

U-2 Pilot Powers' 'Secret' Medal

New York

The Central Intelligence Agency has awarded a medal to Francis Gary Powers, the U-2 pilot whose crash inside the Soviet Union five years ago "shook the world," the New York Herald Tribune said yesterday.

The copyright story said Powers received the medal in a ceremony about two weeks ago at the CIA's headquarters in Langley, Va.

Powers, now 35, is not sup-

posed to wear the medal and is not supposed to tell anybody about it, the newspaper said.

There were at least two mysteries surrounding the medal: first, why the CIA wanted to bestow an award on its most famous employee — one who brought the agency under the public scrutiny which it always tries to avoid; second, why the CIA waited five years.

The CIA had no comment.

Associated Press

See also CIA, II, 12 Jun 68: Navy awards Medal of Honor to skipper of U.S.S. Liberty, Capt. William L. McGonagle. (Filed clipped to material on the Liberty, starting date 9 Jun 67.)

See this file 17 Feb 69, Newsweek