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Otherwise Fair.
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Santa Cruz, Calif.

Mass Murderer Kemper Subject For New Movie

By DALE POLLOCK
Sentinel Staff Writer

Convicted mass murderer Edmund Kemper III will be the subject of a planned, multi-million dollar feature film to be made early next year.

Hollywood producer Kevin Casselman announced the project, to be filmed under his Cahoots banner, in a recent Daily Variety release. But The Sentinel has learned that Kemper, currently serving eight life imprisonment terms at the California Medical Facility in Vacaville, denies granting film rights to any producer, although he has received numerous offers.

Contacted by The Sentinel, Casselman said he had "no comment" about Kemper's statement related through a prison spokesman. "The fact that we have a project in preparation speaks for itself," he said.

"I wouldn't hire a writer if we weren't making the film."

Casselman also said, "We're certainly not out to do a horror kind of thing on it. It will definitely not be an exploitation film. I'm not at all interested in that."

A release sent out by Milt Kahn, publicist

for actor ~~Robert~~ *Robert*, who is part with Casselman in the project, described Kemper as a "good villain" and said the proposed film would be the first produced for Casselman, a former agent. Hooters will be seen in the current production of "C" and is under contract to the Dino de Laurentiis organization.

Kemper, 28, was convicted of the murder of six young female hitchhikers, his mother and her friend in late 1973. The 6-foot-pound prisoner recently requested psychosurgery to curb his violent tendencies.

Casselman admitted that Kemper's publicized plea for the surgery, which reroute electrical circuits in his brain, sparked his interest in the case. "He is (at Vacaville) and it's a touchy situation," said Casselman. "I don't want to go against Kemper's way, or in any position to have the chances of getting the surgery. I'm not getting the psychosurgery."

According to the prison spokesman, Kemper said he hasn't even discussed a specific film with any producer, nor signed anything. The spokesman also indicated that Kemper had received "a

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for actor Peter Onorati, who is partnered with Casselman in the project, described Kemper as a "good killer" and said the proposed film would be the first production for Casselman, a former agent. Hooten can be seen in the current production of "Orca," and is under contract to the Dino de Laurentiis organization.

Kemper, 28, was convicted of the murders of six young female hitchhikers, his mother and her friend in late 1973. The 6-foot-9, 280-pound prisoner recently requested psychosurgery to curb his violent tendencies.

Casselmann admitted that Kemper's well-publicized plea for the surgery, which would reroute electrical circuits in his brain, first sparked his interest in the case. "He is there (at Vacaville) and it's a touchy situation," said Casselman. "I don't want to get in Kemper's way, or in any position to harm his chances of getting the surgery. I'm for his getting the psychosurgery."

According to the prison spokesman, Kemper said he hasn't even discussed a specific film with any producer, nor has he signed anything. The spokesman also indicated that Kemper had received "lots of

requests, but hasn't granted any movie or book rights."

The Sentinel also has learned that several screenwriters are negotiating for the rights, or have expressed interest in dealing with some facet of Kemper's career. The prison spokesman stressed that Kemper would be unable to accept cash payments for film rights, although a future percentage deal apparently would be allowable.

When informed of the proposed film, former District Attorney Peter Chang, who prosecuted and won the case against Kemper, exclaimed, "It would have to be one of the most ghoulish films ever made, for ghoulish people."

Expressing shock and dismay, Chang added, "Even if you minimized everything he did, it would be so ugly. It gave me nightmares for a week after I heard his confession. It's so gory, it's pornography. The gore itself is beyond the pale of what we could accept."

Chang said a fascinating psycho-drama could be written about Kemper's bloody career, "but no one's really ever been able to understand why he did it."



Edmund Kemper III