(370)

FRANKFURT, GERMANY, JAN. 8 (AP)-THE MAGAZINE DER STERM SAID TONIGHT IT HAS REFUSED A LAST-MINUTE REQUEST BY THE KENNEDY FAMILY TO DELETE PORTIONS OF ITS SERIALIZATION OF "THE DEATH OF A PRESIDENT."

IT SAID IT INTENDED TO BEGIN PUBLICATION TUESDAY OF "THE UNABRIDGED VERSION" OF AMERICAN AUTHOR WILLIAM MANCHESTER'S BOOK ABOUT THE 1963 ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY.

A STATEMENT FROM DER STERN SAID SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY, D-N.Y.,
ASKED IT TO MAKE THE SAME CUTS THE AMERICAN MAGAZINE LOOK HAD
AGREED TO. IT QUOTED A TELEGRAM FROM KENNEDY AS SAYING:

"I APPEAL TO YOU ON MY OWN BEHALF AND ON THE BEHALF OF MRS.

JOHN F. KENNEDY TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY ACTION TO CONFORM DER STERN

PUBLICATION OF MANCHESTER INSTALLMENTS TO FINAL LOOK TEXT.

"I ASSURE YOU THERE IS NO MATERIAL OF HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE IN DELETED PASSAGES WHICH RELATE ONLY TO PERSONAL MATTERS WHICH WOULD CAUSE DISTRESS TO MRS. KENNEDY AND THE ENTIRE KENNEDY FAMILY."

DESCRIBING KENNEDY'S APPEAL AS COMING "IN THE LAST MINUTE,"

DER STERN SAID ITS EDITOR-IN-CHIEEF, HENRI NANNEN HAD WIRED HIS

REGRETS TO THE SENATOR FOR "NOT BEING ABLE TO MAKE THE REQUESTED

DELETIONS."

IT QUOTED NANNEN'S TELEGRAM:

"IF I WERE OF THE OPINION THAT MANCHESTER'S DESCRIPTION WOULD HURT THE FEELINGS OF MRS. KENNEDY OR HER CHILDREN, THEN DER STERN WOULD NOT PRINT THIS REPORT.

"MOREOVER, I BEG YOU TO UNDERSTAND THAT THE GERMAN READERS
WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED A CENSORED PRESS FOR 12 YEARS ARE VERY
SENSITIVE ABOUT ENCROACHMENT UPON THE INDEPENDENCE OF AN AUTHOR.
THEREFORE, IT SEEMS TO ME THAT IT IS ALSO IN YOUR AND MRS. JOHN F.
KENNEDY'S INTEREST IF DER STERN IS NOW PUBLISHING THE UNABRIDGED
AND UNCENSORED VERSION."

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DER STERN SAID KENNEDY INFORMED IT THAT LOOK WAS WILLING TO PAY FOR THE DELETIONS IN INSTALLMENTS ALREADY IN TYPE. A NEW YORK SPOKESMAN FOR LOOK CONFIRMED THIS.

THE GERMAN MAGAZINE PURCHASED THE SERIALIZATION RIGHTS FROM LOOK.

LOOK AND MRS. KENNEDY REACHED AN AGREEMENT ON THE DELETIONS AFTER SHE BROUGHT A COURT ACTION AGAINST THE MAGAZINE. LOOK'S VERSION OF THE BOOK ALSO COMES OUT TUESDAY.

DER STERN SAID ITS SERIALIZATION WILL BEGIN JAN. 15 OUTSIDE OF GERMANY.

IN WASHINGTON, AN AIDE TO SEN. KENNEDY SAID A TELEGRAM THE SENATOR RECIVED FROM NANNEN SATURDAY SAID DER STERN WAS INFORMED ONLY A FEW DAYS AGO BY LOOK WHICH PASSAGES WERE TO BE DELETED AND FOR THE FIRST TIME REALIZED THEY WERE NOT POLITICAL PASSAGES BUT PERSONAL WITH RESPECT TO MRS. KENNEDY.

THE AIDE SAID HE ASSUMED LOOK AND DER STERN WERE STILL NEGOTIATING ON THE REQUESTED DELETIONS.

KENNEDY WAS NOT AVAILABLE FOR COMMENT.

--DASH--

(EDS: 1ST GRAF READ IT X X X DER STERN).
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