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FOURTH NIGHT LEAD KENNEDY BOOK
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NEW YORK, DEC. 21 (AP)-MRS. JOHN F. KENNEDY TODAY WON CUTS OF MATERIAL SHE CONSIDERED OFFENSIVE AND AGREED TO LET LOOK MAGAZINE GO AHEAD WITH SERIALIZATION OF THE BOOK "THE DEATH OF A PRESIDENT."

MRS. KENNEDY WITHDREW HER SUIT, A STATEMENT SAID, "SINCE EVERY PASSAGE OF A PERSONAL NATURE UNDER CONTENTION FOR SEVERAL MONTHS WAS EITHER DELETED BY LOOK OR CHANGED TO HER SATISFACTION."

GARDNER COWLES, EDITORIAL CHAIRMAN OF COWLES COMMUNICATIONS, PUBLISHERS OF LOOK, SAID THE MAGAZINE HAD AGREED TO CHANGES OF ONLY 1,600 WORDS WHICH "IN NO WAY AFFECTED THE HISTORICAL ACCURACY OR COMPLETENESS OF THE BOOK."

LOOK EDITOR-IN-CHIEF WILLIAM ATTWOOD SAID:

"WE ARE SATISFIED."

THE SETTLEMENT PERMITS LOOK TO GO AHEAD WITH ITS FOUR-PART, 60,000-WORD SERIALIZATION STARTING IN THE JAN. 10 ISSUE.

SOURCES CLOSE TO THE FORMER FIRST LADY SAID THE DELETIONS CONCERNED SOLELY MATERIAL SHE HAD TAPE-RECORDED FOR AUTHOR WILLIAM MANCHESTER ABOUT HER PERSONAL REACTIONS AND ESPECIALLY PARTS INVOLVING HER TWO CHILDREN, CAROLINE, THEN 5, AND JOHN, THEN 2.

THEY SAID NONE OF THE DELETED MATERIAL DEALT WITH SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY, D-N.Y., WHO HAD BEEN REPORTED FACING POLITICAL TROUBLE BECAUSE OF IT.

A STATEMENT IN MRS. KENNEDY'S NAME SAID:

"SINCE EVERY PASSAGE OF A PERSONAL NATURE UNDER CONTENTION FOR SEVERAL MONTHS WAS EITHER DELETED BY LOOK OR CHANGED TO HER SATISFACTION, MRS. KENNEDY HAS WITHDRAWN HER SUIT..."

"I HAVE BEEN TOLD THERE ARE HISTORICAL INACCURACIES AND UNFAIR REFERENCES IN THIS BOOK. THAT THEY HAVE BEEN WRITTEN IS UNFORTUNATE. HOWEVER, IT WAS CLEAR BEFORE BRINGING THIS SUIT THAT HISTORICAL JUDGMENTS, EVEN IF INACCURATE, COULD NOT PROPERLY BE SUPPRESSED BY A COURT OF LAW.

"IN TIME, HISTORY WILL DEAL FAIRLY AND JUSTLY WITH THIS PERIOD."

WILLIAM ATTWOOD, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF COWLES PUBLICATIONS, INC., SAID:

"WE ARE SATISFIED."

THE SETTLEMENT WITH LOOK MAY SET A PATTERN FOR SETTLEMENT OF MRS. KENNEDY'S LAWSUIT AGAINST MANCHESTER AND HIS PUBLISHERS, HARPER & ROW.

AT MIDDLETOWN, CONN., MANCHESTER WAS SAID TO BE UNAVAILABLE FOR COMMENT. SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY, VACATIONING IN SUN VALLEY, IDAHO, REFUSED COMMENT.

SEN. EDWARD KENNEDY, D.-MASS., COULD NOT BE REACHED FOR COMMENT AT HIS SQUAW ISLAND, MASS., RETREAT WHERE HE IS SPENDING CHRISTMAS.

HOWEVER, SIMON RIFKIND, MRS. KENNEDY'S LAWYER, SAID MANCHESTER "APPARENTLY APPROVES THE SETTLEMENT WITH LOOK."

IN ADVANCE, HARPER & ROW HAD EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS TO GO ALONG WITH ANY SETTLEMENT REACHED WITH LOOK.

RIFKIND INDICATED NEGOTIATIONS WOULD BE UNDERTAKEN SHORTLY WITH MANCHESTER AND HIS PUBLISHERS. HE DID NOT SET A TIME.

LOOK'S EARLIER DEADLINE HAD LED TO A CONCENTRATION OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE MAGAZINE.

"FIRST THINGS FIRST," WAS THE WAY RIFKIND PUT IT.

MRS. KENNEDY'S SUIT AGAINST MANCHESTER, LOOK AND HARPER & ROW HAD BEEN SCHEDULED FOR A COURT HEARING NEXT TUESDAY IN MANHATTAN. AT THAT TIME, SHE WAS TO HAVE SOUGHT AN INJUNCTION AGAINST PUBLICATION OF THE TEXT AS WRITTEN.

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LOOK PLANS TO PUBLISH THE FIRST PART OF A FOUR-PART SERIALIZATION OF 60,000 (CQ) WORDS FROM THE BOOK IN ITS JAN. 24 ISSUE, DUE ON NEWSSTANDS JAN. 10. HARPER & ROW HAS ARRANGED TO BRING OUT THE FULL, 300,000-WORD HARD COVER BOOK IN APRIL.

MEANWHILE PUBLISHING SOURCES IN NEW YORK SAID THAT REGARDLESS OF HOW THE LAW SUIT COMES OUT, THERE ALMOST CERTAINLY WILL BE CONTRABAND VERSIONS OF THE BOOK CONTAINING ALL OF THE INTIMATE PERSONAL DETAIL WHICH MRS. KENNEDY FOUND OBJECTIONABLE.

A SPOKESMAN FOR HARPER & ROW SURMISED THAT DUPLICATES OF THE TEXT WERE MADE SURREPTITIOUSLY WHILE 25 COPIES WERE CIRCULATING AMONG PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS PRIOR TO LOOK'S PURCHASE OF THE RIGHTS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID "ALMOST CERTAINLY" A FACSIMILE OF THE TEXT HAS REACHED OUTLAW PUBLISHERS ON FORMOSA WHO HAVE REPEATEDLY PIRATED AMERICAN BOOKS.

A LOOK EXECUTIVE SAID HE KNEW THAT "AT LEAST ONE COPY" WAS MADE WHILE LOOK'S EDITORS WERE CONSIDERING THE PURCHASE OF THE SERIALIZATION RIGHTS AND COMMENTED: "THIS IS THE AGE OF THE COPY MACHINE. ANY ASTUTE OFFICE BOY CAN RUIN YOU."

OWNERS OF THE RIGHTS COULD INVOKE THE PROTECTION OF THE COPYRIGHT LAWS AGAINST THE SALE OF CONTRABAND COPIES IN THE UNITED STATES.

BUT ROGER SMITH, NEWS EDITOR OF THE TRADE JOURNAL PUBLISHERS WEEKLY, POINTED OUT THAT PIRATE PUBLISHERS "CAN SELL THE BOOK ANYWHERE THEY WANT TO--ASIA, SOUTH AMERICA, EUROPE--AND MAKE VAST PROFITS."

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