

'Truce' Reached in Book Battle

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In a surprise move, Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy has temporarily agreed not to push her suit to block pub-

lication of the controversial book, "The Death of a President."

The temporary truce in the battle came late yesterday—only eight hours after Harper & Row, publishers of

the book, unexpectedly asked for and was granted a court hearing tomorrow on Mrs. Kennedy's motion for an injunction.

But, in a joint statement, Mrs. Kennedy and the publishers stated that: "Both parties have agreed to request a trial date for mid-January in the event that no agreement is reached."

The latest move was seen as an effort to ease pressure on Mrs. Kennedy and Harper & Row, thus giving their representatives more time to reach an out of court settlement.

"I'm not going to guarantee it, but much points to a resolution," a Kennedy family spokesman said last night. "There has been progress

While Mrs. John F. Kennedy fights to keep private her personal feelings about the events in Dallas, there remains only one public record of her account of what she went through — her testimony before the Warren Commission. Read the full text on Page 17.

and I think things could be resolved noiselessly and soon."

In their statement, the parties cited the "steady progress toward an amicable

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settlement" made by their representatives.

But, the statement continued, "the unfortunate illness of the author, William Manchester, has made it necessary to continue these discussions over a longer period than was anticipated.

PUBLICATION DELAY

The sole object of this arrangement is to give all parties, including the author, sufficient time for thorough discussions."

As part of the arrangement, Harper & Row volun-

tarily agreed to hold off publication of the 300,000-word book until April 1.

Manchester was reported cheered by the news of the agreement, according to a spokesman for the Middlesex Memorial Hospital in Middletown, Conn., where the 44-year-old author is recuperating from pneumonia.

Dr. Asher L. Baker, one of three doctors who are treating Manchester, said that Manchester is under "supportive" psychiatric treatment for depression.

While emphasizing that Manchester is "perfectly rational and in good spirits," Dr. Baker, a psychiatrist, said that he had prescribed antidepressant and tranquilizing drugs to prevent a recurrence of the depression that Manchester suffered shortly after his return from England earlier this month.

Manchester was rushed to the hospital Sunday night after he came down with severe chills and fever. Yesterday doctors said he was no

longer in critical condition and that he was responding well to treatment.

In her suit to halt publication, Mrs. Kennedy charged that Manchester had invaded her privacy and had broken a contract agreement that

gave her final approval of the manuscript.

Specifically, Mrs. Kennedy objected to certain passages in the book that she claimed were highly personal and of

little historical interest. Her argument with Harper & Row hinges on her request to delete the passages.

Mrs. Kennedy vacationing with her children on the

British West Indian island of Antigua, was unavailable for comment on the latest developments with Harper & Row. She is due to return here Jan. 5.