

The following article, written by the Cuban students on campus, is a brief resumé of the recent Cuban revolution as they feel it happened. If you have any questions about the events, feel free to write to the Guilfordian and the Cuban students will be glad to answer them in the next issue.

CUBA - A NEW ERA OF PEACE

MIRIAM ALMAGUER and DANIEL MANRESA

January 1, 1958, an important and remarkable date for Cuban people, marks the beginning of a new era of peace and democracy, and also the ending of a period of bloody and cruel oppression exerted by a dictator represented by the government of Batista in the small island-country of Cuba.

This whole situation started seven years ago when, on the morning of the 10th of March, 1952, Fulgencio Batista seized the governmental power by violent means and declared himself president of the Republic of Cuba.

Batista, from a very poor family of the lower class, rose to be a sergeant in the army during the 1930's. At that time Cuban people were not content with their government, and a group of army men under Batista's leadership overthrew that unpopular administration.

For the years that followed, Batista, even though he was not president, was the real ruler of the country through puppet politicians until 1940 when he was elected to the presidency. The first two years of his term of office were very successful because of his efforts to aid the lower class and to improve the education system; but later on he became corrupt and when his term ended he was sent into exile because of the dislike Cuban people had for him.

BATISTA KEEPS CONTACT

Having been given political asylum in the U. S., Batista settled in Florida, but always kept in contact with his military friends in Cuba, who campaigned among uneducated country people and had him elected senator to Cuban Congress. This enabled him to go back to his country with political guarantees in 1948.

Once he was there, he began to conspire among the army, which had always been loyal to him because he symbolized the ambitions of his class. They supported him as candidate for the presidential election which was to be held in June, 1952. He knew he did not have a chance to win, and for this reason, he seized the power by force, helped by all his friends.

Batista did not give a reason for his uncivilized act: his only excuse was that he was going to save the

country from the hands of thieves and criminals and that he was going to supervise a democratic election where the people would have the right to elect their president.

This "coup d'état" came as a big surprise to the Cuban people because Cuba had always been a fairly peaceful country as compared to other Latin-American states. We did not know then that our country was going to be the scene of one of the most sanguinary and cruel civil wars ever, where thousands of people were to be killed in a bloody war of brother against brother.

FIRST OVERTHROW ATTEMPT

We did not agree with Batista's explanation and way of acting, and for this reason on July 26 of the same year Cubans made the first public attempt to overthrow him and his regime when a group of 86 men under the leadership of Dr. Fidel Castro, a young lawyer who had been president of the Student Association in the University of Havana, tried to seize the army headquarters in Santiago, the capital of Oriente.

This uprising was immediately crushed by the government forces because of their superior strength and equipment. Many of the young rebels were killed and the survivors were taken prisoners, tried, and sentenced to an indefinite period in jail. However, shortly, some of them were released and sent into exile, and among these was Fidel Castro. This was the beginning.

In November, 1954, "democratic elections" were held and Batista was elected constitutional president by the army—of course: he was the only candidate on the ballot. Then the dictatorial government became more dictatorial by taking away civil rights from the people, thus putting all Cuban life and property in danger. Many times dead bodies were found on the streets of the towns, and there was no one to give or to ask for explanation of these acts.

CASTRO RETURNS

There were many uprisings during the years that followed, but the leading one occurred on Dec. 2, 1956, when Fidel Castro came back from Mexico with a group of 81 men to the hills of the province of Oriente, Sierra Maestra, to fight for their country's rights. They were all almost wiped out and only 12 were left. This group was the starting point of a rebel army of more than 20,000 soldiers, not including all the supporters of the 26th of July Movement in and outside of our country.

The rebellious forces demonstrated great morality and patriotic ideals during all of the bloody and savage encounters with Batista's murderers. There qualities were the ones the government forces lacked.

As time went on, Castro's army kept on gaining more territory, expanding toward the west, since their goal was Havana. It defeated many companies of army troops in sanguinary battles which showed Batista that he was lost and could not fight any longer. As any man of his kind, he was scared, and his only way out was to flee the country. The man that said he wanted to be the Lincoln of Latin America is nothing more than a coward.

Now, the rebel forces have taken over the country and have formed a provisional government which will serve the purpose of the people until we have reorganized ourselves and our economy again.

And then, by the country's wish, a truly democratic government "of the people, by the people, and for the people" will be established.

The Library? Why Register There Ask Wondering Students

Why have registration in the library?

To those students who have been here only a couple of years, it seemed a bit odd when the announcement came that registration for the second semester would be held in the library. The reason for this change from the gymnasium or union was given by Miss Lasley.

Several factors are against having it in the gym. First, it's much too cold to allow anyone to be comfortable in there; secondly, the floor is slick due to basketball season being in full swing; and thirdly, there would not be room to have registration around the sides (as was done for first semester) without taking up the bleachers. As for the union, "It's just too crowded in there to get anything done," Miss Lasley said.

The library has several advantages. The reading room is large enough to give everyone ample space for the necessary conferences; the magazine room is convenient for setting up the schedules; the typists will be near by in Mem Hall; and, of course, it's just a step or two to the business office for the final act before getting started back to classes.

Contest For College Women Now Open

Mademoiselle is now accepting entries from undergraduate women for its annual College Fiction Contest.

The two winners of the College Fiction Contest will receive \$500 each for the serial rights to their stories and publication in Mademoiselle. The runners-up will receive honorable mention in Mademoiselle and the right to buy their work at regular rates will be reserved by Mademoiselle.

Any woman undergraduate under twenty-six years old who is regularly enrolled in a degree-granting college is eligible. Stories that have appeared in undergraduate publications are acceptable if they have not been published elsewhere. Contestants may submit more than one entry, but stories must be original and fictitious and should run from approximately 2,500 to 5,000 words.

Entries must be typewritten double-spaced on one side of the page only. All work must be clearly marked with contestant's name, age, home address, school address and school year. An 8 1/2" by 11" Manila envelope, self-addressed and stamped, should be enclosed with all entries. Mademoiselle assumes no responsibility for manuscripts received unless they are accompanied by return envelope.

All entries for the contest must be submitted by March 1, 1959 to College Fiction Contest, MADEMOISELLE, 575 Madison Avenue, New York 22.

Aviation Apps Due

Any college Senior who plans to graduate from college prior to March 15, 1959 and expects to enroll in the Aviation Officer Candidate course which convenes at Marine Corps Schools, Quantico, Virginia this March, should make immediate application.

The Aviation Officer Candidate course consists of a ten week indoctrination course which leads to a commission in the U. S. Marine Corps Reserve. Graduates of the ten week course are commissioned second lieutenants and immediately assigned to pilot training at Pensacola, Florida. Further information may be obtained by writing Officer Selection Officer, U. S. Marine Corps, Raleigh, North Carolina.



Snow before, after, but not during Christmas.

MULTI-CAREERED BURR SHAFER ORIGINATES "TIME CARTOONS"

To encourage reader interest, TIME Magazine has mailed out a series of cartoons as part of a special college student's subscription offer.

Burr Shafer, originator of the "History Never Told in TIME" cartoons which arrived in student mailboxes early in January, is enjoying no less than four concurrent and successful careers. As a businessman, he owns and operates a

music store in Santa Ana, California. As an artist, his oils have been exhibited in numerous West Coast galleries. As a cartoonist, he specializes in his own trenchant perspective on history, seen through the misadventures of the mythical J. Wesley Smith—a gentleman whose capers have been delighting readers of *The Saturday Review* for more than fourteen years, and whose collected escapades have been preserved for posterity in two lively volumes published by the Vanguard Press under the titles of *Through History with J. Wesley Smith* and *Through More History with J. Wesley Smith*. Finally, as a lecturer who illustrates as he talks, Mr. Shafer is standing-room-only fare at college and club auditoriums everywhere in the U.S.

Now TIME Magazine has selected 24 of Mr. Shafer's cartoon-comments on history, reproduced them on cards and destined them for the walls and halls of dormitories and fraternity houses from coast to coast.

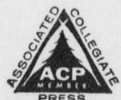
STUDENTS REQUIRED TO TAKE ENGLISH 10

1. Those who use poor English in written work on papers, quizzes, etc., and who are so reported by teachers.

2. Those who fail the comprehensive Examination in English.

Students who are registered in English 10 are required to pass the course. In the event that a student should fail the course he must register for it again, and continue to do so until he passes the course.

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