NY Limes C Hughes Is Seeking Probate Of Purported Will

MAY 1 1976

By WALLACE TURNER

Special to The New York Times
LAS VEGAS, Nev., April 30-Initial moves to try to carry out the provisions of a purported will of Howard R. Hughes were made today by Noah Dietrich, the 87-year-old former Hughes aide who was named as executor of the document that turned up mysteriously Tuesday on the 25th floor of the world headquarters of the Mormon church in Salt Lake

Mr. Dietrich's lawyer, Harold Rhoden of Los Angeles, prepared petitions for probate and issuance of orders that would authorize Mr. Dietrich to divide Mr. Hughes's property along the lines set down in the document the Mormons delivered to the Clark County Courthouse here yesterday.

Filing of these petitions will put the authenticity of the will before a court to decide. Russell Waite, probate commissioner, would examine all the papers involved, including the alleged will. He would report his findings to Judge Keith C. Hayes, of Clark County District Court, whose assignment includes pro-

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bate matters.

Probate matters are taken up Probate matters are taken up by Commissioner Waite every Friday. If begun immediately, the Hughes case could not come before Judge Hayes until May 14. If Mr. Dietrich's petitions are not filed until Wednesday or later, hearings will be de-ferred for another week.

Meanwhile, executives who direct the day-to-day business of the Summa Corporation, which holds most of Mr. Hughes's estimated \$1.5 billion estate, maintained silence about their view of the authenticity their view of the authenticity of the will from Salt Lake City.

A spokesman for Summa said, A spokesman for Summa said, "I am authorized to say nothing about the authenticity of the will." He also confirmed that Summa executives were continuing to press their search for a will they believe Mr. Hughes left that would give all his estate to medical research.

Persons familiar with the recent history of the moody rec-

cent history of the moody rec-luse cited several unusual aspects of the purported will.

Quarrel With Dietrich

One is the designation of One is the designation of Mr. Dietrich as executor. Mr. Hughes and Mr. Dietrich quarreled and separated 19 years ago, ending almost four decades of close association. They had no direct contact since that time, Mr. Dietrich said yesterday.

Mr. Dietrich's earnings from



Associated Press Noah Dietrich, a former aide to Howard R. Hughes, examining a copy of the purported will.

his memoirs of the Hughes years, "Howard, the Incredible Mr. Hughes," were blocked from him by legal action filed by Summa executives and Mr. Hughes in 1972. When he left Mr. Hughes, Mr. Dietrich had signed a promise not to write about his years there, according to documents filed in the court proceedings.

Another unusual aspect of

Another unusual aspect of the purported will pointed out by these sources is the story told by Melvin Dummar, a 31-year-old mechanic who lives in Willard, Utah.

Willard, Utah.

The handwritten, unwitnessed will named "Melvin Dummar of Gabbs, Nevada" as a recipient of one-sixteenth of the Hughes estate — perhaps \$100 million. Mr. Dummar, a Mormon, said he lived in Gabbs in 1968. The will was dated March 19, 1968.

Mr. Dummar told of picking up a man alongside the highway in January of 1968.

The man was lying alongside

The man was lying alongside the roadway, Mr. Dummar said. "The only thing I can remember was that he had a big scar on the left side of the cheek and he was bleeding out of his ear," Mr. Dummar said. "He had blackish gray hair, and had on some kind of baggy pants and tennis shoes."

Mr. Dummar then 23 years.

Mr. Dummar, then 23 years old, left his passenger as requested at the Sands Hotel here, he said. He said he gave him a quarter when asked for money.

He said the passenger said he was Howard Hughes but gave no explanation of why he was alone in the desert.

Stayed at Desert Inn

During the period 1966-70. according to those close to Mr. Hughes, he never left a pent-house at the Desert Inn, a hotel with casino on the Las Vegas

be ade" when the court here considers' the petition to admit

the purported will to probate.
"You can bet that lost wives, illegitimate children, children t left out of the will and a lot of people who just want a piece of the money will come forward," Mr. Rhoden said.