone into this so-called war on poverty. Parts of the program have had good results and have made worthwhile contributions. The best known of these is the Head Start program for pre-school children of poor families. However, there are other activities that have also achieved positive results. Even so, the lack of direction by legislation has helped create a new and far-flung bureaucracy that, in a practical sense, seems answerable to nobody. A number of us here believed that such a consequence was a clear possibility when the program was first considered in Congress. It is no satisfaction that our fears have been borne out by the poverty program's operation.

Misuse of funds, waste, and lack of direction often have been the rule rather than the exception. A dreary succession of scandals has seriously impaired public confidence in the program. There is impressive evidence that poor people are receiving less and less of the money being spent while an increasingly greater share of funds has been going for high salaries and administrative costs. But whatever the program has become, it has continued to labor under its great initial deficiency of five years ago — that the Federal government has had no idea of how these programs

ought to operate and that, in effect, it did not know what it was doing.

The result has been discouraging. One Governor has explained that 80% of the anti-poverty program funds in his State or emergency, food and medical programs did not go for food and medicine. Activist social scientists have moved into the program and the Federal government has subsidized revolutionaries and families who would rather destroy our society than work to improve it. The program has also degenerated often into political slush fund where money was doled out freely. Prohibiting political activity is one of the most essential reforms that needs to be made. Another change must be the recovery of control where employees have usurped the authority of community action boards. This has commonly occurred all over the country, including operations in our own State.

In a substitute bill offered in the debate, State and local government cooperation and effort would be injected into the pro-

## IRS Announces Some Openings

Greensboro, N. C. — J. E. Wall, District Director of the Internal Revenue Service in Greensboro, said today that there are openings now in IRS for experienced professional accountants. Vacancies exist in various North Carolina locations.

Starting salaries for experienced accountants range from \$190 per week to \$216 per week. Applicants who possess a degree in accounting (24 semester hours) plus two years of professional accounting experience may qualify for GS-9. Possession of a Master's degree is considered to be the equivalent of two years of professional experience. Entrance requirements for GS-11 are the same as for GS-9 except three years of experience are required instead of two. Applicants who have accounting experience but have not completed four years of college including 24 semester hours of accounting will be required to take a written test.

Anyone interested in these positions should contact the nearest IRS office or the Chief, Personnel Branch, Internal Revenue Service, P. O. Box 20541, Greensboro, N. C. 27420.

gram, for the first time. This is a basic and, in my opinion, an essential change that the discouraging record of the program demands. Such a formula has worked well with the Appalachia Program and could make certain that there is full coordination with many other programs administered through the States which are aimed at alleviating economic want and hardship.

The war on poverty has not been won in five years and my opposition to it is not based upon a conclusion that spending \$7.5 billion should have won it. Poverty is very much still with us and its causes are deeply rooted. It will take many years to deal with them. Progress toward the elimination of poverty is hard going, but we should try to meet the challenge. I do not feel, however, travelling on down the same road we had been using during the last five years promises to carry us toward the goal of abolishing the scourge of poverty. There is nothing progressive about a stubborn refusal to profit from our mistakes. What we must do now is change our direction in a way that offers better results. The new legislation still depends too much upon administrative authority and action and I hope that this fundamental flaw can be corrected.

## Letter To Editor

Sir: I want to thank you very much for the wonderful news I have been reading in the Kings Mountain Herald. When my paper gets to me here in the state of Oregon and I start reading the news, it makes me feel as if I am right there in Kings Mountain.

I know there is 3,000 miles from where I live in Oregon to Kings Mountain. But your paper makes me feel as if I am right there with my friends. The saying is "You can take the boy out of the country, but you can not take the country out of the boy." I am a native of Kings Mountain. I lived there from birth 1914 until I joined the armed service in 1942. My brother "Dutch" Goins lived in Kings Mountain all his life before his death. Again, Mr. Harmon, thanks very much for all the wonderful news you send me in your Kings Mountain Herald.

Bright E. Goins  
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