

AFL-CIO Foreign Policy Rapped by UAW Leader

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Special to The Worker

LONG BEACH, Cal. — The tragedy of AFL-CIO activities in the field of foreign affairs is that they are a vest pocket operation run by Jay Lovestone, Victor Reuther, in charge of UAW's International Affairs Department, told newsmen here. Lovestone is the head of the AFL-CIO's International Affairs Department.

Reuther charged that the AFL-CIO department run by Lovestone is involved with the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and that little effort is made by Lovestone or the AFL-CIO leadership to "involve union membership in discussion of the great issues of the day."

MEMBERS NOT INFORMED

He also charged that under Lovestone's operation a substantial part of the AFL-CIO's international union department activities are not reported even to the executive council.

Reuther cited as an example the fact that eight CIA agents in Panama about two months ago posed as representatives of the International Food and Drink Workers Federation, whose headquarters are in Geneva. This federation's general secretary, A. Paulsen, abolished the Panama office as the only way to end this imposture by the CIA agents, said Reuther, and he added that the entire incident was kept from the knowledge of AFL-CIO members here.

Reuther estimated the AFL-

CIO spends about \$6,000,000 a year in Latin-America alone.

The AFL-CIO, he noted, says it spends about 25 percent of its budget on international affairs, but he declared the additional money spent comes from U.S. government and private sources.

Some, he said, comes through the American Institute of Free Labor Development (AIFLD), set up by Lovestone in cooperation with employers and the U.S. government.

"As long as AFL-CIO president George Meany has such personal confidence in Lovestone, I see no changes in the federation's foreign policy," Reuther said.

Al Zack, AFL-CIO spokesman, denied by phone to newsmen here that AIFLD has anything to do with the CIA or that Lovestone set it up. He said AIFLD is about to "graduate" its 13th class of Latin-American "labor leaders."

The AIFLD's main purpose is to fight Communism in Latin-America and subvert the Latin-American labor movement away from militancy.

UAW ACTION

Reuther said the UAW's international affairs department spends \$500,000 to \$750,000 a year on its programs abroad. With \$3,000,000 in its treasury now the UAW convention here broadened the department's activities to include the war on poverty in the U.S., and legislative work.

The resolution on foreign policy adopted by the UAW convention was in conflict with the Meany-Lovestone attitude. It called for the recognition of People's China and China's admission to the UN, strengthening the trade and cultural ties with the Soviet Union and other Socialist countries, working to bring an end to the war in Vietnam by getting the issue to the bargaining table, as UAW president Walter Reuther termed it. Emil Mazey, UAW secretary-treasurer went further and supported a cease-fire, no more escalation and a national conference of the union to hasten peace.

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