

Post 2/10/67

Pravda Says CIA Financed World Groups to Hurt Reds

Reuters
MOSCOW, Feb. 26—The Soviet Communist Party newspaper Pravda claimed today that the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency had financed non-Communist international

organizations to help them subvert Communist bodies.

The article by commentator Viktor Mayevsky appeared to be based entirely on material already published in the U.S. press.

Among the organizations cited as a recipient of CIA funds was the International Federation of Journalists.

Mayevsky said the American Newspaper Guild passed on CIA funds to the Federation which, he said, was engaged in subversion against "progressive" journalists and their organizations in all continents.

Youth Groups Mentioned

The article also noted reports that the CIA had provided funds for the non-Communist World Assembly of Youth and International Student Conference. Their Communist-dominated counterparts are the World Federation of Democratic Youth and Students.

Mayevsky charged that CIA money had been used to subvert the two Communist groups and the world youth festivals they organized.

He said that the American Society of African Culture, which had been identified as a recipient of the intelligence agency's money, "spread tales about the paradise Negroes have in the United States."

Russians' Views of CIA

Richard Reston of the Los Angeles Times reported earlier from Moscow:

The Russians have their own special view of the Central Intelligence Agency and it reads a little like a James Bond novel.

This view began to take shape early last week when the official Soviet press sought to exploit the latest CIA controversy in a somewhat unpleasant manner.

During the first few days of the disclosures from the United States, Moscow's central press simply told its read-

ers what was reported in American newspapers. Now it is adding its own commentary to the U.S. dispute over CIA financial penetration of student and other private organizations.

Traveler's Role Suggested

The paper, Soviet Russia, suggested that the CIA leadership is attempting to make all traveling Americans "Knights of the Cloak and Dagger." Soviet Russia is the official journal of the Communist Party Central Committee, the Kremlin's guiding policy organ.

"The CIA," it says, "endeavors to make almost everybody who leaves the U.S.A. fulfill its tasks—businessmen, tourists, scientists, students and artists."

Elsewhere in the Soviet press, the CIA dispute is treated as a crisis growing out of a "black market of bribery and lies."

What Russians Hear

While the American view of the CIA controversy is quite different, this latest go-around in the Soviet press, nevertheless, provides a classic example of what is reported to the Russian people when a domestic dispute such as the present one erupts in the United States.

"All progressive America is boiling with indignation over this shamefully scandalous business with the Agency..." the newspaper Soviet Russia declared.

The Russian press suggests that the CIA subverted youth organizations in an attempt, among other things, to disrupt past International Youth Festivals in Helsinki and Vienna with slanderous material and liquor. While "drunk Facist youths" played in the streets, said one paper, "paid propagandists from the U.S.A., West Germany and other western countries made endeavors to deepen the split in international youth and student movements... from festival rostrums."