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STAT

Meany Denies CIA Has Spies In Labor Unit

By JACK MALLON
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Chicago, Aug. 22—AFL-CIO
President George Meany vigor-
ously denied today charges that



George Meany

the Central In-
telligence
Agency had in-
filtrated" into
the labor organ-
ization's pro-
gram in Latin
America.

Blasting crit-
ics who have
charged that
the American
Institute for
Free Labor De-
velopment was
"forming revolutions" and act-
ing as "training school for company
unions," the executive council of
the AFL-CIO meeting here passed
a resolution condemning "the
campaign of vilification con-
ducted against the AIFLD."

At the May Convention of the
United Auto Workers in Cali-
fornia, Victor Reuther, head of the
UAW's international department
charged that CIA agents had
been manipulating unions in
Panama to protect U.S. interests.
He said the intelligence agency
was working through unionists
trained by the AIFLD.

Another Reuther Charge

Reuther also contended that the
international labor organization
was supporting a union in the Do-
minican Republic opposed to left-
ist leader Juan Bosch. The left
wing press and other critics
joined in the Reuther charge.

The AIFLD, a unit of the AFL-
CIO International department, is
financed by U.S. labor, industry,
and the federal government.
Formed in 1962, it trains Latin
American trade unionists and
promotes better-housing and social
programs.

"I'm no agent of the U.S. gov-
ernment. No one is going to make
me into some cloak and dagger
character," Joseph Bierne, secre-
tary treasurer of the AIFLD, said
after yesterday's executive
session.

Demands Condemnation

Bierne, also president of the
Communications Workers of
America, insisted in the closed
meeting that the 29-man execu-
tive council condemn the accusa-
tions of Victor Reuther.

Victor's brother, Walter, presi-
dent of the UAW, said, "He's my
brothre and I'm not going to sit
here without defending him."

Although he said he supported
the basic goal of the AIFLD, the
UAW president objected to the
presence of businessmen on the
board of the international labor
organization.

The resolution supporting the
AIFLD and condemning its de-
tractors was passed by a 23-2
vote, with Joseph Curran, presi-
dent of the Maritime Union and
Walter Reuther voting against it.
Jacob Potofsky, president of the
Amalgamated Clothing Workers
Union, abstained.