

What Look Says On JFK & Dallas

By JERRY LIPSON

Chicago Daily News Service

Chicago, Jan. 7—The cloak of security Look Magazine has wrapped around its copyrighted serialization of William Manchester's book, "The Death of a President" is unravelling as publication nears.

The first installment of the book that has raised a nationwide furor is due in Look's issue dated Jan. 24 due to hit newstands Tuesday.

The magazine was printed in Chicago under tight secrecy unusual for a print shop. However copies are starting to turn up in public hands.

The first installment confirms many of the incidents hinted during the legal controversy between the publishers and the Kennedy family over Manchester's recounting of the November, 1963, trip to Texas

during which President John F. Kennedy was assassinated.

Some of these highlights are:

President Kennedy's reluctance to go to Texas, and pleas by several top Democrats, including Sen. J. William Fulbright that he stay out of Dallas.

Kennedy's desire for his wife

Jacqueline to outdo Texas women and "show these Texans what good taste really is" and his fury after weather forecasts, on which the First Lady's wardrobe were based, proved wrong.

An argument between Kennedy and Vice President Johnson in a Fort Worth hotel room the night before the murder.

Why Sen. Ralph Yarborough (D-Tex), refused to ride with Johnson in the Presidential motorcades.

How the trade mart in Dallas was chosen for a luncheon Nov. 23, 1963, and its relation to the route of the motorcade past the Texas School Book depository. Lee Harvey Oswald allegedly shot Kennedy from a window of the book depository.

Look's first installment covers the first four chapters of the book and takes the readers up to the night of Thursday, Nov. 22.

Most of the personal anecdotes in Manchester's text object to by the Kennedys cover events after the assassination.

While not explicitly critical of Johnson, Manchester depicts the then Vice President more as an errand boy than a highly sensitive national political leader.

An entire chapter is devoted to Lee Harvey Oswald, and Manchester clearly believes Oswald was the lone assassin and that he was insane when he pulled the trigger.

Manchester indicates that Kennedy had no taste for going to Texas to solve a squabble between conservative and liberal democrats.

"The prospect was unappetizing and vexing to the Chief Executive," Manchester writes "It appeared to him that Mr. Johnson ought to be able to resolve

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this petty dispute himself."

But, he adds, "Mr. Johnson's problems were authentic. Politically he had become a cipher because he lacked a power base."

The one consoling factor for Kennedy was that his wife was going along, and the President "was determined that his wife should look her best in Texas."

Manchester quotes the President as saying to his wife "there are going to be all these rich Republican women at that lunch, wearing mink coats and diamond bracelets. Be simple, show these Texans what good taste really is."

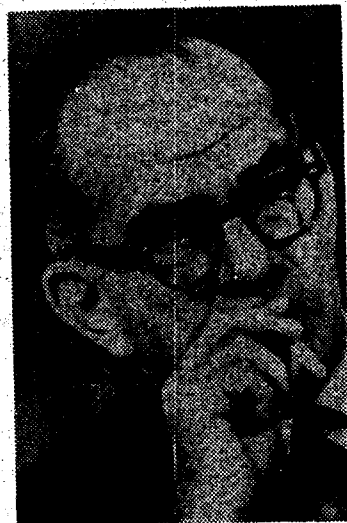
Kennedy supervised the selection of her wardrobe, according to Manchester, for the first time in their marriage, with a careful eye on weather forecasts filtered through an aide, Brig. Gen. Godfrey McHugh. The forecast was for cool weather.

Kennedy reacted angrily when, on the morning of departure, he learned the weather in Texas was hot.

"Hot?" Kennedy cried in dismay. He lunged for his telephone and dialed his wife's maid's extension," Manchester writes.

"Pack some cool dresses," he said urgently.

But it was too late. The dresses already were on the



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helicopter that would carry the presidential party from the White House to Andrews Air Force base.

The angry President telephoned McHugh. The general "had blundered. He had promised cool weather. He had mobilized every veteran meteorologist in the government" but the forecasts hadn't worked out.

"Kennedy's blood was up. He dialed McHugh's extension, chewed him out, and summoned (Kenneth) O'Donnell.

Kennedy was urged not to make the trip by top Democrats, including Hubert Humphrey, who was then Senate Majority Whip, House Whip Hale Boggs (D-La.) Sen. Fulbright, and Byron Skelton, Texas Democratic National Committeeman.

As early as Nov. 4, Skelton, fearful of an atmosphere in Dallas "highly charged by inflammatory statement" against the President, wrote Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, then Attorney General.

"Frankly," he wrote the attorney general, he would "feel bet-

ter if the president's itinerary did not include Dallas."

Humphrey and Boggs voiced their concern over possible trouble at a legislative breakfast Wednesday morning, a day before the President left.

But, says Manchester, "perhaps the most clearcut warning to the president himself came from Sen. J. William Fulbright of Arkansas."

"Because of the city's history of political violence, he deeply distrusted it. He was afraid—physically afraid—and he readily

admitted it.

"On Oct 3, the day before Kennedy's final planning conference with Connally, Fulbright pleaded with the president to bypass Dallas:

"Dallas is a very dangerous place. I wouldn't go there," and, "don't you go."

During the trip, Kennedy had his hands full preserving a semblance of unity between Gov. Connally, the conservative, and Sen. Yarborough, the liberal.

Johnson was part of the problem, too, Manchester notes.

Connally, as host governor, had supervised most of the arrangements. And Yarborough was given a back seat in the activities.

Yarborough was assigned to ride with Johnson in the motorcades, while Connally sat with the president, and the Texas liberal considered this a back-handed slap.

He refused to ride with the vice president, and this led to a zlow-up between Kennedy and Johnson in the president's suite in Fort Worth's Rice hotel, the night before the assassination.

Precisely what was said is unknown," Manchester writes.

Manchester quotes Johnson as recollecting 19 months later that "there definitely was not a disagreement . . . there was an active discussion' in which the two

"were in substantial agreement."

"Johnson controlled his celebrated temper in his chief's presence, but in the words of one man on duty outside, 'he left that suite like a pistol.'"

When Mrs. Kennedy, who was in another room at the time, later asked about the fuss, Manchester quotes the chief executive as replying, "That's just Lyndon . . . but he's in trouble."

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Sorensen Backs Jackie on Book

Durham, N.C., Jan. 7. (AP)—Theodore C. Sorensen, former aide and close friend of President Kennedy, says Jacqueline Kennedy has strong grounds for court action in the controversy over publication of "The Death of a President." But he expressed hope the issue will be settled without a trial.

Sorensen is a member of the law firm representing Mrs. Kennedy in a dispute with author William Manchester and the publishing firm of Harper & Row.

"I'm biased and reticent on the subject," Sorensen said here. He said he has not read the book, which deals with the Kennedy assassination.