

CIA Denies Manipulation Of Reuter News Agency

Central Intelligence Agency Director William E. Colby has denied that the agency manipulated Reuter news reports, as is alleged in the House intelligence committee's draft report.

The report did not offer any specific evidence of manipulation of the British news agency.

Colby was asked at a news

conference Monday: "Did the agency (CIA) influence the Reuter news report?"

He answered: "The agency has no manipulation or exploitation of the Reuter (news report). That was another example of taking a side reference and making a major statement of it.

"We think the committee referred to some manipulation of Reuter. This was a purely

hypothetical example put up when we were discussing the difference between American news media and foreign news media, and someone else used the example Reuter.

"The conversation went around on the subject of Reuter. We have no manipulation and no management of Reuter news."