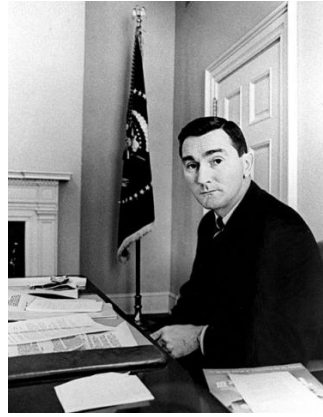




0. KENNY O'DONNELL - Story Preface

1. MISSILES IN CUBA

2. OPERATION ANADYR

3. OPERATION MONGOOSE

4. AMERICA'S FIRST WARNING

5. THE KENNEDY BROTHERS

6. KENNY O'DONNELL

7. THE CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS

8. EX COMM and The Crisis

9. A CLEAR AND PRESENT DANGER

10. THE CRISIS WORSENS

11. EYEBALL TO EYEBALL

12. BATTLE PLANS

13. CLOSE TO THE EDGE

14. AN AMERICAN DEATH

15. A SECRET DEAL

16. THE TRUTH on ENDING the CRISIS

17. A DIFFERENT VERSION

18. KHRUSHCHEV BLINKS

19. THE AFTERMATH

This image depicts a photo of Kenneth P. O'Donnell, Special Assistant to President Kennedy. Abbie Rowe, who was working for the National Park Service at the time of this photo (circa early 1960s), took the picture. It is now maintained at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum in Boston.

One of Bobby Kennedy's close friends was Kenny O'Donnell. Part of the President's inner circle of "Irish Mafia," O'Donnell was a special adviser to the President.

Secretly recorded transcripts of the Missile Crisis deliberations reveal O'Donnell was not part of the meetings or the discussions. On the other hand, as a close friend of the President and Bobby, O'Donnell had extraordinary access. He was usually around—often in the background.

The story is told of a conversation JFK had with Kenny O'Donnell when the Democratic party was considering a vice presidential candidate. Party managers thought Lyndon Johnson would be a good running mate. Although he wasn't sure about it, Kennedy eventually agreed. He told Kenny O'Donnell:

I'm forty-three years old, I'm not going to die in office. So the vice presidency doesn't mean anything.

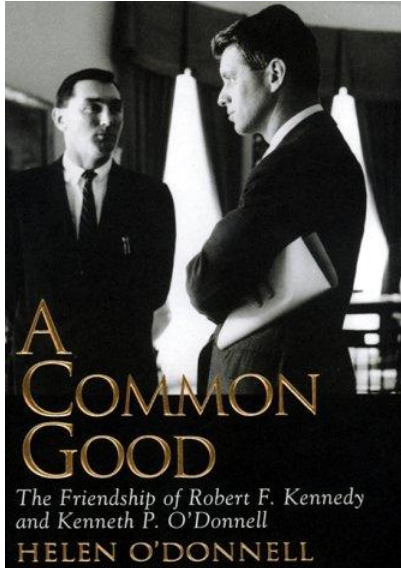
What *did* mean something to the President, beginning with the first day of the Crisis (October 16th), was the unwavering dedication of his most trusted advisers. Most would get very little sleep for the next two weeks.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/KENNY-O-DONNELL-Cuban-Missile-Crisis>

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/KENNY-O-DONNELL-Cuban-Missile-Crisis>



A Common Good - by Helen O'Donnell

Image online, courtesy the [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) website.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/A-Common-Good-by-Helen-O-Donnell>