

EA13 (160)

NEW YORK, JAN. 4 (AP)-EFFORTS TO SETTLE THE LEGAL BATTLE OVER PUBLICATION OF WILLIAM MANCHESTER'S CONTROVERSIAL BOOK, "THE DEATH OF A PRESIDENT," WERE STILL UNDER WAY TODAY.

EMERGING FROM A 40-MINUTE CONFERENCE, FORMER FEDERAL JUDGE SIMON H. RIFKIND, ATTORNEY FOR MRS. JOHN F. KENNEDY, TOLD NEWSMEN: "SO FAR EVERYBODY IS HAPPY. WE'RE STILL TALKING."

MRS. KENNEDY HAS ASKED A TEMPORARY INJUNCTION AGAINST MANCHESTER AND HARPER & ROW TO HALT PUBLICATION OF THE 300,000-WORD BOOK, WHICH TELLS OF THE EVENTS SURROUNDING THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY.

RIFKIND AND AN ASSOCIATE, EDWARD COSTIKYAN, MET WITH EDWARD GREENBAUM, THE PUBLISHER'S ATTORNEY, AND CARLETON ELDRIDGE, MANCHESTER'S ATTORNEY, IN THE CHAMBERS OF JUSTICE SAUL S. STREIT WHO IS SCHEDULED TO HEAR THE CASE TOMORROW.

~~However~~ STREIT IS EXPECTED TO ^EDIFFER THE COURT HEARING IN LINE WITH AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN MRS. KENNEDY AND HARPER & ROW. THEY ANNOUNCED LAST WEEK THAT THE INJUNCTION REQUEST WOULD NOT BE PRESSED AS LONG AS THERE APPEARED A POSSIBILITY OF AN OUT-OF-COURT SETTLEMENT.

AT THAT TIME, A SOURCE CLOSE TO THE KENNEDYS SAID "I THINK THEY'RE CLOSE TO AN AGREEMENT."

THE JUDGE TOLD NEWSMEN, "THEY ARE STILL TRYING TO SETTLE THE CASE, BUT THEY ARE WAITING FOR MR. MANCHESTER, WHO HAS BEEN ILL. AS SOON AS HE IS WELL, THEY ARE GOING TO TAKE UP CERTAIN MATTERS WITH HIM."

ASKED ABOUT THE NEGOTIATIONS, STREIT SAID, "THE PARTIES ARE SANGUINE ABOUT THE OUTCOME."

THE JUDGE SAID THAT ANOTHER MEETING WOULD BE HELD TOMORROW WHEN THE ATTORNEYS WOULD AGAIN DISCUSS PROCEDURE WITH HIM.

ASKED WHAT THIS MEANT, THE JUDGE SAID, "IN THE EVENT THEY CAN NOT SETTLE THE CASE, CERTAIN PROCEDURES MUST BE WORKED OUT BEFORE GOING TO TRIAL."

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