

CIA

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SUSPECT GIVES UP IN HUGHES THEFT

Pleads Not Guilty in 1974
Coast Burglary of Files

Special to The New York Times

LOS ANGELES, July 14 — Donald Ray Woolbright surrendered today and pleaded not guilty to charges arising from a 1974 burglary of Howard R. Hughes's headquarters here.

Mr. Woolbright, a 34-year-old former auto salesman, was indicted March 18 by a Los Angeles County grand jury on counts of receiving stolen property and attempted extortion. Judge Earl F. Riley of Superior Court released him on \$10,000 bail and set pretrial motions for Oct. 16.

Mr. Hughes Romaine Street office in Hollywood was looted of \$68,000 in cash and two footlockers of the billionaire's confidential files.

The theft of the files was suppressed by law enforcement officers at the time of the burglary. Among the documents believed to have been stolen was a memorandum de-

tailoring a secret contract between the Central Intelligence Agency and the Summa Corporation, wholly owned by Mr. Hughes. The contract provided for a covert attempt by the Hughes Glomar Explorer, an ocean mining vessel, to recover a sunken nuclear-armed Russian submarine from the Pacific Ocean.

Third Reported Recovered

C.I.A. sources reported that the Glomar Explorer recovered one-third of the submarine last August but dropped the major part back to the ocean floor when hoisting equipment malfunctioned.

Hughes sources confirmed earlier this year that an anonymous telephone caller had unsuccessfully sought \$1-million for the return of the stolen files.

Mr. Woolbright surrendered to St. Louis County law enforcement officials last March shortly after his indictment. He was released when no one showed up at his hearing to present extradition papers from California.

A new warrant was issued for his arrest and Mr. Woolbright flew to Los Angeles and voluntarily gave himself up a second time.

Assistant District Attorney Stephen Tropp estimated that the trial would take at least a month and would involve "extensive pretrial discovery processes."