

Sun, Nov 13, 1979

Hughes, Sachs discuss furniture case

Annapolis (AP)—Governor Hughes and Attorney General Stephen H. Sachs met for almost two hours yesterday to discuss the report dealing with the removal of furniture from the governor's mansion by former Governor Marvin Mandel.

Neither Mr. Sachs nor Gene Oishi, the governor's press secretary, would discuss details of the meeting or the report prepared by the attorney general's staff and delivered to the governor November 2 following a seven-month investigation.

"The governor wanted clarification on some parts of the report," Mr. Oishi said.

"He and Steve Sachs will discuss this further."

The attorney general said that Mr. Hughes and members of his staff "had questions concerning various aspects of the report. It's my impression he's not finished his analysis of our report and our recommendation."

There has been speculation that the recommendation involves the state initiating either criminal action or filing a civil suit to recover items removed from the mansion.

Among those attending the meeting in

Governor Hughes's office were Ejner Johnson, the governor's top aide; Judson Garrett, his chief legal officer; George A. Nilson, the deputy attorney general, and two other members of Mr. Sachs's staff.

The document under discussion consists of a 200-page report by the attorney general's staff, more than 100 pages of what Mr. Sachs has called "exhibits" and a 27-page cover letter summarizing the findings and making a recommendation.

Mr. Oishi said he had no idea when the governor would make a decision.