

Marilyn Monroe did not commit suicide in August 1962, 30 years ago this summer.

She was killed by the Mafia. Her stage-managed death was an attempt to embarrass, and possibly frame Bobby Kennedy, America's attorney general who was having an affair with her. The actress had previously had an affair with President John Kennedy, Robert's brother.

The same Mafia 'Outfit' went on to arrange the assassination of both John and Bobby. The killings were revenge for the Kennedys' failure to "deliver", according to the book *Double Cross*, published today, the latest theory on the three deaths which have preoccupied writers for the past three decades.

In the assassination of JFK, the Mafia worked together with the CIA whose activities Kennedy wanted to curtail. The 'Outfit' and the CIA are described as two sides of the same coin.

*Double Cross** has been written by Chuck Giancana, the younger brother of one of America's biggest Mafia bosses, Chicago's, Sam "Mooney" Giancana.

Giancana was the Mr Big, who claimed to have masterminded the three murders. The co-author is Chuck's son, also called Sam, named after his Mafioso uncle. Sam is coming to Britain to talk about the book on March 16.

Mafiaboss, Mooney Giancana, had donated millions to John Kennedy's election fund, confident that the president would be in his pocket once in office. Mooney Giancana also believed John Kennedy would be grateful because Giancana had saved the life of John's father, bootlegger, Joseph Kennedy.

Joe Kennedy, who founded his dynasty during prohibition, had a contract put on him by another Mafia overlord and Giancana used his influence to have that contract removed.

However, once installed, it was clear that John Kennedy wanted no connection with the Mafia.

And had no intention of paying favours to his father. Giancana had been made a fool of.

Moreover, Bobby Kennedy, now attorney general, was set to clean up America. He wanted to rid it of the mob.

The hapless Marilyn was a pawn. According to the book, Sam "Mooney" Giancana had the sex lives of the Kennedys taped, literally. Indeed the women the Kennedys slept with, including Monroe, were provided as go-betweens by the 'Outfit'.

Marilyn, the orphan child of a dozen foster homes, was passed from one Kennedy to the other, and she told friends over her

Mystery and controversy have surrounded the deaths of John and Bobby Kennedy, and film star Marilyn Monroe since their untimely deaths 30 years ago. Now a new book offers fresh evidence on just who was responsible.

tapped telephones she was falling in love with the attorney general.

But the relationship with Bobby was foundering and Marilyn caused fury when she tried to contact Bobby at his home. An embarrassment for a man just voted 'family man of the year'.

However, the Mafia's attempt to implicate Bobby in the film star's death failed. Told of her death, Bobby had all connections with him removed from her house. Her diary was never found.

She died, we are told, not by an overdose of pills she took deliberately, but with a lethal suppository of the barbiturate Nembutal.

This undignified death was as ingenious as it was macabre. Because the drug was absorbed rapidly and directly into the blood stream, should she have been discovered, there was nothing in her stomach to pump out and, since no needle was used, there was no suspicious mark.

The Dallas assassination of President John Kennedy, apparently took months to mastermind.

Giancana says: "The politicians and the CIA made it real simple. Each provided men for the hit. Jack Ruby, (a long established Mafioso) was provided by 'the outfit'. The CIA made the security so loose "a four-year-old could have nailed Jack Kennedy".

Kennedy's death was just another coup, say the Giancanas.

"It was little different from the plot to kill Castro, the murders of Vietnam's leaders, that of Panama's president or any of the other dozens of military/CIA-sponsored coups propagated throughout the world. We had overthrown other governments in other countries plenty of times before. This time, we just did it in our own backyard."

Kennedy's death was just another coup for the CIA. This time, they just did it in their own backyard



V John Kennedy, above, Marilyn Monroe, left, and Bobby Kennedy, below left, all died at the hands of the Mafia and the CIA. Killer Jack Ruby, below right, was a Mafia stooge according to the new book.



**Double Cross*, by Sam and Chuck Giancana (Macdonald, £16.99)

According to the book, several leading American politicians, including Lyndon Johnson, who succeeded Kennedy as president, knew about the planned assassination.

The point the book makes is that decency aside, (in the unlikely event that these politicians had any) nobody dared defy the Mafia.

"The Outfit" ruled with a reign of terror. People who opposed it, policemen who refused bribes, men who "talked" and even Mafia members who failed in their assignments, were not just killed, they took days in the dying with horrifying mutilations perpetrated on

them, and their wives and children were not spared either.

Mob leaders like Mooney Giancana were so pathological in their need to dominate that their subordinates had to ask permission before buying a new home or car, or even a piece of jewellery for their wives in case they outshone the boss.

The "don" had droit de seigneur over their very thoughts.

If you were born into a Mafia family, you worked in the Outfit, anything else was regarded as lack of "respect", the ultimate crime.

As for the women, don't ask. They certainly didn't. Caught between the greed and the glitter, they were just dolls to be decorated. Luckier possibly than Monroe, but toys just the same and expected to be grateful. Their husbands' fidelity was not part of the deal.

Said Mooney Giancana: "Women are like shoes. Wear them out, throw them away. It's nice if they're the best looking shoes you can buy, but they're still shoes." **V**