

Hughes' Bid to Testify

[From staff reports and news dispatches]

Las Vegas - Howard Hughes wanted to come out of seclusion and testify before the Watergate committee in 1974 about his political dealings, but aides advised against it because they feared what he would reveal under the influence of his daily drug doses.

"Suppose you had the tablets that I know you obtained and started muttering about the political deals we, or rather you, have made," an unsigned memo to Hughes said.

"This could be trouble and I want no part of this, neither do you."

The Las Vegas Sun reported that Hughes' decision to appear before the Watergate committee was revealed in the memo, now in the possession of former top Hughes aide John Meir [sic].

The memo is among documents seized by Mexican authorities who raided Hughes' Acapulco headquarters after he fled the country in April to seek medical aid in Houston. He died while in flight to Texas.

[Complete.]