

## Mrs. Kennedy Asks U.S. to Cut \$50,000 Allowance to \$30,000

By MARJORIE HUNTER

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WASHINGTON, April 19—Mrs. John F. Kennedy has asked Congress to reduce her annual Federal allowance of \$50,000 to \$30,000.

The request, disclosed today, was made in a letter some months ago to an old friend, Representative Edward P. Boland, Democrat of Massachusetts. Mr. Boland heads a House Appropriations subcommittee that handles legislation of this type.

Congress granted Mrs. Kennedy the \$50,000 allowance in December, 1963, shortly after the assassination of President Kennedy. The money was earmarked for a staff to handle the huge volume of mail received by Mrs. Kennedy.

She also was allocated free office space in the Executive Office Building, next to the White House, and free mailing privileges for life.

Since moving to New York City more than a year ago, Mrs. Kennedy has maintained an office at 400 Park Avenue, paying the rental from the \$50,000 allowance. Her staff no longer uses the Executive Office Building suite here.

### Volume of Mail Ebbs

Members of her staff are Pamela Turnure, Nancy Tuckerman and Helen Lempart.

In her letter to Mr. Boland, Mrs. Kennedy explained that there had been a decrease in the volume of mail and other official business. She said she would not even need to spend \$30,000.

Miss Turnure said today that Mrs. Kennedy's mail had declined to about 100 letters a day from the 300 or more she once received. In the weeks after the assassination, more than 600,000

letters and telegrams were received by Mrs. Kennedy.

Mrs. Kennedy and her children, Caroline and John Jr., also get Secret Service protection. Congress first voted this protection in December, 1963, for a two-year period. It was extended for another two years last fall.

Miss Turnure said today that the agents were primarily assigned to protect the children and to accompany Mrs. Kennedy on trips. She said one agent went to Spain with Mrs. Kennedy this week.

Under another law Mrs. Kennedy receives a yearly pension of \$10,000 for life or until she remarries. This law, passed in 1958, applies to all widows of Presidents. There are no other Presidential widows now living.

### Engagement Rumors Denied

SEVILLE, Spain, April 19 (UPI)—Mrs. John F. Kennedy emphatically denied reports today that she planned to marry Antonio Garrigues, Spanish Ambassador to the Vatican.

Mr. Garrigues, 62 years old, scoffed at the rumor as he arrived here today to join a party that included Mrs. Kennedy. "We are just good friends," he said.

Mrs. Kennedy, who is 36, said in a statement issued through United States Ambassador Angier Biddle Duke: "I want to make it crystal clear and completely understood that there is no basis in fact in rumors of an engagement."

Mr. Garrigues has been a friend of the Kennedy family since the early 1930's. He joined 60 guests at the home of the Duke and Duchess of Alba, with whom Mrs. Kennedy is staying during Seville's annual spring fair.