

MANCHESTER

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LONDON, MARCH 4 (AP)-AMERICAN AUTHOR WILLIAM MANCHESTER SAID TODAY RANDOLPH CHURCHILL'S ACCOUNT OF THE CONTROVERSY OVER THE BOOK "THE DEATH OF A PRESIDENT" WAS "AN AMALGAM OF INACCURACY, DISTORTION AND MISCONCEPTION."

CHURCHILL CRITICIZED MANCHESTER'S DEALINGS WITH THE KENNEDY FAMILY IN TWO ARTICLES IN "THE TIMES" LAST MONTH. IN A LETTER PUBLISHED IN THE NEWSPAPER TODAY MANCHESTER ACCUSED CHURCHILL OF SLURRING HIS INTEGRITY.

"AT NO TIME DURING HIS RESEARCH, IF ANY, DID HE APPROACH ME OR MY REPRESENTATIVES, AND HIS ACCOUNT OF THE CONTROVERSY OVER 'THE DEATH OF A PRESIDENT' IS AN AMALGAM OF INACCURACY, DISTORTION AND MISCONCEPTION," SAID MANCHESTER IN HIS LETTER.

MANCHESTER SAID MRS. JOHN F. KENNEDY HAD NOT READ THE MANUSCRIPT WHEN SHE MOVED TO STOP THE BOOK FROM BEING SERIALIZED IN LOOK MAGAZINE.

AFTER READING IT, HE SAID, MRS. KENNEDY ASKED HIM TO DELETE 3,600 WORDS FROM THE 360,000-WORD BOOK--"ONE PER CENT OF THE TEXT. SINCE ALL HER SUGGESTIONS WERE PERSONAL, I READILY ACCEPTED THEM."

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