

Associated Press

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Vice President Humphrey makes a point before labor leaders in Miami Beach. At left is AFL-CIO president Meany.

# CIA Action Is Defended By Humphrey

From News Dispatches

MIAMI BEACH, Feb. 27 (AP) — Vice President Humphrey vigorously defended the CIA today, saying it "has done nothing but follow the policies of higher authority."

Humphrey spoke at a news conference after addressing a closed session of the AFL-CIO Executive Council.

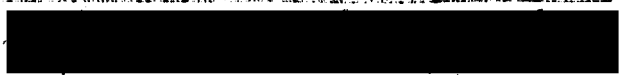
The Vice President said the "CIA has been criticized far too much, most of it unjust. The CIA has, in the main, served our interests very well. Our Government must have the ways and means to forward our interests. You need a CIA."

Humphrey had said last week at Stanford University that he was "not at all happy" about the CIA's secret involvement in student organizations.

He said "this is one of the saddest times our Government has had in relation to public policy."

Humphrey made this statement before the White House issued a preliminary report on an investigation of CIA activities, which said the agency's clandestine support of educational, labor and church groups was in keeping with national security policies approved by President Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy and Johnson.

In another development, it was learned that Alan Boyd, Secretary of the new Department of Transportation made unannounced visits to leaders of maritime unions here about the possibility of placing the Maritime Administration in the new department.



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