

# Playboy

## Links CIA, Hughes, Ford

### Chicago

The CIA considered using a front organization owned by the late billionaire Howard Hughes to pass along campaign money in 1968 to President Ford and 30 other conservative congressmen, Playboy magazine said yesterday.

Playboy said it was not able to determine why the CIA selected the congressmen, whether the money was ever passed along, or if the politicians ever knew they were chosen.

Playboy released a copy of a memo it said was delivered to Hughes by one of his top aides, John Meier, who later was forced from the Hughes empire and served as a key source in Playboy's yearlong investigation.

The memo included a list of influential senators and representatives selected for support, all Republicans, Southern Democrats or from Hughes' home state of Nevada, Playboy said. The extent of the financing was unknown.

United Press

---