

The Daily Tar Heel

Today's Weather
Cloudy and cooler.

Offices in Graham Memorial

CHAPEL HILL, NORTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1963

United Press International Service

Castro's Isle Looks Normal -- Except...

Salter
In Cuba:
Part II

By GARY BLANCHARD
Second of four articles.

(Ed. Note: It was incorrectly implied in yesterday's story that the Progressive Labor Club formed by Salter, Larry Phelps and a handful of other students during the summer of 1962 was an official campus organization. This was not the case. The club never sought or received University accreditation. In addition, it was not a club with officers and by-laws, but rather a group of like-minded people who met informally and irregularly. The New Left Club, however, met University requirements for accreditation and was therefore officially recognized as a matter of routine.)

"Havana, Cuba, looks normal enough by U. S. standards," says a former University of North Carolina student who spent the summer there.

Normal, that is, except for the Hungarian buses, the one-eyed cars at night, the Soviet ships crowding the harbor, and the men and women taking turns toting submachineguns and rifles outside the buildings in which they work, guarding against counter-revolutionary bombings.

Otherwise, says John Salter, 22, one of the 59 American students who violated the State Department's Cuban travel ban, Havana looks much like any southern, palm-treed, U. S. city. "The people were all well-dressed and wearing shoes. Parking places seemed to be a premium and there was plenty of traffic on the streets, although most of the cars are no newer than 1958 models.

"There is a great lack of spare parts, but not of ingenuity. At night about 20 per cent of the cars had only one headlight. The roads were slick in places from oil leaks.

"The bus service seemed to be more than adequate. You had to wait only a few minutes to



A CARAVAN OF TRUCKS carrying the visiting American students and their guides enters the courtyard of the Minas del Fria school, high in the Sierra Maestra Mountains. These mountains were a Castro stronghold during the early days of his rebellion against the Batista regime.

The students traveled through the mountainous terrain in the backs of trucks. According to Salter, the "Welcome Students" sign in the center of the picture was typical of the reception they got everywhere.

—Photos by John Salter

catch a bus to any point in Havana.

"We were told that the buses are largely old U. S. models bought through Canada, and they cost the Cuban government about \$25,000 each in American money. Perhaps twenty per cent of the buses we saw were new and made in Hungary."

The slightly-built, soft-spoken Greensboro resident, who dropped out of UNC last spring because of low grades and is now job-hunting, says Havana's shops were "well-stocked with clothing and shoes.

"The streets on the whole are no more clean or dirty than those

of Durham," he adds.

"I didn't see any beggars on the streets, but I did see men and women in militia uniforms standing in the doorways of nearly every large building.

"We were told that these were store personnel who contribute something like one day out of every two weeks to the militia, guarding the buildings they work in against counter-revolutionary bombings that once were such a threat to Havana.

"They ranged in age from young men and pretty girls to old women, sitting in a chair with a rifle laid across their knees and nodding to everyone who

goes in."

Salter, who hopes to get his grades up via correspondence courses and return to UNC next spring, said he saw and talked to "hundreds" of Cuban soldiers, but "at no time did I see a Russian in uniform."

"We did see many Russians but they were almost always dressed very casually in Cuban sport shirts. From what I was able to tell, the Soviets mix with the Cuban people to a very large degree, and from what I could observe, they were usually well-accepted.

"In Havana bay," he noted, "I could see Soviet ships everywhere. I saw one that was unloading what appeared to be several score tractors."

Salter also had a chance to sample Cuba's socialized medical system when he developed a touch of flu a few days after his arrival in Havana via Prague, Czechoslovakia.

"A student guide from the University of Havana took me to the Camillo Cienfuegos Clinic. We took a place on a bench in a hall. There was no nurse or attendant to take our names. Patients just went in to see the doctor in order of arrival, unless it was an emergency.

"After a 40 or 45 minute wait we went in to see the doctor. He was puzzled that I had to have someone translate for me.

"The doctor examined me and made out a prescription. Then the guide told him that I was one of the American students and instantly his face was wreathed in smiles. He began pumping my hand and saying that all of Cuba was proud to have us and that during our stay we would be their sons and daughters.

"He seemed very enthusiastic about the reforms the government has made in medicine. He said his pay was 300 pesos a month, based on a forty-hour

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AMERICAN STUDENTS in a 3 1/2-hour meeting with Cuban Economics Minister Che Gueverra, one of several top Cuban leaders with whom the students met during their stay in the country. Gueverra is in the right foreground. Salter

appears fifth from the right, directly above Gueverra's head. Gueverra, long one of Castro's favorites, is responsible for the economic policy of the government.



ROBERT WILLIAMS, formerly of Monroe, N. C., and now in Cuba as a propagandist for the Castro Government, is shown with some of the visiting students. Williams, voice of "Radio Free Dixie" is wanted in North Carolina in connection with the alleged kidnapping of a white couple during racial unrest in Monroe in the summer of 1961.



IN THE "MARTYRS' ROOM" at the University of Havana. Salter is blurry in the right foreground. The flag to the left is the Cuban; the American flag, on the right, was hung in honor of the American visitors. Normally, with the flags of other countries, the American flag is hung on its own right.

—Photo by John Salter

Phipps Tentatively OKs Speaker Ban Meeting

SPU To Demonstrate Against Foreign Policy In Vietnam

By JOEL BULKLEY

Some 50 persons are expected to participate in a protest demonstration against United States foreign policy in South Vietnam on the University campus this afternoon, according to Pat Cusick, national field secretary for the Student Peace Union.

The demonstration here is part of nation-wide protests, coordinated jointly by the Student Peace Union (SPU) and Students for a Democratic Society (SDS), against U. S. economic and military support of the Diem regime in South Vietnam. The Student Peace Union will sponsor the demonstration in Chapel Hill.

John Dunne, chairman of the campus chapter of the SPU, said the protest is scheduled to begin at 2:30 p.m. on the steps of South Building and proceed to the downtown business area.

Cusick said the visit of Mme. Ngo Dinh Nhu, first lady of Vietnam, to the U. S. to gain support for the Diem government marked an occasion for the protest.

In New York, Mme. Nhu spent her first day in this country in silent seclusion. She chose to remain in her mid-town hotel room all day resting and preparing speeches for her forthcoming cross-country trip. Her three-week lecture tour will take

her throughout the United States and will include a day stop in Raleigh.

Indications are the SPU chapter here, and other groups in North Carolina, will be on hand to protest U. S. government policy in Vietnam when she speaks at State College Thursday, Oct. 17.

Dunne issued a prepared statement Tuesday saying, "We contend that the U. S. should withdraw all aid to the Diem regime; the United Nations should then

be authorized to administer all economic aid to the peoples of both North and South Vietnam, and to hold free elections to determine the government of both countries. We strongly urge all those who oppose U. S. support of this tyrannical dictatorship to join with us in protest."

Demonstrations will also be held in Washington, New York, Chicago, Houston, Denver, Louisville, Oberlin, Ohio; Bloomington, Ill.; and Philadelphia, Dunne said.

Six Seats Open In Legislature

A Student Party official Tuesday announced plans for filling six SP vacancies in Student Legislature. Phil Baddour, SP floor leader, said there are two seats open in Dorm Women's Four (East and West Cobb), and two in Town Men's Four (men residing in the area outside corporate limits of Chapel Hill and Carrboro). There also is one vacancy in Dorm Men's Three (Alexander,

Joyner, Connor, and Winston) and one in Dorm Men's Seven (Ehringhaus).

"These seats were won in the spring election by the SP and under the General Election Law these seats may be filled by the SP," Baddour said.

The SP chooses these members through election by the entire party. SP bylaws state that these vacancies must be announced the meeting before the election. The vacancies in Cobb and Town Men's Four were announced at the last meeting.

The other vacancies will be announced at the next meeting, Oct. 15 at 7 p.m. in the Roland Parker Room of GM.

"A person does not have to be a member of the SP to run and anyone interested is encouraged to run," said Baddour. Additional information can be obtained from Neil Jackson, 7 Old West and Baddour, 303 Everett.

Playmakers Rehearse 1st Production

The Carolina Playmakers are rehearsing this week for their first major production of the current season, "Little Mary Sunshine," a musical spoof of operettas.

CASTING was completed last week, and rehearsals are underway for the October 23 opening. Directed by Foster Fitz-Simons, with Charles Horton as musical director, the production will run for six performances through October 27.

Peggy Jones of Durham has landed the title role of Mary Potts (alias Little Mary Sunshine). Miss Jones has appeared with the Durham Theatre Guild, the Triangle Summer Theatre, and the Grass Roots Opera Company. A medical secretary at Duke Hospital, this is her first appearance in a Playmakers production.

The role of Captain Jim Warrington, a forest ranger, will be played by Randolph Umberger of Burlington. He has appeared in numerous productions on the Playmakers stage, and will be remembered for his portrayal of Sky Masterson in last year's musical, "Guys and Dolls."

Muriel Wilson of Durham plays Madame Ernestine, a glamorously delapidated opera star, and Robert Ivey, also of Durham, portrays the comic role of Billy Jester, one of the forest rangers.

Others in the cast are: Graham Pollock, Gatesville; Janice Moore, Beaufort, S. C.; Larry Warner, Rocky Mount; Ben Jones and Sandra Wilson, Wilmington; Hy Field, Charlotte; Roberts Batson, Manzanillo, Dominican Republic; Tom Byrd, Asheville; George Gray, Gastonia; Tommy Henley, Chuck Von Busch, Judy Logan, and Dorothy Silver, Chapel Hill; Pascal Tome, New York City; Barbara Tarlin, Belmont, Mass.; Betsy Crawford, Lumberton; and Gail Patterson Wright, Mt. Airy.

Business Manager John W. Parker has announced that season tickets are still available for the Playmakers' five major productions this year. They are on sale for \$8.00 each at The Playmakers Business Office, 214 Abernethy Hall, and at Ledbetter-Pickard. Individual tickets for each production will be \$2.00.

Following "Little Mary Sunshine," The Playmakers will present "Long Day's Journey Into Night," "The Busy Martyr," "J. B.," and "The Braggart Soldier."

World News Briefs

Commerce Group Passes Accommodations Bill

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Senate Commerce Committee Tuesday approved a public accommodations bill aimed at outlawing racial discrimination in all but small neighborhood businesses.

The measure, passed by a 14-3 committee vote, would in effect leave it up to the courts to define which privately owned establishments catering to the public would be exempted. The controversial bill also

would give local facilities 30 days to desegregate voluntarily before the attorney general or a complainant could file suit in court.

Sen. Warren G. Magnuson (D-Wash.) the committee chairman, said the discrimination ban would not extend to shops or stores that are not part of a chain operation, that primarily serve the neighborhood trade and that do not do business with interstate travelers.

King Issues Ultimatum To Birmingham

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (UPI) — Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. issued an ultimatum Tuesday demanding that Birmingham officials hire 25 Negro policemen within two weeks or face more demonstrations.

The Southern integration leader demanded that Birmingham City Council enter "face-to-face" negotiations with Negro

leaders for the hiring of clerks, firemen and other civil employees as evidence of a "good faith" start at lowering the city's rigid segregation barriers.

He promised "bigger and more determined" protests if the demands are not met, and threatened a huge civil rights march similar to the one in Washington in August.

Govt. Files Suit Against Louisiana

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The federal government filed suit against Louisiana Tuesday seeking to block it from using voter registration application forms to discriminate against Negroes.

Atty. Gen. Robert F. Kennedy said the suit was filed in the U. S. District Court at Baton Rouge. The suit asked the court to declare unconstitutional

provisions of the state constitution and state laws requiring use of the application as a registration test.

The complaint, filed under the civil rights act of 1957 and 1960, said the history of Louisiana's adoption and use of the test demonstrate that it was deemed as disenfranchising Negroes in the state.

2,500 Dead Or Missing In Haiti

PORT AU PRINCE, Haiti (UPI) — Haiti's health secretary said Tuesday that 2,500 persons are dead or missing in the aftermath of hurricane Flora and that the final casualty count may be double that figure.

Secretary Gerard Philippeaux said all of Haiti's Atlantic Coast villages have "disappeared" in an area populated by nearly 130,000 persons.

Material damages are running between 40 per cent and 100 per cent, or total destruction, Philippeaux said.

House Approves Record Defense Budget

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The House today approved a "no letdown" defense spending bill — second largest in peacetime history — by a 335-3 vote. The

measure would provide \$47.2 billion to keep America in fighting trim. The bill now goes back to the Senate for final concurrence and then to the White House.