

# REDS THWARTED, DULLES CLAIMS

*James P. ...*  
Aid to Student Group  
Called Good Deal  
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By JOHN BECKLER  
WASHINGTON (AP) — The man in charge of the Central Intelligence Agency during much of the time it secretly financed the National Student Association thinks — from a national security viewpoint — it was a good deal.

"We obtained what we wanted," Allen W. Dulles said Thursday in an interview.

Dulles, who headed the CIA from 1953 to 1961, said he found the link with the student organization already forged when he took over, and would not discuss any details of how the relationship worked.

But on the broad question of what the CIA got for the \$200,000 a year it slipped to the NSA for more than a decade through private foundations, he was willing to talk in generalities.

## 'USED BY REDS'

"If you studied the student conference movement abroad during those years of the early '50s," he said, "you would find that the Communists were making very effective use of them.

"The conferences had great propaganda value for them and were influencing the youth in the United States as well as in other countries."

Once NSA-sponsored representatives started attending these conferences, expounding and defending the United States' point of view, the picture changed, said Dulles.

"The Soviets had to retreat in this area," he said. "The conferences weren't paying off any more and they haven't called one for years now. I think it is very convincing that the strong representation by the United States caused them to back down. It discouraged them."

Dulles' remarks, and the whole nature of the CIA-NSA

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# CIA DEFENDED

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relationship as it has become known in the last few days, imply that the NSA representatives at the international conferences were carefully selected and certain to take an anti-Communist position.

## WERE THEY AGENTS?

Were they CIA agents? Were they screened or selected by the CIA? At this point no one is saying.

Richard Stearns, the NSA vice president for international affairs, says the CIA did not pick the representatives, or insist that they meet any ideological standards. The representatives, usually U.S. students in schools abroad, were picked by the president and international vice president of the NSA, Stearns said.

It may be only coincidental that these two officers were generally the only ones who knew of the undercover arrangement with the CIA.

There have been reports from some NSA members that delegates to the overseas conferences brought back information about Communist youth activities which was turned over to the CIA.

But even with this, the explanations given by Stearns, the State Department and Dulles leave unanswered the question of why it would cost \$200,000 a year to supply a handful of representatives for a few brief conferences held at intervals of several years.