By Bernard D. Nossiter

WASHINGTON POST

JUN 2 1975

CIA Is Linked to Funding
Of European Unity Groups

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As far back as 25 years ago, the Central Intelligence Agency was secretly subsidizing private political organizations promoting European unity, according to interviews broadcast to the son of the secretary general of the European Movement, among them said to have received funds.

According to the discussion, the CIA, using a group of distinguished Americans and its own leaders as a cover, pumped funds into the European Movement and its affiliates.

From 1947 until 1963, the European Movement and its offshoots are said to have spent an estimated $3.5 million on activities and propaganda activities in Europe, such as Radio Free Europe, which broadcasts to Communist nations; youth and labor organizations, and even some publications in the British magazine Encounter.

The European Movement was not mentioned among these.

A detailed account of the relationship is given in a 1962 doctoral thesis written at St. Anthony's College, Oxford, by Frederic Xavier Rebbatet. He was in a unique position to search the records and interviews involved, because his father, Georges, was deputy secretary general and later secretary general of the European Movement.


Interviewed by telephone at his Paris apartment today, Georges Rebbatet emphasized that a large part of the CIA money went to finance the European Movement's youth arm and not his headquarters. He estimated the U.S. subsidy to his own secretariat at no more than $10,000 to $20,000 a year.

"We knew there were people of the CIA on the American committee transmitting funds, he said, "but we were not so very interested."

Many of the European Movement leaders, he re-