

WASHINGTON REPORT

Congressman Edwin D. Eshleman
16th District—Pennsylvania



Defense spending has been under a rather heavy attack in recent months. There are many Congressmen, myself included, who want to see waste trimmed out of the defense budget. We believe that tax dollars should be used efficiently in all areas of government, and that defense is not a "scared cow" when it comes to evaluating cost effectiveness.

A desire to achieve reasonable frugality in military expenditures is something different from the attack being mounted by the opponents of the military-industrial complex. It would seem that these opponents fail to recognize the need to keep and maintain an adequate defense posture. As they tell it, a gigantic combine of military and business leaders is forcing Americans to spend billions of dollars on armaments which do not need to be spent at all. The result is, they say, an ever-expanding federal budget which is a needless hardship on the taxpayer for an immoral national priority. If only we could do something about this spending for weapons, they suggest, we could free billions for other purposes.

A glance at the facts shows that much of this talk about the dangers of the military-industrial complex is a smokescreen to cover the real culprit in the federal spending problem—the "welfare-handout complex." While the military has been taking an ever-decreasing percentage of the budget, welfare costs have more than doubled since 1960. Yet, it is more welfare money that is usually called for by those who attack defense programs so vehemently.

It is true of course that we do spend much money on military matters in the country. What is not true is that this spending is the chief reason for the runaway federal budget or is stopping us from allotting funds for other worthwhile domestic projects.

If you consider local, State and Federal spending in 1968, American taxpayers forked over the colossal sum of \$112.4 billion for social-welfare spending even as they were being called upon to finance the war in Southeast Asia. This means that from a national perspective the "welfare-

complex" cost the taxpayers about \$30 billion more than the military-industrial complex.

It also is interesting to look at the percent of the Federal budget devoted to various types of programs. While defense spending has dropped 8 percent in the last ten years, welfare spending has risen 8 percent. The corresponding percentages are not as significant as the obvious fact that welfare is getting more while defense is getting less.

The members of the "welfare-handout complex" have good reason for trying to use defense as a whipping boy for public resentment against the heavy tax load. Since they claim that we have hardly begun to fulfill their expectations and their programs already are taking one out of three federal tax dollars, they have to find something on which to blame the budget problems.

None of this means that defense spending should not be subjected to reasonable economizing. It does mean that the defense establishment is not the danger that some would have you believe.

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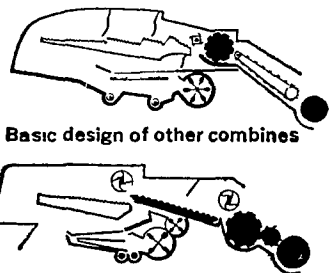
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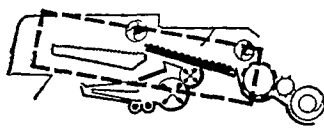
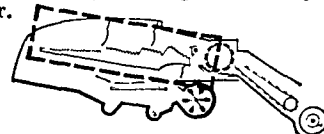


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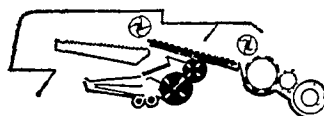
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Any conveyor tends to bunch material at its center, causing uneven cylinder wear.



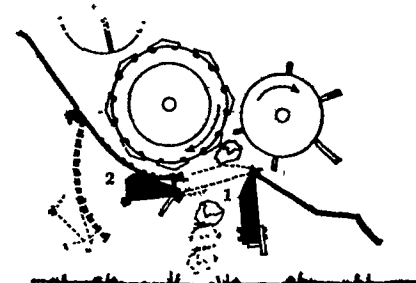
It's easy to see how GLEANER combine down-front cylinder design gives a much *greater separating area*, more capacity everywhere it touches the crop. Separation begins as wing beater behind the cylinder agitates, fluffs the crop. Air blast from rotating cylinder and beater increases crop agitation. Grain, dust, chaff fall through the straw evenly onto the riddle below. That's early separation, ready for GLEANER combine pre-cleaning.



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