And as personal relations and evaluations altered under the stresses, Manchester, who not long before had offered to write speeches for Bobby Kennedy, at one time simply refused to see Kennedy at the Berkshire Hotel suite maintained by Look. Chagrined and frustrated, Bobby went around the corner, sat on the lobby stairs at the Waldorf Astoria and blurted: "Well, what do we do now?"

The use to be made of 10 hours of tape, during which Jackie Kennedy revealed her intimate recollections, will be discussed in detail in this series and is described by a friend of both sides as the keystone in the complex dispute.

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Manchester is pictured as knowing well that his lengthy interview with the President's widow, so soon after the tragedy, was intended only "for the 21st Century"—part of an extensive oral history program of the Kennedy years.

Yet the very fact that Arthur Schlesinger Jr., who conducted the early questioning of Mrs. Kennedy, turned over to Manchester the questioning about the assassination made it implicit to the author that he could draw on the tapes for his book.

But he did not tell Jacqueline, one participant in the controversy says, that he was using the material she believed was being sealed for future historians.