

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

*4.5 milligrams per 100 cc blood  
of alcohol & nometal*

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

*no alcohol - no phen -*

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Robert F. Slatzer

July 29, 1974

Grand Jury of Los Angeles County  
13-303 Criminal Courts Building  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Attention: Ms. Nancy H. Manella, Chairman; Criminal Complaints Committee

Please be advised that I am in receipt of your letter dated July 19 informing me that your committee of the 1974-75 Los Angeles County Grand Jury has denied my request of last June 1 for the reopening of the circumstances surrounding the death of Marilyn Monroe, based upon your decision that there is no necessity for reopening the matter.

Today, I called your office, and in your absence was told by a lady that most denials of these types are usually accompanied with an explanation stating as to why such a request is denied. Upon identifying myself over the telephone, the lady seemed to be aware of my name and informed me further that you receive numerous requests which are then decided by ten members of your twelve member grand jury. However, I am quite interested if you would be so kind as to state to me in writing the basis upon which my request was denied for any further consideration.

There is sufficient evidence, based upon my investigative work into the late actress's death, coupled with testimony from responsible individuals, which I personally feel without doubt should merit your consideration; the facts I mention are published in my current hard cover book, "The Life and Curious Death of Marilyn Monroe", and I am enclosing a copy of same in case you did not receive the original which was mailed to your office for further and/or new perusal by your committee.

Categorically, please allow me to state the following facts upon which my request is based:

- (1) The official autopsy report states that 4.5 mg. of barbiturates was found in the late actress's bloodstream, yet there was no evidence of any such barbiturates found in her digestive system, stomach, or small intestine (which would have been, according to top medical authorities, the storage place of any partially and/or undissolved Nembutal capsules). A sample of the latter was taken according to the autopsy report but was not tested, as per the admission of Dr. Thomas Noguchi in an interview on local television several months ago, plus an identical statement made to author Norman Mailer by Dr. Noguchi about a year ago. The reason this was not tested, according to Dr. Noguchi, is that he states that in 1962 there were no facilities for making such a test in the Los Angeles County Coroner's Office. This is quite contrary to the findings of Dr. Sydney Weinberg, Chief Coroner of New York's Suffolk County, who states very adamantly that in 1962 there were methods to make such a test. If such an organ could not be allegedly tested, then may I ask why was it taken as a sample along with other vital organs?

- (2) According to the two police reports, one of the actress's doctors stated in the death bedroom, that since there was an empty bottle of Nembutals, then it had to be quite obvious that Marilyn Monroe died as a result of taking these "missing" capsules --- is it not most presumptuous or rather inaccurate for such a decision to be made at random before the body had been removed for autopsy purposes?
- (3) No drinking glass was found in her (Marilyn Monroe's) room, and having known the actress quite well for a sixteen year period, I have personal knowledge that she could not consume capsules without some type of a fluid such as milk or water. (Note: the Suicide Investigation Team came to the conclusion that the actress consumed approximately 47 Nembutal capsules in a matter of a few seconds --- which is virtually impossible --- assuming that she did, which all evidence points to the negative --- then why are there no traces of the balance of partially and/or undissolved capsules in her system?
- (4) According to Dr. Sydney Weinberg, a prominent forensic pathologist, if such a quantity of Nembutals were consumed, then the yellow dye in the gel of said capsules would have left not only a show of refractile crystals in the victim's stomach; additionally, there would have been a trace of the indelible dye in her throat and her stomach, which was never found according to the autopsy report.
- (5) No record was made of needles (hyperdermic) on the body, yet it is a matter of record substantiated by a bill submitted for payment in probate by one of the actress's doctors, that on August 1 and August 3, the actress received injections, which, according to pathologists who have examined the existing autopsy report, state should have been found and listed --- so if these marks were not recorded on the autopsy, then it is quite evident that allegedly any other existing needle marks could have been, and possibly were, overlooked.
- (6) According to Dr. Weinberg, if the actress actually took these 47 capsules, then the result would have produced vomiting, according to most cases of this type he has examined in his many years as a top pathologist and coroner; no mention of vomiting and/or contortion reaction from taking these alleged capsules was evident, as would have been the case, according to the doctor's (Weinberg) medical expertise.
- (7) Based upon Dr. Weinberg's examination of the existing autopsy of Marilyn Monroe, the evidence recorded, does not lend itself to the actress taking this large amount of Nembutals orally, but rather leads him to believe that it was possibly by an injection --- yet there was no evidence of a hyperdermic syringe found on said premises. The above named doctor concludes that the so-called "bruises" on the outer of the deceased were not bruises but possibly lividity, leading one to believe that the body of the actress had been moved.
- (8) Both police reports are filled with contradictory reports involving many facets such as (a) the time each doctor arrived, (b) who actually called the second doctor, (c) the actions of the two doctors and the housekeeper [the latter being the reporting source on the first police report] and (d) the statement by one doctor that the

- (9) There was no attempt to take latent fingerprints which is usually common with this type of death.
- (10) Based upon information in the police reports, by the admission of the two doctors, there was a time lapse of about one hour before the police were notified of the death, which has never been explained, as said report states that that doctors were "talking" --- about what, since it is their duty to report such a death immediately to the police.
- (11) Former Sgt. Jack Clemmons, the first police officer to arrive on the scene, has categorically stated that he was told when he arrived at Miss Monroe's home that the housekeeper had first noticed a light under the actress's door at 10:00 p.m. (Saturday night, August 4, 1962) and that at approximately midnight, upon seeing the light still under the door, immediately summoned the doctors --- Clemmons further states that the housekeeper and two doctors had been there since a little after midnight, according to what they told him, which then would make the time lapse in calling the police approximately 4 hours. (However, when the "official" reports were filled out, these time elements were moved ahead about three hours).
- (12) Both former Sgt. Clemmons and coroner's representative Guy Hockett have both stated that the actress had been dead for several hours at the time of their arrival.
- (13) On the existing police reports the housekeeper testified and/or stated to police that it was the "light under the door" which attracted her to Miss Monroe's bedroom in a personal taped interview with this housekeeper in the fall of 1973, she (Mrs. Eunice Murray) stated that it was not the light under the door that attracted her attention to the room but rather a long telephone cord from another room under the door going into the actress's room which made her realize that something was wrong ---she stated that a light could not be seen for the carpeting was too thick emit a ray of light to be seen visibly from the hallway. What are we to believe in these conflicting statements?
- (14) Margot Patricia Newcomb, Miss Monroe's press agent at the time, stated emphatic in an interview in the fall of 1973 that Miss Monroe had eaten lunch that afternoon yet, the housekeeper states the actress did not --- and the autopsy report shows there was no indication of food intake but only a neutral 20cc of a brownish fluid in the stomach.
- (15) Miss Newcomb further states that she first learned about the actress's death at 4:00 a.m. (August 5, 1962) in a phone call from Marilyn Monroe's lawyer --- although she said, or refused to identify, who had first called the lawyer. Was this call more important than notifying the police as is the obligation of both said doctors?
- (16) No official coroner's inquest was held --- but the Suicide Investigation Team was assigned to the case --- and those persons interviewed were not under oath --- as was told by the local coroner's office that their identity has to be protected from:

(17) According to Ms. Newcomb, Ms. Murray, and many of Marilyn's friends, including myself, not to mention Joe DiMaggio Jr., who talked with her earlier that night of Saturday, August 4, 1962, Marilyn Monroe was neither depressed or suicidal. Are we to believe statements made from people not under oath that have painted a picture of the actress quite contrary to the way she really was feeling that night as well as those last days in which she was making many plans for the future that can be documented? Wouldn't a standard and conventional coroner's inquest, under oath, be more proper than suppressed statements which are not available to an inquiring public and news media?

(18) It is a highly publicized and well documented fact that Marilyn Monroe's telephone toll tickets were confiscated from the office of General Telephone the following Monday morning of August 6, 1962 --- why was this evidence suppressed and by whom?

There are a great many more facts in my book, backed up by a detailed appendix and statements by prominent individuals, which I feel you should carefully evaluate, in my request for the re-opening of the case of the late Marilyn Monroe.

I will appreciate your taking the facts I have surfaced, all of which are backed up in my book by fact, and most delicately weigh them in the light of the law. Therefore, I am making a second request that you grant an investigation into these unanswered and mysterious circumstances surrounding the death of Marilyn Monroe, and I shall look forward to your prompt reply.

Very truly yours,

  
Robert F. Slatzer

RFS:esm

cc: file

Encl: The Life & Curious Death of Marilyn Monroe (book)

4 5  
August 12, 1974

July 29,

Grand Jury of Los Angeles County,  
308 Criminal Court Building  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Nancy M. Manella, Chairman, Criminal Complaints Committee

I am in receipt of your letter dated July 19 informing me that  
**Robert F. Slatzer**, 1974-75 Los Angeles County Grand Jury has denied my request  
Lywood-Taft Building, regarding the citizen's inquest surrounding the death of  
the 1000  
13 Vine Street  
Hollywood, California 90028

and in your absence was told by a lady that she had been  
accompanied with an explanation stating as to why  
Mr. Slatzer, when identifying myself over the telephone, the lady stated that  
the committee has examined your second letter, (July 29, 1973) and the copy of  
book, The Life and Curious Death of Marilyn Monroe

CONFIDENTIAL  
The committee is legally charged with reviewing complaints from citizens and  
officials and recommending further investigation of those it considers most de-  
manding of official action.

CONFIDENTIAL  
As much as the events you question took place twelve years ago, much effort and  
attention have already been directed to them by officials in whom we have confidence,  
there are many contemporary problems demanding investigation, we reaffirm  
decision not to recommend reopening the matter.

CONFIDENTIAL  
I am returning the book to you under separate cover.

Sincerely yours,

CONFIDENTIAL  
Nancy M. Manella, Chairman,  
Criminal Complaints Committee

*Joe Armstrong  
W.H.A.*

Hollywood, California

Aug. 7, 1962.

RECEIVED

AUG 9 1962

CHIEF'S OFFICE

The Herald-Examiner  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Sir:

We are surprised that no one in authority has found out yet that Joe DiMaggio was the one who talked to Marilyn Monroe on the phone, the night of her death.

She begged him to resume their relationship and he refused. When she threatened to take more pills, he didn't believe she would and told her to go ahead and do it. Now, he acts the bereaved ex-husband. He never really loved her, he only wanted the "accompanying" glamor.

Why don't you check his outgoing phone calls the night of Marilyn's death? Also in some ways it might prove very enlightening.

Her agent, housekeeper, lawyer and doctors are not telling all there is to tell and should be questioned further. In this case, what conscientious doctor would prescribe 50 Nembutal capsules at one time, to a person in Marilyn's state of mind and then tell her to go for a ride when she was so deeply disturbed? But, I suppose "money" talks louder than ethics!

I do hope you will check further regarding my statement.

This is not an anonymous letter in the real sense of the word. I am not signing my name only because of fear of reprisals from influential people. I can give no proof of what was heard, but a good investigator would certainly be able to get at the truth, no matter how wealthy and powerful the persons concerned might be.

cc: to Chief of Police Parker

3

I, MARILYN MONROE, do make, publish and declare this to be my last Will and Testament.

FIRST: I hereby revoke all former Wills and Codicils by me made.

SECOND: I direct my Executor, hereinafter named, to pay all of my just debts, funeral expenses and testamentary charges as soon after my death as can conveniently be done.

THIRD: I direct that all succession, estate or inheritance taxes which may be levied against my estate and/or against my legacies and/or devisees hereinafter set forth shall be paid out of my residuary estate.

FOURTH: (a) I give and bequeath to EERNICE MIRACLE, should she survive me, the sum of \$10,000.00.

(b) I give and bequeath to MAY REIS, should she survive me, the sum of \$10,000.00.

(c) I give and bequeath to NORMAN and HEDDA [REDACTED], or to the survivor of them, or if they should both predecease me, then to their daughter, PATRICIA ROSTEN, the sum of \$3,000.00, it being my wish that such sum be used for the education of PATRICIA ROSTEN.

(d) I give and bequeath all of my personal effects and clothing to LEE STRASSBERG, or if he should predecease me, then to my Executor hereinafter named, it being my desire that he distribute these, in his sole discretion, among my friends and those to whom I am devoted.

FIFTH: I give and bequeath to my Trustees, hereinafter

sum of \$100,000.00, in Trust, for the following uses and purposes:

(a) To hold, manage, invest and reinvest the said property and to receive and collect the income therefrom.  
(b) To pay the net income therefrom, together with such amounts of principal as shall be necessary to provide \$5,000.00 per annum, in equal quarterly installments, for the maintenance and support of my mother, CLAYDS BAKER, during her lifetime.

(c) To pay the net income therefrom, together with such amounts of principal as shall be necessary to provide \$5,000.00 per annum, in equal quarterly installments, for the maintenance and support of MRS. MICHAEL CHERNOV during her lifetime.

(d) Upon the death of the survivor between my mother, CLAYDS BAKER, and MRS. MICHAEL CHERNOV to pay over the principal remaining in the Trust, together with any accumulated income, to DR. MARIANNE KUIS to be used by her for the furtherance of the work of such psychiatric institutions or groups as she shall elect.

RESIDUE: All the rest, residue and remainder of my estate, both real and personal, of whatsoever nature and wheresoever situated, of which I shall die seized or possessed or to which I shall be in any way entitled, or over which I shall possess any power of appointment by will at the time of my death, including my legal rights, I give, devise and bequeath as follows:

(1) To NEW FDIS the sum of \$40,000.00 or 15% of my net estate, whichever shall be the lesser.

(b) To DR. MARLADE KRIS 15% of the balance thereof, to be used by her as set forth in ARTICLE FIFTH (d) of this my Last Will and Testament.

(c) To LEE STRASSBERG the entire remaining balance.

AARON R. WEISSBERGER: I nominate, constitute and appoint AARON R. WEISSBERGER Executor of this my Last Will and Testament. In the event that he should die or fail to qualify, or resign or for any other reason be unable to act, I nominate, constitute and appoint L. WILHELM WEISSBERGER in his place and stead.

L. WILHELM WEISSBERGER: I nominate, constitute and appoint AARON R. WEISSBERGER Trustee under this my Last Will and Testament. In the event he should die or fail to qualify, or resign or for any other reason be unable to act, I nominate, constitute and appoint L. WILHELM WEISSBERGER in his place and stead.

(L.S)

SEEN, READ, PUBLISHED and DECLARED by MARILYN MONROE, the Testatrix above named, as and for her Last Will and Testament, in our presence and we, at her request and in her presence and in the presence of each other, have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses this 11 day of January, One Thousand Nine Hundred Sixty-One.

[Signature] residing at 11661 177th Ave, C.  
James W. White residing at [illegible]

\_\_\_\_\_ residing at \_\_\_\_\_

LONG DISTANCE

MUNROE PHONE CALLS - PO BOX 64  
FROM TWO PHONES 6400 SUNSET  
HOLLYWOOD

4761890 X 472/4830

1890	7/13	NYC	18 MIN
	7/28	NYC	1 MIN
4830	8/3	FUL	4 "
	7/18	NYC	3 "
	<del>7/28</del>	<del>NYC</del>	<del>10 "</del>
	7/28	NYC	10 "
	7/30	NYC	1 "
	<del>7/30</del>	<del>NYC</del>	<del>13 "</del>
	7/30	BKLN	13 "
	7/31	NYC	11 "
	8/3	BKLN	32 "
	8/4	ANAHE	5 "

1



Telephone Number - 476-1890 - June 29, 1962

June 2 New York City  
June 2 New York City  
June 2 New York City  
June 2 New York City  
June 4 Brooklyn, N.Y.  
June 4 Brooklyn, N.Y.  
June 5 Berne  
June 8 9 Msgs.  
June 8 England  
June 8 New York City  
June 8 New York City  
June 8 New York City  
June 8 New York City  
June 8 9 Msgs.  
June 8 England  
June 8 New York City  
June 8 New York City  
June 8 New York City  
June 8 New York City  
June 8 New York City  
June 8 London  
June 8 New York City  
June 8 New York City  
June 9 New York City  
June 10 New York City  
June 11 New York City  
June 11 New York City  
June 13 Fullerton, Calif.

CONFIDENTIAL

1

June 16 Brooklyn, N.Y.  
June 16 Brooklyn, N.Y.  
June 19 Fullerton, Calif.  
June 20 Brooklyn, N.Y.  
June 20 Brooklyn, N.Y.

~~June 25 Washington~~

~~July 2 Washington~~

~~July 2 Washington~~

July 6 San Diego

July 6 San Diego

July 9 New York City

July 9 New York City

~~July 16 Washington~~

July 16 <sup>(C)</sup> New York City

July 17 Fullerton

~~July 17 Washington~~

~~July 17 Washington~~

Calls to New York - Person to Person

~~[Redacted]~~ (1)



(1)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Telephone Number - 472-4830 - June 29, 1962

June 1 New York City  
June 2 Louisiana  
June 8 New York City  
June 9 N'Town  
June 10 New York City  
June 12 Brooklyn, N.Y.  
June 12 New York City

The following are message unit calls

June 3

June 3

June 3

June 5

June 5

June 5

June 6

June 6

June 6

June 6

June 7

June 7

June 7

June 7

June 7

June 7

June 8

June 8

(1)

CONFIDENTIAL

June 9

June 9

June 9

June 9

June 9

June 9

June 9

June 9

June 9

June 10

June 11

June 11

June 12

June 12

June 12

June 12

June 12

June 12

June 12

June 13

June 13

June 13

June 13

June 13

June 13

June 14

June 14

June 16

June 18



(1)

TRIAL

(C)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

June 18

June 18

June 18

June 19

June 15

June 15

June 15

June 15

June 20

June 21

June 21

June 21

June 22

June 22

June 22

June 22

June 23

June 23

June 23

June 23

June 23

June 23

June 23

June 23

June 24

June 26

June 26

June 26



1

AL

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

June 26

June 26

June 26

June 27

June 27

June 27

June 28

June 28

June 28

June 28

June 28

June 28

June 29

June 29

June 30

June 30

June 30

June 30

June 30

July 1

July 1

July 2

July 2

July 2

July 2

July 3

July 3

July 4

①

REAL

July 4  
July 4  
July 4  
July 5  
July 5  
July 5  
July 5  
July 5  
July 5  
July 6  
July 6  
July 6  
July 6  
July 6  
July 6  
July 6  
July 6  
July 6  
July 6  
July 6  
July 7  
July 7  
July 8  
July 8  
July 8  
July 9  
July 11  
July 11  
July 11

(1)

CONFIDENTIAL

1954

July 11

July 11

July 11

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

July 12

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

July 12

July 12

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

July 12

July 12

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

July 14

July 14

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

July 14

July 14

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

July 14

July 15

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

July 15

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

July 17

July 17

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

July 17

July 18

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

July 18

July 21

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com



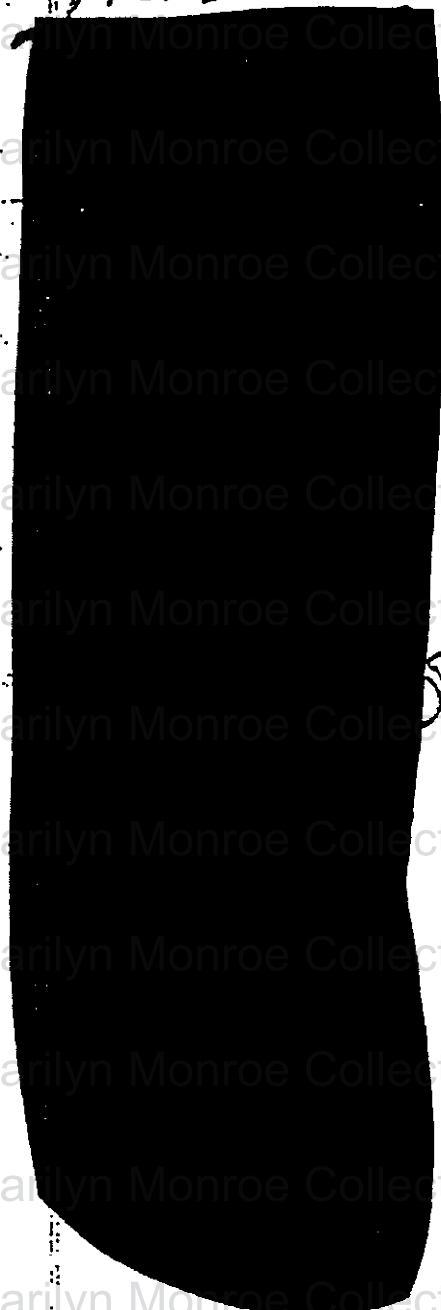
1

FILE

MONROE MESSAGE UNITS -

FROM 47-24830

PHONE NUMBER DATE MINUTES



7/20 19

7/23 1

7/24 7

7/24 5

7/25 4

7/26 11

7/29 8

7/29 3

7/31 4

8/3 1

8/5 1

8/5 1

8/14 5

8/14 3

8/14 2

8/15 3

CONFIDENTIAL

!

Message Reel call  
mt

Date	Time	minutes
4-13	2-	
7-13	3-	
7-13	30	
7-13	4	
7-15	4	
7-20	4	
7-24	3	
7-24	9	
7-24	1	
7-24	1	
7-24	1	
7-25	1	
7-25	1	
7-25	1	
7-25	1	
7-26	1	
7-26	1	
7-26	1	
7-27	1	
7-27	1	
7-27	2	
7-31	1	
8-2	1	
8-2	3	

**CONFIDENTIAL**

1

61890

Date	Time in minutes
8-4	7
8-5	2
8-5	2
8-13	6
8-13	2
8-14	2
8-14	1
8-14	4
8-14	<del>2</del> 1
8-14	6
8-1	6
8-10	14
8-11	3
8-15	3
8-15	2
8-15	2
8-15	<del>2</del> 6
8-16	4
8-16	3
8-17	1
8-18	12
8-18	14
8-18	19
8-18	3

**CONFIDENTIAL**

①

message units

8-18 1

8-18 1

8-18 3

①

**CONFIDENTIAL**



6-3

6-3

3

5

5

5

5

6

6

6

7

7

7

**CONFIDENTIAL**

7

7

8

8

9

9

9

9

9

9

9

See p

10

11

11

12

12

12

12

12

12

12

13

13

13

13

13

13

14

14

16

18

18

18

18

19

JULY 28

8

8

9

11

11

11

11

11

11

12

12

12

12

12

14

14

14

14

14

15

15

17

17

17

19

18

21

CONFIDENTIAL

1

(200)  
May Unit  
H. H.

PHONE # 4761890 JUN-2

- 2 - MARY N.Y.C.
- 2 - "
- 4 - BROOKLYN
- 7 - 9th SCS
- 8 - ENGLAND
- 7 - N.Y.K.
- NYC
- 8 - NYC
- 1 - "
- 4 - "
- 1 - "
- 3 - FUL
- 1 - NYC
- 2 - LA
- 2 - NYC
- 2 - N. TOWN
- 1 - NYC
- 2 - BKLN
- 1 - NYC
- 1 - NYC
- 1 - BKLN



CONFIDENTIAL

(1)



9MS65

TELEGRAM

ENGLAND.

NYK

NYC.

NYC

BKLYN-

FOL.

BKLN

NYC.

NYC

WASH.

FOL.

SAN. DIEGO.

BERNE

5 WASH.

"

6 NYC

7 WASH.

8 BKLYN-

"

20

- 6 SAN. D.

CENTRAL

1

Fullerton 9  
B

*Wiggins*

*London*

*8 - N.Y.*



*all: to n.y.*

*Person to Person*



*Lead*

*has*

*(1)*

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

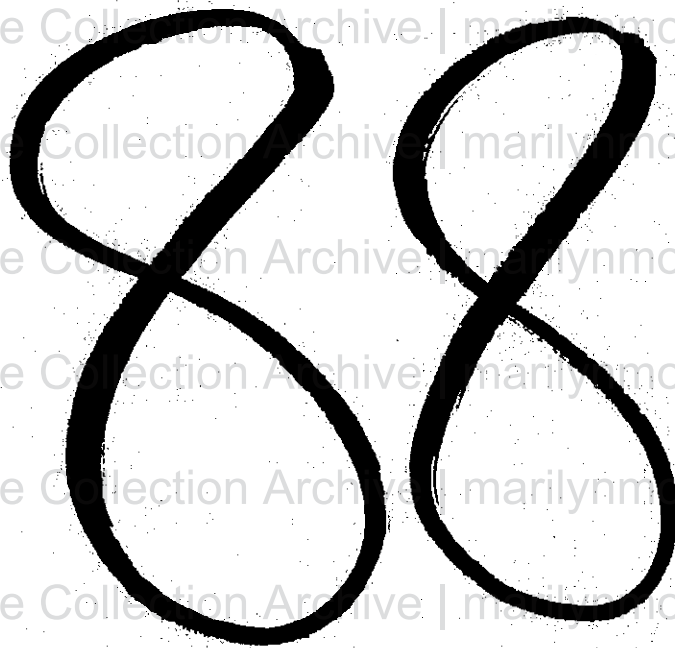
Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)



Phone #'s.

DRS  
4/17/71  
NO  
23  
2209

Engleberg

[REDACTED]

Newcomb

[REDACTED]

Mickey Rudin

[REDACTED]

N. Hollywood

Ruth Albert

[REDACTED]

Hollywood Plaza Htl.

[REDACTED]

Bev. Hilton

[REDACTED]

Mrs Murray

[REDACTED]

Larry Schiller

[REDACTED]

Inez Melson

[REDACTED]

George Bullitz Durgam

[REDACTED]

Joe Nave

[REDACTED]

Phoebe Muir

[REDACTED]

H.D. Greenson

[REDACTED]

Cal - Newa Lodge

[REDACTED]

#S REQUESTED CHECKED FROM PHONE TOLLS BY TONY COOK - 4-483

- RUDIN'S # 877 7877 APPEARED 6-3, 6-7, 6-16, 7-1, 8-5 (1ST 3#S MISSING) PER ISA CARROLL - COOK ADVISED

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

**PREVIOUSLY  
RELEASED**

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)



THE DEATH OF MARILYN MONROE

REPORT TO THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

RONALD H. CARROLL  
Assistant District Attorney

ALAN B. TOMICH  
Investigator

December, 1982

THE DEATH OF MARILYN MONROE

In August of this year the District Attorney directed the Assistant District Attorney to initiate a review of documents and other available materials relating to the death of movie actress Marilyn Monroe, who died in 1962. The purpose of the threshold investigation was to determine if sufficient facts and circumstances exist to warrant the opening of a full criminal investigation as a possible homicide case. There is no Statute of Limitation applicable to Murder under California law.

On the basis of our 3½-month review of printed material and interviews, we conclude that there are insufficient facts to warrant opening a criminal investigation into the death of Marilyn Monroe. Although factual discrepancies exist and unanswered questions surfaced in our probe, the cumulative evidence available to us fails to support any theory of criminal conduct relating to her death. The original Coroner's finding of "probable suicide" is reasonably supported by the data examined, although some evidence reviewed supports to a lesser degree the conclusion that the actress's death may have been accidental. An equally plausible hypothesis is that although her ingestion of a lethal quantity of barbiturates was voluntary, she may have been in such a state of emotional confusion that she herself lacked a clearly-formed purpose.

As the 20th Anniversary of Miss Monroe's death approached, several persons emerged to criticize the original police investigation of Monroe's death and to criticize the Coroner's Office's handling of the case. Most of the criticism was a repeat of allegations which were published periodically during the preceding twenty years. However, one new issue came to light when a Mr. Lionel Grandison, a Coroner's Aide during 1962, made public statements at various press conferences wherein he alleged that he had been coerced into signing the Death Certificate shortly after the autopsy of Miss Monroe had been performed, and alleged also that he had seen a red diary included in the property received by the Coroner's Office at the time the body was transported to that office, but that the diary had subsequently disappeared.

Various authors, some print media representatives, and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors asked the District Attorney's Office to look into the matters raised by Grandison. Grandison and an author by the name of Robert Slatzer allege that the diary contained references to sensitive government operations and references to then-Attorney General Robert Kennedy, and perhaps to his brother as well, and thus the circumstances of Miss Monroe's death might actually involve a murder conspiracy to silence the actress and prevent her from revealing either secret government operations or

personal matters which might be of great embarrassment to the Attorney General or the President.

The first step in the threshold examination was to secure all existing documents from official sources. District Attorney files and archives were examined; all existing files in the possession of the Coroner's Office and the Los Angeles Police Department were requested. In addition, the United States Department of Justice was queried as were the local FBI offices.

Several agencies routinely purge files after a fixed period of time, usually ten years or less, and therefore some difficulty was experienced in attempting to recreate a complete documentation from official sources. Fortunately, many individuals who had personal knowledge of the events surrounding the death in 1962 are still alive and were interviewed. Documents reviewed included LAPD reports (some of which were reconstructed); Coroner's reports (including toxicological reports); FBI reports (although heavily censored); news reports and other publications. Forty people were interviewed in person or telephonically. The scene of death was visited, with particular attention paid to the layout of the neighborhood and the ability of neighboring residents to observe the Monroe house from the vantage point of each residence. Four pathologists were consulted, with varying degrees of particularity, including Thomas Noguchi, the original autopsy surgeon.

#### Outline of Known Facts Relating to the Death of Marilyn Monroe

Marilyn Monroe died on the night of August 4 or in the early morning hours of August 5, 1962. Her body was discovered by her housekeeper, Mrs. Eunice Murray.

Los Angeles Police Department reports state that Mrs. Murray telephoned Miss Monroe's psychiatrist, Dr. Ralph Greenson, at 3:30 a.m. on August 5, 1962. She told him that Miss Monroe's bedroom light was on and that the bedroom door was locked. Dr. Greenson immediately left his nearby residence and arrived at the Monroe house at approximately 3:40 a.m. He entered her bedroom through a window and there observed Marilyn lying on the bed, apparently deceased.

Miss Monroe's physician, Dr. Hyman Engleberg, was summoned to the scene and arrived there at approximately 3:50 a.m., August 5, 1962. Upon viewing the body, he immediately pronounced her dead.

The Los Angeles Police Department, West Los Angeles Division, was telephonically notified of Miss Monroe's death at 4:25 a.m., August 5, 1962. Sgt. Jack Clemmons responded to the scene. Later that morning Investigative Officer R.E. Byron was dispatched to the scene.

Sgt. Byron conducted the police investigation of the death.

The Los Angeles County Coroner's Office's reports state that that office was notified of Miss Monroe's death by Sgt. Clemmons at 5:25 a.m.

Reports concerning removal of the body from the scene of death on the morning of August 5 are unclear. It is unclear whether or not the body was initially removed by the Westwood Village Mortuary and turned over to the Coroner's Office or whether the Coroner's Office took possession of the body at the scene and delivered it from there to the downtown Los Angeles facility. The reports do state that the body was delivered to the Coroner's Office by coroner staff personnel at 9 a.m. on August 5, 1962.

At 10:30 a.m. on August 5, 1962, Deputy Coroner Examiner, Dr. Thomas Noguchi, performed the autopsy on Miss Monroe's body. He also took samples of blood and liver materials which he submitted for toxicological study. Other samples were taken and saved for future study on an as-needed basis.

The results of the blood and liver toxicological examination show that there were 8 mg. percent chloral hydrate and 4.5 mg. percent of barbiturates in the blood and 13.0 mg. percent pentobarbital in the liver.

Dr. Noguchi concluded, based on his examination, that Miss Monroe died as a result of acute barbiturate poisoning, "due to an ingestion of an overdose." Although the blood and liver toxicological studies identified the toxic level of drugs in the system, no precise estimates could be made of the number of pills ingested to reach the toxic levels in the blood and liver.

Officials of the Coroner's Office contacted the Suicide Prevention Center in Los Angeles and requested a report from a Psychiatric Investigative Team to assist the Coroner's Office in determining whether or not Miss Monroe had accidentally or intentionally ingested the lethal quantities of drugs. The Suicide Team was headed by Robert Litman, M.D.; Norman Farberow, Ph.D.; and Norman Tabachnick, M.D. The Team report concluded, "On the basis of all the information obtained it is our opinion that the case is a probable suicide."

#### CONDUCT OF CORONER'S OFFICE

The written reports associated with the autopsy performed on August 5, 1962, were examined by an independent expert, Dr. Boyd G. Stephens, Chief Medical Examiner-Coroner, City and County of San Francisco. The Los Angeles District Attorney's Office solicited Dr. Stephens' assistance.

Dr. Stephens reports that the methodology and report itself reflect a legitimate, scientifically acceptable medical examination performed in accordance with 1962 standards for such examinations. He further

concludes that even the application of more advanced--1982--state-of-the-art procedures would not, in all reasonable probability, change the ultimate conclusions reached by Dr. Noguchi in 1962.

Dr. Stephens says that based on the physical evidence as memorialized in the Autopsy Report and the associated documents he would have reached an identical conclusion, i.e., the subject died of acute barbiturate poisoning from the ingestion of an overdose. He further believes that the amount of chloral hydrate in the system would add to the toxicity and would to some extent compound the effect of the pentobarbital (nembutal) in the system.

Dr. Stephens also believes that the relationship of the pentobarbital in the blood (4.5 mg. percent) to that in the liver (13.0 mg. percent) is medically significant. Quoting from Dr. Stephens:

". . . here it is essentially a 1 to 2 ratio. To me, that suggests that the person live[d] for quite a period of time [after ingestion of the drugs]. It also suggests that there is not a large reservoir left in the stomach or gastrointestinal tract to be drawing from."

Thus, under Dr. Stephens' analysis, absent information not included in the Autopsy Report and thus presumably not discovered, the person upon whom the autopsy was performed metabolized the pentobarbital in a manner consistent with an oral ingestion of a large quantity of pills, and further that the metabolic process had reached the stage where much of the toxic material had already reached the liver and was in the process of at least beginning the excretion process.

In conjunction with our investigator interviews, this leads to a reasonable conclusion that Miss Monroe had not suffered a "hot shot" or needle injection of a lethal dose. A needle injection (intravenous, subcutaneous or intramuscular) would have produced a very high blood level of the barbiturate. This would have led to a rapid death; and we would not have seen the evidence of the extended metabolic process which allows time for the liver to absorb the toxic substance.

An independent witness verifies that Dr. Noguchi examined the whole body on August 5th, within eight hours of the discovery of the body, with a hand-held magnifying glass in a search for recent needle marks. Noguchi found none. Needle marks, if professionally administered by a physician, usually disappear within 24 hours if no tissue damage is associated with the injection. Dr. Noguchi reported to our investigator that he searched the whole body for needle marks and paid particular attention to those areas most commonly associated with injections, both those medically administered and those associated with the illegal injection of drugs.

Again, the ratio of pentobarbital in the blood to that in the liver suggests more gradual absorption of the dose associated with oral ingestion as opposed to a hypodermic injection.

### Absence of Gelatin Capsules in the Stomach

Dr. Stephens, the independent physician with whom we conferred, states that capsules of the sort suspected in this case (i.e., Nembutal) and pills such as chloral hydrate, travel quickly from the stomach to the small intestine. These substances dissolve rapidly and their constituents are rapidly absorbed into the body. On an empty stomach the absorption rate and the movement from the stomach to the duodenum is more rapid.

Dr. Noguchi found no evidence of gelatin capsules in the stomach or in other parts of the gastrointestinal tract. Dr. Stephens and others with whom we've conferred do not find this fact to be significant. On the contrary, when the overdose victim does not die rapidly, pathologists expect to find total absorption of the capsules and pills into the intestinal tract.

Dr. Noguchi examined the stomach contents to determine if there were refractible crystals. He found none. Dr. Stephens and others believe that this is not scientifically significant. Dr. Stephens' opinion is that, based on the apparent metabolism of the drugs, one would not expect to find refractible crystals in the stomach. More sensitive chemical tests on the stomach lining and contents were not performed by Noguchi. It is Dr. Noguchi's position that in the absence of circumstances pointing to facts contrary to what he observed during the autopsy (i.e., some sinister overtones to the death), the more sensitive chemical analyses were, under the guidelines then in existence in the Coroner's Office, properly not performed.

### Absence of Yellow Dye Residual Staining

Dr. Noguchi reported seeing no evidence of a yellow dye staining in the throat, stomach or other parts of the gastrointestinal tract. Some critics of the autopsy have alleged that Nembutal (pentobarbital) capsules, which contain a yellow dye, leave a dye trail or staining in the throat, stomach and intestines of overdose victims who have ingested lethal amounts of Nembutal. A representative of Abbott Laboratories was contacted who surmised that since a coloring agent is placed in Nembutal capsules, there should be a residue of the coloring agent remaining in the body of overdose victims in cases of large toxic quantities. The Abbott spokesman acknowledges, however, that no studies or scientific papers of which he is aware have been written supporting this hypothesis.

Empirical information is contrary to the yellow dye trail supposition. Three autopsy surgeons, Dr. Noguchi included, who were queried concerning the presence of such a yellow dye trail state that such a color residue is almost unheard-of in Nembutal deaths. Each of the physicians has examined hundreds and hundreds of Nembutal overdose victims.

The yellow dye trail speculation may stem from confusion with the red dye trail sometimes associated with overdoses of secenal, another barbiturate commonly encountered in suicides and accidental overdose cases. Physicians interviewed have seen instances of red dye trails and scientific literature has been written about this phenomenon. Again, this circumstance is not associated with nembutal overdoses.

### The Red Diary

Mr. Grandison reported that he saw associated with Miss Monroe's property a scrawled note and a red diary. He alleges that both items disappeared from the Coroner's Office shortly after the autopsy was performed. Grandison claims to have briefly examined the diary and noted that it contained the names of government figures and perhaps matters relating to sensitive government operations. Our investigation points to the conclusion that Mr. Grandison is in error, for the following reasons:

- 1) The records prepared at the time and kept by the Coroner's Office show that no property was recovered from the victim. The property report in our possession is a photocopy of the original; so it is impossible to state categorically that it has not been surreptitiously altered to reflect the failure to recover property. However, there is no indication of any tampering with the document. Absent information that the Coroner's Report was changed, the document has evidentiary weight.
- 2) Dr. Noguchi was interviewed concerning the diary and states that he saw no such item as part of the Monroe property.
- 3) Those associates closest to Miss Monroe at or about the time of her death, such as Pat Newcomb, Mrs. Murray, and her masseuse, state that they never saw such a diary.
- 4) Mr. Grandison admits that prior to his public statements concerning the existence of the diary, he had previously read Slatzer's book, "The Life and Curious Death of Marilyn Monroe," published in 1974. The story of the red diary first publicly appeared in Slatzer's book. Slatzer claimed to have seen it and to have discussed with Miss Monroe the contents of her diary, including references to Robert Kennedy, Fidel Castro, the C.I.A., etc. Excluding Mr. Grandison's belated statements concerning the diary, Slatzer is the only source alleging the existence of the document.

Mr. Grandison was discharged from the Coroner's Office a short time after the Monroe autopsy for misconduct involving the theft of property from dead bodies. A review of the court documents associated with his discharge and the criminal charges stemming from his conduct demonstrates that there is solid documentary substantiation for the allegations against Mr. Grandison.

According to court records, on November 19, 1962, Mr. Grandison appeared in Department 109 of the Superior Court in Los Angeles and pled guilty to one count of forgery. On December 21, 1962, he received a sentence of Proceedings Suspended with five years probation with an order that he spend the first six months of his probationary period in the County Jail. He was also ordered to make restitution through the Probation Department. He successfully completed his probationary period and on December 14, 1967, his original sentence was reduced to a misdemeanor, his probation was terminated, and his original offense was declared to be a misdemeanor pursuant to Section 17 of the California Penal Code.

- 5) The systematic keeping of a diary and the mental discipline associated with daily recording of important events in one's life are personality traits inconsistent with the mental state of Marilyn Monroe during the last few months of her life. Her closest associates seriously doubt that Marilyn Monroe had the emotional strength to maintain any sort of diary during this period. She suffered from a variety of physical and emotional problems that caused her to be disorganized and in almost daily need of psychiatric support to accomplish ordinary tasks.

- 6) Former LAPD Sgt. Jack Clemmons was the first police officer on the scene. He was ushered into the Monroe residence by Mrs. Murray and was present until the arrival of other police officers on the morning of Miss Monroe's death. He arrived at the house at approximately 4:30 a.m. Three persons were there when he arrived: Mrs. Murray; Dr. Greenson, Miss Monroe's psychiatrist; and Dr. Engleberg, her physician.

Mr. Clemmons states he saw no such note or red diary. Although he did not perform a search for these items, the allegation that they were later picked up at the scene and delivered ultimately to the Coroner's Office by someone, would imply that

they were readily available or actually near the body at the time the body was recovered by the mortuary people. In other words, Mr. Clemmons didn't see a red diary and he was in a good position to have seen such a document.

- 7) The alleged existence of the red diary has particular meaning under the conspiratorial theory raised by critics who claim that since the diary contained explosive information it relates directly to the motivation to murder Marilyn Monroe.

Unfortunately, this scenario doesn't hold together. Under it, those who some might consider as suspects in her death, e.g., her physicians and her house-keeper, were with her at the time of her death or shortly after and therefore had the greatest access to her personal documents, including the alleged diary. They are likely to have been the same persons who turned over the diary to the authorities from the Coroner's Office or to the mortuary employees had such a diary existed. It doesn't make sense to imply that those who were closest to Miss Monroe were responsible for her death and then to allege that these same people turned over to outsiders the very information they sought, by killing her, to suppress.

Even if one assumed that a stranger or a Coroner's employee discovered a diary at the death scene and then passed it on to the authorities, one would also have to assume that the "conspirators" were incredibly inept to allow such a discovery.

Lionel Grandison's statement concerning the existence of the diary at the Coroner's Office (and also a scrawled suicide note) is inconsistent with evidence available at this time and is not supported by credible corroborating information.

#### Lionel Grandison's Signature on Death Certificate

Lionel Grandison, in his role as a Deputy Coroner's Aide at the Los Angeles County Coroner's Office, signed the Marilyn Monroe Death Certificate. Cause of death is listed as "acute barbiturate poisoning" due to "ingestion of overdose."

Grandison has recently complained in press conferences that he was coerced into signing the Death Certificate by Dr. Theodore Curphey, his department head, who was then the Los Angeles County Chief Medical Examiner-Coroner. Grandison says that he initially declined to sign it because the file was "incomplete" and it was his duty to make sure that all the documents associated with the Coroner's Report were in the "Closing Package." He claims he believed there

were some discrepancies between a document entitled "First Call Form" that he had seen initially and one that was now in the package. Grandison also stated that it was his duty not only to examine the package for completeness, but to evaluate the contents of the reports to see that the indicated cause of death on the Death Certificate was appropriate.

Grandison made other statements concerning his personal observations of the body after the autopsy. These will be addressed in another section.

The significance of Grandison's signing or declining to sign the Death Certificate can only be ascertained by first looking at his role in the Coroner's Office, his expertise or special training, and his discretionary responsibility.

#### Role in the Office:

Mr. Grandison's job title was that of a Deputy Coroner's Aide. His function was to perform routine paper handling chores in a mechanical rather than a discretionary function. He had worked in that capacity for 2½ years. The Coroner's staff people who still remember him and still remember the organizational structure at the time report that he had no authority to approve any of the contents of Coroner's documents, and his signature thereon implied neither his approval nor disapproval of them. He simply assembled paperwork and was never given authority to challenge the decisions of the medical staff.

#### Grandison's Previous Training:

Grandison first worked as a clerk at the Los Angeles County General Hospital for six months in 1957. From October of 1958 until May of 1959, he was employed as an Assembler-Inspector at General Motors Chevrolet Division in Van Nuys, California. He left that employment and returned to County service in May of 1959, and was again employed as a clerk at Los Angeles County General Hospital. He stayed there until January of 1960. From January of 1960 until he was terminated on September 12, 1962, he was employed as a Deputy Coroner's Aide.

One report states that he attended Los Angeles City College for one year, where he studied Business Administration prior to his employment with the County.

Thus, it can be observed that Mr. Grandison had no police investigator training, nor did he have any medical training or expertise. Nor is there any evidence that Mr. Grandison had ever been trained in murder-suicide investigations.

If in fact Mr. Grandison harbored suspicions concerning the autopsy in 1962, his suspicions were not based on significant personal credentials.

#### Time Sequence of Coroner's Reports

Dr. Noguchi performed the autopsy on the body of the deceased shortly after it was delivered to the Coroner's Office on the morning of August 5, 1962, the day she was discovered dead at her home in West Los Angeles. He took notes as he worked and dictated his findings as he examined the body. His notes were typed up in complete form on August 13, 1962. His initial conclusion was that Miss Monroe died of acute barbiturate poisoning due to an overdose; however, the handwritten documents indicate that the case was to be referred to the "Suicide Team." He submitted blood and liver samples for toxicological reports on the same day. He also secured other body parts and liquid for later examination on an "as necessary" basis. These included kidney, stomach, intestine and urine samples. The final toxicological report was concluded on August 13, 1962, the same day Dr. Noguchi's notes were transcribed.

By August 18, 1962, the Suicide Team, which included Drs. Robert E. Litman, M.D.; Norman Farberow, Ph.D.; and Norman Tabachnick, M.D., published a Summary Report giving the opinion that the case should be certified as a "possible suicide." A public release of the Suicide Team's summary findings had followed by one day the press statement by Dr. Theodore J. Curphey stating that he concluded that the death of Marilyn Monroe was caused by a "self-administered overdose of sedative drugs and that the mode of death [was] probable suicide."

Thus an official statement from the Coroner was issued prior to the issuance of the "Certificate of Death." The Certificate of Death was ultimately issued on August 28th and mailed that same day to the mortuary. The release of the Certificate of Death, following by eleven days the official statement of Dr. Curphey, was a mere formality and a technical completion of an official act under the authority of Dr. Curphey. Lionel Grandison signed the August 28th Certificate in his clerical function as an agent of Dr. Curphey. Had he declined to sign it, several superiors in his office, including Dr. Curphey himself, could have signed off on the document.

#### Grandison's Statements Concerning Condition of the Body

In addition to Mr. Grandison's recent claims concerning the existence of a red diary and his reluctance to sign the Death Certificate, he alleges now that he personally observed Miss Monroe's body after the autopsy had been conducted and that he saw bruising and discoloration areas on the back of each leg, near the knees. He also

alleges that someone in the Coroner's Office said that this discoloration "looked like injections."

Grandison's allegations are not supported by any source. Dr. Noguchi saw no such marks and his handwritten diagrams of the body reflect no such condition.

Dr. Noguchi does not recall who, other than himself, attended the autopsy; however, a former deputy district attorney in Los Angeles County, John W. Miner, currently in private practice in Los Angeles, told our investigators that he attended the autopsy and still vividly recalls the circumstances and the conduct of Dr. Noguchi during the autopsy. At that time or shortly thereafter, Deputy District Attorney Miner was the District Attorney's Medical-Legal Head and often witnessed autopsies at the Coroner's Office. Mr. Miner had a keen interest in medical matters, a consequence of which was his ultimate specialization in medical-legal prosecutions.

His observations of the condition of the body is totally consistent with Dr. Noguchi's observations as memorialized in the autopsy reports.

Miner recalls that Dr. Noguchi closely examined the whole body with a hand-held magnifying glass. He recalls seeing no bruising or discoloration as described by Grandison.

As a footnote to our inquiries and threshold examination of documents, it should be noted that Mr. Miner stated that he transmitted an inter-office memorandum to the then-Chief Deputy District Attorney Manley Bowler, and perhaps to others, outlining his personal belief that Miss Monroe had not committed suicide.

#### The John Miner Memorandum

A thorough search was made of all District Attorney records in order to secure the Miner memorandum. It was not found. On the basis of personal interviews with Mr. Miner, the following emerges:

- 1) On Sunday, August 5, 1962, Mr. Miner attended the autopsy of Marilyn Monroe, where he observed Dr. Noguchi perform a thoroughly professional examination. Mr. Miner states that Dr. Noguchi's findings and observations were consistent with what he saw.
- 2) Within a period shortly after the autopsy--perhaps one week--Deputy District Attorney Miner personally interviewed Dr. Ralph Greenson, Miss Monroe's psychiatrist during the months prior to her death. Dr. Greenson (since deceased) is described by Miner as being "somewhat shaken by Miss Monroe's death." During Miner's extensive interview with Greenson, Miner agreed that he would not repeat to anyone the

details of Marilyn Monroe's statements and tape recordings given to Greenson during therapy sessions. In essence, Greenson believed that Miss Monroe appeared to be making progress, on a psychiatric level, and Greenson said that she had been making plans for the future. As a consequence of Deputy District Attorney Miner's extensive debriefing of Greenson, Miner reached the conclusion that in terms of a psychological profile, Marilyn Monroe did not commit an intentional act of suicide. She may have accidentally overdosed, or there may have been some other explanation for her death, but, whatever the circumstances, an intentional overdose did not fit with her psychological profile.

- 3) Based on Miner's conversations with Greenson, he harbored serious questions regarding the finding that Miss Monroe's death was a suicide and felt compelled to express his reservations to the Chief Deputy District Attorney, Dr. Curphey, and possibly others.

Mr. Miner was specifically asked by our investigators if he thought this was a murder and if so, why. He said he did not and never had alleged murder, but instead reiterated his position that the psychological profile of Miss Monroe was inconsistent with an intentional act of self-destruction, as proffered by the Suicide Team.

John Miner's observations of the autopsy process support Dr. Noguchi's physical findings.

RECENTLY PUBLISHED STATEMENTS BY JAMES HALL

In the November 23, 1982 edition of the Globe, a weekly tabloid published in West Palm Beach, Florida, the headline article states that a former ambulance driver by the name of James Hall alleges that he saw Marilyn Monroe murdered.

Mr. Hall first contacted the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office on 8/11/82. Thereafter, under a code name "Rick Stone," he telephonically contacted this office several times. Ultimately, he attempted to sell information to the District Attorney's Office relating to his alleged observations at the death scene on the morning of August 5, 1962, at Marilyn Monroe's home. These conversations were recorded.

After comparing Mr. Hall's ("Stone's") statements concerning his observations with the physical and documentary evidence available to us, we informed Mr. Hall that we were not interested in making a money payment for his information, but that we would be more than happy to interview him in person and perhaps pay for a plane ticket should he wish to meet with our investigators in a mutually agreed-upon location. Mr. Hall claimed to be in fear for his life and was very evasive concerning his identity and other particulars. Ultimately, he telephonically told us that he had changed his mind and would not charge us any money for his information and "would get back to us." He never got back to us. Thereafter, apparently he gave interviews with various representatives of news publications. No other information concerning him surfaced until the publication of the Globe article.

The statements attributed to Mr. Hall in the Globe article differ in various particulars from statements he gave to us.

Mr. Hall's statements to the press and to us can be analyzed without reference to internal contradictions and inconsistencies by simply looking at the physical evidence and by reference to interview material.

According to the Globe article, Hall says that he received a call to go to the Monroe residence by his ambulance dispatcher somewhere between 3:00 and 4:00 in the morning. He said he found Monroe naked and comatose, lying face up on the bed. He claims he removed her to the floor and attempted to revive her by means of closed chest massage--which attempt he terminated when a person calling himself Miss Monroe's doctor entered the room and took charge. According to Hall, the doctor ultimately plunged a giant syringe filled with a brownish fluid into her heart, after which she quickly died while on her back on the floor.

In our conversation with Mr. Hall on August 13, 1982, he told us that he arrived at the Monroe residence somewhere between 4:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. The version of the story printed in the Globe allows time for Hall to have been there prior to the arrival of any of the doctors. However, he also told us that after his attempts to revive the body, all of which covered a short time span, and after the conduct of the person with the syringe, still within a short time frame, he and his partner packed up their gear and left. At the time he was leaving he observed a police unit or units on the scene.

There are several significant problems with this story:

- (1) The Los Angeles Police Report states that Miss Monroe was pronounced dead at 3:50 a.m. by her personal physician, Dr. Engleberg, who was present with her psychiatrist, Dr. Greenon, at that time, and that the Police Department was called at approximately 4:25 a.m. Although time discrepancies have surfaced as a result of former Sgt. Clemmon's allegation that he was told that the body was discovered much earlier, under any credible version of the facts, Miss Monroe had been pronounced dead between 3:00 and 4:00 a.m.

Ignoring the discrepancies between the time sequence Hall gave the District Attorney's Office and that which is attributed to him in the Globe, Hall consistently stated he observed a police car, or police cars, at the scene when he was leaving. Since police records indicate that the dispatcher received the call at 4:25 a.m., it would be impossible for any police unit to get there before a few minutes after 4:25 a.m. This leads to the conclusion that if Hall had been there, he could not have left there before approximately 4:30 a.m.

More significant, however, is the unchallenged official report that the body was in a condition of rigor mortis at the time she was pronounced dead at 3:50 a.m.

Rigor mortis is a condition of stiffening of the body caused by chemical and physical changes after death. Although scientific studies cannot pinpoint the exact timetable for the onset of rigor mortis, it is scientifically known that rigor mortis is not instantaneous--it is a process which on the average takes two to four hours to begin under typical circumstances. It is scientifically observed that generally rigor mortis peaks from six to eight hours after death (again, subject to many variables--ambient temperature, previous physical condition of the subject, and several other factors) and then gradually diminishes, leading to relaxed state of muscle tissue. Thus, given this physical phenomenon Miss Monroe must have been dead for several hours before 3:50 a.m., and prior to the earliest arrival time Mr. Hall claims.

(2) Miss Monroe died while in a prone position; that is, she died lying on her face. Absent unusual circumstances, the pattern of lividity in dead bodies constitutes strong evidence in determining the position a body was in at the time of death. Lividity, as described to our investigators, is a process by which blood drains to the lowest point in a deceased person after death due to the joint effect of the pull of gravity and the cessation of the blood pumping mechanism of the body. Thus, a person who dies on his back and remains in that position for some period of time will have a definite pattern of lividity on the back and other places on the back side of the body. A person who dies on his face will have a distinct pattern of lividity on the front side of the body, such as the chest, face, etc. All this presupposes that the surface upon which the person died and remained until discovery was relatively level, such as a bed, floor, etc. In addition to the rigor mortis observed in Miss Monroe's body, Noguchi and others observed a pattern of lividity on her face and chest. Also observed was congestion about the eyes, which correlates to the lividity found on the front side of her body.<sup>1</sup> Under all accepted medical theories, the phenomenon associated with the draining of blood and other liquids to the lowest part of the body is strong evidence of the position of the body at the time of death. Hall's statement concerning finding her alive on her back, then seeing her murdered while still on her back, is directly contrary to the physical evidence observed by others.

(3) Hall alleges that he saw this "doctor" plunge a large syringe into the heart of Miss Monroe and that Miss Monroe thereafter expired. The particular location he describes is within the area carefully examined by Dr. Noguchi, whose examination was witnessed by others. If Miss Monroe had been dead at the time of this alleged injection, the careful examination previously described would most probably have revealed the presence of the needle mark and possibly the presence of both foreign fluid and of internal tissue damage in the region of the heart. Conversely, if, as Hall alleges, the doctor gave her a fatal shot while she was alive, we should expect to see a hemorrhagic track following the path of the needle through the subcutaneous tissue and we should likely observe further damage associated with this traumatic intrusion into the heart cavity. No such tell-tale tissue damage was present.

---

1. Minor streaks of lividity were also found on her back. These minor traces disappeared upon touch. This finding is consistent with the normal practice of transporting bodies from the death scene to the mortuary or Coroner's Office on the decedent's back, which to a minor extent reverses the gravitational flow of blood toward the lowest point in the new position of the body, i.e., the back side. This new movement of body fluids is much less marked, however, because a blood thickening process has begun which prevents a significant free-flow of the fluid.

(4) Miss Monroe died, according to the toxicological reports, from a lethal dose of pentobarbital in combination with a high dosage of chloral hydrate. If the mysterious "doctor" had given Miss Monroe a fatal shot of pentobarbital, leading to her rapid death as described by Hall, the level of pentobarbital in her blood would have been elevated, perhaps as much as three or four times higher than it was; conversely, the level in her liver would not have been as high as it in fact was because her body would not have had time to metabolize the "hot shot."

(5) Since Mr. Hall's statements have surfaced another person, a Mr. Ken Hunter, has been located who claims to have been an ambulance driver who responded to the Monroe residence in the early morning hours of August 5, 1962. He reports that he arrived at the scene in the morning hours with his partner, whom he believes with reasonable certainty to have been a Mr. Murray Liebowitz, and entered the Monroe residence within one or two minutes of their arrival. He observed Miss Monroe in the bedroom, on her face or side. He reported to us that Miss Monroe was obviously dead and exhibited signs of lividity in the neck or front portion of her body. He describes lividity as blue in color. He did not touch the body so that he reached no conclusions concerning the presence of rigor mortis. He reports that after he and his partner made the cursory observations of the body, they both left the scene. He reports that police officers were at the scene at the time he and his partner left.

While at the residence, he did not observe anyone enter Monroe's bedroom other than his partner.

Mr. Hall's declarations concerning his conduct and observations at the scene of death are not credible.

#### Other Questions Raised by Critics of the Original Investigation

1. Were Marilyn Monroe's phone toll records covering the period near her death seized by the Los Angeles Police Department?

Was Chief William Parker going to use these records to blackmail Attorney General Kennedy, or others?

Response: Confidential LAPD records supplied to our office support the published media reports that toll records were seized by the Los Angeles Police Department.

Toll records from General Telephone Company covering the period from June 1, 1962 to August 18, 1962 (13 days past the date of the autopsy) were secured by the Police Department. During this toll period eight calls were placed from Miss Monroe's residence to a

Washington, D.C., number. The last such call was made on July 30, 1962, six days before her death.

Utilizing law enforcement resources we were able to determine that the number called, RE 7-8200 in Washington, D.C., was the published number of the U.S. Department of Justice headquarters in Washington. The number was the general listing for the Justice Department, the main switchboard number, rather than a private line. If Miss Monroe was in fact calling the Attorney General himself, she had to be first transferred via operator assistance to another number. Incoming calls to Miss Monroe of course were not recorded on her toll charges, but her charged tolls give some support to the allegation that she had contact with someone in the Department of Justice.

Newspaper articles provided to this office place Robert Kennedy in San Francisco the weekend of Miss Monroe's death. A review of the toll records indicates that no phone calls were made to the San Francisco area during the entire time period covered in the records.

The exact motivation for the Police Department's securing of the phone records cannot be determined. There is no evidence that Chief Parker either did or did not ask his investigators to secure the records. There was, however, a clear investigative purpose for securing the records. The records were secured approximately 14 or 15 days after the death of Miss Monroe. It was during this period that rumors surfaced alleging that Miss Monroe had died while on the telephone talking to some prominent figure. In addition to the legitimate need to check out this rumor, police interviews with those persons with whom Miss Monroe had been speaking near the time of her death could have shed light on her state of mind and perhaps would have disclosed statements concerning her possible suicide. Toll records might also have revealed whether or not other persons in her household made out-of-town calls at or near the time of her death. In addition, a reconstruction of the telephone contacts she made at or near the time of her death might have aided in pinpointing the exact time she expired on the evening of August 4 or the early morning hours of August 5.

One critic alleges that sometime after Miss Monroe's death Ed Davis, a police official who later became the Chief of Police, secretly made a trip to Washington to discuss with the Attorney General Miss Monroe's relationship with the Attorney General. This office has contacted Senator Ed Davis telephonically and questioned him concerning any trips he might have made to Washington to meet with Robert Kennedy. He flatly denied any such contact. In the absence of any evidence supporting the allegation concerning Davis trip, we conclude that it did not occur.

No credible evidence suggesting that another official of LAPD made a trip to Washington in connection with the Marilyn Monroe death surfaced during our inquiry.

2. Was Marilyn Monroe's house bugged via an electronic listening device or telephone wiretap and did this secret eavesdropping reveal a romantic relationship between Attorney General Robert Kennedy and Marilyn Monroe?

Response: The allegation that the Marilyn Monroe residence had been bugged (or wiretapped) comes from three sources. Each will be treated separately.

#### The Bernard Spindel Matter

Bernard Spindel in the 1960's was a rather notorious illegal wiretapper. In the mid-sixties, Manhattan District Attorney Frank Hogan's detectives staged a raid on Spindel's home in a town outside New York City and seized his files and various tape-recordings. The purpose of the raid was to secure evidence against Spindel for illegal wiretapping. Sometime after the seizure of the tapes and other materials, a court order was obtained which sealed the tapes and prevented the disclosure of the information on the tapes pending the outcome of the pretrial motions and trial. Spindel, in a motion to the court in New York, alleged that at least some of these tapes contained material relating to the circumstances surrounding the death of Marilyn Monroe. Spindel allegedly had been working for Jimmy Hoffa in an effort to secure embarrassing information on Robert Kennedy so that Kennedy would stop his investigations of Hoffa. Later, according to an attorney presently on the staff of the Manhattan District Attorney's Office, Spindel backed down in his request to have the contents of the tapes made public.

Spindel apparently had been laboring under the misunderstanding that the investigators in the District Attorney's Office had not heard the tapes. His asserted desire to have the tapes made public appears to have been a ploy. Our investigators successfully tracked down the investigator who supervised the district attorney's investigation of Bernard Spindel in the 1960's. He reported to us that the tapes were in fact heard by District Attorney staff investigators and that none of the tapes contained anything relating to Marilyn Monroe. The supervising investigator, Mr. Bill Graff, who is now Chief Investigator with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, reports that Spindel was "a known boaster" and frequently alluded to having knowledge of a number of secrets.

Spindel died in 1968 after having served a prison sentence for his illegal wiretapping crimes.

Spindel had boasted to various people that he had secret tapes on Bobby Kennedy and Marilyn Monroe. No such materials were ever found.

Milo Speriglio

Mr. Milo Speriglio is a private investigator associated with the Nick Harris Detective Agency in Van Nuys, California. He was interviewed by our investigators on various occasions concerning information he might have relating to the death of Marilyn Monroe. One particular area of our interest was the allegation that secret tapes existed which in some way pointed to criminal conduct associated with Miss Monroe's death.

Mr. Speriglio told our investigators that in August of this year he received a telephone call from an informant who stated that he, the informant, had previously been associated with Bernard Spindel and also had worked with a Mr. Mike Morriesey who is presently an attorney in practice in Washington, D.C. Mr. Speriglio tape-recorded his conversation with the informant. A copy of the tape-recording of the informant's statements was provided to our investigators and the tape has been listened to on several occasions. Much of the tape is of poor quality and certain segments are unintelligible. However, the essence of the information the informant relayed was that while working for Jimmy Hoffa, Bernard Spindel had made a tape-recording on which could be heard the sound of a slap followed by the sound of a body striking the ground. The informant further stated that a phrase was heard on the tape regarding "what should be done with the body." Allegedly this recording is of Marilyn Monroe's death. The informant apparently was seeking to sell his information.

Attempts by Speriglio and another person working with Speriglio to track down the alleged tape-recording have been unsuccessful. Speriglio reports to this office that the person who allegedly could corroborate the existence of the tape, Mr. Morriesey, had denied any knowledge of the tape.

Based upon other information secured during our threshold investigation, it is our view that any allegation concerning the existence of such a tape-recording must be viewed with extreme skepticism. The physical evidence associated with the autopsy reports and interviews with Dr. Noguchi and Mr. Miner fail to support any finding that Miss Monroe had suffered trauma at or about the time of her death. The minor bruising observed on her body was typical of minor bruises often observed on female patients and normally observed during close examination of deceased persons.

In addition, as previously discussed, there is no evidence that Miss Monroe suffered a rapid death associated with a hypodermic injection or other rapid-acting lethal instrumentality. All known existing evidence causes us to believe that the story is a fabrication

### Joseph Mankiewicz

One of the critics of the police investigation, Robert Slatzer, now alleges that a woman reported to him that a source had told her that a small electronic microphone had been found at the residence of Marilyn Monroe many years after the events of 1962. Our investigators were able to track down one Joseph S. Mankiewicz, who related to us that during 1977 (15 years after Marilyn Monroe's death) he had been hired by a San Fernando contractor to haul debris from a vacant residence on Fifth Helena Street. He had been advised that the residence had once been owned by Marilyn Monroe. Nearby neighbors advised him that the residence he was working on had once been owned by Marilyn Monroe. Mankiewicz initially stated that a person, probably a supervisor for the contracting firm, told him that a telephone repairman had discovered wiring in the attic which was not telephone company wiring. Mankiewicz later stated to our investigators that the telephone repairman allegedly found wires mixed into the telephone lines which were not telephone company wires.

In October of this year our investigators contacted the Security Manager for General Telephone Company, Santa Monica Office, and requested assistance from the telephone company in examining the telephone wiring that was at that time in the former Marilyn Monroe residence. Our investigator then accompanied a field supervisor for the General Telephone Company on a permissive search of the residence. The supervisor, Mr. Dwayne Gortner, inspected the telephone wires in the residence and noted that they had been completely changed in 1971. He inspected the electrical work and lines and discovered no eavesdropping devices or suspect wiring.

The supervisor reported to our investigators that the residence could have been previously equipped with multiple telephone lines. "When new occupants moved in, telephone lines may have been disconnected but the wires may have remained at the telephone pole. New or inexperienced telephone repairmen may not have recognized the disconnected lines as telephone equipment."

Published stories relating to the discovery of bugging devices apparently have their genesis in the third-hand hearsay statements Mr. Mankiewicz attributes to a telephone repairman, who spoke to a contractor, who in turn spoke to Mankiewicz relating to conditions which existed in 1977. According to our investigation, this was six years after the lines had been completely changed in 1971. The rewiring of the house in 1971 occurred nine years after Miss Monroe's death. The net effect of this purported "discovery" is of no evidentiary value.

3. What ever happened to the 723-page LAPD report labeled "Marilyn Monroe-Murder"?

Response: No credible evidence suggests such a report ever existed. The source of the story concerning the report is author Robert Slatzer, who says that in 1972 he talked to a person who identified himself as "Jack Quinn" and who claimed to be a government employee

working in the County Hall of Records. Quinn told Slatzer that he had seen a huge 723-page report concerning Marilyn Monroe's death which had been reduced to 54 pages of microfilm. He said that he had read the original report and that it contained LAPD reports, L.A. County Sheriff's Office reports, "intelligence information," and autopsy reports and files. Quinn painted a dramatic picture of how these reports delved extensively into the Monroe death, described theretofore unpublished information concerning an injection in Miss Monroe's armpit, and also contained many references to John and Robert Kennedy. Slatzer asserted that Quinn told him that in the reports Miss Monroe's death was attributed to a "Communist inspired plot."

In a telephone conversation with Quinn, Slatzer arranged the only meeting the two ever had. Slatzer brought a friend to the meeting to corroborate his claim that it in fact took place. Slatzer reports that Quinn gave him a phony address and never again contacted him although Slatzer attempted to locate Mr. Quinn. Slatzer also attempted to confirm the fact of Quinn's employment by a government agency in Los Angeles but was unable to locate such an employee.

Our own check of personnel records for the period from 1914 through 1982 disclosed that during that period no "Jack Quinn" has ever been employed at the County Hall of Records, or any other County department.

The Quinn story lacks credibility for several reasons. First, the agencies which allegedly produced the components of this extensive report have no records to confirm its existence. Individuals who are still employed by these agencies tell us no such reports were ever generated.

Equally significant perhaps is the fact that none of these agencies stores its files in the Los Angeles County Hall of Records. On rare occasions, records of cases jointly investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department are combined. But even this occurs only if the case is actually prosecuted. The likelihood that the records of these independent agencies would be combined in one huge report and stored at the Hall of Records is remote.

In addition, the various statements attributed to Quinn concerning material in the report are inconsistent with physical evidence and documents reviewed by our investigators and inconsistent with personal interviews of persons who were eye witnesses to the events of August, 1962.

4. Did the absence of body contortion or vomiting associated with Miss Monroe's body have any significance in the investigation of her death?

Response: Observers of Miss Monroe's body at her home report seeing no evidence of vomiting. This coincides with Dr. Noguchi's examination of the body; no evidence of vomiting was noted by Dr. Noguchi.

Some writers, in most cases quoting from Jack Clemmons, a former Los Angeles Police Department officer, have stated that barbiturate overdose victims usually vomit just prior to the moment of death.

Experts with whom we have conferred, e.g., Drs. Stephens and Kornblum, state categorically that this is not true. Sometimes an overdose victim will involuntarily vomit; however, sleeping medication overdoses--e.g., barbiturates such as nembutal--usually cause the victim to enter a deep, restful sleep leading to respiratory or heart stoppage. These experts report that the medication actually inhibits the vomiting mechanism in the majority of these deaths.

Similarly, contortion of the face or body is usually not associated with barbiturate deaths. In some poisonings there are symptoms of spasms, and victims are contorted before and after death. The experts with whom we conferred state that the typical barbiturate overdose leads to sleep and failure of body functions without contortion. Victims usually appear to have expired peacefully.

5. Did the fact that Miss Monroe died in the nude raise a significant issue concerning whether or not her death was a suicide?

Response: Dr. Sidney Weinberg, a recently retired pathologist in New York, has stated that women rarely commit suicide in the nude--modesty seems to prevail and women are "nearly always dressed." In his experience he has seen only one case in which a woman committed suicide in the nude.

According to other pathologists, whether or not the deceased was clothed at the time of death is not determinative in suicide investigations. Dr. Stephens believes that the presence or absence of clothing on an overdose victim does have some relevance, but each case must be examined on its own merits. For instance, some years ago in suicide deaths involving middle-aged women there was evidence in some cases that the women planning suicide actually dressed themselves up to look "presentable" and paid careful attention to makeup, etc., prior to ingesting an overdose of pills. This desire to leave a favorable physical impression has been noted by other pathologists. However, Stephens and other pathologists disagree with Dr. Weinberg in his categorical statement and in fact attribute very little significance in this case to the presence or absence of clothing on the deceased at the time of her death.

In exploring this issue it should be noted that Miss Monroe was anything but a "typical" overdose victim. Many years before she had posed in the nude and for the last fifteen or so years of her life she had not been reticent about showing off her physical attributes. In fact, shortly before her death she posed semi-nude for a fashion magazine photographer, Mr. Bert Stern, in spite of the fact that the photographs clearly showed a disfiguring gall bladder scar on her upper torso. Her approach to the display of her natural features varied from the norm. If her overdose were intentional, her attitude towards the requirements of modesty could have been expected to vary from the norm. If in fact her death was accidental, one could expect that her emotional state might overwhelm even the normal instincts of modesty.

6. Did the absence of a suicide note written by Miss Monroe raise a significant issue concerning her possible suicide?

Response: Dr. Weinberg has been quoted by at least one writer as saying, "A person who is going to take her life contemplates it. She will write to someone hinting at it, if she doesn't leave a long, rambling note somewhere telling why she is doing it; or, she'll have talked to someone about it. In Miss Monroe's case, I find it significant that no one had even a clue that she wanted to die." As to this and other statements attributed to Dr. Weinberg, he was interviewed by a deputy district attorney from this office on August 9, 1982. He says the above statement attributed to him is not true; that he never said such a thing. He further states, "We have many, many cases in which there is no suicide note, nor previous communication for a desire to commit suicide."

The accurately-quoted statement of Dr. Weinberg is consistent with what other pathologists have told us.

7. Did Robert Kennedy, accompanied by a doctor, visit Marilyn Monroe's residence on August 4, 1962?

Response: The reports containing this allegation are based on double or triple hearsay and are of limited evidentiary value.

Mr. Robert Slatzer states that he interviewed a Miss Elizabeth Pollard who related to him that Robert Kennedy and an unidentified male, believed to be a physician, were seen at the Monroe residence on August 4, 1962. The author provided our investigators with a transcript of the statement made by the purported witness. The witness-informant actually said that her mother told her that Robert Kennedy had been seen at the residence on an unspecified day. Kennedy was allegedly seen by someone while the witness's mother was attending a card party at a residence near the Monroe residence. The witness could not recall whether her mother had said she actually saw Kennedy or whether she said that someone else had told

her that he had seen Kennedy. In the transcript provided by the author there is no mention of anyone accompanying Kennedy on the purported visit. The only reference to a particular date for the visit appears in a later conversation between the author and the informant, in which the informant appears to respond affirmatively to the author's suggestion that the date in question was in fact the day (hours) before Marilyn Monroe's death.

Our investigators independently located another person who had information concerning a visit by Robert Kennedy. This lady, again quoting statements of others, in this case her grandmother, said that her grandmother reported seeing Robert Kennedy in the neighborhood in an open Cadillac convertible at the time of a publicized visit to the Monroe residence. The attendant media coverage concerning the visit described the event as being a social call to Miss Monroe thanking her for singing at John F. Kennedy's birthday celebration weeks earlier. This highly visible visit to the Monroe residence is corroborated by the housekeeper, who recalls such a visit many weeks before Miss Monroe's death.

The Monroe residence was visited by our investigators, and photographs were taken with particular emphasis on the surrounding residences and the vantage points from which the Monroe residence could be observed. The residence is ideally suited for clandestine arrivals and departures. It is at the left-end of an alley-like cul-de-sac with no close neighboring residence providing a direct view of the front of the property. The casual observation of persons arriving at the Monroe residence could occur only if the occupant of a neighboring residence looked out a window facing the alley at the exact moment those persons traveled past that limited vantage point.

Various persons were at the Monroe residence during the day of August 4. Miss Newcomb was there until afternoon; Dr. Greenson, the psychiatrist, was there for some period of time after Newcomb; and Mrs. Murray was there throughout the day. None of these people reported seeing Robert Kennedy at the residence on August 4. Indeed, there is no evidence that he was in Los Angeles.

Recently, one of the authors critical of the original police investigation was contacted by a lady who frequents the former Monroe residence. That lady informed the author that a neighbor had alleged that Mrs. Murray sometime in the past had admitted to the neighbor that she had left the Monroe residence during the early afternoon hours of August 4, 1962, and had not returned until approximately midnight. This new allegation is totally inconsistent with the statements of all those persons who were present at the residence on August 4, 1962, and directly contradicts the statement of Joe Dimaggio, Jr., who, during the original investigation, advised the Los Angeles Police Department that he had telephoned the Monroe residence at 2:00 p.m., 4:30 p.m., and 7:00 p.m. on August 4, 1962, and that he had spoken to Mrs. Murray each time.

Thus, looking at all the available statements, the fragile information placing Robert Kennedy at the Monroe residence on August 4 is challenged by substantial information to the contrary.

8. If Miss Monroe died from ingesting an overdose of pills, where did she get the pills?

Response: According to the reports, some 15-various bottles were found at the scene of Miss Monroe's death. Eight vials were supplied to the Coroner's Office. These eight bottles are described in the Coroner's Reports dated August 6 and August 13, 1962. Included in the inventory of bottles was an empty container labeled Nembutal 1½ grain #25, dated August 3, 1962. Another container was labeled Chloral Hydrate #50, dated 7/25/62. The reports do not contain the name of the prescribing physicians, nor were the vials preserved.

Our investigators attempted to reconstruct the number of Nembutal capsules ingested by Miss Monroe based on her blood and liver level of the drugs. Pathologists with whom our investigators consulted were unable to give the exact number of the pills she would have taken in order to reach the blood level reported in the toxicological report. However, applying rather crude standards, it is estimated that she would have taken in excess of 25 pills, possibly as many as 40 or more.

In an attempt to reconstruct the source of her pills, various conflicting reports could not be resolved. The Suicide Team stated that Miss Monroe was receiving Nembutal prescriptions from a Dr. Lou Siegel <sup>2/</sup> as well as from Dr. Engelberg. No mention is made in the reports concerning whether or not each doctor knew of the other's prescribing. The Suicide Team found that Dr. Siegel had prescribed an unknown quantity to Miss Monroe on July 25, 1962, and also noted that she had received a refill of pills on August 3, 1962, and attributed that prescription to Dr. Siegel. The refilled prescription recovered at the scene dated August 3, 1962, was attributed to a refill Dr. Engelberg had given Miss Monroe on that date. In the original LAPD reports Dr. Engelberg is quoted as stating that he had prescribed 50 pills for her on August 3, 1962.

The statements attributed to Dr. Engelberg concerning the prescription or refill for 50 pills are inconsistent with the physical evidence indicating only 25 pills were prescribed by him on August 3, 1962. The prescriptions attributed to Dr. Siegel were not recovered by the Coroner's representatives.

At this time it is, therefore, impossible to absolutely trace the Nembutal capsules ingested by Miss Monroe on August 4, 1962. The

---

2. An M.D. by the same name was located in the Los Angeles area. He vehemently denies any connection to Marilyn Monroe.

reports do show that on July 31, 1962, or approximately five days before her death, Miss Monroe received a 50-pill refill of Chloral Hydrate. This was six days after the original prescription was filled on July 25, 1962. This refill could constitute an ample source for the high dosage she consumed of Chloral Hydrate.

Some mention was made in early reports that Miss Monroe may also have received sedatives from doctors in Mexico while she visited that country during that year.

Although our investigation failed to reveal the precise origin of the various drugs possessed by Miss Monroe, it appears that she obtained lethal amounts of Nembutal and toxic, if not lethal, amounts of Chloral Hydrate in the ordinary course of treatment from her local physicians. Additionally, it is possible that she could have hoarded such substances for later consumption.

In a related matter, some critics have alleged that beside Marilyn Monroe's bed there was no glass or other container with which she could have swallowed a fatal quantity of pills. Our investigators located a copy of a published photograph of the death scene which appears to show a drinking vessel. The absence of a drinking glass or other liquid container would not be dispositive, however, because Miss Monroe could have taken the pills in her bathroom many minutes before she became unconscious on her bed.

9. What weight should be given the criticism voiced by former LAPD Sgt. Jack Clemmons concerning the death scene and his observations?

Response: Sgt. Clemmons, in his capacity as Acting Watch Commander in the early morning hours of August 5, 1962, for the West Los Angeles Patrol Division, was the first police officer to arrive at the death scene. He responded to a call the station had received at 4:25 a.m. According to his recollection it took him about ten minutes to reach the Monroe residence. There he encountered Mrs. Murray (the housekeeper) and the two physicians (Dr. Greenson, the psychiatrist, and Dr. Engelberg, Miss Monroe's personal physician) He remained at the house that morning until another officer arrived to preserve the scene and prevent intrusion by the public or press. Sgt. Byron, the detective who handled the investigation, arrived at the house after his shift began on the day-watch that morning.

Sgt. Clemmons criticized the police reports and official findings of the Police Department concerning Marilyn Monroe's death on several grounds:

- 1) The failure of the police investigation to highlight the contradictions in the time sequences given by Mrs. Murray to police officers;
- 2) The appearance of the death scene, which Clemmons described as not being "kosher";

3) The serene appearance of the body, particularly the absence of contortion or other signs of convulsions at the time of death.

Author Robert Slatzer, in his 1974 book The Life and Curious Death of Marilyn Monroe states, "Clemmons was giving me his personal opinion as an experienced investigator of suicides with the Los Angeles Police Department, and he said he felt that what he saw in Marilyn's bedroom was 'not kosher'." A review of Los Angeles Police Department documents was initiated to determine whether or not Clemmons in fact had the qualifications attributed to him. LAPD records reflect that Clemmons spent a total of 15 years with the Department--from February 1, 1950 to February 9, 1965. During his association with the Department he worked ten divisions. Within the fifteen years of his service his total investigative experience amounted to an eight-month assignment in the Accident Investigation Division and a three-and-one-half-month stint in the Administrative Vice Division. His other assignments were not investigative or detective assignments.

Jack Clemmons' personal conclusions do not appear to be predicated on experience or investigative expertise.

According to Mr. Clemmons, Mrs. Murray told him that her discovery of the body took place at approximately midnight, and that the doctors arrived at approximately 12:30 a.m., in response to her telephone call for assistance. Clemmons says that he discovered thereafter that the investigative reports contained an entirely different time sequence, in which Mrs. Murray was said to have discovered that something was wrong and to have called the doctors at around 3:35 in the morning.

Our investigators interviewed Mrs. Murray. She described her initial observations through the bedroom window as taking place "sometime in the middle of the night." Both Doctors Greenson and Engelberg reported that they received their phone calls after 3:30 a.m., which corresponds with the police report prepared by Investigator Byron and is consistent with the statement Mrs. Murray gave to Byron in the official investigation. Thus, there is a contradiction between Jack Clemmons' recollection of the time sequence Mrs. Murray described to him and the time sequence all other witnesses describe. We must conclude, therefore, that either Mrs. Murray misspoke in her statements to Clemmons, or Clemmons is in error, or Mrs. Murray was confused.

Our investigation of the sequences of events in the morning hours of August 5 did disclose that a delay occurred between 3:50 a.m. when the physicians discovered the body and pronounced Miss Monroe dead, and 4:25 a.m., when the police department was called.

Dr. Engelberg believed that there was no reason for instantaneous notification of authorities because his patient was clearly deceased, an apparent suicide victim. From a legal standpoint, the physician was under an obligation to call the Coroner's Office (who in turn usually calls the Police Department), but was under no legal obligation to call the Police Department. When the physicians chose to call the Police Department, the statutory obligation was met in view of the fact that police agencies automatically bring in the Coroner's Office for the removal and handling of dead bodies. Mr. Clemmons' statements relating to body convulsions or contortions were medically incorrect. In previous sections of this report we have discussed this issue.

When Mr. Clemmons alleged that the death scene did not appear to be "kosher", he was apparently referring to the fact that the body was serenely stretched across the bed and appeared to have been artificially placed in that position. He also told our investigators and author Slatzer that Mrs. Murray and the two physicians at the scene "didn't act natural." He observed that the housekeeper looked "scared"; that her regular medical doctor looked very "remorseful" and was quiet; and that the psychiatrist "had a smirk on his face and didn't look natural to [him]." Mr. Clemmons' conclusions lack evidentiary significance.

In interviews with our investigators, Mr. Clemmons also recalled that Mrs. Murray was using the washing machine while he was there. He felt that this also was abnormal behavior under the circumstances. However, he did not investigate further to determine what she was washing. Our investigators, however, and attorneys within this office, have observed that in stressful situations persons often behave in bizarre ways. Again, the conduct observed by Mr. Clemmons appears to have little evidentiary significance.

#### Questions Remaining

Critics have raised many more questions concerning the original investigation. Many of these appear trivial; some are historically interesting. However, we have attempted in this overview to address the significant issues associated with Marilyn Monroe's death.

#### Conclusion

Our threshold examination of documents and reports of personal interviews was approached with an open mind. We examined documents and witness statements without any preconceptions, bias, or prejudice. However, as the various allegations were subjected to detailed examination and as the scenario of Marilyn Monroe's death was fitted into place, we were drawn to the conclusion that the homicide hypothesis must be viewed with extreme skepticism.

If Marilyn Monroe did not commit suicide or suffer an accidental

drug overdose, she was murdered. Her murder would have required a massive, in-place conspiracy covering all of the principals at the death scene on August 4 and 5, 1962; 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 in the LAPD. Several variations on this theme can be imagined, but each required the involvement of a significant number of persons. Our inquiries and document examination uncovered no credible evidence supporting a murder theory.

As various materials came to our attention, some of which led in obscure investigative directions, an effort was made to bring the investigation into focus on the critical issue in this case: does the evidence support a finding that Marilyn Monroe died as a result of suicide or accidental overdose, or was her death the product of an intentional criminal act by another? A starting point and, after coming full circle, the concluding point in our investigation was an examination focused on the integrity and professional quality of the Coroner's Office's handling of the case and its medical conclusions. There is little evidence to support the premise that the autopsy was not performed in a professionally competent manner consistent with the state-of-the-art that existed in 1962. The autopsy surgeon who performed the autopsy reports to us that the documents we reviewed accurately reflect the conclusions he reached in 1962 when he first prepared his autopsy report. His conduct during the autopsy was observed by others who confirm that he performed his task in a skillful and professional manner. The recent statements of the former coroner's aide are not credible. Nor are they supported by other witnesses or documents.

Based on the information available, no further criminal investigation appears required into Miss Monroe's death.

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

2

District Attorney John K. Van de Kamp  
18000 Criminal Courts Building  
210 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

December 28, 1982  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Al Albergate, News Secretary  
(213) 974-3528

STATEMENT OF DISTRICT ATTORNEY JOHN VAN DE KAMP:

The D.A. review into the 1962 death of actress Marilyn Monroe was conducted under my authorization following a series of well-publicized allegations to the effect that she might have died as a result of foul play, at the hands of another or others.

Our review has produced no substantiation for such a conclusion.

Based on the evidence available to us, it appears that her death could have been a suicide or come as 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, herself, lacked a clearly formed purpose.

The D.A.'s review was undertaken since there had been no D.A. investigation or full-scale case review in 1962 (although DDA John Miner had been present at Dr. Noguchi's autopsy), and because it appeared necessary to determine the truth or falsity of the most recent allegations.

I issue this report of our review with some reluctance, knowing that it is apt to produce yet another opportunity for those who seek to exploit and profit by her death. Their response to this report is predictable.

The facts, as we have found them, do not support a finding of foul play. To the contrary.

more

2-2-2-2

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

On the basis of the known facts, permit me to express the faint  
hope that Marilyn Monroe be permitted to rest in peace. She is  
entitled to that.

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com  
##

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

3

August 10, 1982

Statement by District Attorney John K. Van de Kamp

In re MARILYN MONROE

Early last week, as news accounts on both the East and West Coasts raised questions about Miss Monroe's death 20 years ago,

I asked Assistant District Attorney Mike Carroll to gather all relevant materials and reports in an attempt to put this infor-

mation into some kind of context. Since former D.A. William B.

McKesson apparently never opened an investigation into the Monroe

death, we had no files of our own. We are in the process now of

reviewing both the news accounts and official police reports on her death in order to see what further action may be necessary,

if any.

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

4

August 17, 1962

STATEMENT BY THEODORE J. CURPHEY, M.D.  
CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER-CORONER  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

CONFIDENTIAL

Now that the final toxicological report and that of the psychiatric consultants have been received and considered, it is my conclusion that the death of Marilyn Monroe was caused by a self-administered overdose of sedative drugs and that the mode of death is probable suicide.

The final toxicological report reveals that the barbiturate, previously reported as a lethal dose, has been positively identified as nembutal by the toxicologist.

In the course of completing his routine examination, the toxicologist, Mr. Raymond Abernethy, discovered in addition to the nembutal present a large dose of chloral hydrate.

Following is the summary report by the Psychiatric Investigative Team which has assisted me in collecting information in this case. This team was headed by Robert Litman, M.D., Norman Farberow, Ph.D., and Norman Tabachnick, M.D.:

"Marilyn Monroe died on the night of August 4th or the early morning of August 5, 1962. Examination by the toxicology laboratory indicates that death was due to a self-administered overdose of sedative drugs. We have been asked, as consultants, to examine the life situation of the deceased and to give an opinion regarding the intent of Miss Monroe when she ingested the sedative drugs which caused her death. From the data obtained, the following points are the most important and relevant:

"Miss Monroe had suffered from psychiatric disturbance for a long time. She experienced severe fears and frequent depressions. Mood changes were abrupt and unpredictable. Among symptoms of disorganization, sleep disturbance was prominent, for which she had been taking sedative drugs for many years. She was thus familiar with and experienced in the use of sedative drugs and well aware of their dangers.

"Recently, one of the main objectives of her psychiatric treatment had been the reduction of her intake of drugs. This has been partially successful during the last two months. She was reported to be following doctor's orders in her use of the drugs; and the amount of drugs found in her home at the time of her death was not unusual.

"In our investigation, we have learned that Miss Monroe had often expressed wishes to give up, to withdraw, and even to die. On more than one occasion in the past, when disappointed and depressed, she had made a suicide attempt using sedative drugs. On these occasions, she had called for help and had been rescued.

"From the information collected about the events of the evening of August 4th, it is our opinion that the same pattern was repeated except for the rescue. It has been our practice with similar information collected in other cases in the past to recommend a certification for such deaths as probable suicide.

"Additional clues for suicide provided by the physical evidence are: (1) the high level of barbiturates and chloral hydrate in the blood which, with other evidence from the autopsy, indicates the probable ingestion of a large amount of the drugs within a short period of time; (2) the completely empty bottle of nembutal, the prescription for which was filled the day before the ingestion of the drugs; and (3) the locked door which was unusual.

"On the basis of all the information obtained it is our opinion that the case is a probable suicide."

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)



10-9-85

# Grand jury to review Monroe case

Associated Press

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors passed a unanimous motion Tuesday asking for a grand jury review of a letter alleging a cover-up in the 1962 death of actress Marilyn Monroe.

The letter, written by author Robert Slatzer, said certain facts about Monroe's death were covered up. The Sept. 23 letter was sent to 5th District Supervisor Michael Antonovich.

Slatzer, who wrote a book titled "The Life and Curious Death of Marilyn Monroe" and has claimed that he was secretly married to the film star, said in the letter that the cause of death listed on the death certificate was changed several times.

In the letter, Slatzer said the death certificate was changed from "suicide" to "possible suicide" to "probable suicide."

Slatzer also alleged that Monroe had been taken by ambulance to Santa Monica Hospital,

where an ambulance operator reportedly said that she died, instead of in her home where the body was found.

A phone call to Slatzer's home Tuesday evening was answered by a recording. He did not return the call immediately.

The supervisors asked that a grand jury determine if the case should be reopened.

The county coroner and police determined that the actress committed suicide Aug. 5, 1962, and

died from an overdose of barbiturates.

Last month, Police Chief Daryl Gates released an inch-thick stack of investigative files on Monroe's death. Those files stemmed from an investigation in 1975 prompted by a magazine article that raised questions about Monroe's death and the subsequent determination that she had committed suicide.

"It was a very straight suicide," Gates said.

# Reiner blasts plan to reopen investigation into Monroe death

10/26/85

By **Chris Woodyard**  
and **Nancy Hill-Holtzman**  
Herald staff writers

A probe of the death of sex goddess Marilyn Monroe was being considered yesterday by the Los Angeles County grand jury, a possibility District Attorney Ira Reiner blasted as having "no legitimate basis."

Richard E. Ferraro, chairman of the grand jury's criminal justice committee, said he and fellow committee members will decide next week whether an investigation should be launched.

"It has been referred to my committee," Ferraro, the former Los Angeles school

board member said. "I can't say anything more than that."

County Supervisor Mike Antonovich, a conservative Republican, requested the jury to open an investigation Oct. 8 after receiving a letter from the author of a new book on the actress.

In the letter, Robert Slatzer alleges the actress actually might have died at Santa Monica Hospital, but that her body was later returned to her Brentwood mansion. He also claims Monroe had romantic links with President John F. Kennedy and his brother Robert.

Word that another grand jury probe might be launched drew strong criticism yesterday from Reiner, a Democrat, who referred to such a move as a "pretend

investigation."

"It's the business of the district attorney's office and the grand jury to conduct legitimate investigations of crimes, not pretend investigations in order to inquire into matters of public interest and curiosity," said Reiner.

Except for "ridiculous ruminations," Reiner said there is "not one scintilla of evidence" to support a murder investigation and the statute of limitations has long since run out on "even the most outlandish suggestions" that have been made as to possible violations of law.

"It will be my strongest recommendation that there not be a grand jury investigation," Reiner said. A 1982 investigation by then-District

Attorney John Van de Kamp found no hint of criminal conduct in the suicide death of the famed film actress in 1962.

"Although factual discrepancies exist and unanswered questions surfaced during our probe, the cumulative evidence available to us failed to support any theory of criminal conduct," the Van de Kamp report stated.

But the Monroe dispute surfaced again this year with Slatzer's book, another book called "Goddess" by Anthony Summers and a segment made for ABC-TV's "20/20" television newsmagazine. The television segment was killed on orders of Roon Arledge, ABC News president, who called it "gossip-column stuff."

---

# Reiner Scoffs at Report of New Monroe Death Probe

10/26/85  
By ROBERT W. STEWART  
and PAUL FELDMAN,  
*Times Staff Writers*

Los Angeles County Dist. Atty. Ira Reiner Friday branded as "irresponsible almost beyond description" a suggestion that the Los Angeles County Grand Jury may reopen the investigation into the 1962 death of actress Marilyn Monroe.

"This would be no more than a pretend criminal investigation," Reiner said. "Hasn't anyone heard of the statute of limitations?"

Reiner accused the grand jury foreman, Sam Cordova, of being the unnamed source of a City News Service story reporting that the grand jury is expected to reopen the Monroe case, which was the subject of a 1982 review by the office of then-Dist. Atty. John Van de Kamp.

"For [Cordova] to take it upon himself to act as if he is personally the grand jury is incredibly irresponsible and only serves to discredit the entire grand jury process," Reiner told reporters he had summoned to his office in the Criminal Courts Building.

Reiner did not present specific evidence proving that Cordova was the source of the story, but said, "We're convinced it's Cordova."

Cordova, reached at his office, acknowledged that he released a statement to the media earlier in the day. However, he said he did not tell City News Service that the grand jury will reopen the Monroe investigation.

"When I gave them information, they may have interpreted what I said differently," Cordova said. "I didn't make a categorical statement

Please see MONROE, Page 3

## MONROE: Inquiry Discounted

Continued from Page 1

that this is going to happen, because I don't know."

Of Reiner, Cordova said: "I think he misspoke without getting the facts. . . . He could easily have checked this thing out."

In his statement to the news media, Cordova said he has referred to the grand jury's Criminal Justice Committee a request by the Board of Supervisors for a review of certain aspects of the Monroe case.

The request, made at the behest of Supervisor Mike Antonovich, was prompted by a letter sent to Antonovich by Robert F. Slatzer.

Slatzer wrote that while working as a consultant for the ABC-TV

news program "20/20," he learned of facts that suggested a "cover-up" of the circumstances surrounding Monroe's death Aug. 5, 1962, including a suggestion that Monroe died six hours earlier than officially reported.

Reiner said no purpose would be served by reopening the case, which was investigated extensively as recently as 1982. In a report on the 1982 investigation by Van de Kamp's office, then-Assistant Dist. Atty. Ronald H. Carroll said, "Although factual discrepancies exist and unanswered questions surfaced in our probe, the cumulative evidence available to us fails to support any theory of criminal conduct relating to her death."

Saturday, October 26, 1985

# Grand jury to reopen Mo

By B.J.PALERMO  
Daily News Staff Writer

## Reiner assails panel foreman's plan

The foreman of the Los Angeles County Grand Jury announced Friday an investigation into the 1962 death of actress Marilyn Monroe, and District Attorney Ira Reiner called a news conference to denounce the statement.

"For the foreman to take it upon himself to act as if he's the grand jury is irresponsible," Reiner said. "There is no legitimate basis for an investigation. It is the business of the district

attorney and grand jury to investigate crime, not to inquire into matters of public interest or curiosity."

Jury foreman Sam Cordova, a Sylmar businessman, had announced that his Criminal Justice Committee has agreed to investigate Monroe's death at the request of the county Board of Supervisors.

After Supervisor Mike Antovich received a five-page let-

ter from an author alleging new evidence of a cover-up surrounding Monroe's death, the supervisors voted unanimously Oct. 8 to request a grand jury probe.

Although Reiner said his office is submitting the results of its 1982 investigation into Monroe's reported suicide to the grand jury committee, he insisted the committee's review does not constitute an investigation.

"There was a Board of Supervisors said. "That referred to the committee that's as far as Cordova, how hers of the committee signed an agreement circumstancing the star's death of a controversy

From page 1

# Grand jury to re-examine death of Marilyn Monroe

MONROE from Pg. 1

Cordova would not discuss the basis for the committee's decision or confirm whether Slatzer's letter to Antonovich has been submitted to the committee.

But "the Criminal Justice Committee has voted to investigate," Cordova said. "He (Reiner) has absolutely no right to be telling the grand jury what to do. We are an independent agency. If the grand jury decides to investigate, we investigate. And that's by law, not by fiat of the district attorney."

Reiner said there is no substance to Slatzer's allegations and no basis for a probe into Monroe's death. "All the grand jury has is the public letter the Board of Supervisors sent over, and he (Cordova) mischaracterizes that as considerable information," Reiner said. "I am just nonplussed at just the incredibly irresponsible behavior of this foreman."

Cordova, who was named foreman of the 1985-86 grand jury in July, attributed Reiner's anger to his own independence from the district attorney's office.

"There are others outside the grand jury who have in the past and would like to control the

*'For the foreman to take it upon himself to act as if he's the grand jury is irresponsible. . . . It is the business of the district attorney and grand jury to investigate crime, not to inquire into matters of public interest or curiosity.'*

— District Attorney Ira Reiner

Deputy District Attorney Ronald H. Carroll, who headed the 1982 investigation.

But his probe, which was requested by then-District Attorney John Van de Kamp, showed no basis for a full-fledged homicide investigation, Carroll said. Although Slatzer's new evidence suggests there may have been a cover-up to protect Kennedy, that is not a crime, he added. "Legally the grand jury can't

investigate unless there's a crime."

Slatzer, in a telephone interview, accused Reiner of trying to prejudice the grand jury and acting as "a rubber stamp" for Van de Kamp. For years Slatzer has characterized the 1982 investigation as an elaborate cover-up headed by Van de Kamp when he was running for state attorney general with the support of Sen. Edward Kennedy.

10/27/85

# Jury foreman seeks help in Monroe case

By ERWIN WASHINGTON  
and B.J. PALERMO  
Daily News Staff Writers

Citing "just too much evidence of possibilities that Marilyn Monroe did not die as indicated to us," the foreman of the Los Angeles County grand jury said Saturday he will request a special investigator to lead a jury probe of Monroe's death.

Sam Cordova, a Sylmar businessman, said he will meet with the grand jury's six-member criminal justice subcommittee Monday. He will recommend that it ask the county Board of Supervisors to appoint and finance a special investigator.

Cordova refused to discuss what evidence the grand jury has about Monroe's death, saying the data is privileged.

However, he said: "There is enough evidence to substantiate a special prosecutor to work with the grand jury on an investigation.

"A full investigation has never been done by the grand jury," he added. "People have not testified



SAM CORDOVA  
Grand jury foreman

under oath. This should have been done a long time ago. It should have been done in 1982."

A disagreement over the Monroe investigation has laid bare an ongoing difference of opinion over how much independence grand juries and their foremen

Please see MONROE Pg. 16

From page 1

# Jury foreman to request invest

MONROE from Pg. 1  
should have from the district attorney's office.

"The DA feels this is their grand jury, but we are an independent grand jury," said Cordova. "Someone has got to take the plunge so that other grand juries can truly be independent."

If the Board of Supervisors rejects the jury's request for a special prosecutor, Cordova said he will petition Gov. George Deukmejian for help.

"This matter of Marilyn Monroe's death has got to be finalized," Cordova said.

The grand jury's criminal justice subcommittee members earlier voted to investigate Monroe's death, but Los Angeles County District Attorney Ira Reiner "has already said he is not going to reopen this case," Cordova said.

"Our investigators are employees of the DA's office," he said. "Our legal adviser is a DA."

So if the DA refuses to investigate, we are hamstrung. The only way to do it is a special prosecutor working with the grand jury."

Cordova said most of the grand jury has not yet discussed the Monroe case, but the criminal justice subcommittee authorized Cordova last week to publicly acknowledge it was considering the Board of Supervisors' request to re-examine the death. The Los Angeles Police De-

partment or that Monroe wood home A overdose of district attorney Reiner concurred with findings. Reiner Frid mit the 198 grand jury su condemned C sible for att the case. "Th

10-29-85

# Cordova out as foreman of grand jury

By B.J. PALERMO  
and BILL GILSON  
Daily News Staff Writers

Sylmar businessman Sam Cordova, who has been engaged in a dispute with District Attorney Ira Reiner over a proposed investigation into the 1962 death of actress Marilyn Monroe, was replaced Monday as foreman of the Los Angeles County Grand Jury.

Grand jury member Charles T. Richardson, 74, was named the new foreman by order of the Superior Court. But Cordova, 56, contradicted statements by Reiner, court officials and judges that he was asked to resign Thursday, the day before his dispute with Reiner began.

"I deny that I ever promised to resign," Cordova said. "I was never asked to resign. I never submitted a letter of resignation, and I don't intend to."

That disclaimer followed two news conferences in which Reiner told reporters that Superior Court Judge Robert R. Devich, the supervising judge of the grand jury, had asked for Cordova's resignation Thursday. Cor-

dova had promised to mail a letter of resignation that was expected to arrive Monday, Reiner said.

In fact, Cordova had promised to resign not only as foreman but also as a grand juror, Reiner said, after other jurors asked Devich for his removal as foreman.

By Monday, secretaries in the grand jury office were telling callers Cordova was no longer a member. But late Monday afternoon Assistant Presiding Judge Jack E. Goertzen signed the court order removing Cordova as jury foreman and said he would continue as a juror.

"The relationship among some of the grand jurors has deteriorated over a period of time," said Presiding Judge Thomas T. Johnson. "Judge Devich, who has most of the contact with the grand jury and is off on vacation ... said he had talked with Cordova last week, and it is my understanding that Cordova was resigning (as foreman) as of this morning.

"As far as I am concerned, he has resigned," said Johnson, who named Cordova foreman of the

Please see **CORDOVA** Pg. 8

From page 1

## Judge: Grand jury shuffle unrelated to Monroe case

CORDOVA from Pg. 1

1985-86 grand jury last July. "It really has nothing to do with the Marilyn Monroe furor."

The Monroe dispute began Friday, after Cordova announced he had referred the matter to the grand jury's six-member Criminal Justice Committee. He later said the committee had voted unanimously to investigate, as was requested by the county Board of Supervisors.

Reiner immediately called a news conference to denounce Cordova's statement as irresponsible and untrue, noting it takes 14 votes by the 23-member grand jury to launch an investigation.

Grand jury member Richard Ferraro, chairman of the Criminal Justice Committee, said Monday the statement signed by committee members simply authorized Cordova to tell reporters the matter had been referred to them. Richardson and Ferraro agreed that neither the grand jury nor the committee has decided whether an investigation is in order.

Richardson, the retired publisher of a Pomona newspaper, said it came as "a complete surprise" to him to be appointed foreman. He said he considers an investigation of the Monroe death inappropriate, and he is "reluctant to see it go forward."

Reiner said the request for Cordova's resignation led to the public Monroe dispute. "After his (Cordova's) resignation was requested and submitted but not



SAM CORDOVA.  
Removed as foreman

made public, he decided to make a brouhaha over the whole Monroe case," Reiner said Monday. "As his final swan song, he decided he was going to create ... a lot of excitement and attract a lot of interest to himself."

Reiner said he did not mention the resignation Friday when he met with reporters because he did not consider it his duty to make such an announcement.

"Had he (Reiner) known I had resigned Thursday, he would have stated it to the press during his news conference Friday," Cordova said.

Friction among jurors started

when Cordova removed three members from the Criminal Justice Committee more than a month ago, the former foreman said. He added he does not intend to fight the court's action and has not decided whether to continue as a grand juror.

"It's not something you want to fight," he said. "I am small potatoes. You can't fight the power of the district attorney. If the judges are used against you, how can you fight something like that?"

While Reiner has insisted there is no evidence to warrant an investigation into Monroe's drug overdose death, which was declared a probable suicide, Cordova has said new evidence does justify a grand jury probe.

The most recent allegations were made by Los Angeles author Robert F. Slatzer in a Sept. 23 letter to Supervisor Michael Antonovich. After reviewing the letter, the Board of Supervisors unanimously voted to request an investigation by the district attorney's office and the grand jury.

Despite a 1982 district attorney's investigation into the star's death, "there have never been any individuals testifying under oath into these allegations," Antonovich told reporters Monday. "If it comes 20 years later, then it comes 20 years later. The statute of limitations has not expired if a person has died at the hands of another."

# New claims in 'suicide' of Monroe

By B.J. PALERMO  
Daily News Staff Writer

10/29/85

Los Angeles author Robert F. Slatzer is claiming there are "revolutionary new discoveries" regarding the death of actress Marilyn Monroe that merit an investigation.

Slatzer's claims — which have been aired publicly in books on the star's death — are contained in the Sept. 23 letter to Los Angeles County Supervisor Michael Antonovich, which was released to reporters Monday.

Among Slatzer's allegations, which prompted Antonovich to request a grand jury and district attorney's investigation, are the following:

- Walter Schaefer, owner of Schaefer Ambulance Co., has said two of his ambulance drivers were called at about 2 a.m. to transport Monroe from her Brentwood home to Santa Monica Hospital, where she died. The star's body later was returned to her bedroom, and police were notified after 4 a.m., Slatzer claims.

- One of the two ambulance drivers has changed his name, refuses to be interviewed and insists he was not on duty the night of Monroe's death, despite contradictory statements from Schaefer and the second ambulance driver.

- Eunice Murray, Monroe's housekeeper, has corroborated the story that the star was transported by ambulance hours before police were called.

- Natalie Jacobs, former wife of Monroe's publicity agent, has said that about 10:30 p.m. on Aug. 4 her husband was summoned from a concert to attend to problems at Monroe's house. At about 1 a.m., Jacobs said, her husband called to say Monroe was dead.

- Deborah Gould, former wife of actor Peter Lawford, said her husband and an investigator went to Monroe's house to "clean things up," and Lawford destroyed a note the star had written, Slatzer said.

- Law enforcement officials ignored the reports of former Sgt. Jack Clemmons, who was told by the housekeeper that doctors were at Monroe's home shortly after midnight and it appeared to him the star's body had been moved.

District Attorney Ira Reiner and Deputy District Attorney Ronald H. Carroll, who headed the 1982 investigation into Monroe's death, have said there is no evidence the star did not die from a self-inflicted overdose of barbituates.

In the past 23 years, the statute of limitations has expired for any crimes — short of homicide — that may have been committed the night Monroe died, Reiner said.

# New jury foreman: No Monroe probe

By PAUL PRINGLE  
Copley News Service

The Los Angeles County grand jury will not reopen the investigation into the death of actress Marilyn Monroe more than 20 years ago, the grand jury's new foreman said.

Charles Richardson, who was appointed foreman of the grand jury Monday after Sam Cordova was removed from the post, and District Attorney Ira Reiner said Monday there is not enough evidence to support any new criminal probe involving Monroe.

Cordova, who called for a new investigation of Marilyn Monroe's death, was ousted shortly before Reiner dismissed as "ridiculous nonsense" any talk of a

new criminal probe involving the movie sex goddess.

Cordova's removal as jury foreman — he remains a member of the panel — was one of several unusual and at times confusing developments Monday in the latest rumor-charged campaign to reopen the investigation.

Reiner said early in the day that Cordova had been replaced as foreman because of complaints from other jurors that he abused his authority.

Reiner also said Cordova falsely announced Friday that the jury had decided to take another look at the circumstances surrounding Monroe's death.

Cordova made the announcement the day after being told privately by the Superior Court's presiding and supervising judges that he would be dismissed Monday. However, Cordova, a Sylmar businessman, held a

press conference later Monday to deny he had been ousted — even though his dismissal had been confirmed by the grand jury office. He also accused Reiner of "lying through his teeth" in claiming other jurors had not authorized the new investigation.

Cordova urged the county Board of Supervisors to appoint a special prosecutor for the Monroe case, but legal officials subsequently said the board does not have that kind of authority.

In the meantime, Supervisor Mike Antonovich, who is preparing to seek the Republican nomination for the U.S. Senate, called his own press conference to urge state Attorney General John Van de Kamp to appoint a special prosecutor to probe the "mystery death of Marilyn Monroe."

## MM, RIP

10/29/95 D. News

Has Sam Cordova signed on with some Wilshire Boulevard ad agency? Until Monday morning, the Sylmar businessman was foreman of the Los Angeles County grand jury, but from his "Marilyn Monroe" interview with the City News Service last Friday, one might have guessed he had a secret life as a book publicist.

Cordova strongly suggested to his interviewer that the grand jury was pushing for an investigation into the 1962 death of Marilyn Monroe on the strength of supposedly new evidence of a cover-up in the case.

That "new" evidence, it seems, came from a letter written to County Supervisor Michael Antonovich by Los Angeles author Robert Slatzer. Slatzer's the one, coincidentally, who just released a book on the Monroe case, charging that the Kennedy family conspired to keep romantic links between the actress and brothers Jack and Bobby under wraps.

From a marketing standpoint, a grand jury investigation would be brilliant, since it would keep the subject of Slatzer's book on the front burners for some time to come.

But from any other perspective, a grand jury inquiry would be a

silly waste of time and money. A 1982 study by the L.A. District Attorney's office confirmed the original coroner's report that Monroe died by her own hand, and found no credible evidence of any tampering with any of the facts. A grand jury investigation now, 23 years after Monroe's death, could lead to no indictments, the statute of limitations on obstruction of justice having run.

As it happens, Cordova doesn't appear to have that much company among grand jury members in his fixation on the Monroe case. He apparently had been authorized only to say that the whole issue was under review; he chose instead to imply that a full-blown investigation might be in the offing.

And as of Monday, Cordova was no longer foreman of the jury; at the request of the other members of the grand jury, the overseeing judge removed him from the post — shortly before Cordova held a press conference again calling for the reopening of the Monroe case. Evidently, Cordova's grand jury colleagues think he's a bit too loose a cannon to be the lead gun.

That's certainly our impression. The inquiry he's pressing for might titillate the tabloid-readers, but it would be a rip-off for the tax-paying public as a whole.

# Jury Foreman Seeking Probe Into Monroe's Death Ousted

10-29-85

By PAUL FELDMAN and ROBERT W. STEWART,  
*Times Staff Writers*

The foreman of the Los Angeles County Grand Jury, who has created a stir by pushing for a new investigation of Marilyn Monroe's death, was removed Monday, reportedly after grand jurors complained that he had abused his authority.

A top court official confirmed Monday morning that Sam Cordova, 53, had been relieved of his post—at the same time Cordova was holding a press conference across town to call for the appointment of a special prosecutor to investigate Monroe's 1962 death, which was officially ruled a suicide.

The decision to replace Cordova, authorities said, was made Thursday, before Cordova's public call for a new look at the Monroe case.

Cordova, however, insisted in an interview Monday that his ouster was directly related to his interest in reexamining the sex symbol's death.

"I have no doubt that that's what it's all about," he said.

Dist. Atty. Ira Reiner, who last week labeled Cordova's suggestion that the grand jury would investigate Monroe's death "irresponsible almost beyond description," said Monday that the ex-foreman had been given the choice of resigning or being replaced last week by Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Robert R. Devich, supervising judge of the criminal courts.

The judge's action was prompted, Reiner said, by complaints from other grand jury members, who had charged that Cordova was repeatedly making unauthorized statements on their behalf.

One source told The Times that Cordova had on several occasions requested official documents from area businesses, even though the grand jury had not formally voted to subpoena them. Cordova denied the allegations.

Devich is on vacation and could not be reached for comment.



**'Ira Reiner  
... is truly  
being  
irresponsible.'**

**— Sam Cordova**



# Noguchi chimes in for new Monroe probe

United Press International

10-31-85



MARILYN MONROE  
... unexplained bruises

Former Los Angeles County Coroner Thomas Noguchi, who conducted the autopsy on Marilyn Monroe in 1962, has suggested there is evidence indicating the actress did not take her own life and the case should be re-opened.

Noguchi ruled the death a suicide in his original investigation, and that finding was confirmed by former District Attorney John Van de Kamp in a second probe 20 years later.

"She had bruises on her back and near the back of the hip that have never been fully explained," Noguchi said in an interview at a function in San Diego aired on a local television station Wednesday night. The former coroner said he had saved specimens of the contents of the star's stomach and intestines, "but before I had a chance to study (them), the specimens were no longer available, which might give the indication to the public that somehow they had something to hide."

"Murder?" the reporter asked. "Could be," the former coroner replied.

The reporter also said Noguchi has joined those calling for a third investigation of the death. Charles Darling, the show's executive producer, said Noguchi said he thought authorities are "obligated" to reopen the investigation.

Noguchi was not immediately available to elaborate on his remarks, but his attorney, Godfrey Isaac, said he had recently spoken with Noguchi about the Monroe case and said he was sure the former coroner did not think the actress was murdered.

In his biography, *Coroner*, published in 1983, Noguchi wrote, "In my opinion, the official conclusion stated the situation correctly (if evasively): 'probable suicide.' I would call it 'very probable.'"

But he also predicted in the book that until full FBI files and other documents in the case were made public, "controversy will continue to swirl around her death" and "no one will ever be able to say definitely what happened."

Noguchi's book also stated that the stomach contents were not analyzed because evidence, including the partially empty pill bottle by Monroe's bed and an analysis of her blood and liver, "pointed so overwhelmingly to suicide that the heart toxicologist apparently felt there was no need to do further tests."

The book said the media noted that omission several days later "and I wanted to rectify the mistake," but could not because "the toxicologist, thinking the case was closed, had disposed of the organs."

Noguchi also recalled testifying in the 1982 investigation that Monroe had been a heavy user of chloral hydrate for years and "her stomach was familiar with those pills, and they had already been digested." He said he therefore would have expected to see no visible evidence of pills in her stomach contents.

The foreman of the county grand jury was ousted earlier this week in the latest furor over Monroe's death and renewed calls.

11-22-35

---

### **Monroe probe vetoed**

The Los Angeles County grand jury has decided not to investigate the death of actress Marilyn Monroe 23 years ago, following the lead of the district attorney, according to a statement released Thursday.

"A letter was sent today to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors stating that the 1985-86 Los Angeles County grand jury will not pursue the Marilyn Monroe case any further," said a statement from

grand jury foreman Charles Richardson.

The issue of whether to open an investigation was under review for several weeks by the grand jury's criminal justice committee, the release said.

The committee recommended against further investigation, and the grand jury adopted that recommendation Monday, it said.

# METRO

## D.A. Finds No Evidence of Marilyn Monroe Murder

By TED ROHRFICH, Times Staff Writer

The Los Angeles County district attorney's office concluded its 3½-month investigation of the 1962 death of Marilyn Monroe Tuesday, stating that it found no substantial evidence for periodic published reports suggesting that the movie star was murdered.

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

"It is possible that while her ingestion of a half-quantity of barbiturates was voluntary, she may have been in such a state of emotional confusion that she lacked a

clearly formed purpose," he said.

"On the basis of the known facts," Van de Kamp added in releasing a 30-page report on the actress's death, "permit me to express a faint hope that Marilyn Monroe be permitted to rest in peace."

The report, prepared by Assistant Dist. Atty. Ronald H. Carroll and Investigator Alan B. Tomich, concluded that there was "reasonable" evidence to support a coroner's finding of 20 years ago that Monroe's death from a barbiturate overdose was probably a suicide.

With the aid of an independent pathologist, who examined the coroner's records, Carroll and Tomich were able to explain a key "in-

consistency" cited repeatedly by those who criticized the theories of suicide and accidental overdose.

If Monroe had taken barbiturates orally, critics asked, why did then-Deputy Coroner Thomas Noguchi not see any barbiturate residue in her stomach when he looked at it during an autopsy? Although the stomach was never chemically tested, would not the lack of observable residue have indicated that she had been given the drugs by injection, they theorized.

Carroll reported finding reasonable, if evasive, answers to the questions. Toxicology reports from 1962, he said, showed that chemical tests

were performed on Monroe's liver and blood. The tests showed about twice as much barbiturate residue in her liver as she had in her bloodstream when she died—an advanced stage of the metabolic process.

Although the stomach was never tested, the respective blood and liver level indicated that her body had had time to disperse much of the barbiturates from her stomach to other organs before she died.

This advanced stage would account for Noguchi's not having observed barbiturate residue in Monroe's stomach, Carroll said, after consulting with the independent pathologist, Dr. Boyd G. Stephens,

San Francisco's chief medical examiner, coroner.

Fulmer, Carroll said, the advanced stage of the metabolic process does not fit the murder-theorist scenario that Monroe died from drugs that were injected.

A needle injection would have produced a much higher blood level of barbiturates than the toxicological tests showed, a much earlier death and a much lower level of barbiturates in Monroe's liver, Carroll concluded.

Monroe's death at 36 in her Brentwood home in 1962, more than extinguished a legend of the actress, Carroll said, in conjunction with the "occasional" Please see MURDER, Page 2.



Los Angeles Times

## MURDER: Death of Marilyn Monroe

**Continued from First Page**  
ma Jeanne Mortenson, who embarked on a film career that made her a U.S. sex goddess. Her life and death have been examined ever since in books and articles that have debated the means of her death.

It was in response to a spate of assertions that Monroe may have fallen victim to foul play—made as the 20th anniversary of her death approached last August—that Van de Kamp assigned Carroll, the third highest-ranking prosecutor in the district attorney's office, the task of conducting a "threshold inquiry" to determine whether a full-scale homicide investigation of the star's death was warranted.

Van de Kamp made the assignment public after the Board of Supervisors urged him to investigate new charges by a former county coroner's employee that a diary purportedly kept by the actress had disappeared from the coroner's office.

The diary, said the former employee, Lionel Grandison, contained the names of government figures and possibly matters relating to sensitive government operations.

Grandison's assertions fueled speculation about previously published accounts that Monroe kept a diary that might have served as a motive for her murder. Some of those accounts mentioned that the diary contained references to then-Atty. Gen. Robert F. Kennedy, Fidel Castro and the CIA and theorized that the actress might have been murdered to prevent her from revealing secret government operations or personal matters that might have embarrassed the attorney general or his brother, President John F. Kennedy.

Milo Speriglio, a Van Nuys private detective who recently published a book entitled "Marilyn Monroe: Murder Cover-up," offered a \$10,000 reward for the diary. A Beverly Hills art dealer offered \$150,000. But no copy turned up.

Carroll said he found no credible evidence that a diary was ever in the possession of the coroner's office. He reported that Monroe was so disorganized from physical and emotional ailments toward the end of her life that he doubted she kept one at all.

At the end, he said, Monroe was "in almost daily need of psychiatric support to accomplish ordinary tasks." Carroll concluded that a murder of Monroe fitting the known facts of her death would have required a massive conspiracy.

### Motive for Murder

A murder, he wrote, might well have required the participation of all of those at Monroe's house on the day of her death, including her housekeeper, her physician and her psychiatrist, along with the actual killer or killers, the county's then-Chief Medical Examiner-Coroner Dr. Thomas Curphey, Noguchi and almost all of the police officers assigned to investigate her death.

"The homicide hypothesis," Carroll wrote, "must be viewed with extreme skepticism."

If Grandison and the murder theorists were correct, Carroll reasoned, a diary containing information so explosive that it could have served as a motive for murder was turned over to the coroner's office. "Unfortunately this scenario doesn't hold together. . . .  
"It doesn't make sense to imply that those who were

closest to Miss Monroe were responsible for her death and then to allege that these same people turned over to outsiders the very information they sought, by killing her, to suppress," he said.

"Even if one assumed that a stranger or a coroner's employee discovered a diary at the death scene and then passed it on to the authorities, one would also have to assume that the 'conspirators' were incredibly inept to allow such a discovery."

Grandison, whose public assertions that a diary was missing advanced such a conspiracy theory, was employed at the coroner's office as a 22-year-old clerk at the time of Monroe's death. Shortly afterwards, he was discharged for taking a credit card from a dead person and using it, an offense for which he served six months in jail.

Grandison admitted that before making his public statements, he had read about the purported diary in a 1974 book by Robert Slatzer, "The Life and Curious Death of Marilyn Monroe." Slatzer, who claims he was married briefly to the actress, is the only other source who says he saw the diary site purportedly kept, Carroll said.

As to whether Monroe indeed had a romantic relationship with either John or Robert Kennedy, as has been widely rumored, Carroll said in an interview that the "evidence points in conflicting directions."

That was one conflict, he said, that he did not attempt to resolve during the inquiry, in which 40 people were interviewed and files from various law enforcement agencies, including the FBI, were reviewed.

"Historically it's interesting," said Carroll. "But if you don't reach a threshold conclusion of homicide or murder, it doesn't really matter who she had a romantic involvement with.

"If you do find murder, then you want to go to motive and you want to pursue all of those leads."

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)



# news

## MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH



October 8, 1985

### ANTONOVICH SEEKS MONROE DEATH REVIEW

LOS ANGELES COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - FIFTH DISTRICT

CONTACT: DAWSON OPPENHEIMER • 974-5555  
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET • ROOM 869  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

Acting on a motion by Supervisor Mike Antonovich, the County Board of Supervisors unanimously asked the Grand Jury to review the contents of a letter which "indicate numerous inconsistencies and possible new discoveries related to the death" of actress Marilyn Monroe.

Attached to the motion was a letter from Robert F. Slatzer, who claims that he has learned of "the cover-up" in investigations into the death of Miss Monroe while under contract as a consultant to the ABC News 20/20 program.

Although the famed actress died more than 23 years ago, her relationship with the late President Jack Kennedy and his brother, the late Senator Robert Kennedy, has resulted in periodic resurrection of "cover-up" possibilities designed to avoid scandal.

Among those areas that should be examined, Antonovich said, is Slatzer's claim that ambulance operator Walter Schaefer stated that his company "picked up Miss Monroe's unconscious body and delivered it to Santa Monica Hospital where she died in the emergency room . . . . However, Schaefer cannot account as to how Marilyn's body was taken back to her house and placed in her bedroom . . . ."

(more)

"I believe that all the recent media attention and continuing questions such as the possible movement of her body should be confirmed, explained or proven to be not true," Antonovich said.

"It is my hope that the Grand Jury can examine the claims by Mr. Slatzer, question available witnesses and make a determination whether the investigation should be reopened to clear up these mysteries once and for all," Antonovich said.

# # #

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

7





MARK H. BLOODGOOD  
AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
DEPARTMENT OF AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

525 HALL OF ADMINISTRATION  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012  
(213) 974-8301

00066

THOMAS J. KOZLOWSKI  
DANIEL O. IKEMOTO  
ASSISTANT AUDITOR-CONTROLLERS

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com January 6, 1983

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

TO: Supervisor Kenneth Hahn  
Second District

FROM: Mark H. Bloodgood *MHB*  
Auditor-Controller

SUBJECT: Cost of Marilyn Monroe Death Investigation

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

As you requested, we have computed the District Attorney's costs associated with the most recent investigation of the death of Marilyn Monroe.

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Based upon time estimates given to us by the District Attorney's office, we have determined that costs associated with the investigation total \$19,400. A schedule detailing our computation is attached.

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

If you have any questions, please call.

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

MHB:JTM:en:13  
JJB/MONROE

cc: Mr. Robert Philibosian, District Attorney  
Mr. Ted Reed, Assistant Chief Administrative Officer

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | marilynmonroecollection.com

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

1985-86 GRAND JURY

13-303 CRIMINAL COURTS BUILDING  
LOS ANGELES, CALIF. 90012  
9743993

November 19, 1985

Honorable Board of Supervisors  
383 Hall of Administration  
Los Angeles, California 90012


Dear Supervisors:

This is in reply to your letter of October 10, 1985 requesting the Grand Jury to review the information furnished concerning the death of Marilyn Monroe.

After a review of the available material and information, the Grand Jury, following a recommendation from the Criminal Justice Committee voted not to pursue any further investigation of this matter.

Please do not hesitate to request our services at any time in the future.

Sincerely,



CHARLES T. RICHARDSON  
Foreman

CTR:ks

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)



Within recent days various news accounts have highlighted alleged irregularities in the handling of the coroner's investigation into the death of Marilyn Monroe.

Specific news accounts have quoted former coroner's investigator Lionel Grandison who stated that:

- 1) he was coerced into signing Marilyn Monroe's death certificate.
- 2) that a part of the evidence collected, specifically Marilyn Monroe's diary, was missing from the coroner's office two days after it was brought in, and
- 3) the coroner's investigation into Marilyn Monroe's death was incomplete.

These allegations are serious enough to warrant the District Attorney's office to look into them.

THEREFORE I MOVE THAT:

The Central Administrative Office request the District Attorney's office to investigate the charges made by Lionel Grandison.

I FURTHER MOVE THAT:

If any, or all, these charges are substantiated that this matter be referred to the Grand Jury for further investigation.

MOTION

Hahn \_\_\_\_\_

Edelman \_\_\_\_\_

Dana \_\_\_\_\_

Antonovich \_\_\_\_\_

Schabarum \_\_\_\_\_

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

Marilyn Monroe Collection Archive | [marilynmonroecollection.com](http://marilynmonroecollection.com)

