

MANCH

22 JAN 1967

611 PES

TO

1118 PES

A150 (AGENCIES OUT)
1ST LEAD KENNEDY-BOOK

(480)

BY STANLEY JOHNSON

NEW YORK, JAN. 22 (AP)-A SPOKESMAN FOR THE KENNEDY FAMILY SAID TODAY THAT PUBLISHERS HARPER & ROW FOUND WILLIAM MANCHESTER'S BOOK "THE DEATH OF A PRESIDENT" SO OBJECTIONABLE IN ITS ORIGINAL FORM THAT THEY REFUSED TO HANDLE IT UNLESS HE MADE CHANGES REQUESTED BY MRS. JOHN F. KENNEDY.

RICHARD GOODWIN, AN AIDE TO THE LATE PRESIDENT AND MRS. KENNEDY'S TOP ADVISER ON THE BOOK, TOLD THE ASSOCIATED PRESS THAT THE PUBLISHERS WROTE HER AFTER RECEIVING THE MANUSCRIPT IN MARCH, 1965, THAT:

"THE BOOK IS, IN PART, TASTELESS AND GRATUITOUSLY INSULTING TO PRESIDENT JOHNSON AND, FOR THAT MATTER, TO THE MEMORY OF THE LATE PRESIDENT KENNEDY."

THE PUBLISHERS' LETTER, GOODWIN SAID, ADDED THAT MANCHESTER HAD TURNED "THE TRAGEDY INTO A MAGIC FAIRY TALE."

"AT ONE POINT," GOODWIN SAID IN A TELEPHONE CONVERSATION FROM SAN FRANCISCO, "THE PUBLISHERS SAID THEY WOULD NOT PUBLISH UNLESS THESE CHANGES WERE MADE."

MANCHESTER GAVE HIS VERSION OF THE CONTROVERSY SURROUNDING THE BOOK IN AN INTERVIEW PUBLISHED TODAY BY NEWSWEEK MAGAZINE. IN IT HE SAID HE WAS PITTED AGAINST "PEOPLE WHO ARE BETTING THEIR FUTURES ON ANOTHER KENNEDY ADMINISTRATION, WHO ARE WILLING TO DO ANYTHING."

HE TOLD THE EDITORS OF NEWSWEEK THAT HE HAD NO PROBLEMS WITH THE KENNEDYS UNTIL THEY LEARNED LOOK MAGAZINE WAS PAYING HIM \$665,000 FOR THE SERIALIZATION RIGHTS. MRS. KENNEDY, HE SAID, "WAS CONCERNED OVER THE SUM OF MONEY AND WHAT SHE FELT WAS COMMERCIALIZATION."

HE SAID SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY, D-N.Y., LATER TOOK THE SAME ATTITUDE.

SEN. KENNEDY SAID HERE TONIGHT, "IT ALL FINALLY COMES DOWN TO THE FACT THAT MR. MANCHESTER GAVE HIS WORD AND THEN BROKE IT. NO STATEMENT, OR INTERVIEW, OR DESCRIPTION OF EVENTS, HOWEVER DRAMATIC, CAN ALTER THAT PLAIN FACT."

GOODWIN SAID X X X 9TH GRAF A150

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GOODWIN SAID MANCHESTER'S ACCOUNT, AS PRINTED IN NEWSWEEK, "BEARS NO RELATIONSHIP TO THE ACTUAL COURSE OF DISCUSSION AND CONTROVERSY. READING IT, ONE IS STRUCK BY THE ENORMOUS DIFFICULTY OF ANSWERING STATEMENTS MADE IN COMPLETE DISREGARD OF THE TRUTH."

A151 (AGYS OUT)

MANCHESTER SAID ONLY ONE PER CENT OF THE BOOK--3,600 WORDS-- WAS CUT.

GOODWIN SAID "IN AN EFFORT TO MAKE THE BOOK BOTH ACCURATE AND FAIR, TO REMOVE THE SOMETIMES HORRIFYING AND UNJUST IMPLICATIONS ABOUT SEVERAL INDIVIDUALS, THE PUBLISHERS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE KENNEDY FAMILY RECOMMENDED MANY CHANGES. AS A RESULT ALMOST ONE THIRD OF THE BOOK WAS MODIFIED.

"FOR EXAMPLE, ALMOST ALL THE FIRST CHAPTER WAS DISCARDED OR REWRITTEN" AT ONE POINT.

"HOWEVER, MANY SUBSTANTIAL RECOMMENDED CHANGES WERE NEVER MADE AND OTHERS THAT WERE AGREED UPON WERE LATER RESTORED BY THE AUTHOR WITHOUT INFORMING EITHER THE PUBLISHERS OR THE KENNEDY REPRESENTATIVE."

GOODWIN WENT ON TO SAY THAT "NO MANUSCRIPT WAS EVER APPROVED; ALTHOUGH WE WERE CONSTANTLY ASSURED, BOTH ORALLY AND IN WRITING, THAT THE REQUESTED CHANGES WOULD BE MADE, NOT ONLY WERE THEY NOT MADE, BUT MATERIAL WHICH HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN DELETED WAS RESTORED.

"EVEN AFTER MR. MANCHESTER REFUSED TO MAKE CHANGES IN THE INTEREST OF ACCURACY, HE CONTINUALLY PROMISED TO MAKE THE CHANGES REQUESTED BY MRS. KENNEDY...IT WAS THE FAILURE TO MAKE THESE CHANGES AND FOR THAT REASON ONLY THAT LEGAL ACTION WAS FINALLY BROUGHT.

"ALMOST EVERY INCIDENT AS DESCRIBED BY MR. MANCHESTER IN NEWSWEEK IS AS FICTIONAL AS SOME OF THE MOST OBJECTIONABLE PASSAGES IN HIS ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPT."

GOODWIN DID NOT MENTION THE FINANCIAL ASPECTS THAT MANCHESTER STRESSED IN HIS INTERVIEW.

IN MANCHESTER'S INTERVIEW WITH NEWSWEEK, HE SAID KENNEDY BECAME CONCERNED OVER THE FINANCIAL ASPECTS.

"BOBBY WAS XXX 5TH GRAF A122

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(500)

NEW YORK, JAN. 22 (AP)-AUTHOR WILLIAM MANCHESTER, WHO BATTLED MRS. JOHN F. KENNEDY AND SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY, D-N.Y., OVER PORTIONS OF HIS BOOK, "THE DEATH OF A PRESIDENT," SAID TODAY HE WAS PITTED AGAINST "PEOPLE WHO ARE BETTING THEIR FUTURES ON ANOTHER KENNEDY ADMINISTRATION, WHO ARE WILLING TO DO ANYTHING."

HE TOLD THE EDITORS OF NEWSWEEK MAGAZINE IN AN INTERVIEW THAT HE HAD NO PROBLEMS WITH THE KENNEDYS UNTIL THEY LEARNED LOOK MAGAZINE WAS PAYING HIM \$665,000 FOR THE SERIALIZATION RIGHTS.

HE SAID WHEN THE SENATOR TOLD MRS. KENNEDY, THEN VACATIONING AT HYANNISPORT, MASS., SHE "WAS CONCERNED OVER THE SUM OF MONEY AND WHAT SHE FELT WAS COMMERCIALIZATION."

MANCHESTER, GIVING AN EXPANDED VERSION OF HIS SIDE OF THE SENSATIONAL CASE, SAID THE SENATOR LATER TOOK THE SAME ATTITUDE.

"BOBBY WAS SO IRRATIONAL," HE SAID. "HE WAS CONCERNED ABOUT THE MONEY NOW."

EARLIER, MANCHESTER SAID, KENNEDY HAD BEEN ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THE PRICE LOOK PAID, SAYING "GEE, THAT'S GREAT. THAT'S A RECORD, ISN'T IT?"

THE AUTHOR SAID HE NEVER HAD AN AGREEMENT WITH MRS. KENNEDY TO WRITE THE BOOK, BUT ONLY A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE SENATOR.

"SHE DIDN'T HIRE ME," HE SAID.

ASKED IF HE THOUGHT MONEY WAS THE PRIMARY MOTIVE FOR THE KENNEDYS' COURT SUIT TO PREVENT PUBLICATION OF THE BOOK EXCEPT WITH DELETIONS THEY DEMANDED, MANCHESTER SAID "IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO ASCERTAIN THEIR MOTIVES. THEY WERE ALL FOR THE BOOK--BUT NO MAGAZINE SERIALIZATION."

MANCHESTER DESCRIBED A SEPT. 7 MEETING WITH MRS. KENNEDY IN WHICH SHE OPPOSED MAGAZINE SERIALIZATION. AT THIS POINT, HE SAID, FORMER PRESIDENTIAL AIDE RICHARD GOODWIN WAS MADE RESPONSIBLE BY MRS. KENNEDY FOR EVERYTHING THAT WOULD BE IN THE MANUSCRIPT.

"DICK TRIED TO EMASCULATE THE LOOK GALLEYS," MANCHESTER SAID. "AT ONE POINT NEARLY 50 PER CENT OF THE THIRD INSTALLMENT WAS EDITED. IT WOULD HAVE BEEN UNPRINTABLE. HE WAS EDITING LARGELY FOR POLITICAL REASONS--MATERIAL ABOUT BOBBY AND JOHNSON."

MANCHESTER ALSO DESCRIBED A LATER MEETING WITH KENNEDY DURING WHICH, HE SAID, KENNEDY TOLD HIM THAT FORMER PRESIDENTIAL AIDE THEODORE SORENSON HAD ADVISED KENNEDY TO FILE SUIT BECAUSE OF KENNEDY'S POLITICAL FUTURE.

MANCHESTER SAID THE KENNEDY LIBRARY WOULD MAKE \$5 MILLION FROM THE BOOK AND HE HIMSELF ABOUT \$1.5 MILLION. TAXES AND EXPENSES WOULD LEAVE HIM \$500,000, HE STATED.

ASKED ABOUT CHANGES AND DELETIONS IN THE BOOK, MANCHESTER SAID 3,600 WORDS WERE DELETED FROM 360,000--ONE PER CENT. HE SAID HE HAD A LETTER FROM MRS. KENNEDY ASKING FOR 27 DELETIONS OF MATERIAL SHE CONSIDERED TOO PERSONAL BUT THAT "THE FIRST SIX I ENCOUNTERED IN THE GALLEYS INVOLVED LBJ (PRESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON) AND HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH HER OR HER CHILDREN. MY RECOLLECTION IS THAT 17 OF THE 27 CHANGES SHE ASKED FOR WERE MADE."

HE SAID MRS. KENNEDY DID NOT READ THE BOOK UNTIL AFTER SHE FILED SUIT.

MANCHESTER DENIED THE BOOK WAS ANTI-JOHNSON.

"I THINK HE BEHAVED WELL," HE SAID. "WE WERE ALL SLOBS THAT AFTERNOON. HE WAS TRYING. HE WAS STRONG, EFFECTIVE. I AM DISTRESSED THAT THERE HAVE BEEN SO MANY ANTI-JOHNSON STORIES ATTRIBUTED TO THE BOOK. THEY ARE NOT TRUE AND NOT IN THE BOOK AT ALL."

THE SECOND INSTALLMENT IS TO BE DISTRIBUTED BY LOOK THIS WEEK.

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