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## CULTURAL GROUP TO KEEP DIRECTOR

### Resignation Rejected After Disclosure of C.I.A. Aid

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PARIS, May 14—The Congress for Cultural Freedom has refused to accept the resignation of its executive director, Michael Josselson, who was responsible for accepting funds for the organization from the Central Intelligence Agency for 16 years.

The General Assembly of the congress, at an emergency session late last night, asked Mr. Josselson to continue in his post. He agreed to do so.

Today the members of the General Assembly issued a statement expressing deep regret that intelligence agency funds had been used to finance the activities of the congress. They also expressed regret that the executive director had found it necessary to accept the funds without the knowledge of his colleagues in the congress.

Mr. Josselson told the assembly yesterday of receiving Central Intelligence Agency support for the congress from 1950 to the summer of 1966.

In an interview he said that it had been a "grievous burden" for him to conceal the source of the funds from colleagues he respected and admired. He said he regretted having accepted the funds "because the ends do not justify the means."

Sixteen members of the general assembly of the congress for cultural freedom, a group of about 2,000 intellectuals all over the world who are interested in cultural exchanges, voted on Mr. Josselson's resignation at the Paris headquarters of the congress. Four voted by mail.

Minoo Masoni, member of the Indian Parliament, acted as chairman. Among those present were Prof. Edward Shils, who teaches sociology at the University of Chicago; Raymond Aron, a French journalist and a professor of sociology at the Sorbonne; Denis de Rougemont, a Swiss writer; Ignazio Silone, Italian novelist and critic; Manes Sperber, a novelist and critic in France; Anthony Hartley, a British newspaperman; Prof. K. A. B. Jones-Quartey, a member of the faculty at the University of Ghana in Accra; Ezekiel Mphahlele, a South African writer in exile, and Dr. Hans Oprecht, a Swiss publisher.

### 4 Voted By Proxy

Others were the French writer, Pierre Emmanuel, and the Russian-born composer Nicolas Nabokov, who lives in the United States.

The four who voted by proxy were Prof. Daniel Bell, who teaches sociology at Columbia University; Louis Fischer, American writer; Prof. Michael Polanyi I, a Hungarian-born scientist and philosopher associated with Oxford University and the University of Chicago, and Prof. Yoshihiko Seki of Japan.

The assembly took more than eight hours to draft its statement.

It expressed its conviction that the Central Intelligence Agency had never influenced or put pressure on the congress in any manner despite the financial relationship.

The assembly thus supported the contention of Mr. Josselson, who has stated that he would never have permitted the agency to use the congress for propaganda or intelligence purpose. Mr. Josselson accepted complete responsibility for the Intelligence Agency backing. He said no one else in the congress had been involved.

### Deception Criticized

The assembly condemned "in the strongest terms" the way in which the agency had deceived those concerned.

"The effect of such action tends to poison the wells of intellectual discourse," a spokesman for the assembly said.

The assembly named a committee to examine the structure and work of the congress, to draw up a new charter and to recommend changes in the congress's organization.

Thomas W. Braden, a former official of the Central Intelligence Agency, asserted in the May 20 issue of The Saturday Evening Post that the agency had placed an "agent" in the congress.

The General Assembly and executive board of the congress will also exercise control over its finances and activities. Since October, 1966, the congress has been financed entirely by the Ford Foundation, which has guaranteed it appropriations through 1972.

Mr. Josselson said today there would be a "fresh, new start" for the congress, but he indicated it would continue with those projects already undertaken. He said yesterday that it had helped at least 20 magazines throughout the world, including Encounter, which it subsidized from 1953 to 1964.

The Congress for Cultural Freedom has attempted to fight Communism by providing a platform of acquaintance and contact for people all over the world who desire a free exchange of ideas.

Mr. Josselson was born 59 years ago in the Baltic region of Russia. He was educated in Germany and went to Paris in 1935, where he became head of a European buying office for American department stores, including Gimbels.

He went to the United States before World War II and became an American citizen in 1941. He was inducted into the United States Army in 1943. Because of his knowledge of Europe and ability to speak fluently French, Russian, German and English, he was put in a psychological warfare section interviewing German prisoners. Later he was sent to Berlin as a cultural affairs officer.