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CPYRGHT

Nice Words for the CIA

Senator Milton R. Young, R-N.D., had some words of praise for the Central Intelligence Agency last week and perhaps it's about time someone said something nice about John McCone and his cloak-and-dagger men. The CIA is a perfect whipping boy for official and unofficial criticism when we pull an international boner or suffer an international setback.

By its nature, CIA is a top secret operation—probably no one but Mr. McCone and the President really knows everything it's involved in—and it cannot

defend itself from barbs and brickbats without revealing its covert operations. For the same reasons, it cannot pat itself on the back openly for its successes. The CIA simply must sit back and take whatever comes.

Now Senator Young, who is on the special Senate watchdog committee keeping tabs on CIA operations, says the agency has been doing outstanding work. This is a fine tribute to the men who have been doing as much as anyone to keep America free and the world at peace.