

WILLIAM MANCHESTER (*Portrait of a President, The City of Anger, The Long Gainer*): "My present task, you know . . . Mrs. Kennedy asked me to write the history of the assassination. Parts of it are sheer agony. I have been reliving those days for nearly four years and it doesn't get any easier. It's anguish. . . . Since February 4, 1964, I've been working 12 to 14 hours a day. Recently I did deliberately take three days off and it took me a week and a half to get back. I have a rigid sense of self-discipline. For example, recently I decided to lose weight and I set myself to 900 calories a day. I couldn't get off it. I went down to 140 pounds before I could force myself to stop. But everyone suffers problems of procrastination. You invent all sorts of rituals of busy work in which you persuade yourself you're working. . . . By spring I'll have a manuscript of 1,400 pages." **BOOK WEEK 2/6/66**

*Manchester is just living -  
4 years in 26 months!*