Teamster-Mob Ties 'Strong'

New York

The underworld still has as strong a hold on the Teamsters union and its finances as it did 18 years ago during the McClellan investigations, according to Newsweek magazine.

Newsweek says in its current issue that investigators from the Labor Department, the FBI and Internal Revenue Service are into the second month of a nationwide investigation of the union's financial dealings, particularly with the underworld.

It says union president Frank Fitzsimmons has been under fire for his personal and professional relationships with mobsters and his trusteeship of the union's large assets, including the \$1.3 billion Central States Pension Fund.

Senator Robert Griffin (Rep-Mich.) will introduce a resolution this week calling for a new McClellan-type investigation of the union, according to Newsweek.

It says FBI, Labor Department and IRS investigators are focusing on the Central States Pension Fund, which is nourished by employers' contributions of \$22 per week for each of the 400,000 union members.

While Fitzsimmons' alliance with former President Nixon kept government investigators at bay, this is no longer true, Newsweek says. It says President Ford has been urged strongly by advisers to keep the teamsters at arms' length.

United Press