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4-22-67

## IDEA PREDATED MANCHESTER

# Jackie, JFK Photographer Planned Book After Dallas

By VERA GLASER

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WASHINGTON — Within weeks after the assassination of President Kennedy, his widow Jacqueline proposed that she write her version of the history of his administration by preparing the text for a book of photographs depicting his "Thousand Days" in the White House.

According to Major Cecil Stoughton of the U.S. Army Signal Corps, who served as official White House photographer during the Kennedy administration and the early months of the Johnson administration, Mrs. Kennedy suggested in December 1963 that she write captions for pictures selected from those he made of the Kennedys in the White House, at Hyannisport and Palm Beach.

**THE IDEA PRE-DATED** designation of William Manchester by the Kennedys to write their authorized version of the assassination, since published in the controversial book, "Death of a President." Manchester has written that he "promptly resigned from Wesleyan University in Middletown, Conn.," when Mrs. Kennedy asked him to write the book. "That was on Feb. 5, 1964."

Stoughton, now stationed in the Pentagon, said the picture book was "in the talking stage that December" and that they had spoken of it "on a couple of other occasions, but never pointedly to say yes or no."

The thousands of photographs he took now repose in the Kennedy archives. "I would imagine I could have access to them, but when you're in the service your soul belongs to Uncle," he said.

He speculated that the picture book project may have been postponed "because of the rash of other books that have come out to her dislike."

To do such a book on his own, Stoughton believes he probably would need Mrs. Kennedy's permission. At any rate, he prefers to collaborate in accordance with her original idea.

**STOUGHTON'S PICTURES** erupted into controversy recently when a magazine installment of the Manchester book reported that every male Kennedy aide except Dr. George Burkley had insultingly avoided being photographed with President Lyndon B. Johnson at his swearing-in on Air Force One in Dallas.

Pulled from the files, Stoughton's official photographs revealed that Kenneth O'Donnell, David Powers and Assistant Press Secretary Malcolm Kilduff had also flanked the President when he took his oath.

Stoughton, now 47, is rounding out his military career and will retire shortly. He has been approached by publishers to write a book but wants to avoid offending the Kennedys by revealing anything they want kept confidential.

"It puts me in an awkward position of not being able to do these things on my own," he said. "I'm not the type who wants to get involved in another hassle."

He said he last saw Mrs. Kennedy at Arlington Cemetery where he was invited to attend the ceremony at the new gravesite for the deceased President and described her as "very calm and composed."

As did other Kennedy aides, Stoughton stayed on in the Johnson administration but reportedly requested permission in mid-1965 to travel to England with the Kennedy family for the dedication of the monument at Runnymede.

**SHORTLY AFTER HE** returned he was switched from the White House to the Pentagon. Yoichi Okomoto of the U.S. Information Agency was given the job of "shadowing" the President and photographing him in every situation.

At one point, when a national magazine revealed how many photographs Okomoto had taken of President Johnson, he, too, was abruptly banished, but was brought back to the White House a few months later and still holds the job.