



*By John O'Hara*

## Ex-Spy to Go Mining

The Glomar Explorer, the mystery ship of Howard Hughes and the Central Intelligence Agency, was towed from the Suisun Bay reserve fleet to the Triple A Shipyard at Hunters Point yesterday for a \$1 million refit into the role of ocean mining vessel. The 618-foot former spy ship, built to retrieve a sunken Russian submarine

in the Pacific, has been mothballed for the last two years. She will be used to test mining techniques for ocean manganese in the vast area between Hawaii and Baja California. Her original equipment allows her to retrieve objects from a depth of more than 18,000 feet.