

Jackie Won't Read the Book... Too Painful

NEW YORK — (AP) — An attorney for Mrs. John F. Kennedy looked at the manuscript of the book, "Death of a President," for the first time yesterday.

Rifkind said he spent "many hours" looking at the manuscript, and that Mrs. Kennedy was with him a good portion of the time. She left, however, before he did.

Photographers snapped a picture of Mrs. Kennedy

He said he took Mrs. Kennedy along with him, but she did not read it because she felt it would be too painful.

Simon H. Rifkind, who filed a suit in Manhattan Supreme Court yesterday on behalf of Mrs. Kennedy to block publication of the book, said he

leaving a building in the area.

Meanwhile, an attorney for another defendant in the case said "there's never been a case like this before."

The lawyer, Edward S. Greenbaum, representing Harper & Row, said yes-

viewed the manuscript at the Wall Street office of David Peck, an attorney for Cowles Communications, one of the defendants.

I asked him (Peck) to expose to my view the manuscript of the story which I had never seen before," said

terday he would file an answer to Mrs. Kennedy's suit, probably Thursday.

"You'll know what tack our defense will take when you see our answer," said

—Turn to Page 19, Col. 1

Rifkind. "He was glad to exhibit it to me.

"I wanted to have Mrs. Kennedy along to answer any questions that might come up. She did not want to read it because it would be too painful. From time to time, she answered questions."



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Greenbaum, Harper's counsel for 40 years.

He was an Army Brigadier General in World War II and is a former member of the U.S. Delegation to the United Nations.

Mrs. Kennedy asked the Manhattan Supreme Court Friday to bar publication by Harper & Row and Look Magazine of William Manchester's account of the assassination of President Kennedy and the events surrounding it.

Mrs. Kennedy charges breach of contract, invasion of privacy and infringement of her copyright by unauthorized use of her name in advertisements and promotion.

She names Harper & Row, Cowles Communications Inc. and Manchester as defendants.

She said 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 strenuously to avoid."

Justice Saul Streit said he would "decide the matter shortly" after a Dec. 27 hearing.

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The case itself reads like a plot from a book. Besides two prestigious publishing firms and a cast of distinguished lawyers, it involves the widow of an assassinated president and his brother, a U.S. Senator regarded as a future presidential candidate, and a multi-million dollar property, the book itself.

Indirectly, it also involves President Johnson, since it is widely reported that the book presents him in an unfavorable light.

The Manchester book was commissioned by Mrs. Kennedy because she wanted an account assured of "accuracy," good taste and dignity."

In return for the cooperation of the Kennedys and others involved in the events surrounding the assassination, Manchester agreed to give Mrs. Kennedy and Sen. Kennedy the right to approve the work before publication, which was not to come before Nov. 22, 1968.

Mrs. Kennedy gave Manchester ten hours of tape-



—AP Wirephoto

SLIPPING OUT THE JUDGE'S SIDE DOOR

A dead-serious Jackie evaded the press

recorded interviews during which, friends say, she made no attempt at self-censorship of her deepest thoughts.

A publishing official — one of the defendants — who has read Manchester's book commented:

"I think Mrs. Kennedy is just having second thoughts that she was too emotional and outspoken in her interview with Manchester. She never asked to see the manuscript. I think it is too bad. She has been ill advised."

One source close to the case said he expected there would be telephone calls between the opposing lawyers. Asked if that meant a compromise, or out-of-court settlement, he replied: "Well that's the purpose of the phone calls."

If Mrs. Kennedy is upheld by the court, and appeals fail the effect would be felt immediately by Look, which paid \$665,000 for serial rights to the book.

It has scheduled a four-part series or 80,000 words taken from the 300,000-word book beginning with the Jan. 24 issue due out Jan. 10.

Spokesmen for the magazine, owned by Cowles Communications Inc., said there is every indication the issue would be cancelled entirely in that event. Parts of the issue have already been

printed and there would not be time to prepare a substitute, they said.

The loss in advertising and circulation revenue would be a "stunner," said a spokesman. The magazine averages \$3 million an issue in advertising revenue.

Legal sources were widely quoted as saying Mrs. Kennedy has a strong case.

One factor cited in her favor is a telegram Sen. Kennedy sent to Harper & Row last Aug. 5 reminding the publishers that they must obtain his and Mrs. Kennedy's permission before publication and "that has not been given."

Another, according to the legal sources, is Mrs. Kennedy's charge that her rights under the New York State Civil Rights Act are being violated by use of her name by Look in advertisements and promotional circulars.