

EVE SOURCE WU 12/25/66

NEW YORK (AP) — A Look Magazine official said today he plans to try to dissuade the West German magazine Stern from publishing the original version of Look's serialization of "The Death of a President."

Meanwhile, it was announced that Mrs. John F. Kennedy, one of the principals in the book controversy, and her children, Caroline and John Jr., would leave Monday for a vacation in Antigua in the British West Indies. They plan to return on Jan. 5.

Mrs. Kennedy's planned departure is one day before a scheduled hearing on her court suit against William Manchester, author of the book, and Harper & Row, the publishers, seeking to block publication of the book in its present form.

Mrs. Kennedy reached an out-of-court settlement with Look Wednesday night after the magazine agreed to make requested deletions and modifications of passages she considered too personal. Sections of the serialization reportedly unfavorable to President Johnson will remain. The four-part Look series begins in the issue that reaches newsstands Jan. 10.

NEGOTIATIONS are continuing with Harper & Row in an effort to reach a similar agreement. The publishing firm plans to come out with the 300,000-word book next April.

Manchester and Harper & Row were scheduled to file papers in Manhattan supreme court today answering Mrs. Kennedy's charges. But the court granted an extension until next Tuesday.

A spokesman for Harper & Row said last night chances looked good that its dispute with Mrs. Kennedy would be settled out of court.

But Evan Thomas, editor of the book at Harper & Row, when told of the spokesman's comment, said only: "We can only hope."

The Look official, Joseph Wurzel, the magazine's syndicate manager, said he did not know exactly when he would be going to West Germany. He

said the matter was on the agenda of Look executives today.

WURZEL said he had been trying to reach Henri Nannen, editor in chief of Stern, by telephone, but that Nannen is apparently in Switzerland for the Christmas holidays.

Nannen said yesterday in Hamburg that Stern's rights were not affected by Look's agreement with Mrs. Kennedy to make changes in the original version. He said the contract between Stern and Look made no provision for any changes or cutting of the text.

Stern, a weekly magazine in West Germany with a circulation of about 2 million, said it had agreed to pay Look \$72,500 for the German-language rights to the serialization.

Nannen said in a statement that he did not think the Kennedy's could halt publication by court action because only that which is false or damaging to a person's honor can be blocked under German law.

Under the agreement with Mrs. Kennedy, however, Look must control the material that is serialized elsewhere.

Look has sold serialization rights in England, France, Italy and Germany.

In Taipei, Formosa, it was reported that the Chinese Nationalist government will probably block any attempt by Formosa's book pirates to issue an unauthorized reprint of Manchester's book.

Publishing sources in New York have reported that material deleted from Manchester's manuscript has been sent to Formosa for reproduction. But leading book pirating companies denied possession of such material.

Look Seeking 'Death' Editing In Germany