

OEO Should Continue: President

The next President should continue the war against poverty with two goals in mind, President Johnson said recently in a speech to OEO's regional directors.

"First, he will have to sustain what we have begun. He will have to make sure that those who have crossed the poverty line are not allowed to be neglected and slip back," he said.

"Second, he will have to chip away at the remaining 27 million who have not crossed the poverty line," the President added.

He noted that the anti-poverty

program has enabled seven million Americans to escape poverty during its first five years. He admitted that the job was not an easy one.

"He will have to do it slowly, patiently and relentlessly," the President remarked, explaining that "the easy case histories are pretty much behind us."

Mr. Johnson also stressed that the anti-poverty program should be continued regardless of the political complexion of a new administration.