

3/19/73

SFC hrow

John Downey 'Was on Thrill Flight'

New York

Central Intelligence Agency agents John Downey and Richard Fecteau apparently were along just for the thrill of a flight over China when their plane was shot down 1952. Newsweek magazine said yesterday.

The magazine quoted a re-

tired intelligence officer as saying the two "were not supposed to make these flights."

"They had apparently gone along for the adventure, serving as 'cargo kickers' who shoved parachute bundles out of the plane," Newsweek said.

The flight was part of a CIA plan to sponsor anti-Communist forces inside China.

Downey was released by the Chinese last week after 21 years in prison and Fecteau was released last year.

United Press