

Education as a Weapon

New jobs will be created in small towns "or even villages." In this cozy atmosphere everyone will "know one's neighbor" (and help keep an eye on him). In addition, firms will be forced to "train their own labor force" to "prepare it for necessary changes" through a system of "permanent training." This permanent training will ensure that the workforce can be flexibly deployed to agricultural work camps in France, industrial projects in Brazil, or anywhere else. In addition, the continuous recycling of the workforce through such a system provides a perfect framework for intensively brainwashing these workers, already trapped in isolated work camps.

Albert also advocates that, in the world of the future, unions be coopted into some "collective job security" guarantees in order to help firms wring the last drop of profits out of their enslaved workers. In fact, Rockefeller's men on the scene are already pushing the gutless French trade unions into just such an agreement, which will not only force workers to relocate but make them codetermine where they will be sent.

Finally, Albert's ugly scenario underlines the necessity of drastic cuts in industrial energy consumption, leaving French workers to contemplate a future in which the new rural industries will use "all local energy, manpower, and raw materials potentials" along the lines of a "recycling of waste" program. Clearly, it is human resources that are to be used to the limit, even to the cannibalistic recycling of "wasted" workers.

FRENCH WORK-STUDY PROJECT BRINGS BRAINWASHING TO FACTORIES

Nov. 28 (IPS)--A low-intensity brainwashing operation is underway in the north of France. University professors and local capitalists are setting up this pilot project for industry under the guise of a university work-study program.

The operation was initiated by a team of self-styled radical professors from the university in Lille, a hot-bed of syndicalist "local control" organizing. The project also enjoys the active support of the Northern Employers' Association. Under this scheme, high school graduates will be sent into factories for several months' work at minimum pay, before they go on to a university curriculum. The first experiment is being carried out with a group of 20 students; 40 firms in the area have already offered to employ voluntary student slaves.

The French daily Le Monde reported Nov. 27 that the jobs assigned to this first group of students are selected on the basis of psychological profiles. Le Monde notes that an unskilled

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job would not be given to a "rebel" student who might "develop relationships within the enterprise" and organize his co-workers; instead such a job might be given to a "rather shy young girl," for instance.

"No Nasty Bosses"

Meanwhile the team of professors, along with plant management, follows the students during their plant training session, making sure to isolate the students within specific "individual and intrapersonal"--as opposed to "collective"--relationships.

The point? "Pampered, followed step by step, made to feel secure on a permanent basis," the brainwashed students will play an intermediary role between the chief brainwashers and workers in the plant. In addition the pilot project can be expanded both to recruit mobs of student scabs and to apply these experimental psychological techniques to industrial workers.

The Northern Employers group has this clearly in mind. One of the best-organized groups of capitalists within the CNPF, the leading French employers' association, and with ties to a number of counterinsurgent agencies, the Northern Employers group applauded the new work-study brainwashing scheme with the following comment: "We want students to have a better understanding of the world of the factory....We want youth to understand what a plant is, that there are no nasty bosses or exploited workers."