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He Scored Many Triumphs

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Allen W. Dulles, often called the nation's top spy, is dead at the age of 75.

Mr. Dulles headed a controversial agency and ironically his triumphs were little known but his failures were trumpeted to the world. Few have forgotten the U-2 case in which a spy plane was shot down over Russia on the eve of a proposed conference between President Eisenhower and Premier Khrushchev. But the most heralded mistake was the tragic Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba in which the CIA played a major role.

Soon after that mistake Mr. Dulles retired. But the CIA chief also achieved many triumphs about which little publicity has been given. His men ferreted out information of world-shaking importance and Dulles helped plan the policies. He knew in advance of the plot to kill Adolf Hitler in 1944. He knew and reported to this Government the Nazi rocket experiments and about V-2 bases being set up for the bombardment of England. He negotiated the surrender of 1,000,000 Nazi troops in Italy before the actual end of the

war in Europe. He got a copy of the secret speech Khrushchev made denouncing Stalin before the speech was delivered.

Mr. Dulles was immensely proud of the bitter criticism Pravda heaped on him in 1951. The Soviet newspaper said:

"Even if the spy, Allen Dulles, should arrive in Heaven through somebody's absent-mindedness, he would begin to blow up the clouds, mine the stars and slaughter the angels."

This, coming from a hostile newspaper in an unfriendly country, was accepted by Mr. Dulles as a great tribute. Probably he agreed that one can best judge a man by the type of enemies he has.

Mr. Dulles no doubt made many mistakes for he headed an agency that worked in a shadowland shrouded with secrecy. But he also scored many triumphs that kept the government informed and better prepared to act before the events occurred.

His mistakes should not overshadow his triumphs.