Frank Ind-ctment Dismissed in Hughes est Deal

Post 13114

(AP)-) RENO, Jan. 30 federal judge who called the had ever seen.

Bruce Thompson dropped all ern feeder airline, and then fense. nine counts in the federal pressured directors to sell to Hughes and four other men.

yers will seek to rewrite the maintain any semblance of and should not have been open to speculation or inter-fects cited by Thompson.

Charged along with the In arguing for the motion to Charges of stock fraud against much-hidden and much-traveled dismiss, defense attorneys said billionaire Howard Hughes in Hughes were Robert Maheu, the indictment failed to allege the purchase of a regional air- Chester C. Davis, David B. a clearly illegal action on the line were dismissed today by a Charnay and James H. Nall. part of Hughes and the four

U. S. District Court Judge the stock of Air West, a West. could not possibly mount a de-

grand jury indictment against Hughes, who renamed the line ment could appeal his ruling Hughes Airwest.

In Washington, the Justice "It would be a perversion of again to a grand jury, which is Department immediately said justice to require the defend-it would seek another indict- ants to go to trial under this said it would do. ment against the five persons indictment, which has to be in-as soon as possible. Depart-terpreted in a manner most fa- count indictment should have ment spokesman Robert Ste-venson said government law-order for the indictment to have duplicated allegations

The indictment related to others charged. They said the indictment one of the worst he charges that Hughes and oth- language of the indictment ers conspired to drive down was so muddled that they

> Thompson said the governor could present the charges