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NIGHT LEAD LOOK-MANCHESTER BJT (620)

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ASSOCIATED PRESS SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW YORK, JAN. 7 (AP)—PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY WAS TRYING TO PATCH UP WHAT HE CONSIDERED A PETTY DISPUTE BETWEEN TEXAS POLITICIANS WHEN HE MET HIS DEATH IN DALLAS, WILLIAM MANCHESTER REPORTS IN HIS BOOK "THE DEATH OF A PRESIDENT"—ITSELF A SUBJECT OF DISPUTE.

THE FEUD INDIRECTLY INVOLVED VICE PRESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON, MANCHESTER ASSERTS.

DESCRIBING KENNEDY'S FEELINGS ABOUT THE THREE-DAY TOUR OF TEXAS IN NOVEMBER, 1963, MANCHESTER WRITES:

"THE PROSPECT WAS UNAPPETIZING AND VEXING TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE. IT APPEARED TO HIM THAT JOHNSON OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO RESOLVE THIS PETTY DISPUTE HIMSELF; THE TRIP SEEMED TO BE AN IMPOSITION."

MANCHESTER ALSO WRITES THAT FIVE HIGHLY-PLACE DEMOCRATS ADVISED KENNEDY--SOME IN STRONGLY-WORDED WARNINGS--NOT TO GO TO DALLAS ON THE TOUR. "THE ATMOSPHERE IN DALLAS HAD BECOME HIGHLY CHARGED WITH INFLAMMATORY STATEMENTS" AGAINST KENNEDY, THE BOOK ASSERTS.

MANCHESTER QUOTES ONE OF THE FIVE, SEN. J. WILLIAM FULBRIGHT OF ARKANSAS AS SAYING TO THE PRESIDENT:

"DALLAS IS A VERY DANGEROUS PLACE. I WOULDN'T GO THERE. DON'T YOU GO."

THE OTHERS WHO URGED THE PRESIDENT TO BYPASS DALLAS, THE BOOK SAYS, WERE SEN. HUBERT HUMPHREY OF MINNESOTA, HOUSE WHIP HALE BOGGS OF LOUISIANA, AMBASSADOR ADLAI E. STEVENSON AND TEXAS NATIONAL COMMITTEEMAN BYRON SKELTON.

LOOK MAGAZINE IS SERIALIZING "THE DEATH OF A PRESIDENT" AND THESE REPORTS APPEAR IN THE FIRST OF FOUR INSTALLMENTS, TOTALLING 60,000 WORDS. THE MAGAZINE IS SCHEDULED TO REACH NEWS STANDS NEXT TUESDAY MORNING.

MRS. JOHN F. KENNEDY WITHDREW HER OBJECTIONS TO PUBLICATION BY LOOK AFTER EDITORS MADE SOME REVISIONS. SHE HAS NOT, HOWEVER, AUTHORIZED THE PASSAGES THAT APPEAR IN THE MAGAZINE. A SPOKESMAN FOR GARDNER COWLES, EDITORIAL CHAIRMAN, QUOTED HIM AS SAYING THE REVISIONS INVOLVED ONLY 1,600 WORDS AND "IN NO WAY AFFECTED THE HISTORICAL ACCURACY OR COMPLETENESS OF THE BOOK."

THE FIRST INSTALLMENT REPORTS THAT AN ALTERCATION OF SOME KIND FLARED BETWEEN KENNEDY AND JOHNSON IN ~~SAN ANTONIO~~ ^{Houston}.

A31 (AGYS OUT)

IT TOOK PLACE IN A HOTEL ROOM ADJOINING MRS. KENNEDY'S AND SHE HEARD "RAISED VOICES," MANCHESTER WRITES.

"HE (JOHNSON) DID NOT DEFINE THE NATURE OF THE DISCUSSION," THE BOOK SAYS. "PRECISELY WHAT WAS SAID IS UNKNOWN. . . JOHNSON CONTROLLED HIS CELEBRATED TEMPER IN HIS CHIEF'S PRESENCE, BUT IN THE WORDS OF ONE MAN ON DUTY OUTSIDE, 'HE LEFT THAT SUITE LIKE A PISTOL.' " ANOTHER DESCRIBED JOHNSON'S EXPRESSION AS "FURIOUS."

MRS. KENNEDY, THE REPORT OF THE EPISODE CONTINUES, REMARKED THAT THE VICE PRESIDENT "SOUNDED MAD" AND SHE ASKED HER HUSBAND WHAT THE DISCUSSION HAD BEEN ABOUT.

"THAT'S JUST LYNDON," MANCHESTER SAYS THE PRESIDENT REPLIED, "BUT HE'S IN TROUBLE."

IN THAT PERIOD, NOVEMBER 1963, THE BOOK DESCRIBES JOHNSON AS A POLITICAL "CIPHER." IT SAYS HE HAD HEARD THE "GROUNDLESS BUT PERSISTENT" RUMORS THAT KENNEDY MIGHT DROP HIM FROM THE TICKET IN THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION OF 1964.

AS EVIDENCE OF JOHNSON'S ALLEGED UNIMPORTANCE IN WASHINGTON, MANCHESTER SAYS THAT WHEN THE VICE PRESIDENT WANTED TO USE AN AIRPLANE, HE HAD TO APPLY TO BRIG. GEN. GODFREY MCHUGH, THE PRESIDENT'S AIR FORCE AIDE. "AND SOMETIMES--MORTIFYING TO A MAN OF HIS EXTREME SENSITIVITY, THE REQUEST WAS DENIED."

MRS. JOHNSON, THE BOOK ASSERTS, HAD NEVER SEEN THE INSIDE OF THE FAMOUS PRESIDENTIAL AIRPLANE, AIR FORCE ONE, WHICH WAS EQUIPPED WITH AN UNUSUAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM.

IN WASHINGTON TODAY, THE WHITE HOUSE DECLINED ANY COMMENT ON THE LOOK INSTALLMENT.

SENATE DEMOCRATIC LEADER MIKE MANSFIELD SAID THE PRESIDENT HAS "CONDUCTED HIMSELF WITH DIGNITY AND DECORUM" WITH RESPECT TO ASSERTIONS MADE REGARDING THE TEXAS TOUR AND ITS AFTERMATH.

"AS TIMES GOES ON, THERE WILL BE A LOT OF STORIES, SOME TRUE AND SOME NOT, REFLECTING ON THAT TRAGIC PERIOD," MANSFIELD SAID. "I THINK WE WILL HAVE TO LEAVE IT TO HISTORY TO FORM ITS OWN JUDGEMENT."

"IN THE WAKE OF CHARGES, INUENDO AND IMPLICATIONS, PRESIDENT JOHNSON HAS CONDUCTED HIMSELF WITH DIGNITY AND DECORUM. HE IS WILLING TO LET HISTORY BE THE FINAL JUDGE OF HIS BEHAVIOR IN DALLAS AND THROUGHOUT HIS TENURE AS PRESIDENT."

(MORE)

MT211PES

NEW YORK--FIRST ADD LOOK-MANCHESTER (A30,31) X X X AS PRESIDENT.

HIGHLY CONFLICTING VERSIONS HAVE CIRCULATED ABOUT THE EVENTS AT LOVE FIELD, DALLAS, AFTER THE ASSASSINATION, NOV. 22, 1963, AND ON THE FLIGHT BACK TO WASHINGTON. THEY PROBABLY REFLECT THE LOYALTIES OF THE MEMBERS OF KENNEDY'S AND JOHNSON'S PARTIES UNDER GREAT EMOTIONAL STRESS.

MANCHESTER'S BOOK SHOWS THAT MUCH OF HIS INFORMATION CAME FROM ADMIRERS OF THE ASSASSINATED PRESIDENT. IT THEREFORE IS SUBJECT TO THEIR MEMORIES OF THE TRAGEDY IN DALLAS AND IMMEDIATELY BEFORE.

ON THIS POINT, WILLIAM ATTWOOD, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF THE COWLES PUBLICATION SAID, "OBVIOUSLY, PEOPLE'S EMOTIONS ARE A PART OF HISTORY. IF YOU LEAVE PEOPLE'S EMOTIONS OUT OF WHAT WAS SAID, THEN YOU DON'T HAVE A COMPLETE RECORD."

ATTWOOD MADE THE STATEMENT TO RADIO STATION WICC, BRIDGEPORT, CONN., ADDING, "I THINK THIS (MANCHESTER'S BOOK) IS THE MOST COMPLETE AND OBJECTIVE RECORD THAT I KNOW OF."

THE BOOK BRINGS TO LIGHT A TRAGIC FACT--THAT KENNEDY'S MOTORCADE IN DALLAS MIGHT NEVER HAVE PASSED THE TEXAS BOOK DEPOSITORY BUILDING, WHERE LEE HARVEY OSWALD HAD POSITIONED HIMSELF.

THREE SITES ORIGINALLY WERE CONSIDERED FOR THE LUNCHEON TO BE GIVEN IN THE PRESIDENT'S HONOR IN DALLAS, THE WOMAN'S BUILDING, (CAPS W,B) MARKET HALL AND THE TRADE MART. EACH PRESENTED PROBLEMS OF SECURITY FOR THE DALLAS POLICE AND THE SECRET SERVICE.

EVENTUALLY, THE TRADE MART WAS CHOSEN. AND THE ROUTE FOLLOWED BY THE PRESIDENT'S MOTORCADE TOOK HIM PAST THE BOOK DEPOSITORY BUILDING, WHERE OSWALD WORKED. THE MOTORCADE ROUTE HAD BEEN PUBLISHED.

THE THOUGHT THAT KENNEDY WOULD BE KILLED IN DALLAS WAS BEYOND ANYONE'S DREAM, BUT MANY FEARED HE MIGHT BE EMBARRASSED, MANCHESTER WRITES. "THE DALLAS MOOD WAS NO SECRET."

THE BOOK QUOTES A HANDBILL CIRCULATED IN DALLAS WHICH SAID, "THIS MAN IS WANTED FOR TREASONOUS ACTIVITIES AGAINST THE UNITED STATES." THE HANDBILL CARRIED TWO PHOTOGRAPHS OF KENNEDY, ONE IN PROFILE. IT THUS RESEMBLED THE POLICE POSTERS OF WANTED MEN PINNED ON THE WALLS OF POST OFFICES.

IN THE TRIAL OF THE LATE JACK RUBY, WHO KILLED OSWALD TWO DAYS AFTER THE ASSASSINATION OF THE PRESIDENT, THE DEFENSE BROUGHT OUT THAT HE WAS ALLEGEDLY DEEPLY DISTURBED BY A ROADSIDE BILLBOARD.

IT CARRIED THE SLOGAN, "IMPEACH EARL WARREN."

OF THE KENNEDY HANDBILL, MANCHESTER SAID, THAT ANY EXTREMIST COULD SYMPATHIZE WITH IT.

WHAT THE BOOK DESCRIBES AS THE "HIGHLY CHARGED" ATMOSPHERE IN DALLAS CAUSED SKELTON, TO TRY TO DIVERT KENNEDY'S ITINERARY AWAY FROM DALLAS.

HE FIRST WROTE THE PRESIDENT'S BROTHER, ATTY. GEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY A LETTER IN WHICH HE SAID HE WOULD FEEL BETTER IF THE PRESIDENT DID NOT COME TO DALLAS.

THAT WAS ON NOV. 4. TWO DAYS LATER HE WROTE A SIMILAR LETTER TO ONE OF JOHNSON'S AIDES. STILL HARBORING MISGIVINGS, SKELTON THEN FLEW TO WASHINGTON TO STATE THEM TO JOHN BAILEY, THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CHAIRMAN, AND JERRY BRUNO, OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE.

SKELTON'S EFFORTS ADDED UP, MANCHESTER SAID, TO ZERO.

MEANWHILE, THE PLANNERS IN DALLAS HAD RECOMMENDED THE TRADE MART AS THE PLACE FOR THE LUNCHEON. THE WARREN COMMISSION REPORT SAYS:

"ON NOV. 4, FORREST V. SORRELS, SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE OF THE DALLAS OFFICE, TOLD GERALD A. BEHN, AGENT IN CHARGE OF THE WHITE HOUSE DETAIL, HE BELIEVED SECURITY DIFFICULTIES AT THE TRADE MART COULD BE OVERCOME BY SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS. SPECIAL AGENT OF THE WHITE HOUSE DETAIL WINSTON G. LAWSON ALSO EVALUATED THE SECURITY HAZARDS AT THE TRADE MART ON NOV. 13. KENNETH O'DONNELL MADE THE FINAL DECISION TO HOLD THE LUNCHEON AT THE TRADE MART; BEHN SO NOTIFIED LAWSON ON NOV. 14."

MANCHESTER WROTE, HOWEVER, THAT POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS WERE PARAMOUNT IN THE CHOICE OF THE TRADE MART.

THE BOOK NOTES THAT BOTH DALLAS NEWSPAPERS, THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS AND DALLAS TIMES-HERALD, RAN EDITORIALS CALLING FOR CALM. IT REPORTS THAT CHIEF OF POLICE JESSE CURRY TOOK EXTRAORDINARY PRECAUTIONS TO PREVENT ANY INCIDENTS, CALLING OUT ALL AVAILABLE RESERVES.

AND SO, WITH THE TRADE MART AS THE OBJECTIVE OF THE PRESIDENT'S MOTORCADE, HIS AUTOMOBILE PASSED IN FRONT OF THE BOOK DEPOSITORY BUILDING. THE WARREN REPORT SAYS:

"THE SHOTS WHICH KILLED PRESIDENT KENNEDY AND WOUNDED GOV. (JOHN B.) CONNALLY WERE FIRED FROM THE SIXTH FLOOR WINDOW OF THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE TEXAS SCHOOL BOOK DEPOSITORY."

THE COMMISSION FOUND THAT OSWALD, ACTING ALONE, FIRED THE SHOTS. AS TO OSWALD'S MOTIVES, THE WARREN REPORT AND MANCHESTER'S BOOK DISAGREE.

THE WARREN REPORT CITED HIS "COMMITMENT TO MARXISM AND COMMUNISM," FOUND OSWALD "PERPETUALLY DISCONTENTED WITH THE WORLD AROUND HIM," WITHOUT MEANINGFUL RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER PEOPLE," AND SEEKING A "PLACE IN HISTORY."

MANCHESTER CONCLUDES THAT OSWALD WAS BESET BY AN ALMOST PSYCHOTIC JEALOUSY OF THE PRESIDENT. HE WRITES:

"KENNEDY WAS CHEERED; OSWALD IGNORED. KENNEDY WAS BELOVED; OSWALD DESPISED. ~~KENNEDY WAS A HERO. OSWALD WAS A VICTIM.~~"

HE WROTE "IT SEEMS EQUALLY CLEAR THAT OSWALD'S REASONING WENT INTO AN ECLIPSE SHORTLY BEFORE 9 O'CLOCK THE NIGHT BEFORE THE ASSASSINATION."

OSWALD HAD BEEN ESTRANGED FROM HIS RUSSIAN WIFE, MARINA, BUT RETURNED TO HER. THE BOOK ASSERTS THAT MARINA HAD FOUND ANOTHER HOME WITH A FRIEND, NO LONGER NEEDED HER HUSBAND, AND COULD MANAGE WITHOUT HIM.

EA55

"THAT WAS THE BREAKING POINT," MANCHESTER ASSERTED. "HE HAD NOTHING LEFT, NOT EVEN PRIDE."

THE BOOK RELATES, IN GREAT DETAIL, THE DISPUTE THAT BROUGHT KENNEDY TO TEXAS.

THE PRINCIPALS WERE SEN. RALPH YARBOROUGH, DESCRIBED BY MANCHESTER AS THE HERO OF THE LIBERAL TEXAS DEMOCRATS, AND GOV. CONNALLY A CONSERVATIVE. MANCHESTER SAYS YARBOROUGH REGARDED JOHNSON AS A "CO-CONSPIRATOR" OF CONNALLY.

THE BOOK RECALLS THAT THE KENNEDY-JOHNSON TICKET HAD CARRIED TEXAS BY ONLY A SLIGHT MARGIN IN THE 1960 ELECTION. THEREFORE, THE DEMOCRATIC HIGH COMMAND FELT STRONGLY THAT THE FEUD BETWEEN YARBOROUGH AND CONNALLY MUST BE EXTINGUISHED IF THE PARTY WAS TO CARRY THE STATE IN 1964.

MANCHESTER SAYS KENNEDY EXPECTED TO BE RE-ELECTED IN A HISTORIC LANDSLIDE.

IN THE AUTUMN OF 1963, KENNEDY ALREADY WAS CONSIDERING HIS CABINET AFTER THE ELECTIONS. THE BOOK INDICATES THAT HE INTENDED TO MAKE DEFENSE SECRETARY ROBERT S. MCNAMARA THE SECRETARY OF STATE IN PLACE OF DEAN RUSK. ROBERT F. KENNEDY THEN WOULD MOVE FROM THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S OFFICE TO THE POST OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS.

MRS. KENNEDY, AT THAT TIME, WAS IN GREECE RECUPERATING FROM THE LOSS OF HER THIRD CHILD, PATRICK BOUVIER KENNEDY.

SHE WROTE LONG LETTERS TO HER HUSBAND. HER GRIEF ECHOED IN ONE PASSAGE, QUOTED BY MANCHESTER, IN WHICH SHE WROTE:

"THERE'S JUST ONE THING I COULDN'T STAND--IF I EVER LOST YOU..."

SHE RETURNED TO WASHINGTON ON OCT. 17 AND HER SPIRITS WERE MUCH IMPROVED. SHE LEARNED OF THE PROJECTED TEXAS TOUR AND ANIMATEDLY TOLD HER HUSBAND SHE WOULD CAMPAIGN WITH HIM, IN FACT, THAT "I'LL CAMPAIGN WITH YOU ANYWHERE YOU WANT."

EA56

HIGHLY PLEASED, THE PRESIDENT TOOK A HAND IN THE CHOICE OF HER WARDROBE FOR THE TRIP. HE SAID TO HER, ACCORDING TO MANCHESTER, "BE SIMPLE--SHOW THESE TEXANS WHAT GOOD TASTE REALLY IS."

MANCHESTER WROTE THAT MRS. KENNEDY THEN TROTTED IN AND OUT OF HER HUSBAND'S ROOMS, ASKING HIS APPROVAL ON VARIOUS DRESSES.

COOL WEATHER HAD BEEN FORECAST IN TEXAS FOR NOV. 20-22 AND SHE CHOSE HER WARDROBE ACCORDINGLY.

AT THE LAST MINUTE, THE BOOK SAYS, THE FORECAST CHANGED TO HOT. THE PRESIDENT, DISMAYED AND ANGRY, QUICKLY TELEPHONED MRS. KENNEDY'S MAID AND TOLD HER TO PACK COOL CLOTHING. HE WAS ADVISED THAT HER BAGS ALREADY WERE ON THE WAY TO THE AIRPORT IN A HELICOPTER. MANCHESTER SAYS KENNEDY "CHEWED OUT" GEN. MCHUGH, WHO HAD OBTAINED THE WEATHER FORECAST.

THE DEPARTURE INTERRUPTED WHAT MANCHESTER CALLS A "CLOSELY GUARDED SECRET"--THAT KENNEDY WAS TAKING LESSONS IN FRENCH. HE HAD CONCLUDED THAT HE WOULD BE MORE EFFECTIVE IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH PRESIDENT CHARLES DE GAULLE OF FRANCE IF HE SPOKE DE GAULLE'S LANGUAGE.

HIS TUTOR, WHO ALSO WAS TUTORING CAROLINE KENNEDY, TOLD THE PRESIDENT IT WOULD TAKE HIM A YEAR TO BECOME PROFICIENT. HE REPLIED THAT HE COULD DO IT IN SIX MONTHS.

LARGE AND FRIENDLY CROWDS GREETED THE PRESIDENTIAL PARTY IN TEXAS AND THE TOUR APPEARED TO BE DEVELOPING INTO A COMPLETE SUCCESS.

BUT THE POLITICAL FEUDING CONTINUED UNABATED.

THE BOOK SAYS CONNALLY WANTED TO RUN AHEAD OF THE TICKET IN 1964, THAT HE WANTED YARBOROUGH TO LOSE THE ELECTION, AND HE PLANNED TO MAKE POLITICAL GAINS FROM KENNEDY'S TOUR.

ONE OF THE GOVERNOR'S STRATAGEMS, MANCHESTER ASSERTS, WAS TO HAVE TWO-TIERED HEAD TABLES SET UP FOR THE LUNCHEES IN AUSTIN AND DALLAS. THIS WAS PART OF THE REASON, THE BOOK ASSERTS, WHY THE DALLAS TRADE MART WAS CHOSEN FOR THAT LUNCHEON. MANCHESTER SAYS THE GOVERNOR PLANNED TO BE SEEN SITTING WITH KENNEDY AND JOHNSON AT THE TOP TABLE WHILE YARBOROUGH SAT WITH "LESSER OFFICIALS" AT THE LOWER TABLE.

EA57

AGENTS NOTIFIED THE SENATOR THAT HE WAS TO RIDE WITH JOHNSON IN THE MOTORCADES. BUT YARBOROUGH TWICE CHOSE TO RIDE WITH FRIENDS.

MRS. KENNEDY, THE BOOK REPORTS, TOOK A DISLIKE TO CONNALLY. HER HUSBAND ASKED WHY AND SHE REPLIED:

"I CAN'T STAND HIM ALL DAY. HE'S JUST ONE OF THOSE MEN--OH, I DON'T KNOW. I JUST CAN'T BEAR HIS SITTING THERE SAYING ALL THESE GREAT THINGS ABOUT HIMSELF. AND HE SEEMS TO BE NEEDLING YOU ALL DAY."

THE PRESIDENT SAID THE PURPOSE OF THE TOUR WAS TO END THE FEUDING IN TEXAS. "I'M TRYING TO START BY GETTING TWO PEOPLE IN THE SAME CAR," HE SAID, EVIDENTLY REFERRING TO YARBOROUGH AND JOHNSON. HE ASKED HIS WIFE TO STIFLE HER FEELINGS ABOUT CONNALLY AND MANCHESTER. WRITES THAT SHE DID.

THE FIRST LOOK INSTALLMENT ENDS WITH A LENGTHY RECITAL OF OSWALD'S LIFE, HIS MOVEMENTS TO RUSSIA, AND HIS OFTEN-STORMY RELATIONS WITH MARINA OSWALD.

DH417AES