

Casey's Failure to List Assets, Debts Termed Unintentional

United Press International

CIA Director William J. Casey failed to list more than a dozen assets and liabilities on financial disclosure reports, but no action will be taken because the omission was unintentional, the federal ethics office said yesterday.

Documents released by the Office of Government Ethics showed that Casey, in a report submitted Jan. 12 during the confirmation process, failed to list 10 investments worth a total of more than \$200,000, and four liabilities involving twice that amount.

Casey and a CIA attorney said the failure to report some stock holdings was inadvertent. They said Casey is disclosing contingent liabilities even though he does not believe that is required.

J. Jackson Walter, director of the ethics office, yesterday confirmed that he had accepted Casey's explanation and said there is no basis to believe the omission was intentional.

Jackson said the matter will not be referred to the Justice Department, as is required under law if officials "knowingly or willfully" withhold required information.

Under the 1978 Ethics in Govern-

ment Act, federal officials and nominees for federal positions are required to disclose holdings valued at more than \$1,000.

According to the documents released by the Ethics Office, the CIA chief failed to report a number of smaller investments. The Senate Intelligence Committee reportedly was informed that none of those firms "maintains any current contractual relationship with the CIA."

The 10 omitted investments reportedly include \$50,000 worth of holdings in Vanguard Ventures Inc., an investment banking concern; \$15,000 in SWC Information Co., engaged in publishing; and \$10,000 in the Energy Transition Corp. Also left off the list were some smaller investments and a \$125,000 computer Casey leases to one of his businesses, the newspaper said.

The three liabilities total \$472,000 in which he guaranteed loan repayment and an \$18,000 personal debt.

The Senate panel is still reviewing Casey's financial activities after the resignation earlier this summer of Max Hugel as chief of the CIA's clandestine services on charges that Hugel engaged in financial improprieties while in private business.