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LOOK-MANCHESTER (1,000)

BY RELMAN MORIN

AP SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW YORK, MARCH 19 (AP)--AUTHOR WILLIAM MANCHESTER SAYS CHIEF  
JUSTICE EARL WARREN "INVITED" HIM TO STATE THAT THE FINDINGS OF THE  
WARREN COMMISSION ON THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY  
WERE WHOLLY ACCEPTABLE TO THE KENNEDY FAMILY.

WRITING IN LOOK MAGAZINE ABOUT HIS DISPUTE WITH THE  
OVER HIS BOOK, "THE DEATH OF A PRESIDENT," MANCHESTER  
GAVE HIM ACCESS TO THE TESTIMONY AND ALL OTHER  
THE COMMISSION. HE ADDS:

"RATHER CANNILY, I THOUGHT, THE CHIEF  
INVITED ME TO READ A FIRST DRAFT  
A FRIEND OF THE FAMILY, THAT  
KENNEDYS IN EVERY RESPECT."

MANCHESTER WRITES  
BE IMPROPER.

THE LOOK ARTICLE

IN ANOTHER

WAS

PRESIDENT

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MANCHESTER WRITES THAT HE INVESTED, NOT ONLY HIS SAVINGS, BUT 30 MONTHS OF HIS LIFE IN WRITING THE BOOK. NONETHELESS, THE ARTICLE CONTINUES, WHEN HIS DISPUTE WITH THE KENNEDYS WAS AT ITS HEIGHT, ROBERT KENNEDY WIRED HARPER & ROW, THE PUBLISHER, "...I FEEL THE BOOK ON PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S DEATH SHOULD NEITHER BE PUBLISHED NOR SERIALIZED." HE ASKED THE PUBLISHERS TO SO INFORM MANCHESTER.

"...IT IS THIS SHEER INSANITY THAT EXPLAINS THE KENNEDY BEHAVIOR THROUGHOUT THE CONTROVERSY," MANCHESTER WRITES. THE DISPUTE EVENTUALLY HEADED FOR THE LAW COURTS.

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LAST DEC. 13, MRS. KENNEDY BROUGHT SUIT AGAINST LOOK MAGAZINE, HARPER & ROW, AND MANCHESTER, TO BLOCK PUBLICATION OF HIS BOOK. SHE CALLED IT "TASTELESS AND DISTORTED."

WHEN THE CHANGES THE KENNEDYS WANTED WERE MADE, MRS. KENNEDY WITHDREW HER SUIT AGAINST LOOK ON DEC. 21 AND THE MAGAZINE SUBSEQUENTLY PUBLISHED A FOUR-PART SERIAL ON IT. THE SUIT AGAINST HARPER & ROW WAS WITHDRAWN JAN. 16. PUBLICATION OF THE BOOK IS SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 7.

MANCHESTER WRITES THAT ROBERT KENNEDY WAS "APPALLED" WHEN MRS. KENNEDY DECIDED TO TAKE THE CONTROVERSY TO COURTS. HE WRITES:

"THAT EVENING, HER BROTHER-IN-LAW ENTERTAINED FOUR EDITORS AT HICKORY HILL AND TOLD THEM HE WAS APPALLED. SIGNIFICANTLY...HE DID NOT JOIN HER AS COPLAINTIFF."

UNCONFIRMED REPORTS CIRCULATED AT THE TIME THAT KENNEDY AND HIS BROTHER'S WIDOW DID NOT SEE EYE-TO-EYE ON THE MATTER OF THE LAWSUIT. MANCHESTER NOW STATES PUBLICLY THAT THE SENATOR DISLIKED IT.

THE AUTHOR SAYS THAT ALTHOUGH THE KENNEDYS SELECTED HIM TO WRITE THE DEFINITIVE STORY OF THE ASSASSINATION, THEY WERE OF LITTLE HELP TO HIM IN "OPENING DOORS" FOR HIS RESEARCH. "I CAN THINK OF ONLY THREE DOORS THAT SHE (MRS. KENNEDY) ACTUALLY OPENED FOR ME, NONE VITAL," HE WRITES.

SUMMARIZING, THE AUTHOR WRITES:

"ONCE, WE WERE UNITED BY A UNIQUE FRIENDSHIP. BUT NOW VERY DEEP WOUNDS HAVE BEEN INFLICTED. EVENTUALLY, THEY WILL HEAL BUT THE SCAR TISSUE WILL REMAIN UGLY..."

"HAD THE KENNEDYS CHOSEN A PEDESTRIAN TALENT, THE RESULTING CHRONICLE WOULD HAVE BEEN BLAND AND FLAT, YET THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN NO ROW."

MANCHESTER SAYS SOME WILL "DISCLAIM" HIS BOOK, BUT HE WRITES THAT HE EXPECTED THAT FROM THE MOMENT HE FIRST BEGAN PUTTING WORDS ON PAPER.

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