

Man

Written like a carbon-copy of a writing text, embodying all the standard cliches, and parts of it read like a textbook rather than an exciting narrative. Some of the quotes are petrified wood:

"You were great today", he said

"How do you feel?"

"Oh, gosh, I'm exhausted." Only a Manchester and all his publicity and flackery could pull that dud off and get paid as much for these few poor words as many magazine writers get for an entire piece.

Don Ross, World Journal Tribune (12/24/66) "John Kennedy Was my president", he said. To suggest that I would dishonor his memory or my association with him is both cruel and unjust". On every occasion Manchester rings in some reference to his "association" with JFK, as though it had happened. They had spoken but a few times because the human president likes the flattering, uncritical biography Manchester was written of him. Ross says, "The book, reviewers said, was totally admiring and uncritical of the President Kennedy." This association was such that although Mrs. Kennedy read the book, she "never met Manchester until he accepted her invitation to write this book".

Ross also wrote a story published in the WJT 12/15/66, quoting Man's agent, Don Congdon (for whom all of this is worth about \$300,000 so far, but he is not a literary scavenger). Congdon said of the dispute that when Man tells his side of it "he won't do it emotionally/ ~~like~~ as Mrs. Kennedy." Uncritically, Ross several paragraphs later quotes Man as having said the day his contract was announced, in Sen RFK's office, "I still wake up at night and hear the stutter of ~~drums~~ the drumson Pennsylvania Ave. I still hear a silent hymn of grief within." ~~nemotional~~. Nice and natural. Stutter of drums. Silent hymn inside.

In this article also says of "Portrait of a President", "Indeed, one reviewer of the book said that Manchester had 'an almost totally admiring eye for Kennedy'".

What Man was to do under the Kennedy contract, also in Ross's 12/15, "Manchester had been selected by Mrs. Kennedy to write the story of her husband's assassination."

Interview in London Times (Francis Wyndham) is full of false emphasis on this pretended relationship with President Kennedy, such as "I had never met Mrs. Kennedy but the President had told her about our relationship..." (that of the tongue and the ass)

"I am appalled by the people - and this includes Professor Trevor Roper - who without making any investigations have proceeded to pass judgement about what happened in Dallas. I suspended judgement for a whole year (he says so himself so it must be true). I walked over the motorcade route seeking out witnesses (they must have lined the streets waiting where nothing happened to tell what they saw of the nothing that happened)... I know that research (so that's what he calls what he did!) is no substitute for knowledge and the sum of a million facts is not the truth. But if six people in a car saw something happen I concluded it had happened...eyewitness accounts ~~xxxx~~...are bound to be unreliable" (he does better, he dispenses with the witnesses, eye or other, and makes his up, like the instant insanity). In this quote the word understanding escapes Manchester.

"Ossie learned to shoot on a marine corps rifle range and I qualified as an expert marksman (no such grade or classification) on the same type of range....The furthest possible range for the shot was eighty-eight yards and a four-power scope reduces this to two yards-~~about xxxxxxx~~ (he could have used pop bottles and left no clues)... -and I sat on that perch for two hours, examining every angle (like shooting at Mars?) Those who say it was a difficult shot were either not on the site or know nothing

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about marksmanship." This must have been true of the best shots in the world who could not duplicate the feat under improved conditions.

After the business about the two yards above he said "With the gun I do see how he could have missed". Because "that" gun was about the world's worst, and Oswald one of the very poorest shots, Man is saying magic again, for the shot could not be duplicated, and could not be duplicated in considerably more time.

The ordinary people have no feelings about the late President and his assassination, not do those who have complained the official investigation is lacking. but for Man: "The ~~assassination~~ Anniversary of the assassination is always a bad time for me- for all of us who knew the President." How did JFK run the government without Man being seen in the White House more than a couple of times?

Little nastiness if not too small for Man. Of Mrs. Johnson and the White House: "The waiter came up and I asked for a Daiquiri - that was President Kennedy's drink. But they don't serve it any more. So I said I must be trotting. I was feeling blue..."

On the President TIME 12/20/67: "For a man who is supposed to adore the late President, Manchester did not hesitate to portray him in his last hours as harassed and irascible. J.F.K. is described as chewing out Brigadier General Godfrey McHugh for wrongly forecasting cool weather in Texas..."