'Mobsters murdered Marilyn and the Kennedy brothers'

MARILYN Monroe did not commit suicide in August 1962, 39 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 assassinations of both John and Bobby. The killings were revenge for the Kennedys' failure to "deliver", according to the book Double Cross, published next week.

In the assassination of JFK the Mafia worked together with the CIA, whose activities Kennedy wanted to curtail.

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 Maafioso uncle.

Mooney Giancana had donated millions to John Kennedy's election fund, confident that the president would be in his pocket once in office.

He 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.

Moreover, Bobby Kennedy, now attorney general, was set to clean up America and get rid 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 by the "Outfit".

Marilyn, the orphan child of a dozen foster homes, was passed from one Kennedy to the other.

John F Kennedy and Marilyn Monroe: murdered by the mob, according to a new book

However, the Mafia's attempt to implicate Bobby in the film star's death failed. Told of her death, he 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 ingenuous 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.

"The politicians and the CIA made it real simple. Each provided men for the hit. Jack Ruby (a long-established Maafioso) was provided by 'the outfit.'"

The CIA made security a 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 leaders, that of a Panamanian president or any of the other dozens of military/CL sponsored coups propagated throughout the world. W. had overthrown other governments in other countries plenty of times before. This time, we just did it on our own backyard."

According to the book leading American politician including Lyndon Johnson who succeeded Kennedy as president, knew of the planned assassination.

The point the book makes is that nobody dared tell the Mafia.

• Double Cross, by Sam and Chuck Giancana, is published by Macdonald, £16.99.

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