Hands of Kennedy Reported Shaking On Eve of Slaying

One particularly striking anecdote concerning President
Kennedy the night before his
assassination is related in the
first installment of William
Manchester's book, "The Death
of a President," in Look magazine. The magazine will be on
sale next Tuesday.

As Mr. Kennedy spoke at a dinner in Houston, Tex., on the night of Nov. 21, 1963, Jack Valenti—later an aide to President Johnson and now the president of the Motion Picture Association—was standing directly behind him but below the raised platform

mr. Valenti's eyes were in line with Mr. Kennedy's hands, Mr. Manchester writes. He saw them trembling so violently that the President seemed to be palsied.

No reason for this is given in the Look installment. The incident may be discussed at greater length, however, in the book version of the manuscript, which is to be published by Harper & Row.

As the Kennedys were preparing for bed in Fort Worth the night of Nov. 21, Mr. Manchester writes, the President told his tired wife to sleep late and skip his first appearance the next day.

The author does not explain that the early morning appearance, in a parking lot across from the Texas Hotel, was arranged to appease followers of Senator Ralph W. Yarborough a liberal. They believed Gov. John B. Connally Jr. was confining Mr. Kennedy to conservative audiences, and they insisted upon the parking lot speech so that anyone who wanted to could see and hear him.

Having instructed Mrs. Kennedy to sleep late, Mr. Kennedy appeared at the parking lot without her. Those who heard him remember that he drew a laugh from the sizable crowd standing in a drizzling rain when he said:

"Mrs. Kennedy is organizing herself. It takes loger, but of course she looks better than we do when she does it."