

## RKO Outlets Drop '2 Kennedys'; Italo Docu Caused Legal Worries

RKO General stations last week dropped out of the syndication airing Sunday's (21) broadcast of "The Two Kennedys," a two-hour, Italian-made docu about the assassinations of John and Robert Kennedy.

According to Robert Glaser, president of the RKO tv division, fears of possible law suits caused the four-station group — WOR-TV New York, KHJ-TV Los Angeles, WNAC-TV Boston and WHBO-TV Memphis — to cancel. About 30 other stations bought the show.

According to Glaser, he had assumed that distributor Ben Barry Associates had an indemnification insurance policy, "which we demand from all program suppliers." He later found there was none. The film, which was made by Rizzoli Productions and distributed theatrically in Europe, indicated that John Kennedy's death was part of a conspiracy by organized crime, Cuba and big oil interests.

Among other things, the film forged a link between Frank Sinatra and the late Mafia operative Sam Giancana and elaborated on alleged links between Kennedy and a woman friend of the mobster's.

Glaser said that if Barry does get insurance he "absolutely would run the show."

A Barry spokesman said that no other stations buying the show had dropped it, "as far as I know."

# Ch. 9 Will Air An Italian Film On Kennedys

By VAL ADAMS

A two-hour program about the political history of the Kennedy family, which alleges that a conspiracy between organized crime, oil barons and Cubans resulted in the assassinations of John and Robert Kennedy, will be presented this fall over WOR-TV (Ch. 9).

The program entitled "The Two Kennedys ... A View From Europe," which was compiled from newsreel footage and other film clips, was produced by the Rizzoli Co. in Italy. For three years the film has been shown in theaters in Europe and last April was presented for a week in a theater in Boston, its only showing in this country.

The film is now being distributed to TV stations by Ben Barry & Associates, a new syndicator. The first sale was made to RKO General Inc., owner of TV stations in New York, Boston, Los Angeles and Memphis, Tenn.

According to the syndicator, the program has segments linking the assassination of Presi-



George C.  
Scott

Frank  
Sinatra

dent John Kennedy to a Cuban plot. The program also alleges there was more than one gunman — at least two but probably three.

In tracing the rise of the Kennedy family in U.S. politics, the program draws on statements by 36 prominent persons in various walks of life that were filmed over a period of many years. They include Al Capone, Fidel Castro, Roy Cohn, Sam Giancana, Lyndon B. Johnson, Richard Nixon, Joseph Kennedy, Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, Frank Sinatra, Joe Valachi, Earl Warren and Marilyn Monroe.

There are also clips of Lee Harvey Oswald, identified by the Warren Commission as the lone gunman who shot John Kennedy, and Jack Ruby, who killed Oswald.

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