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Los Angeles Inquiry On Marilyn Monroe Rules Out a Murder

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 28 (AP) — Marilyn Monroe either killed herself or accidentally took an overdose of barbiturates, the District Attorney said today after a review of the actress's death in 1962.

The review was ordered after a Los Angeles private detective argued she was murdered by "a dissident faction" of the Central Intelligence Agency or similar group.

"Based on the evidence available to us," District Attorney John Van de Kamp said, "it appears that her death could have been a suicide or a result of an accidental drug overdose.

"It is possible that while her ingestion of a lethal quantity of barbiturates was voluntary, she may have been in such a state of emotional confusion that she lacked a clearly formed purpose."

He Plans No Further Inquiry

Mr. Van de Kamp said no further criminal investigation into Miss Monroe's death was planned.

The District Attorney's office decided on the review because there was no district attorney's investigation at the time, and because of recent reports contending Miss Monroe was murdered, supposedly because she knew of a plot against Fidel Castro, the Cuban leader.

The report said that a murder "would have required a massive, in-place conspiracy" covering all the principals at the death scene, including "the actual killer or killers; the chief medical examiner-coroner; the autopsy surgeon to whom the case was fortuitously assigned; and most all of the police officers assigned to the case as well as their superiors."

"Our inquiries and document examination uncovered no credible evidence supporting a murder theory," the report said.

Miss Monroe's body was found sprawled on the bed of her home in Brentwood on Aug. 5, 1962. The county coroner ruled her death a suicide by drug overdose.

The flurry of speculation that she was murdered coincided with the 20th anniversary of the death. A private investigator, Milo Speriglio, and Robert Slatzer, who says he secretly married the actress on Oct. 4, 1952, in Tijuana, Mexico, said that Miss Monroe was killed shortly after the end of a romance with Robert F. Kennedy, then the Attorney General.