

27 May 1967

CIA FUNDS

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—AN OKLAHOMA CITY-BASED WORLDWIDE, SELF-HELP ORGANIZATION SAID FRIDAY IT TURNED DOWN MONEY FROM THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY "SEVERAL YEARS AGO."

THE STATEMENT ON THE OFFER TO WORLD NEIGHBORS, INC., WAS MADE IN AN EDITORIAL IN THE CURRENT ISSUE OF THE ORGANIZATION'S NEWSLETTER, MAILED TO 30,000 DONORS AND TO OTHER WORLDWIDE ORGANIZATIONS.

THE EDITORIAL WAS WRITTEN BY DR. JOHN L. PETERS, ORGANIZER AND PRESIDENT OF WORLD NEIGHBORS.

HE SAID REJECTION OF CIA'S OFFER WAS NOT A CRITICISM OF THE SUPERSECRET FEDERAL AGENCY.

"OUR EARLY SUCCESS HAD OPENED UP OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE IN MANY CRITICAL AREAS," DR. PETERS WROTE.

"TO FIND ADEQUATE IMPLEMENTING FUNDS--FROM PRIVATE SOURCES AND IN SUFFICIENT TIME--PROVED TO BE IMPOSSIBLE.

"BUT FUNDS WERE, WE DISCOVERED, AVAILABLE--FOR A PRICE."

IN REFERENCE TO THE "PRICE" OF THE CIA MONEY, DR. PETERS SAID WORLD NEIGHBORS WAS "ASSURED THE MORTGAGE NEED NEVER BE ANNOUNCED AND MIGHT NEVER BE FORECLOSED."

WORLD NEIGHBORS HAS MORE THAN 100 PROGRAMS IN AFRICA, INDIA, LATIN AMERICA AND THE PHILIPPINES, A SPOKESMAN SAID.

DR. PETERS WAS REPORTED ON A SERIES OF FUND-RAISING APPEARANCES IN CALIFORNIA AND COULD NOT BE REACHED FOR COMMENT.

RL457ACD MAY 27 1967