

Editor

A Reply *Podhoretz 4/67*

In your issue of Feb. 19 you stated that the Farfield Foundation (which has been named as a conduit for CIA funds) in 1965 made "payments of \$143,150 to the Congress (for Cultural Freedom), to P.E.N. (a society of writers) and to Norman Podhoretz, the editor of *Commentary* magazine." You thus conveyed the impression that I or perhaps the magazine I edit has been the recipient of huge sums of money which came indirectly from the CIA.

This is a gross and damaging falsehood. Of the \$143,150 figure you mentioned, I personally received exactly \$250 to cover my expenses as a delegate to the International P.E.N. Congress in Yugoslavia. Neither then nor at any other time has *Commentary* magazine received funds from the Farfield Foundation or from the CIA.

You further stated that in 1964 Farfield paid \$10,392 for "study and travel fellowships to Mr. and Mrs. Podhoretz" and for support of

can Culture. The Farfield tax report for 1964 lists eight names as the recipients of a total of \$10,392 for such fellowships.

By singling my name out from that list you once again conveyed the false and damaging impression that I have received large sums of money indirectly from the CIA.

The true facts are that my wife and I, in our capacity as writers, went on a six-day trip to Mexico to meet informally with Mexican writers and intellectuals. We received two economy airfare tickets worth a total of \$512 and an additional \$320 to cover living expenses.

No conditions were attached by Farfield either to this grant or to the \$250 grant for the trip to Yugoslavia. Nor did I make any report to the Foundation or to anyone else at the conclusion of either of these trips.

As a responsible newspaper, *The Washington Post* has the duty to repair the damage it has done me and the magazine I edit by a frank disavowal of the erroneous implications of its Feb. 19 story.

NORMAN PODHORETZ
New York