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# Ex-Hughes Aide Silent on CIA

Washington

Robert A. Maheu, once the chief of billionaire Howard Hughes' Nevada Empire, refused yesterday to answer questions before a Senate committee investigating central intelligence Agency activities, including possible assassination plots.

"The witness took the fifth amendment on many questions, some of substance," Senator John Tower, (Rep-Tex.) told reporters after the hour-long session of the Select Committee on Intelligence Activities. "The committee has not yet devised what to do."

The committee had not granted Maheu immunity at the hearing, which has already heard CIA Director William E. Colby and other intelligence officials testify under oath.

Maheu, in testimony last year in his \$17.5 million defamation suit against Hughes, said that as an FBI agent he once hired a reputed Mafia figure for "a very sensitive assignment" for the CIA.

The man, identified as Johnny Roselli, claimed later to have been involved in several assassination plots against Cuban premier Fidel Castro. Roselli has been subpoenaed to appear before the Senate panel.

United Press



UPI Telephoto

SENATOR TOWER AND ROBERT MAHEU  
Committee co-chairman and silent witness