

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR OFFICIAL FEELS "GOOD" ABOUT UNEMPLOYMENT SITUATION

WASHINGTON, D.C., JAN. 9 (IPS)--Officials of the Manpower Administration tried to calm hysterical state administrators at a special conference on "Assisting the Unemployed" held here today by the Department of Labor (DOL).

Amidst cries that "the computers have been blown" by the increased work load, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Manpower, William J. Kolberg, announced: "Fellow citizens feel the panic because of the unemployment situation. It's the job of the government to show we care and we must go out there working hard...I feel good about the situation," he continued, "the purpose of this meeting was in no sense, let me repeat that, NO SENSE-to indicate a panic. We've gotten on quickly and well. As a system, ladies and gentlemen, we know our business, we'll get the job done."

In answer to questions from IPS about the role of CETA (the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act) in expanded war production Kolberg quickly answered, "CETA would work perfectly with expanded war production-that's what its for- to provide jobs in private industry."

An Aide to Kolberg had some additional thoughts on how to (provide) gear up the CETA machine. "We're looking for any innovations," he said. "You know take a gang of kids to a park and have them clean it up. There's a lot more to it than picking up bottles, you know, landscaping and the like." When informed that the Nazis used similar methods he replied, "Well, they haven't been tried here yet."

N.Y. TIMES OMITTS ECHEVERRIA PRAISE FOR ROCKY

DEC. 9 (IPS)--In an effort to keep intact the disintegrating liberal image of Luis Echeverria Alvarez, the New York Times ran a Jan. 8 interview with the Mexican President. Currently Echeverria is under Labor Committee led attack internationally for his role in the murder of a Mexican Communist Party member, Hilario Moreno.

The article, "Mexico Chief Sees Threat of a New War," according to author James Reston was "approved by the Mexican President for publication." It is a pot pourri of Echeverria's views portraying the bloodied murderer of thousands as a mild mannered liberal-progressive.

It was only by comparing the New York Times' English version of the Reston interview with other language versions, most notably as it appeared in the Mexican daily, Excelsior Jan. 8, that

IPS gleaned the extent to which the New York Times was protecting Echeverria's image. The New York Times ommitted the following sentence: "He (Echeverria) praised the confirmation of Nelson Rockefeller as Vice President because he is a man who has had broad experience with Latin America". This revelation, had it appeared in the Times, would have blighted Echeverria's image as the great "anti-imperialist" by linking him to his real base--Rockefeller--whose record in Latin America as an imperialist is well known. In Mexico, Echeverria has less to lose by publication of his infatuation with the new Vice President. The working class there no longer has any illusions; fascism is their daily reality.