

Other Editors

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR

The Soviet Deception

What is the Soviet motive in Cuba?

There have been several suggestions. It might be to force withdrawal of American bases on the Soviet perimeter. Or to goad the Americans to drastic action which would split the Western camp. It might be the barrage to cover a descent on Berlin. Or it could be to test American willingness to stand up to a blow.

This last is the most disturbing. The Russians must have presumed that their missile bases, so hastily and openly assembled, would be detected by American intelligence. They knew that special surveillance had been ordered by the President because he said so, openly, and warned of action if offensive missiles were to arrive.

We must consider the possibility, therefore, that the Soviets counted on having their deception exposed. They even compounded the deceit at the highest level by deliberately falsifying what they had done in the Gromyko statement to President Kennedy.

Was this to test American determination?

It is known that over recent months Premier Khrushchev has repeatedly spread the idea — his concept or one he wanted to propagate — that the United States would not fight. It was assumed in the West that many categorical statements directly from the President had disabused him.

Could the Soviet Premier have decided that assurances in words were not enough? Could he have determined either to call the American bluff, if so it were, or to force American action on Cuba, before deciding whether he could get away with a power play on Berlin?

These questions can be raised and not answered. But to raise them is to show the extremely grave possibilities which lie beyond Cuba, and the need for the most careful thought and firmest action. The arms blockade of Cuba is clear proof, if the Kremlin needs it, that the United States will in fact and in justice fight to protect Berlin.

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THE HERTFORD COUNTY HERALD

Fluoride For Us All

Many debates have taken place over fluoridation of public water supplies. Usually they result in a divided population, either in favor of public fluoridation or hotly opposed to it. It now appears that a solution to the problem is on the horizon, and this issue which has divided so many towns and cities may be at an end.

The American Dental Association, and many other dental groups and publications have realized the benefits which fluoridation through the public facilities have had in decreasing the number of cavities of a given town or city. Others have felt that this was an invasion of the rights of an individual and the usurpation of power by the authorities.

Now, the pharmaceutical industry, in collaboration with physicians and dentists, have created an alternative solution to the problem of fluoride deficiency. It is a fluoride-containing vitamin tablet that can be chewed like candy, or crushed, or sprinkled on babies' foods.

Many people will wonder about the safety of fluoride for the individual. The findings of the American Dental Association led them, in 1950, to give unreserved endorsement to fluoridation. Virtually, every other interested medical society has taken a similar position. The development of these tablets is a major breakthrough in the dental field.

In the Roanoke-Chowan our drinking water comes either from our small town system — all our towns are small, or else from our own home water system. Neither as towns nor as individuals have we previously been in a position to afford fluoride. Now, in pill form, many of us can and should protect our teeth, and those of our children, with fluoride.

MEAT THIEF SENTENCED

John Thelma Smith, a former employee of Frosty Morn Packing Company, drew a 3-year prison term in superior court this week for stealing \$6900 worth of meat from the packing plant.



Events have moved swiftly in the Cuban Crisis. An abrupt change has been made in United States policy which has brought grim determination to protect our nation and the Western Hemisphere.

The President acted, we are told, after a Counter Intelligence Agency surveillance disclosed a rapid buildup of Soviet offensive strength in Cuba. The President has been closely watching the situation which he has stated now imperils the national security. The jolting fact revealed by the President and the Secretary of Defense is that Russia is building a foreign atomic base on an island which the United States has long regarded as of the utmost importance to our security. Secretary McNamara has stated that according to intelligence information "it is fair to assume that nuclear warheads are on the island."

I solidly support the President's action. I think it is the only thing he could do to preserve our national security. I have felt for a long time, and I have stated so many times, that the only way in which free men can preserve their freedom is to keep their hearts in courage and patience and to lift up their hands in strength. I

think the President's message means that America has determined to do exactly that.

I have felt for a long time that the United States should have notified Russia when we first learned that Russia was shipping arms to Cuba that we considered such acts violations of the Monroe Doctrine and a threat to our national security. A demand should have been made to Russia that such shipments forthwith be stopped long ago. But what is past is prologue to the great decisions now being made. The President has spoken clearly and there should be no Russian misunderstanding that the people are united behind his action.

The decision could mean war. Americans, I believe, understand this and are prepared to meet the challenge imposed by the Russians. We are a peaceful people, but time and again the American people have demonstrated the unique capacity to understand the basic issues confronting our nation. Our forefathers crossed an ocean, struggled in a wilderness, and fought to found a nation where men and women and their children could find freedom and liberty. The price of freedom has never been

small nor the road to liberty an easy one. Our President has chosen the course. No one can foresee the future or predict the events that will come about as a result of this policy. This is a matter of national survival. The President must have our undivided support.

PROBATIONARY TERM

Joe Richardson Boyette of Kinston route 4, indicted for raping an 11 year-old mentally retarded child, was found guilty in superior court of assault upon a female and was placed on probation for five years by Judge Malcolm Paul this week.



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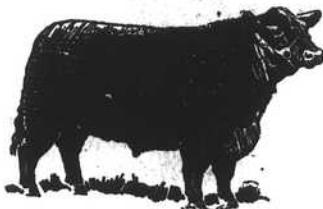
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