

# Maheu Asserts Humphrey Called to Thank Hughes

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LOS ANGELES, April 5 — Robert A. Maheu testified here today that on the morning after the election in November, 1968, the Vice President, Hubert H. Humphrey, called to express his thanks for \$100,000 in campaign contributions from Howard R. Hughes, then Mr. Maheu's employer.

Fifty thousand dollars of this is money that Mr. Maheu has said he gave to Mr. Humphrey in a briefcase when they met in a limousine in Los Angeles on July 29, 1968. Mr. Humphrey, now a Senator from Minnesota, has denied that he got the money.

The additional \$50,000 was issued from the Hughes companies in a check to Nevada Democrats, who passed it along to the Humphrey campaign.

Whether Mr. Maheu passed along the cash or kept it himself is an issue in the trial of his \$17.3-million defamation action in Federal Court here against the Summa Corporation, Mr. Hughes's holding company.

## Early Morning Call

Mr. Maheu said the expression of gratitude from Mr. Humphrey came in a telephone call to the Maheu home in Las Vegas, Nev., early in the morning. Mr. Maheu said that his daughter, Christine, 15 years old, answered the telephone and listened to the conversation on an extension.

She is now 21 year old and lives with her husband in Las Vegas, Mr. Maheu said.

Mr. Maheu said that Mr. Humphrey had assured him that Mr. Hughes could be told that Mr. Humphrey would continue to assist Mr. Hughes in his campaign against nuclear weapons testing in the Nevada testing ground of the Atomic Energy Commission.

One of the many memorandums from the reclusive billion-  
aire to Mr. Maheu was produced. The two men communicated through these in 1966 to 1970, when Mr. Hughes lived in the Desert Inn Hotel in Las Vegas and Mr. Maheu was his leading aide. The memo, handwritten, was undated. It said:

"Bob—There is one man who can accomplish our objective through Johnson and that man is H.H.H. Why don't we get word to him on a basis of secrecy that is really, really reliable that we will give him immediately, full unlimited support for his campaign to enter the White House if he will just take this one on for us. Let me know."

mer chief of protocol during the Johnson Administration.

When he testified yesterday, Mr. Maheu said he could not remember the name of the man, but today when he was pressed by Hughes attorneys, he said it was Mr. Hand. On Wednesday Mr. Hand testified here that Mr. Maheu had ridden in the car with the Humphrey party.

Judge Harry Pregerson summed up a long cross-examination argument between Norbert Schlei, a Hughes lawyer, and Mr. Maheu by asking if Mr. Maheu was now testifying that he had tried to protect Mr. Hand in the way he answered questions yesterday. Mr. Maheu said this was true.

## Written Data Subpoenaed

The note was signed with the initial "H." It was produced in response to a subpoena by the Hughes attorneys that was served on Mr. Maheu last night. The subpoena asked for written material bearing on the Humphrey transaction. It was identified by Mr. Maheu but was not offered into evidence before court closed today.

Mr. Maheu also testified that he had told Lloyd Hand that he wanted to meet Mr. Humphrey to pass along the \$50,000 campaign contribution. Mr. Hand, now a vice president of the T.R.W. Corporation, was a Humphrey supporter and a for-