

Manchester and Hunt

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★ We have managed to remain reasonably relaxed about the Manchester book, *Death of a President*. Reporters who actually worked with Kennedy remember him fondly, we think, as a human being, not an idol. We accepted the findings of the Warren Report. We have found nothing in the criticisms of the report since then to change our views. Jacqueline Kennedy is a brave and lovely woman but she is human, too. The Kennedys patronized Lyndon Johnson, the heir-apparent, and when the impossible happened at Dallas they transferred their shock and hysteria, temporarily at least, into grievance. Mrs. Kennedy, one source says, couldn't abide to have Mr. Johnson call her "Honey." Some analysts say this book will damage the President politically. We doubt it. Of course the quarrel has hurt everybody, Lyndon, Bobby, Mrs. Kennedy and the whole Kennedy cult. But we doubt if this is of lasting moment. There is a morbid fascination in reading about the assassination and the widow and all that, and publishing fortunes will continue to be made from such writings.

We frequently start the day right by listening to billionaire H. L. Hunt's anti-communist "Life Line"; as stimulating as a cold shower though not, perhaps, in the way senior sentinel Hunt intended. "The communists," we heard the other day, "have devised a master music plan especially for high school students, to produce degrees of artificial neurosis and to prepare them for riot and ultimate revolution - riot and revolution to destroy our American form of government and the basic Christian principles governing our way of life." Yes, you guessed it, rock 'n' roll. "This music is but part of the communists' diabolical scheme to cause humans to revert to savagery!" Don't believe us? - Send \$1 to Life Line, Washington 1, D. C., for "Freedom Talk" No. 40, and you will get 14 copies of this collector's item.