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15 DEC 1966

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PMS BUDGET (1,000)

KENNEDY BOOK

BY RELMAN MORIN

AP SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW YORK, DEC. 15 (AP)-MRS. JOHN F. KENNEDY SAYS SHE IS PREPARED TO RELIEVE HER GRIEF AND SHOCK AFTER THE ASSASSINATION OF HER HUSBAND IN ORDER TO LEGALLY BLOCK PUBLICATION OF A BOOK ABOUT THE TRAGEDY.

THE OUTLOOK FOR HER IS "HORRIBLE," SHE SAID.

THE BOOK, WHICH THE KENNEDY FAMILY HAD AUTHORIZED, IS "DEATH OF A PRESIDENT," BY WILLIAM MANCHESTER. IT DESCRIBES THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY IN DALLAS, NOV. 22, 1963, AND THE EVENTS IN THE DAYS IMMEDIATELY AFTERWARD.

MRS. KENNEDY CALLS IT "TASTELESS AND DISTORTED" AND SAYS:

"AS HORRIBLE AS A TRIALL WILL BE, IT NOW SEEMS CLEAR THAT MY ONLY REDRESS IS TO ASK THE COURTS TO ENFORCE MY RIGHTS..."

HER ATTORNEYS SAID THEY ARE PREPARING PAPERS SEEKING A TEMPORARY INJUNCTION TO STOP THE BOOK'S PUBLICATION AND WOULD FILE THEM IN TWO OR THREE DAYS. SUMMONSES ALREADY HAVE BEEN SERVED ON HARPER & ROW, BOOK PUBLISHERS AND COWLES COMMUNICATIONS, INC., PUBLISHERS OF LOOK MAGAZINE.

THE MAGAZINE, WHICH REPORTEDLY PAID MANCHESTER \$650,000 FOR THE SERIAL RIGHTS TO HIS BOOK, SCHEDULED PUBLICATION OF THE FIRST ARTICLE FOR JAN. 10. HARPER & ROW PLAN TO BRING OUT THE BOOK NEXT APRIL.

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THE IMPENDING LAWSUIT, AND A MENTION OF "INACCURATE AND UNFAIR REFERENCES TO OTHER INDIVIDUALS" IN A STATEMENT BY MRS. KENNEDY ABOUT MANCHESTER'S BOOK, MAY THROW SOME LIGHT ON LONG-STANDING REPORTS OF FRICTION BETWEEN THE KENNEDYS AND PRESIDENT JOHNSON. IT ASSERTEDLY BEGAN ON THE PLANE THAT BROUGHT KENNEDY'S BODY FROM DALLAS TO WASHINGTON AFTER THE ASSASSINATION.

A FRIEND OF THE KENNEDY FAMILY SAID MANCHESTER'S BOOK DEPICTS MRS. KENNEDY AS HAVING BEEN "UPSET BECAUSE L.B.J. KEPT THE PLANE ON THE GROUND TOO LONG IN DALLAS, WAITING TO BE SWORN IN AS PRESIDENT."

"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. NANCHESTER 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."

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

HE SAID HE WAS "NOT INFORMED ON WHAT IS HAPPENING" BUT WAS "PUZZLED BY THE DISTURBANCE."

WILLIAM ATTWOOD, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF LOOK ISSUED A STATEMENT LAST NIGHT SAYING CANCELLATION OF THE SCHEDULED PUBLICATION NOW WOULD AMOUNT TO "CENSORSHIP OF HISTORY." HE SAID LOOK INTENDED TO GO AHEAD. ATTWOOD'S STATEMENT SAID:

"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.

ANOTHER VERSION OF THIS INCIDENT IS THAT MRS. KENNEDY AND KENNETH O'DONNELL, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE ASSASSINATED PRESIDENT, BOARDED THE PLANE AND ORDERED THE PILOT TO TAKE OFF AT ONCE. JOHNSON REPORTEDLY COUNTERMANDED THE ORDER.

SOURCES CLOSE TO THE KENNEDY FAMILY SAID MANCHESTER'S BOOK CONTAINS "OTHER THINGS THAT INVOLVE L.B.J. WHICH ARE DISTORTED AND UNFAIR."

LAST NOV. 22--THE THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE ASSASSINATION--MALCOLM M. KILDUFF, PRESS AIDE IN CHARGE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL CHANGEOVER AT DALLAS, SAID IN AN INTERVIEW:

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"I THINK THAT THERE ARE THINGS THAT HAPPENED, ESPECIALLY ON THE PLANE COMING BACK, THAT COULD BE EMBARRASSING TO BOTH THE KENNEDYS AND THE JOHNSONS." HE DECLINED TO GO INTO DETAILS.

KILDUFF ADDED THAT IN THE EMOTIONAL INTENSITY OF THE MOMENT "SOME OF THE OLD 1960 WOUNDS WERE REOPENED, REHASHED, THOUGHT ABOUT." THIS APPARENTLY REFERRED TO THE BITTER STRUGGLE BETWEEN KENNEDY AND JOHNSON FOR THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINATION FOR PRESIDENT THAT KENNEDY WON.

NEVERTHELESS, KILDUFF SAID, "JOHNSON SHOWED CONCERN FOR MRS. KENNEDY AND MEMBERS OF THE KENNEDY FAMILY DURING THE FLIGHT FROM DALLAS TO WASHINGTON.

"THERE WAS NO GROSSNESS ON HIS PART AS HAS BEEN IMPLIED BY OTHERS IN THE RECENT PAST," KILDUFF SAID.

TO SUPPORT MRS. KENNEDY'S CONTENTION THAT MANCHESTER'S BOOK VIOLATED THE TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT UNDER WHICH IT WAS WRITTEN, THIS AND OTHER EPISODES MAY BE AIRED.

MRS. KENNEDY'S FULL STATEMENT SAID:

"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 WITNESSES, 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.

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"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.

"THEN MRS. KENNEDY ASKED CASS CANFIELD, CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF HARPER & 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 OF COMPLETENESS OF THE AUTHOR'S IMPORTANT MANUSCRIPT."

HARPER & ROW 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 KENNEDY'S OFFICIALLY NOTIFIED THEM "MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY WILL PLACE NO OBSTACLE IN THE WAY OF PUBLICATION."

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

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NEW YORK--FIRST ADD KENNEDY BOOK (A3-8) X X X PRESENT ATTITUDE."

A SOURCE CLOSE TO MRS. KENNEDY, WHO CALLED THE DISPUTE "THIS SAD STORY," GAVE THIS VERSION OF THE EVENTS THAT LED UP TO IT:

"EARLY IN 1964," HE SAID, "IT BECAME APPARENT TO MRS. KENNEDY AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY THERE WOULD BE SENSATIONAL VERSIONS OF THE ASSASSINATION. THEY WERE GETTING MANY QUERIES.

"MRS. KENNEDY FELT AN OBLIGATION TO SPEAK TO HISTORY. SO, FOR THE DOUBLE REASON OF TASTE AND HISTORY, IT WAS DETERMINED TO SERVE THE NATIONAL INTEREST IN ONE GOOD ACCURATE ACCOUNT."

THE SOURCE SAID A "MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING" SPELLED OUT THE TERMS UNDER WHICH MANCHESTER, SELECTED BY THE FAMILY, WOULD

WRITE THE BOOK. IT WAS SIGNED BY SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY AND WILLIAM MANCHESTER.

IT IS DATED MARCH 25, 1964 AND CONTAINS 11 CLAUSES. THE KENNEDYS CONSIDER TWO OF THESE HAVE THE IMMEDIATE BEARING ON THE CASE.

ONE READS, "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."

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

MRS. KENNEDY, THE SOURCE CONTINUED, THEN GAVE MANCHESTER TWO LONG INTERVIEWS IN EARLY 1964.

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

"THE MATERIAL IS OFFENSIVE IN THAT IT DELINEATES HER FEELINGS DURING THAT PERIOD. NO WOMAN WOULD WANT THESE THINGS DISCLOSED TO THE WORLD."

WHEN MANCHESTER'S MANUSCRIPT WAS FINISHED, THE SOURCE SAID, IT WAS READ BY FOUR PERSONS, RICHARD GOODWIN, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO PRESIDENT KENNEDY, PAMELA TIMMONS, MRS. KENNEDY'S SECRETARY, JOHN SIEGENTHALER, EDITOR OF THE NASHVILLE TENNESSEAN, AND EDWARD GUTHMAN, OF THE LOS ANGELES TIMES, WHO HAD BEEN PRESS SECRETARY TO ATTY. GEN. KENNEDY.

MRS. KENNEDY AND SEN. KENNEDY HAVE NOT READ THE BOOK.

GOODWIN SAID "I FOUND IT VERY PAINFUL TO READ."

GOODWIN AND MRS. TIMMONS, THE SOURCE CONTINUED, ADVISED MRS. KENNEDY AND SEN. KENNEDY OF THE CONTENTS OF CERTAIN PASSAGES. REVISIONS WERE SUGGESTED. WHETHER THESE WERE THE SAME CHANGES AS THOSE REFERRED TO BY ATTWOOD AND THE SPOKESMAN FOR HARPER & ROW WAS NOT CLEAR.

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THEN, LAST SUMMER, THE INFORMANT SAID, MANCHESTER APPARENTLY HAD DOUBTS AS TO WHETHER HIS BOOK WOULD "EVER BE PUBLISHED." THE SOURCE SAID HE DID NOT KNOW WHAT INDUCED THIS FEELING.

"BUT IN ANY CASE, ASSURANCES WERE REQUESTED AND SEN. KENNEDY SENT A TELEGRAM IN WHICH HE SAID THAT, SUBJECT TO THE TERMS OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING, THE KENNEDY FAMILY WOULD NOT STAND IN THE WAY OF PUBLICATION," THE INFORMANT SAID.

THE SOURCE SAID MRS. KENNEDY'S REQUEST FOR AN INJUNCTION TO HALT PUBLICATION OF THE BOOK ESSENTIALLY IS BASED ON TWO CONTENTIONS:

1. THAT MRS. KENNEDY AND SEN. KENNEDY HAVE NOT GIVEN THEIR APPROVAL.

2. "IT IS INVASION OF PRIVACY, THE BREACH OF A SOLEMN AGREEMENT THAT THINGS ABOUT HER WOULD NOT BE PUBLISHED WITHOUT HER APPROVAL."

THE INFORMANT SAID THE ALLEGED "INVASION OF PRIVACY," DESCRIBING MRS. KENNEDY'S EMOTIONS AND ACTIONS AT THE TIME OF THE INTERVIEWS, "IS NOT A MATTER OF HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE IN ANY WAY."

HE ADDED THAT THE AGREED DATE FOR PUBLICATION, NOV. 22, 1968-- FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ASSASSINATION--WAS CHANGED BECAUSE IT WOULD COME IN A PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION YEAR.

KENNEDY IS EXPECTED TO BE A CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT IN THE 1972 ELECTIONS. THE SOURCE SAID MANCHESTER'S BOOK PUTS THE SENATOR IN A VERY FAVORABLE LIGHT AND PUBLICATION WITHIN WEEKS AFTER THE 1968 ELECTION MIGHT BRING CHARGES THAT THE BOOK WAS A "CAMPAIGN DOCUMENT" TO ADVANCE HIS CANDIDACY.

THEREFORE, THE INFORMANT SAID, IT WAS DECIDED TO MOVE UP THE PUBLICATION DATE TO 1967.

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