

MANCH

14 DEC 1966

EA45

(480)

AMS BUDGET

NIGHT LEAD KENNEDY BOOK

BY RELMAN MORIN

NEW YORK, DEC. 14 (AP)--MRS. JOHN F. KENNEDY, SAYING "I AM SHOCKED" BY PASSAGES IN THE BOOK, "DEATH OF A PRESIDENT," DISCLOSED TODAY THAT SHE WILL SEEK A COURT INJUNCTION TO HALT ITS PUBLICATION.

SHE SAID THE BOOK, BY WILLIAM MANCHESTER, IS "TASTELESS AND DISTORTED."

IT DEALS WITH THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY AND THE EVENTS IN THE DAYS IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE TRAGEDY.

MRS. KENNEDY'S LAWYERS SAID THEY EXPECTED TO FILE A COMPLAINT WITHIN 48 TO 72 HOURS ASKING FOR A TEMPORARY INJUNCTION.

HARPER AND ROW, THE BOOK'S PUBLISHERS, SAID THEY HAD MADE FOUR SETS OF "SUBSTANTIAL" REVISIONS TO THE BOOK AT THE REQUEST OF MRS. KENNEDY AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY.

AFTER THE FIRST SERIES, THE FIRM SAID IN A STATEMENT, THE KENNEDYS OFFICIALLY NOTIFIED THEM "MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY WILL PLACE NO OBSTACLE IN THE WAY OF PUBLICATION."

THE OTHER THREE SETS OF CHANGES WERE MADE AFTER THIS, HARPER AND ROW ADDED.

"HARPER AND ROW HAS DONE ITS UTMOST TO COMPLY WITH THE WISHES OF THE KENNEDY FAMILY AND DEEPLY REGRETS THEIR PRESENT ATTITUDE," THE STATEMENT SAID.

MRS. KENNEDY ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

"LOOK MAGAZINE, HARPER & ROW, AND MR. WILLIAM MANCHESTER HAVE REPEATEDLY MADE CLEAR THAT ONLY LEGAL ACTION CAN ALTER THEIR INSISTENCE UPON PUBLISHING AT THIS TIME--WITHOUT REGARD TO ACCEPTED STANDARDS OF PROPRIETY AND GOOD FAITH, AND IN SPECIFIC VIOLATION OF MY WISHES, MY CONTRACT WITH MR. MANCHESTER, AND THE DIGNITY AND PRIVACY WHICH MY CHILDREN AND I HAVE STRIVEN WITH DIFFICULTY TO RETAIN--A PREMATURE ACCOUNT OF THE EVENTS OF NOVEMBER 1963 THAT IS IN PART BOTH TASTELESS AND DISTORTED.

"ITS INACCURATE AND UNFAIR REFERENCES TO OTHER INDIVIDUALS, IN CONTRAST WITH ITS GENEROUS REFERENCES TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE KENNEDY FAMILY, ARE PERHAPS BEYOND MY PREVENTION; BUT TO EXPOSE TO ALL THE WORLD AT THIS TIME ALL THE PRIVATE GRIEF, PERSONAL THOUGHTS AND PAINFUL REACTIONS WHICH MY CHILDREN AND I ENDURED IN THOSE TERRIBLE DAYS DOES NOT SEEM TO ME TO BE ESSENTIAL TO ANY CURRENT HISTORICAL RECORD.

"I AM SHOCKED THAT MR. MANCHESTER WOULD EXPLOIT THE EMOTIONAL STATE IN WHICH I RECOUNTED MY RECOLLECTIONS TO HIM EARLY IN 1964 AND I AM EQUALLY SHOCKED THAT REPUTABLE PUBLISHERS WOULD TAKE COMMERCIAL ADVANTAGE OF HIS FAILURE TO KEEP HIS WORD. TO THE AUTHOR AND PUBLISHERS, THIS BOOK WILL BE ONLY ANOTHER TRANSIENT CHAPTER IN THEIR WORK; BUT MY CHILDREN AND I WILL HAVE TO LIVE WITH IT FOR THE REST OF OUR LIVES. AS HORRIBLE AS A TRIAL WILL BE, IT NOW SEEMS CLEAR THAT MY ONLY REDRESS IS TO ASK THE COURTS TO ENFORCE MY RIGHTS AND POSTPONE PUBLICATION UNTIL THE MINIMUM LIMITS OF MY FAMILY'S PRIVACY CAN BE PROTECTED."

FORMER FEDERAL JUDGE SIMON RIFKIND, REPRESENTING MRS. KENNEDY, SAID SUMMONSES WERE SERVED YESTERDAY ON HARPER & ROW, BOOK PUBLISHERS, AND COWLES COMMUNICATIONS, INC., PUBLISHERS OF LOOK MAGAZINE.

WILLIAM ATTWOOD, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF LOOK, CONFIRMED THAT THE SUMMONS HAD BEEN SERVED. BUT HE SAID THE MAGAZINE IS PROCEEDING WITH PLANS TO BEGIN SERIALIZING MANCHESTER'S BOOK JAN. 10. HARPER & ROW SCHEDULED PUBLICATION OF THE BOOK IN APRIL.

EA47

"THE PRESSES ARE ALREADY ROLLING," ATTWOOD SAID, "WE'RE PUBLISHING. I DON'T SEE ANY WAY IT CAN BE STOPPED."

LOOK REPORTEDLY PAID MANCHESTER \$650,000 FOR SERIALIZATION RIGHTS. MANCHESTER, THE AUTHOR, RETURNED FROM EUROPE YESTERDAY AND SAID HE WAS "NOT INFORMED ON WHAT IS HAPPENING" BUT WAS "PUZZLED BY THE DISTURBANCE."

A SOURCE CLOSE TO THE KENNEDY FAMILY SAID TODAY THE PENDING LAW SUIT IS BASED ON TWO CONTENTIONS:

1. THAT MRS. KENNEDY AND SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY, D-N.Y., HAVE NOT GIVEN APPROVAL TO PUBLICATION OF MANCHESTER'S BOOK.
2. IT CONSTITUTES AN INVASION OF PRIVACY AND A BREACH OF A SOLEMN AGREEMENT THAT MATTERS RELATING TO MRS. KENNEDY WOULD NOT BE PUBLISHED WITHOUT HER APPROVAL.

(MORE)

DJ-PS410PES

EA48 (290)

NEW YORK--FIRST ADD NL KENNEDY BOOK (A45) X X X APPROVAL.

THE INFORMANT SAID A DOCUMENT, ENTITLED "MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN ROBERT F. KENNEDY AND WILLIAM MANCHESTER," SET FORTH THE TERMS UNDER WHICH MANCHESTER WOULD WRITE THE BOOK AND WHEN AND BY WHOM IT WOULD BE PUBLISHED.

THE DOCUMENT IS DATED MARCH 26, 1964.

MANCHESTER WAS CHOSEN BY MRS. KENNEDY TO RECORD THE EVENTS OF THE ASSASSINATION IN DALLAS, NOV. 22, 1963, "IN THE INTEREST OF ACCURACY."

THE "MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING" CONTAINS 11 CLAUSES. THE KEY STIPULATIONS, THE SOURCE SAID, STATES:

"THE COMPLETED MANUSCRIPT SHALL BE REVIEWED BY MRS. JOHN F. KENNEDY AND ROBERT F. KENNEDY AND THE TEXT SHALL NOT BE PUBLISHED UNLESS AND UNTIL APPROVED BY THEM."

ANOTHER READS, "THE BOOK MAY NOT BE PUBLISHED BEFORE NOV. 22, 1968 UNLESS MRS. KENNEDY DESIGNATES A PRIOR DATE, AND SHALL BE PUBLISHED AT SUCH A DATE THEREAFTER AS SHALL BE MUTUALLY AGREEABLE TO THE CONTRACTING PARTIES."

ASSOCIATES OF THE KENNEDYS DID NOT DISCLOSE THE IDENTITY OF THE PERSONS REFERRED TO IN MRS. KENNEDY'S STATEMENT AS TARGETS OF "INACCURATE AND UNFAIR REFERENCES" IN MANCHESTER'S BOOK. NOR WOULD THEY DISCUSS DETAILS OF WHAT A SOURCE SAID WERE "ATTACKS ON VARIOUS INDIVIDUALS."

HE SAID THIS WAS THE CHAIN OF EVENTS THAT LED TO THE PENDING LAWSUIT:

MANCHESTER HAD TWO INTERVIEWS WITH MRS. KENNEDY EARLY IN 1964.

EA49

"SHE WAS IN A STATE OF GRIEF, OF COURSE," THE SOURCE SAID. "SHE WAS NOT SELF-CENSORING, BUT RELYING ON HIS AGREEMENT NOT TO PUBLISH ANYTHING THAT WOULD BE OFFENSIVE TO HER.

"THE PASSAGES ARE OFFENSIVE IN THAT THEY DELINEATE HER FEELINGS DURING THAT PERIOD. NO WOMAN WOULD WANT THESE THINGS DISCLOSED TO THE WORLD."

HE SAID NEITHER MRS. KENNEDY NOR SEN. ROBERT KENNEDY READ THE BOOK.

HOWEVER, WHEN IT WAS FINISHED EXCEPT FOR FINAL EDITING, HE CONTINUED, RICHARD GOODWIN, FORMER SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO PRESIDENT KENNEDY, AND MRS. PAMELA TIMMINS, MRS. KENNEDY'S SECRETARY, READ THE MANUSCRIPT.

PS419PES

(230)

NEW YORK--2ND ADD NL KENNEDY BOOK (A49) X X X THE MANUSCRIPT.

GOODWIN SAID WHEN REACHED FOR COMMENT ON THIS: "I FOUND IT VERY PAINFUL TO READ."

THE SOURCE SAID MRS. TIMMINS AND GOODWIN THEN DISCUSSED CERTAIN PASSAGES OF THE BOOK WITH MRS. KENNEDY AND SEN. KENNEDY, APPRISING THEM OF SOME OF THE CONTENTS.

THEREAFTER, HE SAID, EFFORTS WERE UNDERTAKEN TO REVISE OR DELETE PORTIONS OF THE BOOK THE KENNEDYS CONSIDER "OFFENSIVE." HE SAID THERE WERE THREE MEETINGS WITH MANCHESTER. THE FAMILY "WENT TO GREAT LENGTHS TO AVOID A LAWSUIT," THE SOURCE ADDED.

HOWEVER, HE CONTINUED, WHEN NO ASSURANCES WERE GIVEN THAT REVISIONS DEEMED NECESSARY BY THE KENNEDYS WOULD BE MADE, "THE ONLY RECOURSE FOR MRS. KENNEDY WAS TO ASSERT HER RIGHTS IN COURT."

IN THE ORIGINAL AGREEMENT, DATE OF PUBLICATION WAS FIXED FOR FIVE YEARS AFTER THE ASSASSINATION, WHICH WOULD HAVE BEEN NOV. 22, 1963. THUS, IT WOULD HAVE COME OUT SHORTLY AFTER THE 1968 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

THEREAFTER, IT IS WIDELY ASSUMED, KENNEDY WILL BE A CANDIDATE FOR THE PRESIDENCY IN 1972, THOUGH THE SENATOR HAS NOT SAID SO HIMSELF.

THE SOURCE SAID THAT, SINCE THE BOOK CONTAINS NUMEROUS FAVORABLE REFERENCES TO THE SENATOR, IT "WOULD BE REGARDED AS A CAMPAIGN DOCUMENT" SUPPORTING HIS CANDIDACY. HEREFOR, THE 1967 DATE WAS DECIDED UPON, HE SAID.

REFERRING TO REPORTS THAT THE KENNEDYS WERE ATTEMPTING TO STOP PUBLICATION OF THE BOOK BECAUSE THEY FELT IT MIGHT DAMAGE HIS POLITICAL FUTURE, THE INFORMANT SAID: "THERE IS NOTHING IN IT THAT REFLECTS ON BOB IN ANY WAY, OR COULD POSSIBLY DAMAGE HIM POLITICALLY."

MANCHESTER SAID TODAY, "I HAVE CONFIDENCE IN THE BOOK. I THINK IT WILL STAND ON ITS OWN. I ASK ONLY THAT PEOPLE GIVE IT A CHANCE."

DY459PES

EA106 (280)

NEW YORK--3RD ADD NL KENNEDY BOOK (A58) XXX A CHANCE."

ATTWOOD ISSUED A STATEMENT TONIGHT SAYING CANCELLATION OF THE SCHEDULED PUBLICATION NOW WOULD AMOUNT TO "CENSORSHIP OF HISTORY." HE SAID LOOK INTENDED TO GO AHEAD.

THE STATEMENT ADDED:

"TO KEEP THE RECORD STRAIGHT, THE PUBLIC SHOULD KNOW THAT MRS. KENNEDY ASKED GARDNER COWLES, EDITORIAL CHAIRMAN OF COWLES COMMUNICATIONS, INC., LAST AUGUST TO POSTPONE THE START OF THE SERIALIZATION IN LOOK SO THAT THE SERIALIZATION WOULD NOT BE OCCURRING DURING THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE ASSASSINATION.

"THAT IS THE TIME OF YEAR THAT SHE SAID WAS MOST DIFFICULT FOR HER. LOOK AGREED TO A POSTPONEMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH HER WISHES.

"TWO WEEKS LATER, SHE REQUESTED THAT LOOK'S SERIALIZATION BE REDUCED FROM THE SEVEN INSTALLMENTS ORIGINALLY CONTEMPLATED. LOOK AGREED TO THIS SECOND REQUEST IN DEFERENCE TO HER FEELINGS AND RESCHEDULED THE SERIALIZATION TO FOUR INSTALLMENTS.

"IN LATE SEPTEMBER, MRS. KENNEDY ASKED LOOK TO SEE HER REPRESENTATIVE WHO WANTED TO SUGGEST SEVERAL CHANGES IN CERTAIN EPISODES IN THE MANUSCRIPT WHICH PARTICULARLY DISTRESSED HER. AFTER SEVERAL CONFERENCES, LOOK SENT AN EDITOR TO ENGLAND TO DISCUSS THESE CHANGES WITH MR. MANCHESTER WHO AGREED TO A NUMBER OF CHANGES IN THE AREAS WHICH WERE PARTICULARLY TROUBLING MRS. KENNEDY.

EA107

"THEN MRS. KENNEDY ASKED CASS CANFIELD, CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF HARPER AND ROW, TO MEET WITH GARDNER COWLES TO CONSIDER SOME FURTHER CHANGES. THESE WERE CONSIDERED WITH GREAT CARE AT TWO EDITING SESSIONS LASTING OVER MANY HOURS. A MAJORITY OF THEM WERE FINALLY AGREED UPON WITH MR. MANCHESTER.

"OTHER CHANGES OR DELETIONS WERE MADE BY MR. CANFIELD AND MR. COWLES WHICH THEY FELT WOULD ALSO AVOID DISTRESS FOR THE KENNEDY FAMILY WITHOUT IN ANY WAY IMPAIRING THE ACCURACY OR COMPLETENESS OF THE AUTHOR'S IMPORTANT MANUSCRIPT."

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