

Resolution on Transparency in the Trade Union Movement

Whereas, workers in Ford Motor's Mexico City Assembly Plant were involved in a series of labor disputes in the late 1980s and early 1990s resisting efforts to bring their wages and benefits down to the level of the new plants on the U.S. border and demanding democratic elections in their union. Many were kidnapped, beaten, shot and fired. One died from wounds received in the plant.

Whereas, the American Institute for Free Labor Development (AIFLD), a now defunct arm of the AFL-CIO, was reputedly involved in these events, and the AFL-CIO has sent the old records from this group to the University of Maryland, the official repository for AFL-CIO records.

Whereas, the University of Maryland has requested permission for a year to open new AIFLD records and archive them for researchers, and has not received approval from the National AFL-CIO to do so.

Therefore be it resolved, that we call on the National AFL-CIO to take the action necessary to allow archivists at the University of Maryland to open new American Institute for Free Labor Development records, and we urge all unions in the U.S. and Mexico to support this call.