

SFChronicle MAR 6 1976

## Hughes Told To Appear Before SEC

Howard Hughes, the billionaire industrialist, must appear in Washington Monday for a deposition before Securities and Exchange Commission attorneys, a judge ruled here yesterday.

U.S. District Judge Alfonso Zirpoli denied a move by Hughes' attorneys to excuse Hughes from answering questions in an SEC suit that charges Hughes violated securities laws in his purchase of the airline now known as Hughes Air West. The SEC asked the deposition be given in Washington.

Hughes on January 12 failed to appear for a deposition and to block this second attempt, Zirpoli said, "would reward him for his own bad conduct."

If Hughes again declines to appear it could lead to a default against Hughes in the \$45 million suit.