

# Serialization Prompted Trouble -- Manchester

Author Claims High Pay Caused Suit; Kennedy Repeats Broken Faith Charge

NEW YORK (AP) — Author William Manchester, who battled Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy and Sen. Robert F. Kennedy (D-N.Y.) over portions of his book, "The Death of a President," said Sunday he was pitted against "people who are betting their fortunes on another Kennedy administration, who are willing to do anything."

He told the editors of Newsweek magazine in an interview that he had no problems with the Kennedys until they learned Look magazine was paying him \$665,000 for the serialization rights.

He said when the senator told Mrs. Kennedy, then vacationing at Hyannisport, Mass., she was concerned over the sum of money and what she felt was commercialization.

## Senator Concurrs

Manchester, giving an expanded version of his side of the issue, said the senator later took the same attitude.

"Bobby was so irrational," he said. "He was concerned about the money now."

Earlier, Manchester said, Kennedy had been enthusiastic about the price Look paid, saying, "Gee, that's great. That's a record, isn't it?"

The author said he never had an agreement with Mrs. Kennedy to write the book, but only a memorandum of understanding with the senator. "he didn't like me," he said.

## Opposed Serialization

Asked if he thought money was the primary motive for the Kennedy's court suit to prevent publication of the book except with deletions, they de-

manded, Manchester said: "It was impossible to ascertain their motives. They were all for the book—but no magazine serialization."

Manchester described a Sept. 7 meeting with Mrs. Kennedy in which she opposed magazine serialization. At this point, he said, former Presidential aide Richard Goodwin was made responsible by Mrs. Kennedy for everything that would be in the manuscript.

"Dick tried to emasculate the Look galleys," Manchester said. "At one point nearly 50% of the third installment was edited. It would have been unprintable. He was editing largely for political reasons—material about Bobby and Johnson."

Manchester denied the book was anti-Johnson. "I think he behaved well," said. "We were all stobs that afternoon. He was trying. He was strong, effective. I am distressed that there have been so many anti-Johnson stories attributed to the book. They are not true and not in the book at all."

## Had to Fight

(Manchester, in another interview, this one appearing in the New York Times, said he had to fight for his book like a parent fighting to save his child in a burning house. He accused the Kennedys of inscrutability.)

("Mao and Jackie are the two most inscrutable people I know," he said. Manchester referred to Mao Tse-tung, chairman of the Communist Party of China.)

(Manchester called the controversy over the

live in a monarchy," he said. "It was like she was Marie Antoinette, completely isolated from the world around her by her court—her advisers.")

Kennedy, in response to Manchester's remarks, said: "It all finally comes down to the fact that Manchester gave his word and then broke it. No statement or interview or de-

scription of events however dramatic, can alter this plain fact. For that reason, I will have no further comment."

Goodwin said Manchester's account, as printed in Newsweek, "bears no relationship to the actual course of discussion and

controversy. Reading it, one is struck by the enormous difficulty of answering statements made in complete disregard of the truth.

"Almost every incident as described by Mr. Manchester in Newsweek is as fictional as some of

the most objectionable passages in his original manuscript." Goodwin did not mention the financial aspects that Manchester stressed in his interview.