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MIDDLETOWN, CONN., DEC. 31 (AP)-AUTHOR WILLIAM MANCHESTER WENT HOME SATURDAY, SIX DAYS AFTER HE WAS HOSPITALIZED WITH PNEUMONIA.

MANCHESTER, AUTHOR OF "THE DEATH OF A PRESIDENT," WAS IN "EXCELLENT SPIRITS," ACCORDING TO HIS PHYSICIAN, DR. F. ERWIN TRACY.

THE 44-YEAR-OLD AUTHOR HAD "COMPLETELY RECOVERED FROM THE PNEUMONITIS WHICH HAD CENTERED IN THE LOWER LOBE OF HIS LEFT LUNG," TRACY SAID.

MANCHESTER WAS TAKEN TO MIDDLESEX MEMORIAL HOSPITAL IN AN AMBULANCE EARLY MONDAY MORNING.

ALTHOUGH HIS TEMPERATURE WAS UP TO 104 WHEN HE WAS HOSPITALIZED, IT WAS BACK DOWN TO NORMAL BY NOON MONDAY.

TRACY SAID HIS PATIENT WAS GOING TO REST AT HOME FOR 10 DAYS TO TWO WEEKS.

AT THE MANCHESTER HOME, THE AUTHOR'S WIFE, JULIA, SAID HE WAS IN BED, RESTING.

MRS. MANCHESTER SAID HER HUSBAND HAD RECEIVED HUNDREDS OF LETTERS AND TELEGRAMS OF SUPPORT AND SYMPATHY, AND WANTED TO SAY HE IS "DEEPLY GRATEFUL" FOR THEM.

NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN MRS. JOHN F. KENNEDY AND HARPER & ROW, PUBLISHERS OF MANCHESTER'S BOOK, WERE SCHEDULED TO RESUME AFTER THE NEW YEAR'S WEEKEND.

A HEARING ON MRS. KENNEDY'S SEPARATE SUIT AGAINST MANCHESTER WAS POSTPONED UNTIL JAN. 16 BECAUSE OF THE AUTHOR'S ILLNESS.

MRS. KENNEDY, WHO CLAIMED PASSAGES IN THE BOOK CONSTITUTED AN INVASION OF PRIVACY, SENT MANCHESTER A GET-WELL TELEGRAM WHILE HE WAS IN THE HOSPITAL. A SIMILAR TELEGRAM WAS SENT BY SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY, D-N.Y.

MANCHESTER WAS COMMISSIONED BY THE KENNEDY FAMILY TO DO THE BOOK ON THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY.

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