

ARTICLE APPEARED
ON PAGE 2-B

THE BALTIMORE SUN
12 AUGUST 1982

L.A. may probe Monroe's death

A Los Angeles prosecutor is studying the last 24 hours in the life of actress Marilyn Monroe to decide whether a full-scale investigation of her death should be launched.

The inquiry comes amid a flurry of speculation that a missing diary said to have been kept by Miss Monroe may have indicated she was murdered.

Miss Monroe died at 36 of what the coroner's office said at the time was a self-induced overdose of barbiturates.

The controlling authority in Los Angeles county, the five-member Board of Supervisors, voted unanimously yesterday to ask the office of District Attorney John Van de Kamp to investigate the case.

"We are trying to piece together the last 24 hours of Miss Monroe's life," Mr. Van de Kamp said. "We are not at this point conducting a full-fledged investigation."

He said his office expected to have all the necessary documents and news articles relating to her death in about 10 days.

A former coroner's aide, Lionel Grandison, has been quoted in news reports as saying he was pressured into signing Miss Monroe's death certificate.

He was also quoted as saying a diary giving details of a friendship she was said to have had with Robert Kennedy when he was U.S. attorney general had disappeared soon after she died.

Rewards of up to \$100,000 were offered last week for the so-called "red diary."

A Los Angeles private detective, Milo Speriglio, said he had evidence the diary included entries revealing Mr. Kennedy had told Miss Monroe of a Central Intelligence Agency plot to kill the Cuban leader Fidel Castro.

Mr. Speriglio said he believed a dissident CIA faction murdered Miss Monroe

before she could reveal the plot.

Dr. Thomas Noguchi, the former Los Angeles coroner who performed the post mortem on Miss Monroe, said she committed suicide by taking an overdose of drugs.