

News Guild Given Million by CIA?

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Washington Post said today the AFL-CIO American Newspaper Guild has accepted nearly \$1 million since 1961 from the Central Intelligence Agency.

The newspaper said the subsidies, to finance a broad international program, were made by four private foundations that do not file public tax records.

"At least one of them, the Andrew Hamilton Fund of Philadelphia," the Post said, "was identified yesterday by government officials as a CIA front.

"SPOKESMEN for the remaining three either were unavailable for comment or else refused to say whether they were conduits for the government's clandestine intelligence arm," it added.

The other foundations, the newspaper said, are the Broad-High Foundation of Columbus, Ohio; the Chesapeake Foundation of Baltimore and the Granery Fund of Philadelphia.

The Post said "the CIA money was provided to Charles A. Perlik Jr., the union's secretary-treasurer, and deposited in a special "international affairs fund" by the four foundations.

PERLIK WAS quoted in the newspaper as saying he was unaware that CIA funds were involved.

"It was not a question that I ever asked," he told the post. "It never concerned us. All I know is that I was never asked to do anything."

The guild represents editorial, commercial and some maintenance employees on newspapers, magazines, wire services and some broadcasting media. It has locals in the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico.

THE POST SAID the guild's international activities are channeled through the International Federation of Journalists, headquartered in Brussels, Belgium, and the Inter-American Federation of Workers' Newspapermen's Organization in Panama.

For the nine months ended Jan. 31, 1967, the entire \$202,000

income of the guild's international affairs fund has come from the Broad-High and the Chesapeake foundations, the newspaper reported.

Since 1961, the four foundations have contributed more than \$900,000 to the guild, Perlik was quoted as saying. He told the Post the Granery fund terminated its aid in 1963 after putting Perlik in touch with the other foundations.

THE PHILADELPHIA Inquirer said today William J. Farson, executive vice-president of the guild and a former advertising salesman for the Inquirer denied any knowledge of CIA intervention. He was asked if the money might have been intended to influence foreign journalists to pro-American points of view.

Farson said that was a possibility, and added, "in any case, these reports make it practically impossible for us to continue our international work. Anything we proposed now would be suspect. The only thing left for us to do is to pull out."

Farson said he was aware of contributions made by the foundations, but said he knew nothing of their backgrounds.

"I can tell you this," he said. "If any foundation ever tried to influence our work, we would not accept contributions from them."