

The actual decentralization will depend upon the willingness of bureau and division directors to implement the memorandum referred to above.

At the present time, there is no funding of programs at the regional office level. It is my understanding, however, that consideration is being given to decentralization of funding. There are three programs which are now decentralized up to the point of funding. They are: Manpower Development and Training, title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, and the small grants program under research.

In fiscal year 1966, the six States which make up region IV received a total of \$430,514,053 for all Federal aid programs in education.

Madam Chairman, here I am inserting, if I may, exhibit No. 2, which is a photostat copy of the breakdown of expenditures by the six Southeastern States.

From all indications, this amount will not decrease in the future, but perhaps will increase. A strong responsibility of the Office of Education in administering funds of this magnitude should be in the field of proper accounting for funds expended.

One of the responsibilities of the program officers in the regional office is to make a determination that institutions and local and State agencies are expending their funds for the purposes intended by Congress. This does not constitute an audit. All audits are performed by Office of Audit, DHEW. This can only be achieved by continuing field trips and working with the constituents.

My immediate superior in the Washington Office of Education is the Associate Commissioner for Field Services, a position which was established early in 1966. The Associate Commissioner is responsible directly to the Commissioner, and provides a direct line of communication for me with the Commissioner himself. This, I think, is a great step forward in the U.S. Office of Education.

Budgeting for the regional office has been consolidated rather than broken down by program areas, as it has been done in the past. It is necessary to use three appropriations: one for manpower development and training, which actually comes from the Department of Labor; one for civil rights; and the third for all other services.

Funds are no longer broken down by program areas. We do have authority to make changes in object classifications. The program officers in the regional office maintain direct contact and communication with the appropriate division and bureau personnel in the Washington office. The bureau establishes an overall work plan, but day-to-day activities are decided at the regional level.

The Regional Director, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare in Atlanta, is interested and actively engaged in educational programs. The coordination between the Regional Director's office and the Regional Office of Education is a reality, and not just in theory.

For instance, the Regional Director became interested in an attempt to improve the staffs of the various Negro colleges in the Atlanta area. This came to his attention due to the fact that so few Negro graduates were entering Government employment through the Federal Service entrance examination.

He and the regional representative for higher education have held a number of meetings and have made some progress in bringing into the Negro institutions of higher learning competent people who can help the seniors do a better job on the Federal service entrance examination. The regional director of HEW in Atlanta shows a very great interest in all of our educational programs.

The Regional Office of Education in Atlanta has worked hand in hand with the Office of Economic Opportunity in an effort to obtain better cooperation between the OEO Headstart program and the title I preschool programs. We have had some degree of success, although not as much as we would like. This is due in part to the fact that some communities in the South looked with disfavor on the Headstart program and also the fact that school systems tend to show a degree of independence when Federal funds are available. The Office of Education in Atlanta has also participated in numerous State and regional meetings with community action officials.

Our cooperation with the Bureau of Employment Service, Department of Labor, is constant, because there must be joint approval of manpower development and training programs by the Bureau of Employment Security and the Office of Education.

We have worked very closely with the Neighborhood Youth Corps and have a liaison committee appointed which is interested in establishing some pilot