

A Novelty

IT SEEMS more than likely that a poll of the world's nations to discover the Number One global villain would find our own Central Intelligence Agency an almost unanimous choice.

For in its 22 years of backfiring cloak-and-dagger capers, the CIA has outraged and alienated governments everywhere, not excluding its own. Its flubs carry such distinguished names as U-2, Bay of Pigs, Dominican Republic and Pueblo. Its "secret subsidies" to students, universities, foundations, labor officials, cabinet ministers and journeyman spies have been widely publicized. Of late, it is accused of setting up the Greek military junta, plotting against Charles de Gaulle, and attempting to keep Robert Williams in permanent exile.

It therefore gives us pleasure to note that this government's spy apparatus has apparently brought off a gaudy botch in which the CIA was not involved. Senate Leader Mike Mansfield reports that the CIA is innocent, in the clear, and clean in the case of the gruesome murder of a South Vietnamese double agent — allegedly by the Green Berets. This is something of a novelty and we gladly record it as such.

The Pick of Punch



"I mean, what's the point in being a Green Beret if you have to answer for it every time you kill somebody?"