

Congressman
L. H. FOUNTAIN

Reports

TO THE PEOPLE



WASHINGTON, D. C. — Though it is currently fashionable in some circles to make light of the menace of Russian communism, communism nevertheless still threatens America's survival as a free nation. Russia's move into the Mediterranean and the Middle East since 1967 should make that fact unmistakably clear. It would indeed be dangerous for us to become so engrossed in other concerns — whether domestic or international — that we overlook the necessity for strong defense forces. Russia can only be dealt with from a position of strength. Regrettably, power is all she understands.

I am satisfied though, if we keep militarily strong, with a powerful Army, Navy and Air Force, that it is far less likely we'll ever have to engage in open battle with the Russians. We ought to know by now that weakness on our part simply invited trouble.

That's why the recent revelations about the deterioration of the U. S. military power, especially of Naval and Air power, are so alarming and

disturbing. The Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee may well have been right when he recently stated, "The leaders in the Kremlin are now evidently unimpressed by both our military capability and our national determination to survive."

In other words, Russian leaders know how many ships and planes and missiles we have and have drawn their own conclusions. And unfortunately, they may be interpreting the voices of those who would destroy the very fabric of our society as the voice of the American people. This impression must be changed. It could result in a serious miscalculation and a dangerous confrontation on any one of a number of fronts.

To be specific about just one aspect of the relative military power of Russia and the United States, Russia has become one of the world's two leading sea powers — perhaps the leading power. In recent years we have seen the Russians calmly and quietly move into international waters

where formerly the American Navy sailed alone.

Today the Russians keep an armada of ships—often as many as 65—in the Mediterranean. This gives the Russians a formidable political and military presence there, which probably had a bearing on recent developments in the Middle East. They are also developing similar strength off the coasts of Africa and India and Southeast Asia.

Closer to home, Russian nuclear submarines equipped with missiles are operating off the coast of the United States—including the vast North Carolina coastline.

Communist leaders have thus made it clear that they regard all international waters as a Soviet "ocean."

The Russian fleet is quite large and powerful and, most importantly, modern. Its greatest strength is in submarines—350 of them. Out of this number, 80 are nuclear powered. The newest Russian subs carry 16 missiles with a range of 1300 miles.

Meanwhile, America has only 147 subs, 88 of which are nuclear and only 47 of these are designed to combat the Russian submarine threat.

Our strength in surface vessels compares even more unfavorably. The U. S. Comptroller General recently reported that 50% of the major ships in the Atlantic fleet are

Southern Corn Blight Makes Imperative The Rotation Of Crops

By G. W. KOONCE
Agri. Exten. Agent

The severity of Southern blight of corn caused by a new race of the fungus "Helminthosporium maydis" makes it imperative that a good sanitation and rotation program be put into effect this fall. The cutting or shredding of stalks followed by deep plowing will help to reduce the amount of primary inoculum (fungus spores) in the spring. The degree of success in reducing

more than 20 years old. In fact, the average age of the ships in the Sixth Fleet is 18.3 years—hardly modern.

Along with the news that a Russian submarine base in Cuba may be under construction, we also know that our former missile superiority has evaporated and that Russian fighter and bomber design and production has caught up and perhaps surpassed us.

This is just a sampling of the things our taxpayers as well as our military planners should be aware of in the years immediately ahead. Military expenditures must be kept within bounds—wastefulness cannot be tolerated—but we must always maintain the means for self-defense. There must be no more Pearl Harbors.

the primary inoculum will depend on how well all growers accept the responsibility of doing this on their own farm.

A good method is to use a "bush hog" to shred, then disk the stalks into the soil as soon as possible after harvest. Allow the trash to decay for a few weeks, then plow as deep as possible using a moldboard plow to bury all trash. A jointer or coultter, or any other device, to rake the litter into the bottom of the furrows just ahead of the mold board plow should be used. Plowing should be done early enough in the fall to allow sufficient time for complete decay of crop residue before next spring. Crop residue pulled to the soil surface during spring plowing or cultivation could be a source of fungus spore production which can be blown to other fields. This problem can be overcome by planting a small grain cover crop in the fall followed by no till planting of crops in the spring.

Another approach would be to disk lightly in the spring, plant on the level and apply herbicides to control broadleaf weeds and grasses. If cultivation is necessary to break compaction, cultivate very shallow.

It should be pointed out that

the covering of plant residue by deep plowing is not the entire answer. Neither is crop rotation. However, since corn is the major crop plant affected by this disease, any crop that is compatible in a cropping sequence with corn could be used as a rotation crop to help reduce inoculum. The burning of crop residue immediately after harvest could also reduce inoculum. However, this method should be considered as a last resort.

Seed producers are making every effort to have sufficient seed available for the 1971 crop. It would be useless to list varieties that showed tolerance to the disease during the 1970 growing season since any variety produced with normal cytoplasm would be tolerant. Consequently, the important point is for growers to look for seed made up with normal cytoplasm first, then if enough of this seed is not available the second choice would be blended seed, keeping in mind that a percentage of the blend would be susceptible to the disease.

A word of explanation concerning normal cytoplasm is in order. The new race of southern blight is particularly virulent on the Texas male sterile cytoplasm. This cytoplasm has

produced the male sterile plants used widely in hybrid seed production. Characteristics controlled by cytoplasmic factors are controlled by only the female parent. Therefore, the susceptibility to the new race of the southern blight is controlled by the cytoplasm from the female parent. The male contributes nothing to the offspring in cytoplasmic controlled characters. Since a hybrid can be made up of either normal or Texas male sterile cytoplasm the susceptibility of a hybrid is dependent on how it was produced rather than the pedigree. Because of this unique characteristic it is not wise to rate hybrids in an ordinary manner for their tolerance or susceptibility to the disease. Seed producers will be labeling their seed for 1971 indicating the type of cytoplasm used in the production of the hybrid. The type of cytoplasm should be the characteristic that is considered rather than any particular hybrid designation.

The members of the N. C. Corn Blight Committee making the recommendations are T. Everett Nichols, Jr., J. C. Wells, A. D. Stuart, A. V. Allen, William C. Mills, Jr., Guy S. Parsons, Robert Behlow, J. Ray Harriss, and Woody Upchurch.

Most of these individuals are specialists at N. C. State University, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Marriage Licenses

Leamer N. Rogers, colored, of Henderson, to Mary Noble Glasco of Henderson.

Ivan Richardson, Indian, of Route 1, Hollister, to Iris Jacqueline Francis of Route 2, Warrenton.

William Wayne Ball, white, of Henderson to Dorothy Ann Hunt Clark of Henderson.

Richard Allen Swimm, white, of Chelmsford, Mass., to Kathleen Louise Pitt of Tyngsboro, Mass.

Michael Lee Whitaker, white, of Arlington, Va., to Mary Ann Baker of Falls Church, Va.

Donald Ray Richardson, Indian, of Baltimore, Md., to Cornelia Gray Blagg, white, of Baltimore, Md.

Glenn Kit Black, white, of Springfield, Va., to Linda Anne Shockey of Alexandria, Va.

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