

AUG 23 1966

Sanitized - Approved For Release : CIA-RDP75

STATINTL

AFL-CIO Council Denounces Defaming Of Training Unit

(By a Sun Staff Correspondent)

Chicago, Aug. 22—The AFL-CIO executive council today denounced accusations that the American Institute of Free Labor Development was infiltrated by the Central Intelligence Agency and served as a front for the Department of State.

This "villification" included a charge that the AIFLD was being used to foment revolutions in Latin America, George Meany, AFL-CIO president, revealed.

The institute, a training school for labor leaders from Latin American nations, is jointly sponsored by the AFL-CIO, American industry with Latin American ties, and the Agency for International Development of the State Department.

Now located at Front Royal, Va., it trains from 20 to 45 labor leaders every three months.

An investigation of the institute was conducted by Joseph A. Beirne, a council vice president and president of the Communications Workers of America, after the CIA infiltration charge was hurled by Victor Reuther, director of the Department of International Affairs of the United Auto Workers.

Reuther, brother of Walter Reuther, UAW president, charged

the institute was being used in this manner during a press interview at the UAW convention in Long Beach, Cal., last May. Subsequently, the AFL-CIO called for an investigation to "clear the air."

Vote Is 23 To 2

A lengthy report on the matter was presented today by Beirne to the council, which voted 23 to 2 to accept the report. Walter Reuther and Joseph Curran, president of the National Maritime Union, voted negatively. Jakob Potofsky, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, abstained.

Presumably Walter Reuther would not vote against his brother, regardless of how he might feel. Walter Reuther has not been in agreement with the AFL-CIO's foreign policy in a number of areas. He and George Meany, AFL-CIO president, had a severe falling-out in June over a walkout at the International Labor Organization session in Geneva, Switzerland.

Curran said he voted no because Peter Grace, president of W. R. Grace & Co., owners of the Grace Lines, was the management head of the institute and he often negotiated with the Grace

H.D.B.

CPYRGHT

CPYRGHT