

(The information below was subsequently supplied:)

Real spendable average weekly earnings, in 1957-59 dollars, for a worker supporting 3 dependents

	December 1960	December 1965	December 1966
Manufacturing.....	\$76.09	\$89.75	\$88.13
Mining.....	87.89	102.32	101.20
Construction.....	92.03	111.77	112.35
Trade.....	¹ 62.26	64.63	64.17
Finance insurance and real estate.....	(2)	74.59	73.23

¹ Data for eating and drinking places are excluded in 1960, included in 1965 and 1966.

² Not available.

Representative RUMSFELD. May I ask another question? It is a bit remote, but of interest to me.

You have talked of the unemployment in the lower age groups, late teens and early 20's. In the event that it were possible for this country to recruit sufficient manpower for military purposes through a voluntary system and could elevate the compulsory system to fit on top of the voluntary system, to be activated and utilized only in the need of a major increase in military manpower, what effect might this have on the psychology of this age group and their employment rates? Does it seem to you that this question of the draft in this area causes some of the problems as far as placement, training, getting going from the young person's standpoint—the questions from management's standpoint as to their willingness to undertake training and take a chance on somebody who has his military obligation still facing him.

Secretary WIRTZ. Yes, sir, I think it would have an effect. When you find these young Americans as they did last Sunday, you are impressed and as long as your question is put in terms of psychological effect, there are some very important psychological effects on their thinking about the whole thing. I am sure that enters into their thinking.

Representative RUMSFELD. As the Secretary of Labor in command of this Department, have you communicated this to the President's Commission on the Draft with a view toward seeing if this administration might be willing to revise military personnel practices in terms of pay and other aspects of personnel policy so they might be able to recruit a substantially larger, if not all the military manpower required through a voluntary mechanism, rather than through the compulsory mechanism?

Secretary WIRTZ. I did testify before that group on the subject matter of this line of questions in October, I believe.

Representative RUMSFELD. Thank you, Mr. Secretary.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Senator Miller?

Senator MILLER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Secretary, at the beginning of your statement, you say:

It seems to me right to assert full employment (in the fullest sense of that term) at wages producing a decent standard of living for everyone as a first priority national purpose.