

By JOYCE ILLIG

Snooper's Bible

A GUIDE FOR SNOOPING, originally prepared for use by federal agents and until recently classified as "confidential" (the lowest grade of government secrecy), will be available in a few days from at least two publishers. Scheduled for simultaneous publication by Quadrangle in a \$9.95 hard-cover edition and by Warner in a large-format \$3.95 p a per back, Where's What by Harry J. Murphy, formerly of the CIA, is expected to interest police departments, credit agencies, personnel offices and others who have the job of looking into people's private lives, as well as the large reading public that is curious about the CIA (or their neighbors).

As a government document, the book is in the public domain and available for publication by anyone with outroyalty payments. The copublishers kept their plans secret until the last minute to avoid tipping off potential rivals, such as Bantam, which could have put an "instant book" in competition

JOYCE ILLIG covers the publishing scene regularly for Book World.

Readers looking for James Bond-style material will be disappointed; the book avoids use of contents which would have required a higher security classification than "confidential," and that means that it stays away from special gadgets, underground sources of information and other superspy topics. It deals chiefly with official documents and how they can be used in investigations.

The author, now in retirement, says that the book "served a purpose" when he wrote it 10 years ago, "and I kind of lost interest in it since then."

Also losing interest, apparently, is a third publisher, Science Associates/International, which had been planning to issue a \$25 hardcover edition until news of the Quadrangle/Warner publication came out. Ivan Lyons, president of the company, said that a mailing of promotional material in February brought "a decent number of orders from libraries, embassies and police departments," but now the whole project is being reexamined.