

# Kennedy Book Publishers Say Talks Continue

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**Manchester Denies  
Breach of Faith,  
Defends Publication**

NEW YORK (AP) — Spokesmen for two publishers involved in the dispute with the Kennedy family over publication of the book, "The Death of a President," said today that new efforts are being made to settle the matter out of court.

The disclosure followed a statement by William Man-

The Text of William Manchester's  
Statement. Page A-2

chester, author of the book, denying that he had broken faith with Mrs. John F. Kennedy or that he had taken advantage of her confidence in him. The book is about the assassination of President Kennedy.

"There are continuing efforts to patch things up," said a spokesman for Harper & Row, Publishers Inc., which plans to bring out the 300,000-word book in April.

"Every effort will be made to work things out," the spokesman said.

Asked if the aim might be to reach some understanding on the separation of a deeply personal matter, which Mrs. Kennedy seeks to keep out of the book, from what is considered history, the spokesman replied: "I think that is pretty accurate."

"There's a Telephone."

A spokesman for Look magazine, which plans a four-part, 80,000 word serialization of the book starting with the Jan. 10

issue, said:

"Discussions between the lawyers representing the two sides in the dispute are continuing. They are not necessarily meetings per se. There's a telephone, you know."

Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, D-N.Y., could not be immediately reached for comment on Manchester's first public statement in the dispute since Mrs. Kennedy filed a petition in Manhattan Supreme Court last Friday to block publication. He was at the Sun Valley, Idaho, ski resort for a Christmas vacation.

In finally speaking out on the controversy, Manchester issued a statement saying:

"It has been said that my work is being published prematurely and that magazine serialization was not contemplated by the Kennedy family. This is not so. In the summer of 1966, authorization was given by the family for publication of the book in early 1967, to be preceded by serialization in Look magazine.

"It has been said that I have broken faith with Mrs. Kennedy: that I took advantage of her confidence in me and that I recorded too faithfully her words and emotions. I do not believe this to be so.

"My President"

"Mrs. Kennedy gave me 10 hours of interviews: I did not, indeed could not, have conducted these interviews without her voluntary cooperation. Mrs. Kennedy herself did not ask to see the manuscript and still hasn't. If she had, I would, of course, have given it to her.

"John Kennedy was my president. To suggest that I would dishonor his memory or my as-

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