

Jimmy Dean

"P. T. 109"

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In forty-three they put to sea thirteen men and Kennedy
Aboard the PT 109 to fight the brazen enemy
And off the isle of Olasana in the straits beyond the roo
A Jap destroyer in the night cut the 109 in two

Smoke and fire upon the sea
Everywhere they looked was the enemy
The heathen gods of old Japan
Yeah they thought they had the best of a mighty good
man

And on the coast of Kolombangaro looking through his
telescope
Australia's Evans saw the battle for the crew had little
hope
Two were dead, some were wounded, all were clinging
to the bow
Fighting fire and a-fighting water trying to save their
lives somehow

Smoke and fire upon the sea
Everywhere they looked was the enemy
The heathen gods of old Japan
Yeah they thought they had the best of a mighty good
man

McMahon the Irishman was burned so badly, he
couldn't swim
Leave me here go on he said 'cause if you don't we'll
all be dead
The PT skipper couldn't leave him a man to die alone at
sea
And with a strap between his teeth, he towed the
Irishman through the sea

Smoke and fire upon the sea
Everywhere they looked was the enemy
The heathen gods of old Japan
Yeah they thought they had the best of a mighty good
man

He led his men through waters dark, rocky reefs and

hungry sharks
Braved the enemies bayonets, a thirty-eight hung
round his neck
Four more days and four more nights a rescue boat
pulled into sight
The PT 109 was gone but Kennedy and his crew lived
on

Now who could guess or who could possibly know
That this same man named Kennedy
Would be the leader of the nation, be the one to take
command
The PT 109 was gone but Kennedy lived to fight again

Smoke and fire upon the sea
Everywhere they looked was the enemy but JFK and his
crew lived on
Which proves it's hard to get the best of a man named
John
Big John, big John, big John, big John

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