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KENNEDY COPIES (300)

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NEW YORK, DECM21 (AP)-SECTIONS OF "THE DEATH OF A PRESIDENT" THAT EVEN AUTHOR WILLIAM MANCHESTER AGREED TO DELETE BECAUSE OF THEIR INTIMATE NATURE WILL PROBABLY APPEAR IN CONTRABAND VERSIONS OF THE BOOK, PUBLISHING INDUSTRY SOURCES SAID TODAY.

THE OBJECTIONABLE PASSAGES WERE REMOVED FROM THE MANUSCRIPT BEFORE MRS. JOHN F. KENNEDY SUED TO STOP PUBLICATION OF MANCHESTER'S ACCOUNT OF THE LATE PRESIDENT'S ASSASSINATION, A SPOKESMAN FOR HARPER & ROW, PUBLISHERS OF THE BOOK, SAID.

HE INDICATED DUPLICATES OF THE 1200-PAGE TYPEWRITTEN TEXT WERE MADE WHILE 25 COPIES WERE CIRCULATING AMONG PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS FOR MAGAZINE RIGHTS. HE SAID HE FELT DUPLICATES WERE "ALMOST CERTAINLY" SOLD TO OUTLAW PUBLISHERS ON FORMOSA.

"IT'S ALL TERRIBLY PLAUSIBLE," SAID ROGER SMITH, NEWS EDITOR OF PUBLISHERS WEEKLY, A RESPECTED TRADE JOURNAL. "THEY'VE GOT (IN FORMOSA) THE SECOND BEST PRINTING LAYOUT IN ASIA--SOME OF IT BOUGHT WITH AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT MONEY--AND THEY'RE NOT A PARTY TO ANY INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT AGREEMENT."

A LOOK MAGAZINE EXECUTIVE CONFIRMED THAT "AT LEAST ONE" REPRODUCTION OF THE MANUSCRIPT WAS MADE WHILE EDITORS THERE WERE CONSIDERING PURCHASING SERIALIZATION RIGHTS.

"THIS IS THE AGE OF THE COPY MACHINE. ANY ASTUTE OFFICE BOY CAN RUIN YOU," HE SAID.

SMITH SAID THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAS WARNED THE FORMOSAN GOVERNMENT TO STOP THE PIRATING OF AMERICAN BOOKS, BUT THAT THEIR EFFORTS WERE SPORADIC AND LARGELY UNSUCCESSFUL.

"BECAUSE THEY HAVEN'T SIGNED ANY INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT AGREEMENT THEY CAN SELL THE BOOK ANYWHERE THEY WANT TO--ASIA, SOUTH AMERICA, EUROPE--AND MAKE VAST PROFITS," HE SAID.

THE HARPER & ROW SPOKESMAN SAID MANCHESTER HAD AGREED TO REMOVE SEVERAL DISPUTED PASSAGES ON THE SUGGESTION OF A GROUP OF KENNEDY FAMILY REPRESENTATIVES. THESE SECTIONS WERE CONTAINED IN THE MANUSCRIPT WENT TO THE MAGAZINES, HOWEVER, AND COULD BE EXPECTED TO TURN UP IN A PIRATE VERSION OF THE BOOK.

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