

Hawaii hawks kill MacBird

By JUDY CHASE

HONOLULU

The latest death remotely linked to the Kennedy assassination is that of MacBird here in Hawaii.

The play received a premature burial late in March and cries of conspiracy have resounded since.

University of Hawaii professors have charged that MacBird was the victim of a plot by the state Subversive Activities Commission.

However, William B. Southerland, the commission's executive

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and chief investigator, vigorously denies it.

Assistant Professor Theodore Becker, a graduate assistant, and Richard Pintane decided to stage MacBird in hopes that "it would cause a rethinking of the University of Hawaii's drama department's role in the community," Becker said.

Ten days before the first of the scheduled performances reports that the Subversive Activities Commission was investigating a production began circulating at the University. Becker and Pintane called the rumors to their cast members' attention just in case they knew nothing of them.

Within six hours two speech in-

structors cast in leading roles quit. Both said that the play was vulgar and in bad taste.

Two days later two other key players resigned from the cast, bad taste was also the reason they gave.

Strangely none of the four accepted their parts without having had to read the script, the co-producer said. All four had been rehearsing their parts regularly for a month.

When the story of MacBird's playerless plight reached the public, orders for 200 more seats were mailed in. The advance mail indicated a profit of at least \$200, half of which was to be donated to a committee to aid the treatment of injured Vietnamese civilians.