

MANCHESTER DEFENDS BOOK'S 'INACCURACIES'

NEW YORK (UPI)—William Manchester, author of "The Death of a President," Sunday defended alleged inaccuracies in the book.

"Eyewitnesses are sometimes mistaken and photographs can lie," he said.

Manchester staved off other questions, saying: "Wait and read the book." He appeared on the television interview program, Meet the Press.

Manchester was questioned about the rupture of relations between him and the family of the late President John F. Kennedy over the book, which will be published April 7. It is now being serialized in Look magazine.

In the third Look installment, Manchester wrote that no Kennedy

aide was present at the swearing-in of President Johnson aboard Air Force One after the assassination. However, a photograph printed this week showed Presidential aide Kenneth O'Donnell standing beside Mrs. Kennedy.

"You'll have to wait and read the full account of the swearing in," Manchester said. "Eighteen pictures were taken and Kennedy was in one of them. I interviewed 33 people who were on the plane and used the majority opinion."

"Eyewitnesses are sometimes mistaken and it would be presumptuous for any historian to say he bats 1,000," Manchester said. "The photos I saw did not show him there and five others said they saw no Kennedy aide there." **END**