

# National

## Senate committee says CIA director not unfit for job

United Press International WASHINGTON — The Senate Intelligence Committee Wednesday concluded CIA Director William Casey is not unfit to hold office, but was at the least, "in-

attentive to detail." The committee released the results of a four-month review of Casey's past business and legal affairs. The six-page report, adopted by the committee late

Tuesday, was not unanimous, as had been expected. Sen. Joseph Biden, D-Del., who had pushed from the outset for a thorough investigation of Casey, was alone among the 15

members in voting against the report.

Other Democrats who endorsed the findings, including Senators Walter Huddleston of Kentucky and Patrick Leahy of Vermont, were sharply critical of Casey. Huddleston said there was enough evidence for President Reagan to consider asking Casey, his 1980 campaign manager, to resign.

Leahy told United Press International Tuesday he could not give his approval to Casey because something incriminating kept showing up every month or so since the probe began in July.

Leahy said the report "was damning him (Casey) with faint praise."

Even a strong Casey defender, Sen. Harrison Schmitt, R-N.M., said the whole situation is not flattering to the CIA director.

The committee looked into Casey's private dealings, his activities while heading the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Export-Import Bank, the

financial disclosure forms he filed when he joined the administration and his appointment of campaign aide Max Hugel as head of CIA covert operations.

It was Hugel's forced resignation July 15 — prompted by allegations Hugel had engaged in stock manipulation — that brought Casey's past business dealings under scrutiny.

The report said the committee had found that Casey had not been careful with details, particularly on two disclosure forms required by the Office of Government Ethics and the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence.

But the panel also concluded: "Having reviewed the facts obtained in the course of its four-month investigation, the committee reaffirms its July 29, 1981, statement that no basis has been found for concluding that Mr. Casey is unfit to hold office as director of Central Intelligence."

When it began its probe, the committee learned Casey had not filed a complete financial disclosure

statement before his confirmation hearings. The committee approved his nomination, and the Senate confirmed him, 95-0, on Jan. 28.

The original answers omitted at least nine investments valued at more than a quarter of a million dollars, personal debts and contingent liabilities of nearly \$500,000, a number of corporations or foundations on whose board Casey served, four civil lawsuits in which he was involved in the last five years and more than 70 clients he had represented in private practice in the last five years.

Among the clients he failed to list, were the governments of South Korea and Indonesia and an oil company controlled by the Indonesian government.

The report noted the government ethics office asked Casey for a list of clients from the past two years, while the committee required one covering five years. Casey failed to note the Senate requirement, it said.

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## Brown & Root leaves nuclear plant job

United Press International HOUSTON — In compliance with its contract, Brown & Root Co. has ended its six years of construction work on the South Texas Nuclear Project, leaving the work force at about one-third of its original strength.

Officials said Tuesday a further reduction to 650 workers will leave a caretaker crew to carry out maintenance and security until a

new contractor takes over.

Houston Lighting & Power Co., the project manager that set the Dec. 1 deadline last month for Brown & Root to leave the construction site, said it hopes to pick a new contractor by Jan. 1.

But officials said it will take about six months before construction resumes on the half-completed nuclear power plant

near Bay City.

HL&P's decision to remove Brown & Root forced the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's licensing board to cancel a special hearing scheduled for next week in Austin. The NRC wants to know how quality control would be maintained on safety-related construction while the builder was phased out of the project.

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