

As an evaluation of the book, as a reflection of its attitude toward and presentation of the fact of the assassination, note that the Daily Tele has not a single word of that, emphasizing the slander and slush, which its correspondent, not in a position to evaluate personally, took as gospel because Manchester said it, a not uncommon attitude in the US press.

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Kennedy book criticises FBI guard

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NEW YORK, Monday.

THE furore over William Manchester's book "Death of a President" mounted today with a report that the manuscript describes incompetence and neglect among Secret Service and FBI men protecting President Kennedy.

Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy is taking legal action to halt publication of the book by Harper and Row and its serialisation in Look magazine. She has described part of it as tasteless and distorted.

One publisher who has a copy of the manuscript said: "The book is full of the ineptitude of those who were supposed to protect the President. It shows that the FBI men were too busy looking for places in the parade."

Clash of views

The publisher, who refused to be named, told the *New York Times* that the manuscript described a clash of views between secret service men after the assassination. Some believed their first duty was to guard the new President, Mr. Johnson, while others felt their obligation was to the dead President.

Another dispute was said to have arisen over President Kennedy's place of burial. Most of the Kennedy family wanted him buried in his home state of Massachusetts. But Mr. McNamara, Secretary of Defence, insisted on Arlington National Cemetery, near Washington. Mrs. Kennedy then decided on Arlington and others bowed to her decision.

Fresh fuel was added to the fire today by *Time* magazine, which said the book depicted President Johnson as an unfeeling and boorish man. He said the book had caused apprehension and resentment in the White House.

A spokesman for Harper and Row, who hope to bring the book out on April 7, said today that efforts were continuing to "patch things up" with Mrs. Kennedy before the New York Supreme Court hears her application for an interim injunction on Dec. 27.

"No talk of compromise"

But Mrs. Kennedy's lawyer, Mr. Simon Rifkind, a former Federal judge, insisted that no one had talked to him about a compromise. "I don't know how Mr. Manchester escapes from the fact that he made a promise and now has not lived up to his part of the bargain," he said.

He was referring to an undertaking the author is said to have given Mrs. Kennedy and her brother-in-law, Senator Robert Kennedy, that nothing would be published without their approval.