

Documentary alleges three killed Kennedy

LONDON (AP) — A British television program claimed three French gangsters assassinated President John F. Kennedy on a contract from U.S. organized crime, but records show two of them were not in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963.

One of the three men, Sauveur Pironti, also denied the allegation in an interview published yesterday in an interview published yesterday by the Marseilles newspaper *Le Provençal*.

It quoted him as saying "I was not in Dallas, but in the military in Toulon," and said he displayed a military service record showing he was based on a mine sweeper in Toulon from Oct. 16, 1962, to April 16, 1964.

"I believe at that time my friend Sarti was being held in Baumettes (prison in Marseilles) and (Roger) Bocagnani was in prison at Fort du Ha in Bordeaux," the newspaper quoted Pironti as saying.

According to the two-hour Central Television program "The Men Who Killed Kennedy," broadcast Tuesday night, Lucien Sarti was shot to death in Mexico in 1972 and Bocagnani is believed to be working in the Colombian cocaine trade.

French Navy headquarters confirmed the dates of service in

Toulon and said Pironti, 46, could not have been in Dallas on the day of the assassination. The Justice Ministry said Bocagnani was in a jail cell in Marseille on that day.

Kennedy was killed as he rode in a motorcade through Dallas. Lee Harvey Oswald was charged with the shooting, but Jack Ruby shot and killed him two days later. The Warren Commission said Oswald acted alone in the assassination.

There have been many theories over the years that Oswald was not the killer or was part of a conspiracy in which assorted organizations, governments and personalities were involved.

Central Television, a company in Britain's commercial Independent Television network, said its report was based on a four-year inquiry by Steve Rivele, an American writer and researcher, and Nigel Turner, the documentary's British director.

Rivele said the three men were hired through organized crime circles on the French Mediterranean island of Corsica, but the program produced no direct evidence.

According to Rivele, he got on the Corsican trail by interviewing Christian David, a French drug smuggler held at the Leavenworth federal prison in Kansas.