

16 May 74

From story on testimony by Robert A. Maheu in his damage suit against Howard Hughes:

Mr. Maheu also testified that in 1960 Mr. Hughes wanted him to come from Miami to Los Angeles. "I finally told him," he said, "[that] it was necessary for me to be in Miami because I was involved in a very sensitive assignment for an intelligence agency of the Government."

Mr. Maheu said it was the Central Intelligence Agency, but he did not describe the assignment.*

He testified that in 1968, when Mr. Hughes and he were discussing the poor relationships between the Hughes companies and some Federal agencies, "Mr. Hughes asked me if I would try to make some kind of arrangement with the C.I.A. whereby some part of the Hughes Tool Company would become a front for the intelligence agency."

Mr. Maheu said Mr. Hughes had explained that he believed this would be a talking point for favors from Government agencies. Mr. Maheu said he had refused to undertake the assignment.

* UPI story in SEEx: "The time referred to is when the CIA was mounting the Bay of Pigs invasion against Cuba."