

19 DEC. 1966

PMS BUDGET

88'8 ACS

TO

128'8 PES

KENNEDY BOOK (650)

(WIREFOTO NY3)

BY GEORGE ESPER

ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

NEW YORK, DEC. 19 (AP)-SPOKESMAN FOR TWO PUBLISHERS INVOLVED IN THE DISPUTE WITH THE KENNEDY FAMILY OVER PUBLICATION OF THE BOOK, "THE DEATH OF A PRESIDENT," DISCLOSED TODAY THAT EFFORTS ARE BEING MADE TO SETTLE THE MATTER OUT OF COURT.

THE DISCLOSURE FOLLOWED A STATEMENT BY WILLIAM MANCHESTER, AUTHOR OF THE BOOK, DENYING THAT HE HAD BROKEN FAITH WITH MRS. JOHN F. KENNEDY OR THAT HE HAD TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF HER CONFIDENCE IN HIM. THE BOOK IS ABOUT THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY.

"THERE ARE CONTINUING EFFORTS TO PATCH THINGS UP," SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR HARPER & ROW, PUBLISHERS INC., WHICH PLANS TO BRING OUT THE 300,000-WORD HARD-COVER BOOK IN APRIL.

"EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO WORK THINGS OUT," THE SPOKESMAN SAID. "THERE ARE ALWAYS THE AUTHOR'S RIGHTS AND HER (MRS. KENNEDY'S) RIGHTS."

ASKED IF THE AIM MIGHT BE TO REACH SOME UNDERSTANDING ON THE SEPARATION OF DEEPLY PERSONAL MATTER, WHICH MRS. KENNEDY SEEKS TO KEEP OUT OF THE BOOK, FROM WHAT IS CONSIDERED HISTORY, THE SPOKESMAN REPLIED:

"I THINK THAT IS PRETTY ACCURATE."

A SPOKESMAN FOR LOOK MAGAZINE, WHICH PLANS A FOUR-PART, 80,000 WORD SERIALIZATION OF THE BOOK STARTING WITH THE JAN. 10 ISSUE, SAID:

"DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE LAWYERS REPRESENTING THE TWO SIDES IN THE DISPUTE ARE CONTINUING. THEY ARE NOT NECESSARILY MEETINGS PER SE. THERE'S A TELEPHONE, YOU KNOW."

MRS. KENNEDY'S ATTORNEY IN THE SUIT, SIMON H. RIFKIND, SAID AGAIN TODAY "NO ONE HAS TALKED TO ME ABOUT SETTLEMENT...I KNOW NOTHING ABOUT ANY EFFORTS AT SETTLEMENT."

ASKED WHETHER HE THOUGHT HARPER & ROW AND LOOK MIGHT BE TRYING TO IRON OUT THE DISPUTE, HE SAID, "THAT'S POSSIBLE BUT I DON'T KNOW ABOUT IT."

EARLIER, A LOOK SPOKESMAN SAID THERE HAD BEEN "COMMUNICATION" BETWEEN THE OPPOSING CAMPS YESTERDAY BUT THAT HE DID NOT BELIEVE RIFKIND HAD TALKED TO LOOK.

THE NEW YORK TIMES, ETC. 10TH GRAF PREVIOUS.

RE1149AES

THE NEW YORK TIMES REPORTED THAT IN WASHINGTON, SEN. EDWARD M. KENNEDY, D-MASS., BROTHER OF THE LATE PRESIDENT, CHARGED THAT MANCHESTER "NOW INTENDS TO GO AHEAD IN VIOLATION OF THE WORD OF HIS AGREEMENT, THE SPIRIT OF HIS ARRANGEMENTS AND DESPITE THE PAIN HE KNOWS IT WILL GIVE MRS. KENNEDY."

(~~REDACTED~~ MANCHESTER)

SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY, IN SUN VALLEY, IDAHO, ON A SKIING VACATION, TOLD THE NEW YORK POST THAT WHAT MRS. KENNEDY "OBJECTED TO WERE THE KIND OF INTIMATE PERSONAL DETAILS THAT SHE OTHERWISE WOULD HAVE OPBVIOUSLY KEPT TO HERSELF."

POST COLUMNIST PETE HAMILL, WHO REACHED KENNEDY BY TELEPHONE YESTERDAY, QUOTED HIM:

"IT WAS ONE THING TO BE ON TAPE FOR THE HISTORIANS. IT WAS SOMETHING ELSE TO HAVE IT WRITTEN DOWN FOR YOU TO SEE. IT'S NOT A MATTER OF REWRITING HISTORY; THE MATERIAL WILL BE IN THE KENNEDY LIBRARY FOR THE HISTORIANS OF THE FUTURE WHO WANT TO FIND OUT ABOUT OUR TIME."

HAMILL QUOTED KENNEDY AS SAYING "THE PARTS THAT ARE BEING OBJECTED TO WOULD REALLY ONLY AFFECT ABOUT FOUR PAGES."

KENNEDY STRESSED IN THE INTERVIEW THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN HIS SISTER-IN-LAW, HIMSELF AND MANCHESTER THAT THEY WOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO REVIEW AND REJECT MANCHESTER'S MANUSCRIPT AFTER ITS COMPLETION.

"THE AGREEMENT WAS MADE," KENNEDY SAID. "IF MANCHESTER FELT HE COULDN'T ABIDE BY IT, HE SHOULD HAVE SAID SO THEN, NOT NOW, NOT 2 1/2 YEARS LATER."

KENNEDY SAID, HOWEVER, THAT HE AGREED "THERE IS A LELGITIMATE ARGUMENT OVER WHETHER THE AGREEMENT EVER SHOULD HAVE BEEN ENTERED INTO."

IN HIS STATEMENT X X X PICKING UP 14TH GRAF A48.

RE1228PES

~~SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY, D-N.Y., COULD NOT BE IMMEDIATELY REACHED FOR COMMENT ON MANCHESTER'S FIRST PUBLIC STATEMENT IN THE DISPUTE SINCE MRS. KENNEDY FILED A PETITION IN MANHATTAN SUPREME COURT LAST FRIDAY TO BLOCK PUBLICATION. HE WAS AT THE SUN VALLEY, IDAHO, SKI RESORT FOR A CHRISTMAS VACATION.~~

IN HIS STATEMENT, ISSUED THROUGH LOOK MAGAZINE YESTERDAY, MANCHESTER SAID:

"IT HAS BEEN SAID THAT MY WORK IS BEING PUBLISHED PREMATURELY AND THAT MAGAZINE SERIALIZATION WAS NOT CONTEMPLATED BY THE KENNEDY FAMILY. THIS IS NOT SO. IN THE SUMMER OF 1966, AUTHORIZATION WAS GIVEN BY THE FAMILY FOR PUBLICATION OF THE BOOK IN EARLY 1967, TO BE PRECEDED BY SERIALIZATION IN LOOK MAGAZINE.

"IT HAS BEEN SAID THAT I HAVE BROKEN FAITH WITH MRS. KENNEDY: THAT I TOOK ADVANTAGE OF HER CONFIDENCE IN ME AND THAT I RECORDED TOO FAITHFULLY HER WORDS AND EMOTIONS. I DO NOT BELIEVE THIS TO BE SO.

"MRS. KENNEDY GAVE ME TEN HOURS OF INTERVIEWS: I DID NOT, INDEED COULD NOT, HAVE CONDUCTED THESE INTERVIEWS WITHOUT HER VOLUNTARY COOPERATION. MRS. KENNEDY HERSELF DID NOT ASK TO SEE THE MANUSCRIPT AND STILL HASN'T. IF SHE HAD, I WOULD, OF COURSE, HAVE GIVEN IT TO HER.

"JOHN KENNEDY WAS MY PRESIDENT. TO SUGGEST THAT I WOULD DISHONOR HIS MEMORY OR MY ASSOCIATION WITH HIM IS BOTH CRUEL AND UNJUST. HIS STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE HAVE GUIDED <sup>ME</sup> THROUGHOUT THIS WORK.

EA50

"I BELIEVE JOHN KENNEDY, WHO WAS HIMSELF AN HISTORIAN, WOULD HAVE WANTED HIS COUNTRYMEN TO KNOW THE TRUTH OF THOSE TERRIBLE DAYS, AND I HAVE DEDICATED MYSELF FOR NEARLY THREE YEARS TO RELIVING AND RECONSTRUCTING THEM SO THAT THE TRUTH COULD BE FAITHFULLY AND ACCURATELY RECORDED."

A HEARING ON MRS. KENNEDY'S SUIT TO BLOCK PUBLICATION IS SET FOR DEC. 27. THE DEFENDANTS--MANCHESTER; HARPER & ROW; AND COWLES COMMUNICATIONS, INC., PUBLISHERS OF LOOK--ARE SCHEDULED TO FILE WRITTEN BRIEFS THURSDAY IN REPLY TO THE SUIT.

IN HER SUIT, MRS. KENNEDY CHARGED BREACH OF CONTRACT, INVASION OF PRIVACY AND INFRINGEMENT OF HER COPYRIGHT BY UNAUTHORIZED USE OF HER NAME IN ADVERTISEMENTS AND PROMOTION. SHE SAID IN HER SUIT: "I AM SCHOCKED THAT MR. MANCHESTER WOULD EXPLOIT THE EMOTIONAL STATE IN WHICH I RECOUNTED MY RECOLLECTIONS TO HIM EARLY IN 1964."

SHE SAID THAT PUBLICATION WOULD CAUSE HER "GREAT AND IRREPARABLE INJURY" AND "RESULT IN PRECISELY THE SENSATIONALISM AND COMMERCIALISM WHICH WE--ROBERT F. KENNEDY AND I--HAVE SOUGHT SO STRENOUSLY TO AVOID."

ROBERT F. KENNEDY SUBMITTED A SUPPORTING FIVE-PAGE AFFIDAVIT AS PART OF THE COURT PAPERS. BOTH HE AND MRS. KENNEDY CONTENDED THAT IN RETURN FOR HER HELP IN PREPARING THE MANUSCRIPT THROUGH THE TAPED INTERVIEWS, MANCHESTER AGREED NOT TO PUBLISH UNTIL HE OBTAINED MRS. KENNEDY'S CONSENT AS TO THE MODE, TIME AND TEXT OF PUBLICATION.

BOTH MRS. KENNEDY AND THE SENATOR SAID THEY HAD NEITHER READ NOR CLEARED THE MANUSCRIPT.

IN THE SUIT, NO MENTION IS MADE OF POSSIBLE PUBLICATION BY EARLY 1967.

AN 11-POINT MEMORANDUM SIGNED BY MANCHESTER AND ROBERT KENNEDY ON MARCH 26, 1964, IS INVOLVED IN THE ISSUE AS TO WHETHER THE DEFENDANTS HAD PUBLISHING RIGHTS. THE MEMORANDUM WAS ONE OF FIVE DOCUMENTS FILED IN COURT BY ATTORNEYS FOR MRS. KENNEDY.

THE KEY POINTS OF THE MEMORANDUM ARE THAT THE COMPLETED MANUSCRIPT SHALL BE REVIEWED BY MRS. KENNEDY AND ROBERT KENNEDY AND THAT THE BOOK MAY NOT BE PUBLISHED BEFORE NOV. 22, 1968, FIV YEARS AFTER THE ASSASSINATION UNLESS MRS. KENNEDY DESIGNATES A PRIOR DATE.

MANCHESTER SAID IN HIS STATEMENT:

"MRS. KENNEDY ASKED ME TO WRITE THIS BOOK. I DID NOT SEEK THE OPPORTUNITY.

"ON JULY 29, 1966, I WAS INFORMED BY A MEMBER OF THE KENNEDY FAMILY THAT BECAUSE OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S 'RESPECT' FOR ME AS ' A HISTORIAN AND A REPORTER. . . MEMBERS OF THE KENNEDY FAMILY WILL PLACE NO OBSTACLE IN THE WAY OF PUBLICATION' OF MY WORK.

EA70

"I BELIEVE THAT I AM NOW--IN DECEMBER OF 1966--THE SAME HISTORIAN AND REPORTER THAT I WAS IN 1962 WHEN PRESIDENT KENNEDY EXPRESSED HIS CONFIDENCE IN ME....

"I HAD HOPED MY BOOK WOULD BE ALLOWED TO SPEAK FOR ITSELF, AND I WOULD NOT HAVE TO SPEAK FOR IT. THIS IS NO LONGER POSSIBLE. THE INTEGRITY OF MY BOOK AND MY OWN HONESTY AS A WRITER AND A PERSON HAVE BEEN ATTACKED.

"IN LIFE JOHN KENNEDY BELONGED TO ALL AMERICANS. HIS CUREL MURDER DEPRIVED US ALL. I CANNOT HELP BUT FEEL THAT SOME OF THE PRESENT BITTERNES COMES FROM THE DARK NIGHTMARE OF HIS DEATH AND THE IMPOTENCE IN THE FACE OF DEATH WHICH WE FELT THEN AND FEEL NOW."

MANCHESTER SAID THAT INSTEAD OF MRS. KENNEDY ASKING TO SEE THE MANUSCRIPT, "THE KENNEDY FAMILY ASKED TO HAVE THE BOOK READ BY A NUMBER OF FRIENDS AND ADVISERS."

"THIS WAS DONE," MANCHESTER CONTINUED, "AND APPROPRIATE CHANGES WERE MADE IN CONSULTATION WITH THESE DISTINGUISHED FRIENDS. MRS. KENNEDY ASKED TO HAVE YET ANOTHER FRIEND READ THE BOOK; THIS TOO WAS DONE AND YET MORE CHANGES WERE MADE.

"HOWEVER, IN THE LAST ANALYSIS, THIS IS MY BOOK. NEITHER MRS. KENNEDY NOR ANY MEMBER OF THE KENNEDY FAMILY NOR ANYONE ELSE IS IN ANY WAY RESPONSIBLE FOR MY RESEARCH OR THE CONTENT OF MY WORK. IT IS MY RESPONSIBILITY, AND I AM CONFIDENT THAT MY BOOK CAN WITHSTAND ANY OBJECTIVE TEST--PARTICULARLY THE TEST OF TIME. I ASK ONLY THAT IT BE GIVEN THE CHANCE."

HARPER & ROW SAYS THAT ROBERT KENNEDY TOLD MANCHESTER IN A TELEGRAM LAST JULY 28 THAT "MEMBERS OF THE KENNEDY FAMILY WILL PLACE NO OBSTACLE IN THE WAY OF PUBLICATION OF HIS WORK." THE TELEGRAM WAS SUBMITTED AS PART OF THE COURT PAPERS BY ATTORNEYS FOR MRS. KENNEDY.

IN HIS AFFIDAVIT, ROBERT KENNEDY SAID THE TELEGRAM CITED BY HARPER & ROW "MAKES NO STATEMENT APPROVING EITHER TEXT, OR TIME, OR MODE OF PUBLICATION."

THE NEW YORK SENATOR SAID THAT ON JULY 29, THE DAY AFTER HE SENT THE TELEGRAM, HE SPOKE WITH MANCHESTER AND THAT HE HAD BEEN "SPECIFICALLY AND EMPHATICALLY ASSURED" THAT THE ORIGINAL CONTRACT WOULD BE FOLLOWED.

IN A SECOND TELEGRAM TO HARPER & ROW ON AUG. 5, THE SENATOR SAID, HE NOTED THAT THE PUBLISHERS MUST OBTAIN HIS AND MRS. KENNEDY'S PERMISSION BEFORE PRODUCING THE BOOK AND "THAT HAS NOT YET BEEN GIVEN."

A82

(FOLLOWING PORTION EMBARGOED FOR 7 A.M., EST)

IN HIS STATEMENT IN WASHINGTON, THE TIMES REPORTED, "SEN. EDWARD KENNEDY RECALLED YESTERDAY THAT MR. MANCHESTER HAD VOLUNTARILY SIGNED AN AGREEMENT PROMISING 'TO USE THE MATERIAL GIVEN HIM BY MRS. KENNEDY ONLY WITH HER CONSENT.'

"RELYING ON THE PROTECTION OF HIS WORD," EDWARD KENNEDY CONTINUED, "SHE UNBURDENED HERSELF OF HER PERSONAL MEMORIES CONCERNING HERSELF AND HER CHILDREN, IN ORDER TO GIVE HIM SOME BACKGROUND FOR HIS HISTORICAL RESEARCH."

"I KNOW SHE NEVER DREAMED THAT THAT MATERIAL WHICH RELATED STRICTLY TO HER PRIVATE THOUGHTS AND ACTS--NONE OF IT PART OF THE HISTORICAL RECORD--WOULD EVER BE MADE PUBLIC.

"WHAT IS AT STAKE IS NOT HIS INTEGRITY AS A WRITER NOR THE ACCURACY OF HISTORY, BUT RATHER THE INTEGRITY OF THE COMMITMENT AND THE PROMISE HE WILLINGLY AND VOLUNTARILY MADE."

(END EMBARGOED MATTER)

MEANWHILE, WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY BILL D. MOYERS DENIED A REPORT THAT HE HAD READ SECTIONS OF THE BOOK AND THAT HE WAS ASSUMED TO HAVE RELAYED HIS IMPRESSIONS TO PRESIDENT JOHNSON, WHO REPORTEDLY IS PRESENTED IN AN UNFAVORABLE LIGHT IN THE BOOK.

"I HAVE NOT READ THE BOOK AND I HAVE NOT READ ANYTHING TO THE PRESIDENT," MOYERS SAID. HE SAID THAT JOHNSON HAS SEEN NO PART OF THE MANUSCRIPT.

SIMON H. RIFKIND, ATTORNEY FOR MRS. KENNEDY, LOOKED AT THE MANUSCRIPT OF THE BOOK FOR THE FIRST TIME OVER THE WEEKEND AT THE WALL STREET OFFICE OF DAVID PECK, AN ATTORNEY FOR COWLES COMMUNICATIONS. HE TOOK MRS. KENNEDY ALONG WITH HIM BUT SHE DID NOT READ IT BECAUSE SHE FELT IT WOULD BE TOO PAINFUL, SAID RIFKIND.

HE SAID THAT IN ASKING HER SOME QUESTIONS, HE MAY HAVE OCCASIONALLY READ HER A FEW PASSAGES.

"IN THAT SENSE," HE SAID, "SHE HEARD SOME OF THE PASSAGES."

A83

RIFKIND CALLED THE MEETING "STRICTLY ROUTINE...A VERY NORMAL LEGAL PROCEDURE IN ACTION OF THIS KIND."

COMMENTING ON MANCHESTER'S STATEMENT, RIFKIND SAID: "I DON'T KNOW HOW MR. MANCHESTER ESCAPES FROM THE FACT THAT HE MADE A PROMISE AND NOW HAS NOT LIVED UP TO HIS PART OF THE BARGAIN. I BELIEVE STRONGLY IN A MAN KEEPING HIS WORD, PARTICULARLY WHEN IT IS IN A WRITTEN MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING. THERE HAS BEEN NO APPROVAL FROM MRS. KENNEDY."

EARLIER, RIFKIND HAD SAID HE KNEW OF NO ATTEMPT TO ARRANGE AN OUT-OF-COURT SETTLEMENT. HE ADDED THAT "CONCEIVABLY ANY CASE CAN BE SETTLED OUT OF COURT."

"BUT MY PRESENT PLANS ARE TO BE IN COURT ON DEC. 27," HE SAID.

HOWEVER, THE SPOKESMAN FOR LOOK, WHO DID NOT WANT TO BE IDENTIFIED BY NAME, INSISTED THAT "THERE'S BEEN COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE TWO CAMPS. THERE WAS COMMUNICATION BETWEEN TEM AY," AID

IDENTIFIED BY NAME, INSISTED THAT "THERE'S BEEN COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE TWO CAMPS. THERE WAS COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THEM YESTERDAY," UHE SAID. THE SPOKESMAN DECLINED TO GO ANY FURTHER.

HE SAID, "I DON'T BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT JUDGE RIFKIND TALKED TO US (LOOK) <sup>yester</sup> TODAY."

THE LOOK SPOKESMAN SAID THE MAGAZINE IS STILL GOING AHEAD WITH PLANS TO PUBLISH ON JAN. 10.

"THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE IN OUR PLANS," HE SAID.

ASKED WHAT LOOK WOULD DO IF PUBLICATION IS BLOCKED BY THE COURT.

HE SAID THERE WOULD BE NO TIME TO PUBLISH A SUBSTITUTE ISSUE AND LOOK WOULD LOSE AN ESTIMATED \$4.5 MILLION IN ADVERTISING AND CIRCULATION REVENUE.

MANCHESTER REPORTEDLY RECEIVED \$665,000 FROM LOOK FOR THE RIGHT TO SERIALIZE PORTIONS OF THE BOOK.

THE NEW YORK TIMES ALSO REPORTED TODAY THAT A PUBLISHING SOURCE WHO HAS READ THE MANUSCRIPT SAYS IT SHOWS NEGLECT OR INCOMPETENCE ON THE PART OF THOSE ASSIGNED TO GUARD THE PRESIDENT.

THE TIMES QUOTES THE SOURCE AS SAYING FBI MEN, SECRET SERVICE MEN AND DALLAS POLICE ALL ARE DESCRIBED AS DERELICT, WITH NAMES CITED AND "QUOTES TO BACK IT UP."

THE SAME SOURCE, THE TIMES SAID, TELLS OF PASSAGES IN THE BOOK REPORTING INSTANCES OF FRICTION BETWEEN THE KENNEDY FAMILY AND JOHNSON IN THE DAYS AFTER THE PRESIDENT'S DEATH.

MEANWHILE, THE NASHVILLE TENNESSEAN, IN A DISPATCH FROM ITS WASHINGTON BUREAU, QUOTED AN UNNAMED READER OF THE MANCHESTER MANUSCRIPT AS SAYING IT TELLS OF MRS. KENNEDY'S WRESTLING WITH A NURSE AFTER PRESIDENT KENNEDY WAS TAKEN TO PARKLAND HOSPITAL IN DALLAS.

THE NURSE " WOULD NOT ALLOW HER INTO THE ROOM WITH HER HUSBAND AT THE HOSPITAL UNTIL A DOCTOR TOLD THE NURSE TO LET HER PASS," THE TENNESSEAN QUOTED THE READER AS SAYING.

THE EDITOR OF THE TENNESSEAN IS JOHN SEIGENTHALER, WHO WAS ONE OF SEVERAL KENNEDY CONFIDANTS WHO REPORTEDLY DISCUSSED THE MANUSCRIPT EARLIER THIS YEAR. SEIGENTHALER SERVED FOR TWO YEARS AS ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO SEN. ROBERT KENNEDY WHEN THE LATTER WAS U.S. ATTORNEY GENERAL.

THE TENNESSEAN REPORT CONTINUED: "JOHNSON IS REPORTED IN THE BOOK AS HAVING HAD DIFFICULTY REACHING ROBERT F. KENNEDY...ABOUT THE SWEARING AND THE OATH.

"ALTHOUGH HE APPARENTLY RECEIVED NONCOMMITTAL REPLIES FROM THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S ASSISTANTS AND, EVENTUALLY, FROM THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, HE (JOHNSON) IS SHOWN IN THE BOOK AS HAVING BEEN CERTAIN HE KNEW WHAT HAD TO BE DONE."

SUMMARIZING THE TONE OF THE MANUSCRIPT, THE TENNESSEAN QUOTES THE READER AS SAYING: "THE BOOK SHOWS THE WHOLE EPISODE AS SEEN THROUGH KENNEDY EYES. IT ISN'T EMBARRASSINGLY PRO-KENNEDY, BUT WHEN YOU GET THROUGH YOU REALIZE THERE IS ALMOST NOTHING IN IT THAT IS UNKIND ABOUT THE KENNEDY FAMILY.

"OF ROBERT KENNEDY, AS SHOWN IN THE MANUSCRIPT, THIS SOURCE SAID:  
"BOBBY EMERGES VERY MUCH THE WAY YOU WOULD EXPECT. HE WAS VERY  
MUCH IN CHARGE OF THINGS. VERY MUCH IN A STATE OF SHOCK, YET DOING  
WHAT YOU WOULD EXPECT OF HIM AND VERY MUCH TAKING OVER THE FAMILY. HE  
COMES OFF VERY WELL IN THE BOOK."

BD1858ACS N

THE NEW YORK POST, QUOTING TWO UNNAMED MEN, ONE A PUBLISHING  
EXECUTIVE, THE OTHER A MAGAZINE EDITOR, SAID THE BOOK VIVIDLY  
DESCRIBES BITTERNESS ON THE PART OF THE KENNEDY GROUP OVER  
JOHNSON'S INSISTENCE THAT HE IMMEDIATELY "ESTABLISH HIS PRESIDENCY"  
AFTER THE ASSASSINATION.

THE EDITOR TOLD THE POST MANCHESTER'S MANUSCRIPT GAVE  
THIS PICTURE OF JOHNSON'S ACTIONS IN DALLAS:

"THE PRESIDENT IS KILLED. JOHNSON'S FIRST THOUGHT IS THAT THERE IS  
A CONSPIRACY -- THAT THE RUSSIANS OR SOMEONE ARE BEHIND IT. HE HAD  
TO ESTABLISH HIS PRESIDENCY. HE WANTED NOT TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY  
THINKING IT WAS LEADERLESS, POWERLESS."

WHAT EMERGES FROM THE ACCOUNT, ACCORDING TO THE POST, IS A SENSE  
OF CONFLICT BETWEEN THE KENNEDY AND JOHNSON ENTOURAGES.

OF MRS. KENNEDY'S BEHAVIOR, THE POST QUOTES THE EDITOR:  
"SHE WAS IN A STATE OF SHOCK CLEARLY. SHE WAS RESENTFUL OF THE FACT  
THAT JOHNSON AND HIS ENTOURAGE WERE ASSUMING THE PRESIDENCY."

THE POST SAID THE EDITOR SPECULATED THAT MRS. KENNEDY PARTICULARLY  
OBJECTED TO PASSAGES DESCRIBING HOW SHE TRIED TO PROTECT THE BODY  
OF HER MORTALLY WOUNDED HUSBAND AND DID NOT WANT ANYONE TO TAKE  
HIM AWAY FROM HER.

ANOTHER SECTION, ACCORDING TO THE POST, TELLS HOW MRS. KENNEDY  
GOT JOHN JR. TO SALUTE HIS DEAD FATHER DURING THE PRESIDENT'S  
FUNERAL -- A GESTURE THAT MOVED MILLIONS WATCHING THE EVENT ON  
TELEVISION.

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