

[laughter] but I would suggest that the gentleman knows that there is no statute guaranteeing funds for anything or guaranteeing jobs to anyone. But it is clear, from numerous decisions of the Supreme Court, that employees may not be dismissed by the Federal Government because of their political activities or their political views or the manner in which they express them, unless those activities or views pass beyond the limits of permissible freedom of thought and expression.

The State of New Jersey has similar laws, and they also have laws specifically prohibiting activities designed to destroy our system of government, activities designed to incite to riot, and activities designed to create a disorderly assemblage.

I think the fact that none of these employees have been accused in the courts of New Jersey of such offenses would suggest that perhaps their activities did not exceed the limits of freedom of expression. I don't think that it is the case that the failure to prosecute these employees suggests a lack of diligence on the part of the police. I am willing to accept the judgment of the police and law enforcement agencies of New Jersey.

I don't approve of the actions of these employees, you understand, but I think that to imply from any of the proceedings today that the Office of Economic Opportunity has been derelict in its responsibilities under the act would be a mistake.

Mr. GOODELL. I would say that I reserve judgment on whether OEO itself had any responsibility or has been derelict. As far as I know the gentleman from Michigan is the first one to raise the question here this afternoon, as to whether OEO was derelict. I think he has brought up a straw man at this point.

We haven't drawn any conclusions on that line, and I would hope we would reserve judgment on that until we get the facts.

Mr. PUCINSKI. I would like to ask Mr. Addonizio, the members of the United Organization Trustees—you have a photograph here of what you allege to be employees of a CAP agency demonstrating and creating what you call the climate that ultimately erupted into a disturbance.

Mr. Bernstein and Mr. Addonizio, why wasn't some disciplinary action taken against these people? Why weren't they dismissed, why weren't they fired, why weren't they severed from the program?

You had these pictures a month or 2 months before that, you said. Why wasn't action taken against them?

Mr. BERNSTEIN. The board of trustees, even though it numbers 105, I think you would find in an average meeting you have 35 or 40 people out.

The so-called dedicated citizen did not take enough interest to come out to these meetings. The meetings that he went to, he found long talkathons that went late into the night, and the group I was referring to that controlled the UCC planned these talkathons so that the average interested citizen who had an interest at the outset would get disgusted and go home, and I have seen it happen many, many times, and these agitators, as I like to call them, they could put through anything they want.

Mr. PUCINSKI. Who does the hiring and the firing?

Mr. BERNSTEIN. The personnel committee, and the director has the