

SF Chronicle 20 December 1966

**Legal Maneuvers****Way Out Sought  
In Book Dispute***Associated Press*

Attorneys in the battle over "The Death of a President" maneuvered yesterday for a compromise on passages which Jacqueline Kennedy regards as too starkly personal for publication.

With eight days left before a court hearing on a suit to block publication of the book, a spokesman for the publishing firm of Harper & Row reported "continuing efforts to patch things up."

Mrs. Kennedy's brother-in-law, Senator Robert F. Kennedy (Dem-N.Y.) declared: "It's what she feels that's important here. It's very, very, distressing to her. She is a very sensitive woman."

**LEAKS**

Bit by bit, in leads from people who have read author William Manchester's 300,000-word manuscript — or an 80,000-word Look Magazine abstract — the disputed passages were being made public.

A former high official in the Kennedy Administration cited a portion of the book which Mrs. Kennedy found objectionable:

"There was a letter Mrs.

Kennedy wrote to the President while she was in Greece. It was highly personal. She described her feelings about her husband to her husband. Manchester used several quotes from the letter and I do know that Mrs. Kennedy objected to this."

**'BLOOD'**

Another disputed passage described in Mrs. Kennedy's own words the last night she spent with her husband before going to Dallas.

One who read the manuscript said "there was too much blood and guts" in its description of the actual shooting of the President.

Another described as "heartbreaking" an intimate account of how the assassination and the President's funeral were explained to President Kennedy's children, Caroline and John F. Jr.

Altogether, Mrs. Kennedy would like to see about 10,000 words of the book deleted or toned down. She considers these "sensational" and feels that proof of this is that these 10,000 words are almost all included in the serialization planned by Look.

Mrs. Kennedy's lawyer, Simon H. Rifkind, said he did not rule out the possibility that the Kennedy family's suit might be settled short of a trial.

The hearing on December 27 before a Manhattan judge of the New York Supreme Court will be on a petition by Mrs. Kennedy and Senator Robert Kennedy for an injunction to bar publication.