

Hughes Break-in Suspect Surrenders in St. Louis

By James Morice

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ST. LOUIS, March 28—Donald Ray Woolbright, a former used car salesman sought in connection with the theft of documents reportedly related to CIA efforts to salvage a sunken Soviet submarine, surrendered here today.

Woolbright, 34, accompanied by his attorney, turned himself in to detectives at the St. Louis County police department's fugitive bureau about 3:15 p.m. He was released within two hours on \$12,500 bond on a Missouri charge of being a fugitive from justice.

Woolbright also is charged in secret Los Angeles County grand jury indictments with two counts of receiving stolen property in the June 5, 1974, burglary of the Summa Corp., a communications center owned by billionaire industrialist Howard Hughes.

Another Los Angeles indictment was issued against him for an alleged attempt to extort \$1 million from Hughes representatives in return for the documents, authorities here said.

Woolbright allegedly received documents from four men who burglarized the Hughes center after slipping past a sophisticated alarm system. St. Louis authorities said Woolbright has a burglary arrest record going back to 1964.

In addition to \$250,000 netted in the Hughes burglary, the group allegedly took documents outlining Hughes' involvement with the CIA's Project Jennifer, the operation to salvage a sunken Soviet sub-

marine last year from the Pacific Ocean.

Other items taken in the burglary reportedly included a rare butterfly collection, several Oriental vases, a solid gold medallion and a number of digital wristwatches engraved with the initials H. H.

Two months after the theft, Woolbright reportedly approached Hughes representatives and asked them to pay \$1 million for the documents. The representatives refused to make a deal, authorities said.

Woolbright reportedly then

approached Leo V. Gordon, a television scriptwriter and motion picture actor, and tried to sell him the documents.

"I have some stuff that is dynamite and I want to talk with a writer about what to do with it," Woolbright allegedly told Gordon.

However, Gordon, who contacted law enforcement officers with the information, heard nothing from Woolbright after paying him about \$4,000.