

Hughes May Be Back in Bahamas

Freeport, Bahamas

Howard Hughes, who left the Bahamas nearly two years ago, is believed to have come back here.

The British Home Office in London said Hughes left Britain two days ago for an unknown destination. His six-month British residence permit had been due to expire December 27.

Sources in Nassau reported that Hughes had taken over the 12th and 13th floors of the Xanadu Princess Hotel in Freeport, a casino resort on Grand Bahama island about 60 miles off the coast of Florida. The hotel is owned by shipping magnate Daniel K. Ludwig.

Hughes had been in London ever since an earthquake shook him out of his hotel residence in Nicaragua a year ago.

He reportedly fled to Nicaragua from the Bahamas on Feb. 17, 1972, slipping out by yacht in the pre-dawn darkness after members of the Bahamian Parliament publicly questioned whether Hughes and his staff had the required work permits and were legally in residence.

Associated Press