



# The Salemite

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## Recent Development In Canal Zone Affords Russia With Propaganda

By Dottie Girling

Developments of the past week in Panama have offered Cuba and Russia much material for propaganda against the U. S. intervention and "Yankee imperialism." The Panama Canal Zone ("in effect, a U. S. Government reservation") has been a trouble spot ever since November, 1903, when Panama, then a province of Columbia, revolted and declared, with U. S. protection, its independence. A strip of land, 10 miles by 50 miles, was granted the U. S. under treaty terms.

At present, the Canal Zone (with its 36,000 United States citizens) is important commercially and, especially, strategically for the U. S. hold on its Guantanamo Bay base in Cuba. It is thus unlikely that the zone will be nationalized.

Basic in the conflict in Panama are alleged "discrimination against Panamanians in employment in the zone" and American resentment towards orders that Panamanian and American flags be displayed only side by side and that neither flag be flown in front of schools. Student grievances were particularly responsible for the latter action. The problem is complicated by the

absence of a U. S. ambassador to Panama. The death of President Kennedy delayed appointment of a successor to Joseph S. Farland, who retired four months ago.

On January 7, students raised the U. S. flag before Balboa High School. "Panama was incensed," and the Panamanian flag was planted at the same school. Thursday, January 9, Panamanians tried to storm into the zone. Rioting ensued. And Panama's President Roberto Chiardi severed relations with the United States, demanding "complete revision" of the treaty provisions.

Charges of "aggression" were brought before the United Nations Security Council and the Council for the Organization of American States. The Security Council called for a cease-fire; it was left to a

special O. A. S. Peace Committee to conciliate. On Friday, January 10, after a talk between Presidents Johnson and Chiardi, peace was requested on both sides.

Possible conciliatory steps might include a larger annual fee paid to the republic; employment of more Panamanians within the zone; "new gestures to Panamanian sovereignty and strict measures to U. S. citizens from flouting them; economic aid (which has increased under the Alliance for Progress) to reduce the contrast of living conditions in the zone and in the republic; and, of course, the appointment of a new and "fully acceptable" ambassador to the Republic of Panama.

Source: **The New York Times**, Sunday, January 12, 1964.

## Lack Of Student Support In Library Kennedy Fund Draws Editor's Criticism

Eighty dollars have been given to the Kennedy Memorial Fund, set up to buy books in memory of the late President. It is not a bad sum. According to Mrs. Anna Cooper, this amount could buy 20-25 books with the library's discount.

The amount of money collected equals about 16 cents per person which is not bad at all. However, it appears that eighty girls contributed a dollar each rather than 500 giving 16 cents. What is bad about the small percentage of students who supported the fund is that only two girls voted against it in student government meeting.

The fund is a voluntary project; no one cares how much each student gives. However, if girls sit in a student government meeting and overwhelmingly vote for a project, it is expected that they will support it.

This lackadaisical attitude is what is meant by "silent consent"—afraid to vote for it, afraid to vote against it; afraid to support it, afraid not to support it. The "it" can be anything and the "anything" can be more than a Kennedy book fund.

## Reading Day Transforms Salem Into Hub Of Academic Trauma As First Semester Exams Near

By Carol Cram

Reading Day, 1964, and Salem College is suddenly transformed into a close-knit hub of intellectual activity. The dorms are strangely quiet and study tables line even the living rooms, while girls who haven't studied all year pour diligently over the books. Exam tensions vent themselves in various ways—frantic room cleaning, ironing clothes not touched since Thanksgiving, even scrubbing floors not noticed since the first of school. A calm junior may sleep through most of the day.

Girls in wool slacks and frat sweaters come from the Dean's Coffee with sugar cake on their face and fruit bulging from their pockets. One dress will henceforth carry most students through exams. Pigtailed, tied with multi-colored ribbons, make their first appearance, and faces are devoid of make-up.

Seniors with cars wonder why they never minded staying on campus before and even the non-smokers pull out packs of cigarettes. For a brief week, life seems changed around. Small groups get together to talk in hushed tones of the meaning of life and early philosophers. As we sit with work piled high, it is the wish of almost everyone that there be just a few free hours to curl up with a good book.

Freshmen suffering from first exam panic, are startled by the rowdy screams of the more sophisticated sophomores releasing pent up tensions during noisy hour. Fresh are living through their last "lights

out 'til next Reading Day. But for the sophomores, who must this one day go back to an 11:30 bedtime, "lights out" marks the beginning of exams.

## NSA Warns Us Of The Worker

By Mary Dameron  
NSA Coordinator

The president of the National Student Association, Gregory Gallo, has issued a statement concerning certain Communist publications which NSA member schools, including Salem, have been receiving.

Since many of the mailings, including copies of **Communist Viewpoint** and **The Worker**, have been sent to NSA co-ordinators, the NSA felt it extremely important to inform member schools that at no time was any such group persuaded or permitted to use the mailing list, in which member schools are publicly listed.

Gallo expressed the fact that "the leaders of NSA deeply regret that we have been put in the awkward position of being used by a group so clearly alien to that of the National Student Association."

Member schools were assured that NSA had nothing to do with the mailing and that "we disassociate ourselves from the views of both publications."

Salem has received copies of **Communist Viewpoint**, which will be posted on the NSA bulletin board.

## Seniors Realize Open Minds Of Freshmen

Dear Editor:

As seniors we are delighted to see that we are not the only ones looking to the "outside world." If the letter to the editor written by Melvin, Newman, Gokhale, and Rothfuss, is any indication of general social consciousness on the part of the freshman class, perhaps they should be the ones registering to vote.

For four years we have written about and discussed the civil rights problem at length. Many of us have condemned the conditions existing in the South, but we have failed to take any constructive action to remedy the situation. These freshmen, however, do not stop with condemnation. They have investigated and found ways that we, as concerned students, can DO something about the wrongs we have so easily denounced for many years. What will be done remains to be seen. We hope that their words will not stop with the printed page.

Sincerely,  
Alice Reid  
Frances Bailey

## Students Enjoy Weekend Before Semester Exams

By Linda Lyon

As the semester draws to a close, we observe the following sign up and down the halls! "Flunk now, AVOID THE JUNE RUSH!" A cold deep panic weaves itself in and out the dorms as piles of books, legal sheets, and notebooks are read over and over. The study rooms have twice as many girls in them, with twice as many empty Coke bottles, pens, cigarettes, and empty candy wrappers. The panic is on and tomorrow begins the big day—EXAMS!

Many Salemites sit and reminisce in their spare time over the past weekend. Carlotta Faircloth, Lucy McCallum, Mary Dameron, Pat Redfern, Celia de Gama, Hunter Gourdon, Carolyn Dawson, Bebe Moore, Janice Glenn, Frances Mock, Scott McIver, Valerie Denning, Al Bruton, and many others were among those who danced to the "Shirelles" at Wake Forest Mid-Winters. Other Salemites who preferred out-of-town weekends were Judy Gillespie, Betsy Patterson, Tish Johnston, and Jill Stewart.

Caught in the panic—not totally from exams—but from future plans are Linda Hodges, Becky Matthews, Judy Gillespie, Roddy Stout, Debbie Linton, Pam Truette, Mary Alice Teague, Susie Johnson, and Ann Bull who became engaged over Christmas! Not to be left out are Jean Anne Werner, Pat Wilson, and Betty Lou Schutt who are sporting new pins. Congratulations, girls!

If you happen to come out of seclusion and see a certain suntuined senior sliding across the icy Square—it will most likely be Jackie Lamond who recently returned from a Brazilian Christmas.

Carolina rooters Gail Carter, Bitsie Richheimer, and Betty Jenkins saw the Tar Heels beat the Air Force Academy at the Gator Bowl.

Again the "hush" envelopes each room, and Salemites attempt to make the best of the remaining hours—soon it will be over and the "panic" will be a memory—a memory either pleasant or sad. Good luck!

## Youth Conference Request "For Heaven's Sake" Cast

February 8, the Pierettes will give their controversial play, "For Heaven's Sake!" for the Methodist Youth Conference. This was requested by the conference and will be given here on campus. At present

the three one-act avant-garde plays to be presented this spring are being chosen. After exams the cast of "For Heaven's Sake!" will reassemble to rehearse and ready the sets for their production.

