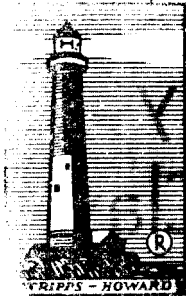


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# The Washington Daily News

A SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER

"Give Light and the people will find their own way."

John T. O'Rourke, Editor-in-Chief      Ray F. Muck, Business Manager

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## Who Gave the Million?

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NOW it turns out that, at the last minute in the Cuban ransom deal, Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy picked up the telephone and got a \$1 million cash pledge from "a personal friend."

This, because Fidel Castro demanded \$2.9 million which the Cuban Families Committee had agreed but failed to pay for the 60 of the most seriously wounded prisoners previously released. A committee headed by Gen. Lucian Clay quickly raised most of the \$1.9 million.

Who was the generous man who so quickly agreed to give \$1 million cash?

The Justice Department will say only he is "a personal friend of the Attorney General, not a businessman, who does not want his name made public."

This is not a sufficient answer. The donor should be identified.

This was no ordinary deal—no ordinary case of Joe Blow, volunteer solicitor, calling up Mr. Rich for a big contribution to the Red Cross.

This was the Attorney General of

the United States—the nation's chief law enforcement officer and the man in an unequalled position to put "the arm on" if he so chose—calling up someone to get him to come thru with \$1 million cash to pay as ransom to the head of a foreign government.

The identity of the individual is important because then, to use a favorite Kennedy family phrase, "a judgment can be made" as to whether the great power of the Justice Department was being exerted upon some hapless individual or whether it was a case of strict friendship and philanthropy, as justice press agents say.

Without any evidence of what happened except the barebones Justice Department announcement, yet having a high opinion of the character and discretion of Robert Kennedy, you guess that full disclosure will show that the Attorney General observed all the proprieties of his high office.

However, since he was transacting public business, we submit the public is entitled to know who, when, where, how and why. This is no case to be handled by "managed news" nor swept under the rug by managed non-news.