

Mexican Police Arrest 3 Hughes Aides

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ACAPULCO, Mexico, April 7 —The Mexican police today arrested the three aides of Howard R. Hughes who stayed on here after the ailing billionaire was flown out of this Pacific Coast resort Monday.

Police sources refused to name the three men or to disclose the reason for their arrest but indicated that the men were being interrogated and would not be immediately released.

The sources also stressed that the current investigation began three weeks ago and had not been touched off by Mr. Hug-

hes's death Monday while being flown from here to Houston for medical treatment.

Agents of Mexico's Federal Judicial Police have also entered and searched the penthouse suite at the Acapulco Princess Hotel, where Mr. Hughes and at least a dozen aides had lived in seclusion since they moved here from the Bahamas on Feb. 11.

Police sources said that the rooms would probably be sealed and that no outsiders would be permitted to enter them. Until yesterday, Mr. Hughes's own security guards prevented even hotel staff from reaching the floor.

According to the sources, some of Mr. Hughes's belongings were removed Monday, but a considerable amount of medical equipment as well as personal papers and documents remained.

At least six Hughes assistants left here Monday. The three who remained had apparently intended to leave Mexico yesterday.

But around noon yesterday, while most guests still believed Mr. Hughes was secluded here, the luxurious hotel was invaded by armed plainclothesed agents of the Mexican Federal Judicial Police. They immediately demanded to enter the penthouse suites still rented and occupied by Mr. Hughes's Summa Corporation at a cost of \$1,419 a night.

After a flurry of meetings between the agents, led by a senior official of the Attorney General's Office, and the hotel management, the police were allowed to enter.

The three unidentified aides were arrested in the hotel and escorted to the federal police headquarters in downtown Acapulco for questioning.

The officials did say, however, that the investigation was a Mexican initiative and was not in response to a request by the United States Government.

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