

RUSK TO BE SWITCHED WITH McN

Democratic Row Took Kennedy to Dallas, Says Manchester

NEW YORK, Jan. 7 (UPI) — A quarrel among Texas Democrats took John F. Kennedy to Dallas against the advice of friends, and Lee Harvey Oswald's rejection by his wife was the coincidental trigger that led him to assassinate the President.

These factors emerge in new detail in the first installment of William Manchester's book, "The Death of a President," published in Look Magazine.

The magazine will appear on newsstands Tuesday.

Manchester's account of the 1963 tragedy, subject of a court battle by Mrs. John F. Kennedy, also disclosed that at the time of his death the President was considering replacing Secretary of State Dean Rusk, probably with Robert McNamara; was studying French to negotiate with Gen. Charles de Gaulle in his own language; and was planning a trip to Japan to restore American prestige lost when leftist riots prevented a visit by President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

OLD REPORT

The assertion about Mr. Rusk revived an old report by Washington columnists Stewart and Joseph Alsop, denied at the time by former members of the Kennedy Administration. Manchester said: "Aware that the President intended to be his own Foreign Minister, Rusk had leaned on him increasingly in other ways. . . . After the second inaugural, the Cabinet would almost certainly be headed by Secretary of State Robert McNamara."

"Bobby (Sen. Robert F. Kennedy) had tentatively decided that once Rusk had left, he would ask to be Assistant Secretary for inter-American affairs," Mr. Manchester reported.

The condensation of the first

four chapters of the book published in the current Look said Mr. Kennedy felt the trip to Dallas was an "imposition" because Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson ought to have been able to resolve the "petty dispute" between Texas politicians himself.

Mr. Manchester reported that

heated discussions of the matter with Mr. Johnson marred the President's last night alive.

NEAR CRAZED

At almost the same hour on Nov. 21, 1963, Mrs. Oswald was toying with the emotions of her near-crazed husband in the home of Mrs. Ruth Paine in Irving, Tex., where she had taken refuge from her unhappy marriage.

Mr. Manchester maintained she drove Oswald over the brink of insanity that evening by rejecting the gift of a washing machine, saying she "had found asylum here with Ruth" and "could manage without him."

Look's serialization was published with an editor's note stating that neither Mrs. Kennedy nor Robert Kennedy "has in any way approved or endorsed" the material in the articles. Mrs. Kennedy brought suit Dec. 16 to prevent Mr. Manchester, Look and the publishing firm of Harper & Row from publishing the book without her authorization. A settlement was reached with Look, involving 60,000-word serialization.

MINOR

A magazine spokesman said, "only one minor modification was made in the first installment, strictly relating to Mrs. Kennedy's personal feelings and in no way bearing on political and historical events."

Informed sources said the

modification involved an intimate letter the former First Lady wrote her husband from Greece during a vacation a month before the assassination. The serialization says only that she told him "how much she missed him" in the letter.

The Manchester account dealt frankly, however, with her reactions to Texas Gov. John B. Connally Jr., who accompanied the Kennedys on their appearances in San Antonio, Houston, Ft. Worth and Dallas, where Gov. Connally was wounded by Mr. Kennedy's assassin. It said she told her husband, "I can't stand him all day. He's just one of those men . . . I just can't bear his sitting there saying all these great things about himself. And he seems to be needing you all day."

DISLIKE

"You mustn't say you'll dislike him, Jackie," the President is quoted as replying. "You'll begin thinking it, and it will prejudice how you act toward him . . . what he was really saying in the car was that he's going to run ahead of me in Texas. Well, that's all right. Let him . . ."

Mr. Manchester said Mr. Kennedy agreed to go to Texas to cloak a rift between Gov. Connally, a conservative, and Sen. Ralph Yarborough, a liberal, with a show of solidarity. Without a truce, Mr. Kennedy and Mr. Johnson felt, "the national ticket wouldn't stand a chance there next fall in the 1964 elections," the book said. It added that Mr. Kennedy had

made up his mind not to alienate Gov. Connally while standing by Sen. Yarborough.

FORWARD

Mr. Kennedy went to Texas forwarned of possible trouble by Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey of Minnesota, House Whip Hale Boggs of Louisiana, UN Ambassador Adlai E. Stevenson, Sen. J. William Fulbright of Arkansas, and Texas Democratic National Committeeman Byron Skelton. Mr. Skelton felt so strongly he flew to Washington to try to prevent the visit, but to no avail. The book said these men feared embarrassment to the President, not assassination.

Manchester described Mr. Kennedy's attitude as "the thought that an American President would not go into any American city was simply unacceptable."

But, the author said, Mr. Kennedy had "committed the ultimate outrage" by challenging Dallas' "tribal instincts" rooted in the old frontier and violently opposed to Mr. Kennedy's new frontier of "diversity, tolerance and non-conformity."

LOWER

"To be sure, the Dallas assassin did not belong to a conventional criminal conspiracy," Mr. Manchester wrote. "Le Harvey Oswald was called a loner . . . yet no man lives in a void. His very act is conditioned by his time and his society. . . there was something in Dallas unrelated to conventional politics—a disease of the spirit, a shrill hysterical note suggestive of a deeply troubled society."

The political maneuvering which greeted Mr. Kennedy in Texas was illustrated by Gov. Connally's attempts to make Sen. Yarborough ride in Mr. Johnson's limousine in the motorcade, the book said.

Sen. Yarborough took the counsel of his liberal advisers, who warned of a Connally-Johnson political plot, and rode elsewhere.

Mr. Manchester said the press corps drew the obvious conclusion and Johnson "was losing face" as a result of the snub.

The book said the Yarborough matter was subject to loud discussion in a Houston hotel room after the first day of the Texas visit, but Mr. Manchester reported that precisely what



FREE — Judith Coplon, a Justice Department employe in 1949 when she was arrested in a spy case, has been cleared on the Government's books. Miss Coplon, who is now married, has four children and lives in Brooklyn, was convicted twice of spying for the Russians, but both times the conviction was thrown out on appeal. The Justice Department finally dropped the charges.

was said is unknown.

"Mrs. Kennedy had withdrawn into the next room," he wrote.

"Altho she was aware of raised voices in the background, she was concentrating on her Spanish speech. Caterers and hotel servants, who were in and out, heard Yarborough's name mentioned several times. Johnson controlled his celebrated temper in his chief's presence but in the words of one man outside, 'he left that suite like a pistol.' Max Peck, watching him shoot into the

corridor, long legs pumping, thought he looked furious.

LBJ IN TROUBLE

"What was that all about?" Jacqueline Kennedy asked, coming in after the Vice President had left. 'He sounded mad.' The President look amused. 'That's just Lyndon . . . he said. 'But he's in trouble.'"

Mr. Manchester said Mr. Johnson's own account of the incident 19 months later was that it was "definitely not a disagreement" . . . but then added "there was an active discussion" in which he and Mr. Kennedy "were in substantial disagreement." The author did not explain the contradiction, adding only that Mr. Johnson "did not define the nature of the discussion."

The book contains such footnotes to history as Mr. Kennedy's displeasure with his Air Force aide, Brig. Gen. Godfrey M. Hugh, whose predictions on cold weather in Texas proved wrong after Mrs. Kennedy had packed a woolen wardrobe.

The President was pictured as greatly pleased by his wife's enthusiasm over sharing the "campaign" trip and "he wanted her to enjoy the trip so she would make others."