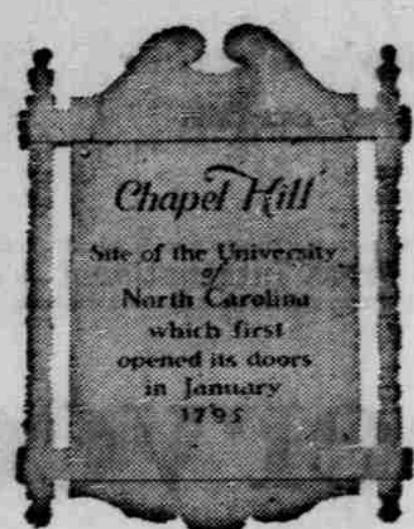


The Daily Tar Heel

70 Years of Editorial Freedom



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SPU Demonstration Raises Questions

The local chapter of the SPU claims to be autonomous, and we believe they are, but they certainly seem more than willing to hit the streets with their placards whenever the national association passes the word down.

Yesterday's rather pitiful demonstration markedly indicates the lack of support the SPU was able to muster for this particularly ill-conceived protest and the fact that the marchers were almost outnumbered by reporters testifies vividly that the march was a dud.

And it is little wonder. The protest was against our government's policy in South Vietnam, and was touched off by Mme. Ngo Dinh Nhu's visit to this country. The marchers contended that the U.S. should withdraw aid to the Diem regime and that the United Nations should be authorized to administer all economic aid to the peoples of both North and South Vietnam; and further, that the UN should hold free elections to determine the government of both countries.

These proposals seem to be so far removed from reality that they become farcical when studied closely.

In the first place, for the United Nations to administer funds to the peoples of both North and South Vietnam and hold free elections, the United Nations would first have to get into North Vietnam, and since that country is not a member of the UN, just how are they going to get there?

Baker's Departure A Tragedy All Around

As the Washington columnists ought soon to be reporting, the resignation of Senate Majority Secretary Bobby Baker of South Carolina could have far-reaching results on national politics, over and above his possible involvement in some illegal business practices.

Baker ranks in Washington as one of Vice President Lyndon Johnson's most stalwart supporters. He worked long and hard up to and including the 1960 Democratic national convention to get Johnson nominated. Although he failed in that attempt, he took considerable satisfaction from the fact that Johnson made the Number Two spot on the ticket.

And, as all who have had the opportunity to meet and talk with him know, including UNC's five Congressional interns last summer, Baker was convinced that Lyndon was the man for the Democrats in 1968. Now that Baker is gone, it may well be that Johnson's chances for the Presidency have also

Already half of the mission is lost.

Secondly, for the UN to go into South Vietnam, the proposal would either have to pass the Security Council and Russia's veto, or go through the General Assembly. If it passed the General Assembly and the Secretary General were authorized to raise a police force, then only those nations who wished to support the policy would have to furnish troops. Hence we are back to the United States providing all the aid we presently do, and having it administered by the UN instead of us.

Thirdly, it is obvious that if the United States had pulled out of South Vietnam, or cut off all aid at anytime in the past, South Vietnam would now be completely in the hands of the Communists. If we cut off aid at this point, it would only be a matter of months before that same end would be accomplished.

None of us like the idea of supporting a tyrannical dictatorship, but either we support the Diem regime, or we step aside for an equally tyrannical Communist dictatorship. We submit that the Diem regime is by far the lesser of the two evils.

In the future, if the local chapter of the Student Peace Union continues to march in shallowly thought through protests against political necessities, they will find the number of their followers dwindling still lower than the ten or twelve who participated in yesterday's demonstration.

departed to a significant extent.

Of more immediate consequence in Baker's abrupt departure, however, is the fate of the Administration's Civil Rights bill in the Senate. Baker was a nose-counter and strategist par excellence, and often acted as the Administration's emissary in the involved backstage politicking of the Senate. With him gone, the Administration may find itself short-handed at a most crucial time.

The worst part of the entire matter, however, is that doubt has been cast upon the integrity of a man who formerly ranked as the most trusted assistant to the executors of the nation's business. His case deserves the most stringent investigation, and our fellow Americans would be well-advised to await the results of that inquiry before passing judgment on this multi-talented man.

New Name For State?

Perhaps it had to happen, but for some strange reason we'd hoped it never would. It's just that, well, State College has always had such a nice, unspotted reputation. And now, well, we can hear the Birchwags already.

"Dictator's den," they'll probably be saying of State, once the Dragon Lady, Mme. Nhu, has spoken there.

In a way, that's why we don't mind the one-upmanship visible in State snagging Mme. Nhu over us here at Carolina.

After all, just think how confusing it would be if we were known as a "Dictator's Den" as well as a "Red Nest."

Besides that, State needs a good short nickname, now that it's name has been made so lawd-awful long. Still, we're sad to see it happen. They do so much else at State besides invite Dragon Ladies to speak, just as most of us at Carolina are involved in a few other things than simply holding cell meetings.

"Don't Think I Stand Idly By — I Keep Asking Them Not To Do This"



Different Views

Trip To Cuba Raises Question

Trip Praised As Encouraging

By RICHARD STARNES
The Washington Daily News

A group of American students has defied the order of some nameless State Department bureaucrat and has gone to Cuba for a long, long visit.

The students, 59 in number, undertook their journey in spite of warnings that travel to Cuba without a special validated passport could subject them to prosecution, fine and imprisonment on their return to the United States.

It is encouraging that these young people went ahead with their plans. It leads one to hope that the present crop of American youngsters is not wholly made up of faceless, frightened puddings who believe Sen. Barry Goldwater is real. Any youngster worth the salt to keep him healthy wants to see what is happening in Cuba (and China as well).

What, one asks, is the State Department afraid the students will see in Cuba?

Is it that the State Department apprehends American boys and girls are not wise enough to see thru to the sham and brutality of a communist state? If this is their fear, they reveal only that it has been overly long since they talked to any bright students.

The truth is that no man alive knows what classes of American travelers are entitled to visit Cuba legally, and what classes are not.

One American reporter, William Worthly, is presently appealing from conviction on charges that he went to Cuba without a passport.

The point is that the right of Americans to travel is given or withheld at the arbitrary whim of the State Department.

Edgar Snow, author of "The Other Side of the River," is white, and he obtained the Government's blessing on a trip to the China mainland. William Worthly is a Negro, and he didn't. Of course, the people charged with the granting and withholding of passports will be horrified at the suggestion that their decisions are colored by the applicants' pigmentation. And, to be sure, they are not. But what does tip the scales?

Is it that one reporter is regarded as more, responsible and/or reliable than another? If this is the case, is it a function of any Government agency to decide which journalist may ply his trade, and which may not? What it means is that the Government has taken a long step toward deciding whose dispatches you may read.

Mr. Snow put it nicely when he wrote in the introduction to "The Other Side of the River": "In judging China today the American reader can no longer comfortably assume that he lives under a system immune from state intervention between himself and the facts. Still greater

conditioning by means of self-censorship is required if the public reflexes are to provide satisfactory responses to stereotyped cold-war idioms increasingly invoked by the state."

That, happy citizens of a free and open democracy, is the heart of the issue involving those 59 students who have committed the crime of wanting to see for themselves.

HUAC Again

Greensboro Daily News

Last week's unseemly row was not the first the House Un-American Activities Committee has had with impertinent youth. In San Francisco three years ago HUAC's probe of California high school teachers led to a riot later immortalized—if that is the word—in the film "Operation Abolition."

We do not profess to know whether either or both these disorders before the same congressional committee had been plotting beforehand. But those who see in the unpardonable behavior of these young men and women the hand of a Communist plot to undermine the legislative process have not been reading the society pages, which recently, to cite one example, detailed a \$10,000 orgy of destruction on Long Island after a debutante party. Violence, tragically, is increasingly the response of those who value neither their elders nor their society; and the mystery is hardly political in nature.

The House Committee, this time, set itself the task of investigating the students who went on an unauthorized tour of Castro's Cuba this summer. At the hearing the committee called a young witness, Barry Hoffman, who made the trip as a spy for the FBI and the CIA. It was his testimony that touched off the disorders.

The trouble, of course, is that the wrong congressional committee, with the wrong record, undertook to do the job. No arm of Congress is more cordially or universally detested by college students than the HUAC. And it would be far better, we think, if the State Department, whose passport regulations they defied, dealt with the students.

Nor are the values of these students, however rudely vented, so false as all that. It is a pretty distorted vision that could see in Fidel Castro, the arch-betrayer of his own revolution and a cut-throat who has put scores of Cuban political enemies to the firing squad, a political savior. But the students, surely, may be pardoned their shock at finding they have been spied upon, at the behest of their own government, by one of their number. No one likes informers.

At all events, the misjudgment of students cannot be extinguished by congressional committees that belabor them publicly as "pro-Communists." They will only be embittered. Let the U.S. government handle these junior Don Quixotes with a maturity and detachment they might wish to emulate.

Much Ado

(The Washington Post)

It would be impossible to find worse champions of the right to travel than the band of doctrinaire and bearded adolescents who came before the House Committee on Un-American Activities. They accomplished the almost impossible task of making that Committee look responsible.

We think the State Department travel ban which these "students" breached is a serious limitation of liberty. We think the Un-American Activities Committee's summoning of the "students" is meddlesome folly; after all, their conduct is already under investigation by a grand jury and has been the subject of hearings by a House Judiciary subcommittee.

But none of this affords any justification for the offensive and abusive conduct of the "students" before the Committee. They have succeeded only in clouding the important travel issue. Students are supposed to study. If these young people really went to Cuba to investigate conditions in the island, they surely should have come back with observations more interesting and sensible than the cant they have been mouthing. They seem to have learned nothing save the least attractive of Cuban manners.

They have brought down upon themselves the cruelest possible punishment—complete disregard for their representations by persons seriously interested in the problems involved. It is a painful thing to see young people so thoroughly discredit themselves.

Explanation

The Tar Heel is now running a four-part series on the summer trip to Cuba made by 59 students, four of whom were from North Carolina, three of those being former students at UNC.

Today's editorial page contains different editorials and columns that appeared in newspapers throughout the country concerning both the trip and the House Un-American Activities Committee investigation of the group.

SICK!

By ROBERT G. SPIVACK

The Communists — especially American Communists — seem compelled to make a travesty of all the good causes to which they profess allegiance.

Except for one short period, they have never been able to stand on their own feet in this country. As a result, they often injure decent people and many worthwhile activities. Their aims are rarely what they said they were — and people who were innocent enough to be

Editor of the Daily News:
Not long ago I wrote some comments on the U. S. students touring Communist Cuba which were published in this same section. Today I will appreciate if you publish these few words about the Communist showdown staged at Capitol Hill by those same students and some other persons, involved with the same aim.

I have lived under Communism and have had the sad privilege to have met many Communists of my country (Cuba). I am pretty well acquainted with their methods and ways of operations. They are masters of deceit and are remarkable in the brainwashing of people. Their propaganda systems are wonderfully worked at almost no expense or very little at all, if any.

They concentrate their efforts on the youths. They know that among them they find the most fertile and easy people to work in, because of their inexperience and pride of self-thinking. Some of them, especially college or high school youths in the ages between 13 and 20 or so, become "socialists," "leftists," "progressives" (these words have been continuously used by Communists to replace the word Communists itself) and even if most of them later on desert and come back again to democracy, they, as far as Communism is concerned have already played their "role" and it is of minor importance to have them fighting against. They already gave their examples to others and converted other youths to continue a cycle.

I am concerned when I see this kind and credulous people of America being told so many well elaborate lies (as those contained in such a praise to the terror, starvation and humiliation, which the Cuban peo-

ple are presently suffering). I am concerned when I see that well organized showdown which is staged day by day, marvelously mastered in favor of the Communist propaganda in this country, which is today in particular the tour to Communist Cuba by some American youths, and which tomorrow could be something else.

I am concerned when the American people are confused by the Communists when they are told about some injustices in the country, of which, no doubt, the racial issue is the worst, that Communism is the "only way."

Communists, among other things, are experts in exploiting the weakness of everybody and every place in their favor. In the U. S. A., which is the most progressive and richest country in the world, there are not too many exploitable weak points, but still there are some. The racial problem, being the worst is a problem which is boldly being faced now. It is being solved. It will definitely be solved. The higher the standard of education in the country is reached, the sooner this social injustice will be overcome. But there is no need for the Communists (who are the worst racists) to come to solve this issue, nor is Communism the "only way" for its solution.

Communism is to be feared more working from within. It is not probable that a war will develop because Communists have not planned so. They don't try to conquer coming from the outside. They will try to do it in a more technical, elegant and less noisy way. And it is better to be dead than to be living under Communism. Do not let this conclusion be learned from your own experience.

—Dr. Octavio Diaz

taken in were simply expendable. I mention this background because of the recent hysterical performance by a group of alleged "students" who visited Cuba in defiance of American travel regulations.

When the Un-American Activities Committee sought to find out to what extent, if any, Communists were involved, the "demonstrators" put on a "demonstration" that looked like what might happen in an insane asylum if the inmates were suddenly thrown into a panic.

Ordinarily it does not make much difference what young men and women of the nutty left do, anymore than the nation is seriously affected by the antics of the nutty right — or by the wacky white youth demonstrations in Birmingham. There is always somebody who lets off steam. When conditions in the country are "normal," these demonstrations usually take the form of panty raids on girls' dormitories, or ripping up the goal posts after the football game.

But the "students" belong in a different category. These demonstrators try to give the impression that they were in keeping with the great protest traditions of this country, the latest manifestation of which was the March on Washington.

Nothing could be further from the truth.

The Washington march was a well-disciplined, orderly demonstration of democratic protest. Although many expected the worst, it did not happen because the demonstrators had a personal sense of dignity, regarded their cause as of the utmost importance, and were determined to show the world that American Negroes have come of age.

But the pro-Castro crowd had no such aim; nor was their real purpose to test the validity of

the government regulations prohibiting travel to Cuba. What they wanted to do was to disrupt the hearings so that the committee members could not ask questions and find answers. This was not a demonstration; it was a diversion.

If those being investigated felt — or their lawyers felt — that the committee were going beyond its jurisdiction, they had a perfect right to take the Fifth Amendment or otherwise to challenge the committee's authority.

But these "demonstrators" have apparently decided that they can act as Castro hooligans do in Venezuela and elsewhere in the hemisphere. Their protests were notably unoriginal even after years of all kinds of demonstration.

As an example of how little they care for anyone — or any cause except their own — one demonstrator told a Virginia lawmaker that he was no more breaking the law than civil rights leaders in Danville, Va., or Louisiana. By linking themselves with the anti-segregationists, these demonstrators sought to achieve "innocence by association."

But they were also creating unnecessary difficulties for the civil rights demonstrators, for whom they profess to have so much admiration. It is in this way that they make a travesty of the things in which they say they believe. They behaved exactly as caricaturists used to picture the ultra-Left; they even looked like bomb-throwers with beards.

There are other differences between this crowd and the serious Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, as an example. But the pro-Castro "students" seek to obscure the difference. Theirs was a "sick" demonstration, as psychoanalysts define the word "sick." —From The Charlotte Observer

College Paper Speaks Out

From The Daily Cardinal (The University of Wisconsin)

The school year has hardly begun but across this nation's campuses an important political controversy has already flared up; that issue centers around the 59 students who violated a State Department ban and spent part of the summer in Cuba.

In a democracy, it seems to us, a citizen's freedom from government authoritarianism does not end at his nation's borders. If he has a right to interpret national events for himself, then he has the same right to investigate on the international scene.

There are those in this country curious, or skeptical, or enthusiastic about new governments, new economic and political methods, new forces on the international scene. There may be changes, or methods, or forces we do not like. That is irrelevant, however, to the right of American citizens to see for themselves.

Unquestionably some of those who went to Cuba were of left, or Marxist, or of Communist persuasion. That is also irrelevant to their right of travel, unless they were actively working toward the subversion of our republic. We happen to have faith that the republic can withstand the action of 59 students visiting Cuba.

If the Chinese or Cuban governments choose to bar Americans, that is their prerogative. Further, the United States may tell prospective visitors to totalitarian nations that it cannot guarantee their safety. But this is clearly not the same as forbidding Americans to travel through societies which we oppose.

The State Department would be wise, we feel, to stop this kind of petty authoritarianism, and to allow our citizens to travel where they will. Surely there are more important issues confronting us than ping-pong matches with Fidel Castro. Surely the right to travel need not be abrogated in this instance.

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