

MAR 27 1966

## W. M. Porterfield Jr., Former CIA Officer

William M. Porterfield Jr., an ethnobotanist who became an intelligence officer for the Central Intelligence Agency, died Thursday after a heart attack at his home, 1247 30th st. nw. He was 73.

He began his career in botany as a teaching missionary in China, lecturing from 1916 to 1933. Mr. Porterfield on biology at St. John's Uni-



versity, Shanghai. He later did research at the University of Vermont and the New York Botanical Garden and for the Agriculture Department's Soil Conservation Service.

In World War II Mr. Porterfield served as a technical editor with the U.S. Army Engineers in New York City. He then worked briefly in Washington with the Army Map Service. In 1947 he became a senior intelligence officer with the CIA.

Since his retirement in 1963 he had acted as a consultant for several research projects sponsored by George Washington University. He was the author of numerous articles on ethnobiology, the tracing of plant names and uses, and scientific subjects.

Mr. Porterfield, a native of Harrisburg, Pa., graduated from Franklin and Marshall College and received a Ph.D. from Columbia University.

The family request that in lieu of flowers contributions be made to the Christ Church (Georgetown) Endowment Fund. Mr. Porterfield had served as a Senior Warden there from 1959 to 1961.