



WASHINGTON REPORT

Prepared by *Education-Training Market Report*

ALLEN SEES \$100 BILLION SPENDING: "By 1980, if not sooner, it is likely that the country will be spending \$100 billion a year on education, twice the present amount, and the federal government--- which collects two-thirds of all tax revenues--obviously must bear a much more substantial share of the cost than at present." The words are those of Dr. James E. Allen, Jr., new U.S. Commissioner of Education. They were spoken at recent annual meeting of Education Commission of the States in Denver.

Allen told 600 delegates that "the educational requirements of the next decade would appear to justify a federal sharing in the order of 25 to 30 percent of the cost of elementary and secondary education with the 1970s as compared with the present eight percent."

-0-

GI BILL GOES BEGGING: GI bill which Congress passed for Vietnam war veterans is having few takers. Veterans Administration reports that fewer than 20 percent of returning veterans, being discharged at rate of 80,000 per month, are enrolled in school. Only handful of 500,000 veterans who lack high school education are taking advantage of bill's benefits.

Concerned with problem Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, which contains many programs that could be tailored to training or somehow utilizing these veterans, has ordered special inquiry into what is being done and what is not being done. Problem is also being looked at by special interdepartmental task force set up by Bureau of Budget.

Teacher Corps program created under Johnson Administration is operating VIPS (Veterans in Public Service), in which some 200 Vietnam veterans have been recruited as teacher trainees in inner-city schools. Congress is being asked to appropriate \$10 million next year so program may be expanded to enroll 1,500 men. VIP program at Office of Education is headed by Allen Lesser.

Lesser believes key to training projects for Vietnam veterans will be through tapping resources of two or three Federal agencies for needed funding. With some 35,000 veterans coming home every year with medical training, he sees need for moving men into growing health manpower field.

DROPOUT PREVENTION CONTRACT: First project to be funded under Title VII of Elementary and Secondary Education Act will take place in Texarkana, Ark., with schools systems of Texarkana, Texas, and Arkansas participating. Three school districts, two in Texas, are involved.

Project will be run by private industry contractor, in cooperation with local schools and with federal funding. Initial grant of \$270,000 was made in May, but project was held up until one Texas district withdrew a Freedom of Choice desegregation plan in favor of approved integration. Since that time, an additional \$250,000 has been provided.

Texarkana, U.S.A., project is expected to continue for five years for total funding of some \$2 million. There are two phases: first phase will remove educational deficiencies of 150-400 children in grades 7-12 and second phase will seek to upgrade educations of 100 in grades 7-12 and 400 in K-6 (kindergarten through sixth grades).

Texarkana project was developed by local schools in cooperation with Washington-based Institute for Politics and Planning. Institute will help schools in selecting educationally qualified private firm to conduct project. Object is to keep potential dropouts in school.

-0-

POLICE MANPOWER TRAINING: Office of Education has signed contract for \$100,000 with International Association of Police Chiefs, Inc. to conduct program under which soon-to-be-released servicemen will be offered training as police recruits.

-0-

EDUCATION RESEARCH LAGGING: Research for Tomorrow's Schools: Disciplined Inquiry for Education, a report prepared by Committee on Educational Research of National Academy of Education and published by Macmillan Co., makes appeal for broader, more systematic educational research effort by federal, state and local bodies, as well as by foundations and private industry.

Volume points out that two-tenths of one percent of federal research and development budget is now spent for education, although R&D budget now represents three percent of Gross National Product. Report, edited by Lee I. Cronbach and Patrick Suppes, contends lag in change and innovation in nation's schools at all levels can be traced in large part to lack of research.

-0-

UNIT STILL IN OEO: One small branch of Job Corps has been returned to Office of Economic Opportunity in response to insistence of Director Rumsfeld. Experimental and Development Branch, temporarily at least, has been placed under wing of OEO Research, Program Planning and Evaluation Division. Some \$5 million of Job Corps money tentatively is available to Branch, now headed by Acting Branch Chief Dr. Peter Beach.

"The Washington Report is provided by the editors of Education-Training Market Report as a service to the training and development profession. ETMR, Inc., 4706 Bethesda Avenue, Washington, D. C. 20014."