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(170) WITH KENNEDY BOOK

NEW YORK, DEC. 27 (AP)-HERE IS THE TEXT OF A JOINT STATEMENT ISSUED TODAY FOR MRS. JOHN F. KENNEDY AND HARPER & ROW, PUBLISHERS OF THE BOOK, "THE DEATH OF A PRESIDENT:"

A REPRESENTATIVE OF HARPER & ROW AND FOR MRS. JOHN F. KENNEDY HAVE BEEN MEETING FOR THE PAST SEVERAL DAYS. THEY HAVE BEEN MAKING STEADY PROGRESS TOWARD AN AMICABLE SETTLEMENT. THE UNFORTUNATE ILLNESS OF THE AUTHOR, WILLIAM MANCHESTER, HAS MADE IT NECESSARY TO CONTINUE THESE DISCUSSIONS OVER A LONGER PERIOD THAN WAS ANTICIPATED.

BOTH PARTIES HAVE AGREED TO CONTINUE CONSULTATIONS WITH MR. MANCHESTER AND HIS REPRESENTATIVES, AS WELL AS NEGOTIATIONS AMONG THEMSELVES, FOR THE ADJUSTMENT OF OUTSTANDING DIFFERENCES.

DESPITE THE AUTHOR'S ILLNESS, SUFFICIENT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE SO THAT MRS. KENNEDY HAS DECIDED NOT TO PRESS HER MOTION FOR A TEMPORARY INJUNCTION; AND, ALTHOUGH HARPER & ROW INTEND TO PUBLISH THE BOOK, IT HAS VOLUNTARILY AGREED NOT TO DO SO BEFORE APRIL 1 EVEN THOUGH THERE IS NO COURT ORDER FORBIDDING PRIOR PUBLICATION.

BOTH PARTIES HAVE AGREED TO REQUEST A TRIAL DATE FOR MID-JANUARY IN THE EVENT THAT NO AGREEMENT IS REACHED.

THE SOLE OBJECT OF THIS ARRANGEMENT IS TO GIVE ALL PARTIES INCLUDING THE AUTHOR SUFFICIENT TIME FOR THOROUGH DISCUSSION.

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