

## 3 Youth Group Leaders Accused of CIA Links

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The writer who initiated last month's controversy over the Central Intelligence Agency charged last night that two officials of the U.S. Youth Council (USYC) have secretly cooperated with the CIA.

Both of the young men named immediately denied the allegation during a tense four-hour meeting of the executive committee of the country's largest and most representative youth organization.

Before the meeting was recessed early today, delegates voted to recommend formation of a special committee to investigate reports that the CIA covertly financed USYC and influenced its international programs and policies.

The two USYC officials were named by Michael Wood, a former staff member of the U.S. National Student Association and the author of an article in the current issue of Ramparts magazine which charges that NSA and other youth groups have been heavily financed and influenced by the CIA.

### Says 2 Signed Agreement

Wood told approximately 50 persons present at the meeting in the Statler-Hilton Hotel that James Fowler, USYC president, and Reed Martin, an international affairs assistant, had agreed to work with the CIA, then signed an oath pledging themselves to keep the relationship secret.

Wood said he was told of the clandestine agreement with the CIA by Philip Sherburne, last year's NSA president and the source of much of the material in the magazine article.

After the article was released to the press in mid-February, both NSA and State Department spokesmen confirmed the story. In the following weeks, dozens of additional organizations, including USYC, were named as also having been recipients of covert CIA financial aid.

"This is a very difficult thing

to do because there are elements of a witch hunt," Wood told the hushed meeting. "But USYC is in a similar situation to NSA. It has had a conscious relationship with the CIA."

### Deny Involvement

Fowler, sitting less than 20 feet from Wood, replied: "It's just not true." The youth group's president said Sherburne last week denied to him that he had provided the two names to Wood.

Martin also denied any involvement with the CIA, saying he had worked almost exclusively on domestic programs and "never had been out of this country, except one trip to Mexico when I was in law school."

Fowler and Martin are native Texans, recent college graduates and former NSA staff members. They left the student organization last spring to work with the New York-based youth group.

USYC is a confederation of 36 organizations, including most of the country's principal youth groups. Among its members are:

The Collegiate Council for the United Nations, NAACP Youth Division, National Federation of Catholic College Students, National Student Christian Federation, United Youth Christian Movement, Young Democratic Clubs of America and the Young Adult Assemblies of the YMCA and YWCA.

### Cites Source of Funds

Fowler disclosed during the meeting that more than 90 percent of the organization's present budget—\$148,600 out of \$164,800 received during the current fiscal year—comes from the Foundation for Youth and Student Affairs.

That New York foundation was identified earlier as the CIA's principal conduit for

channeling funds into student and youth organizations in this country and abroad.

Several members present noted that the group's international affairs vice president, Greg Gallo, was one of 12 former NSA president who last month acknowledged working with the CIA while officers of the student group.

Gallo was elected to the USYC post after serving with NSA. Fowler said USYC never knowingly cooperated with the CIA, but a number of those present questioned how Gallo could have been unaware of the CIA tie since he had previously worked with the intelligence agency.

Gallo was unexplainedly absent from the meeting. His predecessor in the international post was Dennis Shaul, another past NSA president who also acknowledged working with the CIA before being elected a USYC officer.

### Council Meets Today

The full Youth Council membership meets today and Sunday, and is expected to consider a resolution, tabled last night, which says the group "believes these charges (relating to CIA aid and control) have circumstantial validity."

Another resolution submitted last night but later withdrawn would have required the organization to accept funds in the future only from private foundations which make known the source of their income or from government agencies which offer financial aid openly.