

THE WINDWARD ISLANDS' OPINION

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jured back, spent five hours towing one of the disabled crewmen to shore. For his heroism and leadership, he won the Navy and Marine Corps Medal. Kennedy in his political career has also proven himself to be a man of courage ... The firm stand which he took during the Cuban crisis in October 1962, demonstrated a part of the courage for which he was noted.

In 1946 at 29 he ran for the House of Representatives and was elected to the Congress... In 1952 he decided to try

for the Senate. And even though he was faced with the difficult task of having to oust the Republican, Henry Cabot Lodge Jr., who held the seat, he did not flinch. Again the young politician succeeded and in the years that followed, young, JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY developed into a competent Senator, which paved the way for his election as President in 1960.

Kennedy got great national recognition during the 1956 Democratic Convention, when the presidential nomination was won by the former Governor of Illinois, Adlai Stevenson. At that time he almost won the nomination of Democratic candidate for the vice-presidency. In a neck-and-neck race he was finally defeated by the late Senator Kefauver, who at that time was very popular because of his fight against the underworld in the United States. Kennedy however was not discouraged, and while the election battle of 1956 was still in full sway, he, with the full support of his family, known as the "Kennedy clan" in America, started laying the ground work for the battle for the presidency in 1960.

Joseph Patrick Kennedy, (now 74) dreamed of a political career for his eldest son Joe, but Joseph Jr. died in the war and to defend the family honour, Jack had to become a politician.

Like his father before him, John F. Kennedy studied at Harvard - He completed his social-economic and historical studies in 3 1/2 years and graduated cum laude, in 1940. He intended to become a writer or a journalist, but after the death of his eldest brother, he was forced to become a politician ... In this he had the whole hearted backing of the entire "clan": Mother Rose, sisters, Eunice, Patricia and Jean, brothers, Teddy and Bobby (the latter now Attorney General of the U.S.), brother-in-laws, sister-in-laws, cousins and later Jacqueline Boudier, Jack's charming and talented wife, all put their "shoulders to the wheel" in helping Jack to the top; in addition Joe Sr., multi-millionaire, supplied the necessary dollars when needed.

In 1960 when John Kennedy was elected President of the United States he had already been in politics for fourteen years - Kennedy who had a great deal of world travel was an exceptionally courageous man, with a firm be-