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AFL-CIO CHIEF GEORGE MEANY
One who has 'lost confidence'

Labor's Harsh Words About Watergate

Washington

AFL-CIO President George Meany said yesterday the Nixon administration "has lost the confidence of a good many Americans," and he put himself among them.

"Speaking for myself, the answer is in the affirmative," Meany said at a press conference, after the labor federation's Executive Council adopted resolutions castigating the administration for its handling of the economy, several of its legislative proposals, and the "subversion of political democracy" involved in the Watergate case.

The council yesterday began its regular quarterly meeting here.

Meany's remark was one more rip in his relationship

with the White House, which was relatively cordial in the months immediately following last year's election, but has turned increasingly sour in the last six weeks or so.

The council, in its icily worded resolution on the "Watergate revelations," noted that they came "amid increasingly aggressive assertions of executive powers over our domestic affairs," and wondered aloud "whether such extraordinary powers can be wielded wisely, or for the common good, by an administration so steeped in scandal and twisted by privilege."

The council said it was not satisfied that anything like the full truth has been put forth on Watergate "or that the coverup is over."

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