

'Stand-in for Ted' Story Held False

Call for Inquest In Doubt

Examiner News Services

Sen. Edward Kennedy remained silent today as family friends denied a newspaper columnist's charge that Kennedy has asked his cousin, Joseph Gargan, to "take the rap" for driving the car in which a young secretary drowned.

A family source in Hyannis Port, Mass., said the report by Jack Anderson, columnist Drew Pearson's associate, is "entirely untrue and has no basis in fact whatsoever."

Anderson said the accident happened after Kennedy invited Mary Jo Kopechne for a midnight swim and that Kennedy first asked his cousin to take the blame to avoid the political consequences, then changed his mind.

No Comment

In Washington, Kennedy's office said the senator would

have no comment on the Anderson report.

Meanwhile the inquest into Miss Kopechne's death was set for Sept. 3, District Court Judge James A. Boyle announced today.

The announcement was made after a meeting between Boyle and District Attorney Edmund Dinis, who ordered the inquest.

Boyle said accredited newsmen will be admitted to the proceedings. He said he had "no intention at this time" of calling Kennedy to testify.

Dinis had indicated earlier that he would be summoning Kennedy.

Witnesses

He added he will call 20 or more witnesses, including all persons who might have had any knowledge of events before or after Kennedy's car plunged off a bridge on Chappaquiddick Island.

Dinis has been advised he will have to go to court if he wants an autopsy on the body of Miss Kopechne.

The dead girl's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kopechne of Berkeley Heights, N.J., have indicated they will oppose exhumation of the body.