

REUTHER AND BERNSTEIN OFFER LEADS
ON CIA INFILTRATION OF LABOR

Dec. 27 (IPS)--Congressional leaks indicate that the CIA's recent self-destruct explosions will implicate CIA operatives now embedded in the American labor movement. International Press Service telephone calls to labor leaders Victor Reuther and Meyer Bernstein corroborated Labor Committee charges that the labor movement has been deeply infiltrated by the CIA since World War II. Reuther is co-chairman of the Democratic Socialist Organizing Committee, founder of the UAW's Education Department, and later its International Affairs Director; Bernstein is a former long-time International Affairs Director of the United Steelworkers and now of the United Mineworkers. The interviews also presented several paths of fruitful investigation for the CIA hound dogs. Bernstein's and Reuther's preliminary evidence is presented below:

Foot in Mouth

Throughout the discussion, Mr. Bernstein spoke in hysterical screams. On his participation on the Council on Foreign Relations, the appointed body assigned to assess and reorganize CIA functioning and which recommended the CIA's current self-destruct policy six years ago: "Oh, for heaven's sake! The CFR is a private organization [chaired by David Rockefeller]. Sure, there were top-level CIA people involved. But what the hell. They chose me because I was in the State Department Foreign Service during the German Occupation. I was in Germany for a couple years beginning in 1950. I was working to reorganize the German trade unions. So, of course I saw what the CIA was doing there. And then from 1958 to 1972, I headed the Steelworkers Department of International Affairs and of course I had an opportunity to observe what was happening with the CIA. But this wasn't a CIA Committee. It included John McCloy, Douglas Dillon, Allen Dulles, Maxwell Taylor, Joseph Kraft, Yarmolinski, McGeorge Bundy, Ted Sorenson. A lot of them weren't involved with the CIA. They're great men. I felt like a kid among them. We met once every month or two for eight or nine months. We reviewed CIA programs and made recommendations and criticisms. But the report was completely ignored by Nixon."

On USW founder and later editor of the Tavistock Institute journal Human Relations, Clint Goldin: "No one knows Clint Goldin better than I do. Clint left the Steelworkers around 1946. He went to Greece in 1949 and did the same thing with the trade unions there that I did in Germany. Sure he had contact with CIA people. That's not surprising. During the period of the Cold War, the objectives of the labor movement in the United States were parallel with those of the government and the CIA. The problem was always how to finance international operations. And during the Marshall Plan period, there was always a lot of money available, what we

called counterpart funds. But I'll tell you this: In all my years with the labor movement, I don't know any union man who did for the CIA what he wouldn't do for his own union."

On the USW's involvement with Arthur Goldberg, former director of the labor branch of the Office of Strategic Services, later general counsel of both the USW and the CIO; Goldberg ran the witch hunt trials for the CIO which purged the Communist-controlled unions: "Goldberg wasn't at all involved with the CIA in those trials. And I should know because I did a good deal in those 1950 trials. In fact, I was in charge of getting the evidence."

"Everybody But Me"

Mr. Victor Reuther remained calm when IPS told him of possible Congressional investigation of CIA operatives in the labor movement. Raised in Wheeling, West Virginia, Reuther hrumphed with a British accent: "That's a lot of nonsense. Either Central Intelligence or the Senator should come forward with some names before I'll comment further. The CIA penetrated several other unions, like AFSCME and the OCAW, but never the UAW. That's absolutely not true."

There is, in fact, a grain of truth to Reuther's disclaimers. Labor Committee investigation of the UAW shows that it was the Reuther brothers and other top UAW officials, self-motivating in their international counterinsurgency operations, who gave advice to the CIA.