

House Panel Told

al the rockets in massive con-
n, crete and steel blocks called
on "vaults." Compression of the
nd rockets, the panel said, may
have increased their volatility.
d,
al "A potential hazard from a
as single rocket explosion may
of have been substantially in-

creased by its encasement in
the vault," the committee
concluded. "The confinement
could lead to a high order ex-
plosion."
"This would create an intol-
erable downwind hazard to the
population in the area," the
committee added.

Mansfield Says JFK Planned To Quit Viet

WASHINGTON (UPI) —
Senate Democratic Leader
Mike Mansfield said yesterday
that he felt President John F.
Kennedy would have carried
out his plan to pull all U.S.
troops out of South Vietnam in
1965 if he had lived and been
re-elected.

"He had definitely and with-
out question made that deci-
sion," Mansfield told reporters
while confirming an account
of Kennedy's intentions writ-
ten by Kenneth P. O'Donnell,
a key White House aide to the
late president and his succes-
sor, Lyndon B. Johnson.

THE MONTANA DEMO-
CRAT, recalling that the pres-
ident told him of his plan in
1963 after a White House meet-
ing with congressional lead-
ers, said: "I think Kennedy
would have followed through"
because he had concluded the
price of continued American
military involvement was too
great.

"There is no doubt that he
had shifted definitely and un-
equivocally on Vietnam but he
never had the chance to put
the plan into effect," Mans-
field said.

O'Donnell, in an article in
the current issue of Life
Magazine based on material
from a forthcoming book, said
Kennedy wanted to pull out all
American forces in 1963, then
totaling 16,300 and classified
as advisers.

He said Kennedy decided to
wait, however, until 1965 to
avoid charges of "Communist
appeasement" that he feared
could cost him the 1964 presi-
dential election.

O'DONNELL ALSO reported
that when former Defense Sec-
retary Robert S. McNamara
predicted in October, 1963,
that all U.S. soldiers would be

Surprised

MAMARONECK, N.Y.
(UPI) — Richard Moss said
Monday he was surprised to
find that thieves had dis-
mantled his 15-foot boat, First
Base, during the weekend and
left it partially submerged in
Long Island Sound. "That's
odd," said Moss, attorney for
the major league baseball
players association. "In all
my years in baseball I was
told you can't steal first
base."



Sen. Mansfield
backs author

out of Vietnam by the end of
1965, he was acting at Ken-
edy's specific direction.

By the end of 1964 — a year
after Kennedy's assassination
— the number of U.S. troops
in Vietnam had risen to about
24,000 and Senate Republican
Leader Hugh Scott questioned
yesterday whether President
Johnson knew of Kennedy's
plan.

If he did, asked Scott, why
didn't he carry it out instead
of opting for increased in-
volvement in the war?

Mansfield said he never told
Johnson what Kennedy had
said to him because he consid-
ered their discussion a matter
of executive privilege. The
Senate Democratic leader said
he did not know whether any-
one else ever told Johnson.

RADIOS!

*Johnson should
have went to Honolulu
with the rest of the
boys. where they
were all told.*