

SFChronicle  
**Viet Check  
Swindle**

**Washington**

Two officials of the South Vietnamese Embassy here stole \$250,000 by cashing an embassy check that they fraudulently wrote for themselves, an FBI spokesman said yesterday.

The spokesman, responding to an inquiry, said the check was cashed April 18 at a bank.

A reliable source said the bank issued the money to the officials mostly in \$20 bills, which the Vietnamese placed in an attache case.

The FBI spokesman said the two embassy officials, he would not identify, have since disappeared.

He said they had worked for the embassy's overseas procurement office.

The procurement office, a red-carpeted suite on the fifth floor of the same building where the bank occupies ground-floor offices, buys agricultural products and supplies from the United States for shipment to Vietnam.

*Washington Post*