

Magazine

The sale of the serialization rights, which came immeasurably to complicate the dispute, was distressing to Jackie but completed with the knowledge, and even the assistance of Bobby Kennedy.

Shortly before the frenetic weekend when final bids were due on the now-valued property, with one editor poised by a phone in a hot room while a rival was sailing off Montauk, Bobby Kennedy gave encouragement to a Look editor and told him he was willing to help if he could.

But later, an editor says, "It became Jackie's show."

The Post was told that Jackie, after insisting that serialization be canceled entirely by Look, twice gave assurances, once through an emissary to Manchester, another time in a letter to Gardner Cowles of Look, that everything would be all right and she would not sue.

And Robert Kennedy told a friend in Washington there would be no lawsuit because "the family would look like book-burners."

But demands from Jacqueline for changes persisted and at the height of the controversy Manchester was invited to Hyannis Port for a weekend.

The Post was told that Manchester assured Jacqueline all the changes she was demanding would be made. By phone the galley proofs were ordered flown to Hyannis Port immediately.

The day passed pleasantly, talks were friendly, there was a late-afternoon sail and a swim—during which Manchester wondered if he was going to drown and if he did what would happen to the book.

Manchester left for home, stopping on the way at the airport where, The Post was told, he gave orders that the galleys be flown right back to New York without the Kennedys seeing them.