

DA May Send Aides to Court In Autopsy Bid

NEW BEDFORD, Mass. (AP) — Dist. Atty. Edmund Dinis said today he is "making efforts" to send two deputies to Wilkes-Barre, Pa., tomorrow for an afternoon court session on his request for an autopsy on the woman who died in Sen. Edward M. Kennedy's automobile accident.

Dinis said he probably will not go himself, but hoped to send first assistant Dist. Atty. Peter B. Gay, and assistant Dist. Atty. Armand Fernades.

Dinis said the session will be a preliminary hearing in the Common Pleas Court to establish a date for a formal hearing on his request for exhumation of the body of Mary Joe Kopechne, 28, and for an autopsy on it.

He said he thinks he will attend the formal session.

OFFICIALS OF THE Pennsylvania court said a written petition from Dinis was not adequate. President Judge Bernard C. Brominski said either Dinis or a representative must appear in person.

President Judge Bernard C. Brominski of Luzerne County Court of Common Pleas said there will be no hearing tomorrow. He said the deputies, if

they come, merely will file the petition for a hearing, "to comply with the rules of the courts of Luzerne County." He said if they do file the petition, a hearing would be held in about 10 days. He earlier said Dinis or his representative would have to appear in person to file the petition.

Meanwhile, Kennedy, said he privately is at peace with himself about the accident in which Miss Kopechne, a secretary to his late brother Robert, was killed.

"I can live with myself," the Massachusetts Democrat said in an interview with Matthew V. Storin of the Boston Globe's Washington staff.

"I feel the tragedy of the girl's death. That's on my mind. That's what I will always have to live with," Kennedy said. "But what I don't have to live with are the whispers and innuendoes and falsehoods, because these have no basis in fact."

IN OTHER developments involving the July 18 accident on the Chappaquiddick Island section of Martha's Vineyard:

—The Manchester (N.H.) Union Leader said that in the hours immediately after the ac-

cident, when Kennedy said he was in shock, 17 telephone calls were charged to his credit card. In Boston, a spokesman for New England Telephone Co. said legal restrictions prevented him from confirming or denying the report, but he said the use of the card did not necessarily mean that the senator made the calls.

—In Wilkes-Barre, Pa., officials of the Common Pleas Court said a written petition that Dist. Atty. Edmund Dinis sent seeking to have Miss Kopechne's body exhumed for an autopsy is not adequate. President Judge Bernard C. Brominski said either Dinis or a representative must appear in person.

—In Berkeley Heights, N.J., Miss Kopechne's father said he and his wife firmly are opposed to having their daughter's body exhumed from her Larksville, Pa., grave, and are seeking legal advice.

—IN WASHINGTON, Kennedy denied as "categorically untrue" a statement by columnist Jack Anderson that after the accident Kennedy did not swim the channel between Chappaquiddick Island and Edgartown, as the senator said he did.