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Frank M. Chapin, 56, a senior official of the Central Intelligence Agency, died yesterday in Sibley Memorial Hospital after a long illness. He lived at 3809 Woodbine St., Chevy Chase.

Mr. Chapin, a Districct native, was a graduate of George Washington University law school. After practicing law privately, worked for the Agriculture Department as an investigator.

worked for the Agriculture Department as an investigator. He began career intelligence work in 1943 when he joined the Office of Strategic Services as a civilian. He later served in the Army and with the OSS and its successor agencies until he was discharged in 1946.

successor agencies until he was discharged in 1946. Described as one of CIA's ablest officials, Mr. Chapin received important assignments in the United States and abroad. For seven years he was an assistant to the late Allen W. Dulles, then CIA director. He leaves his wife Hazalt

He leaves his wife, Hazel; a daughter, Carol, at Ohio University, and two sons, Donald, of Arlington and Frank, of Storrs, Conn.

Memorial services were held today in Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church, Chevy Chase Circle. FRANK M. CHAPIN

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