

## Harper & Row's Statement

Following is the text of a statement issued yesterday by Harper & Row, Publishers, Inc., regarding William Manchester's book "Death of a President."

Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy requested William Manchester to write a book describing the events surrounding the death of President Kennedy. The Kennedy family also requested that the book be published by Harper & Row, and Harper & Row agreed to do so. It was also agreed that all profits on the book beyond a small return on Harper's investment would go to the Kennedy Library.

The manuscript was submitted to representatives designated by the Kennedy family early in 1966, and detailed conversations and discussions took place between those representatives, the author and Harper & Row.

After these discussions, Harper & Row and Mr. Manchester were officially advised in July of 1966 that members of the Kennedy family will place no obstacle in the way of publication of Mr. Manchester's book.

In reliance on this statement, Mr. Manchester and Harper & Row proceeded to the final editing of the book, which is entitled "The Death of a President." During this period, also, Harper's continued to further discussions

between representatives of the Kennedy family and Mr. Manchester and Harper & Row, and further changes were made at their request.

The revised manuscript was once more submitted, this time to Mr. Richard Goodwin, who had been designated by the Kennedy family for that purpose. He suggested certain further revisions.

Mr. Cass Canfield, chairman of the executive committee of Harper & Row, and Mr. Evan Thomas, chairman of the Harper editorial board, made a special trip to London to consult with Mr. Manchester and gave him a letter Mrs. Kennedy had written to him objecting to certain passages in the book.

Upon their return, at Mrs. Kennedy's request, they conferred with Mr. Gardner Cowles, editorial chairman of Cowles Communications, Inc., publishers of Look, and his associates, with reference to these suggestions.

Thereafter, with the approval of Mr. Manchester, substantial further revisions were made in the manuscript in response to the suggestions made by Mr. Goodwin, Senator Robert Kennedy and others on behalf of the Kennedy family.

Harper & Row has done its utmost to comply with the wishes of the Kennedy family, and deeply regrets their present attitude.