

Part II. THE INQUIRY AND THE RESPONSES

CONTENTS

	Page
Introduction.....	87
Programs to be described.....	88
Timing and responsiveness of replies.....	88
Inconsistencies and omissions.....	89
Comments on the questions and answers.....	91

INTRODUCTION

The program descriptions and discussions that make up part III of this report were transmitted to the Joint Economic Committee in late 1965 and early 1966 in response to a questionnaire addressed by the chairman of the committee (who is also chairman of the Subcommittee on Economic Progress) to the heads of all departments and agencies of the Federal Government.

The questionnaire is reproduced at the beginning of part III. It was divided into two sections. The first part of the questionnaire asked eight principal questions calling for a description of the program. The second part asked for data bearing on economic impacts and aspects of the program.

The questionnaire was sent to each Cabinet Secretary and other agency head, with an explanatory letter from the chairman which began as follows:

The Joint Economic Committee is preparing a compilation of those Federal programs that involve investment in people.

The study is intended to provide a comprehensive view of these Federal activities, their modes of operation, their scope, and their influence on the functioning of the economy. Of particular interest are programs which involve education and training, rehabilitation, employment and reemployment, health, children's welfare, income maintenance, family housing, and regional development, and the provision of facilities for such purposes. Research and development activities directed to these purposes also are pertinent.

In a public announcement of the inquiry, the chairman stated that the investigation was concerned with basic economic problems that the Nation will face in achieving the Great Society. He added:

The biggest factor in economic growth is neither natural resources nor machinery. It's people. President Johnson's Great Society programs are designed to assure continued growth and prosperity of our society by stepping up the national investment in people. They are not only the ultimate consumers and beneficiaries of society; they are equally its producers.