

## THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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FOR KEN COLE

The President is of course quite right that George Wiley's hysterical charges ought not to go unanswered. We are trying to do this, without becoming hysterical in return. Just yesterday, John Price appeared on a panel with him in New York City. I was on an NBC panel with him immediately following the President's speech.

The basic fact of Wiley's situation is that the Family Assistance Program would put him out of business. Yesterday morning, Postmaster General Blount reported to the Legislative Leaders that in the South, a number of Wallacites have asked if the "President was trying to put us out of business?" by helping the white poor. Wiley is in the same position of depending for his political base on the continued existence of the black poor. There is nothing personal about all this. It is straight trade unionism, as it were. But we do want to help both groups, whomsoever is inconvenienced thereby.

Such opposition is fairly easy to neutralize. I would in fact suggest that the Administration be very clear about the opposition to the program from groups like Wiley's. The opposition is based upon their recognition that the President has indeed proposed an historic program, that will profoundly reduce the incidence of poverty in America.

Frankly, I am more concerned about the attacks of the left-liberals, who obviously are furious that the President has done what they themselves did not dare to do. More particularly, what they never had the courage to try. I am trying to figure my way through this problem and will report to anyone willing to listen. In the meantime, I think we must recognize a problem within the government. I attach a clipping from the Oakland Tribune sent to me by Aaron Wildavsky, wherein you will find employees of the Federal Government declaring that the New Federalism is an effort "to starve the poor out of their newly gained power and influence," adding "Our next job will be to give people ammunition for the guns people already have." I expect Don Rumsfeld is already very much alert to this, but I will in any event send him a copy of this memo.

Daniel P. Moynihan

Attachment

cc: Director Rumsfeld, OEO  
John Ehrlichmanbcc: Chris Miller  
Central File*per Rumsfeld's  
assistance*