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JFK BOOKS SOLD OUT; MORE DUE

Manchester Makes 18 Corrections on Work

NEW YORK (AP) — William Manchester's "The Death of a President" sold out its first-run printing of 600,000 copies in less than two months, its publisher said Sunday, and a second run of 25,000 copies is planned.

Harper & Row of New York said Manchester, whose friendship with the family of the late John F. Kennedy turned into arguments and a court suit before his book was published, has made 18 corrections for the second printing.

Most deal with typographical errors and misspellings, the publisher said, but one important correction deletes the sentence which said no major Kennedy aides were present at the swearing-in of President Johnson in Dallas, Tex., on the afternoon of the Kennedy assassination.

The sentence "Ken O'Donnell withdrew to the corridor" also was taken out, a Harper spokesman said, and another was changed to indicate that two more aides, Mary Gallagher and Marty Underwood, watched O'Donnell, who stood beside Mrs. Kennedy in the cabin of Air Force One where the ceremony was performed.

Manchester's original version, carrying the sentence, "the photographer did not record the presence of a single major Kennedy aide," was disputed Feb. 9 by the Boston Globe, which reproduced previously unpublished pictures by White House photographer Cecil Stoughton showing O'Donnell, then a White House secretary, standing next to Mrs. Kennedy during the ceremony.

Commenting on the second printing, Manchester said, "I have considered all the suggestions submitted to me for changes, and in practically all cases the book as it was originally published is, in my opinion, the accurate version."

Denying published reports that sales were unusually slow, Harper & Row said the book's first printing was the largest in trade book history.

More than one million copies have been sold since the work was published April 7, the publisher said, including Book-of-the-Month Club issues printed by the club.