

WXPost DEC 1 9 1973

Casey Defends Role In Vesco, ITT Cases

Associated Press

William J. Casey, former chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission, denied to the Senate Banking Committee yesterday that he ever tampered with the SEC's investigation of Robert L. Vesco's troubled financial empire.

Casey also said he did no wrong and had no intention to obstruct justice when he denied the SEC's investigative file on ITT to the House Commerce Committee, then turned it over to the Justice Department.

Casey, now an assistant secretary of state, has been nominated by President Nixon to head the US. Export-Import Bank. The position would be his third major job in the Nixon administration.

Casey denied repeatedly that he ever instructed his staff to held up any aspect of the Vesco case, to delay a final report or to delete any part of the complaint.

He said he never knew the financier had made a \$200,000 contribution to Mr. Nixon's 1972 re-election campaign.

Vesco has since been indicted on charges that he diverted to his personal use millions of dollars invested in four mutual funds he controlled as board chairman of International Controls Corp.