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Report of a 1961 Plot to Kill Kennedy

SFChronicle

Paris

The newspaper L'Aurore published yesterday an account of a former French resident of Algeria who said that in 1961 he had been hired to kill President Kennedy, but that he had withdrawn from the assignment at the last moment.

The newspaper said Jose Luis Romero, who now lives at an undisclosed place in South America, had signed a contract with a French book publisher for the story of his life.

The article quoted Romero as saying that the attempt on Mr. Kennedy's life was to have been made during the American president's visit to France to talk with General Charles de Gaulle.

Romero said that in Algiers he had been offered $460,000 through a man identified only as "Mike" who "visibly worked for certain secret services of the United States." He said that after he went to Paris he got worried. He checked with the Secret Army Organization in Algiers, and got orders to pull out of the deal.

The Secret Army Organization fought de Gaulle on independence for Algeria.

Associated Press