

J. F. KENNEDY FILM CANCELED IN PARIS

Director Says United Artists
Blocked Sept. 17 Premiere

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PARIS, Sept. 5—The director of a film about the assassination of John F. Kennedy charged today that its Paris debut had been blocked by pressure from United Artists.

The 25-minute film, "Mort d'un President," was to have appeared at the Balzac Theater on the Champs-Elysées on Sept. 17, accompanying "L'Americain," a new movie partly financed by United Artists. Trade sources said that "Mort d'un President" had been replaced by short subjects.

[In New York, the president of United Artists, David Picker, confirmed that Paris representatives of his company had seen the Kennedy film, disliked it as a film and asked that it not be shown in Paris with "L'Americain."]

"Mort d'un President" was made by Hervé Lamarre, the French publisher of "Farewell America," a book signed with the pseudonym James Hepburn. The movie, like the book, charges that the assassination of President Kennedy was the result of a plot involving high-placed Americans.

It includes the color sequence of the assassination taken by Abram Zapruder. Mr. Lamarre said it would be the first time the Zapruder film had been shown in full to the public. The movie also shows still pictures taken by other amateurs, diagrams and photographs, purporting to link the Dallas crime with the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King.

"L'Americain," the story of a Frenchman who returns to France after 10 years in the United States, was directed by Marcel Bozzuffi and produced by Claude Lelouch, who is also sponsoring the distribution of "Mort d'un President." Mr. Lelouch was directing a movie on location today and could not be reached for comment.

Mr. Lamarre charged that Mr. Lelouch had been forced to withdraw the Kennedy film because United Artists was his chief financial backer.

The owner of the Balzac Theater, Samuel Siritzky, an American, said tonight he liked the Lamarre film, thought it was not at all anti-American and would try to obtain it for a showing with another film in one of his movie houses.