

Mrs. Kennedy Gives Publishers Notice of Court Move on Book

By JOHN CORRY

Mrs. John F. Kennedy has served a summons on Harper & Row and Look magazine in an apparent effort to stop the publication of a book she once wanted written "in the interest of personal accuracy."

The book, "Death of a President," was written by William Manchester, who returned here from Europe yesterday. He said that he was "puzzled by the disturbance" and that he had had "advice not to speak to anyone."

The summons, according to Harper & Row, is simply a notice that Mrs. Kennedy will pursue court action. It carries no legal attachment and does not show what course Mrs. Kennedy will follow.

Mr. Manchester, who arrived on the Queen Mary, said he was "out of the picture" and "not informed on what was happening."

A friend of his said later that at Mrs. Kennedy's request Mr. Manchester had made some revisions in the book about President Kennedy's assassination. But the friend said no one in the Kennedy family had been shown the revised book "for fear they will want more changes."

Mrs. Kennedy chose Mr. Manchester to write the story of the assassination "to prevent

an innovation this year, to raise additional funds for the institute's educational and cultural exchange activities.

On the ball committee are Mrs. Harcourt Amory Jr., Mrs. Walter C. Baker, Mrs. Stephen R. Currier, Mrs. C. Douglas Dillon, Mrs. Earl McGrath, Mrs. Henry Clay Frick, Mrs. Samuel E. Gates, Mrs. Andrew Heiskell, Mrs. Ellen Tuck Guest, Mrs. Grayson Kirk and Mrs. John Barry Ryan.

The institute, a private non-profit organization with offices at 809 United Nations Plaza, relies on contributions from foundations, corporations and individuals to meet its operating costs.

This year another source of income was developed through the Associates Committee headed by Mrs. Warburg and Mrs. Grant Webb. Members pay \$100 and more to join. The committee organized a series of cultural events with young musicians, dancers, artists, sculp-

Cass Canfield, chairman of the board of Harper & Row, said he was "deeply distressed over the fact that Mrs. Ken-

nedy is upset, because I have great respect and admiration for her."

Earlier, when asked if the Kennedy family had sought changes in the book because of Mrs. Kennedy's feelings, Evan Thomas, vice president of Harper & Row, said:

"It is impossible to say as to their motives."

If "Death of a President" is published, it is virtually certain to be a best seller.

Look magazine is said to have paid more than \$650,000 for the serialization rights and to have sold its ownership of the European rights for nearly \$300,000. The Sunday Times of London paid more than \$100,000 for the rights in Britain and Ireland. French publication is to be in Paris Match, German in Der Stern and Italian in Epoca.

The serialization in Look has been scheduled to begin on Jan. 10.

distortion and sensationalism." Now she is said to be upset by Mr. Manchester's use of some of her personal recollections.

Senator Robert F. Kennedy, the President's brother, has told Harper & Row that he would not seek to prevent publication of "Death of a President" although he is known to be unhappy with it.

A source close to the New York Democrat said that the original manuscript had reflected the distaste some of the Kennedys felt for President Johnson and that Mr. Kennedy and his associates believed this could hurt the Senator's political career.

The unedited version of the book, he said, depicted Mr. Johnson as boorish. He said that, in describing the air trip