

BATTALION EDITORIALS

The Time Has Come
To Take A Look

Some truths about "One Week In October"—more specifically the Cuban crisis—were revealed to a public gathering this weekend for only the third time since the crisis. Pat Frank, officer of civil defense, presented a film to a five-state gathering of newsmen in Oklahoma City.

The 29-minute film and Frank's comments indicated that the people of the United States were much closer to war in the Fall of 1962 than most people realized.

Even though the film pointed out that this country was only a shallow breath from war, it showed we might even now be inches from destruction if a war were to erupt.

Whether the people were properly informed to make them aware of their danger is really immaterial, because there is sufficient proof to show that the American people would not take steps to protect themselves until missiles or airplanes broke over the horizons or the blast of bombs threw them out of their beds. One might say such a thing has never happened—how can one know?

At the same time Frank was revealing the ugly facts of near-war with Cuba and the Soviet Union, the tobacco companies of the United States were reporting that their cigarette sales were back up for the first time since the surgeon general of the United States issued his report on the believed direct effect of smoking cigarettes on the development of lung cancer. The momentary caution that had been exercised by the American public had been thrown to the winds apparently, and the possibility of future illness gave way to the need for immediate pleasure.

Without the urging and assistance of the Federal Government the public would probably have the same attitude toward protecting themselves against the dangers of possible radio active fallout in the event of war.

The people are apparently ready to accept the fact that fallout will exist if a war does occur, but like they do not believe that lung cancer will strike them, they don't believe the war will come. But what if it does?

Frank told the newsmen that other than those people in the immediate blast area, there would be no excuse for loss of life in any great quantity. He pointed out that more than adequate protection was available in many buildings which now stand in every community to save the citizens in that community from the danger of fallout.

In regard to the people's idea that war would not come, Frank said that everyone should seriously consider the fact that twice before in this century this country was sure war would not interrupt their lives—but it did.

It could easily happen again. Take a look at a few important international facts. Nikita Khrushchev is an old man, 70-years old just this week. No one lives forever and neither will this man. What will follow Mr. "K" in the Kremlin could be frightening. The false alarm of death to Nikita early this week very well demonstrated the danger which might exist upon the death of the Russian Premier. What were the thoughts of the President of the United States and his immediate military advisors that day.

Red China can not get a nuclear weapons system developed soon enough to suit itself. In a very short while the Chinese Communists—who think that war is the answer to their problems—will be testing nuclear weapons. Right now the rest of the world is lucky because the Chinese do not have the carrier for their weapons to endanger the western world. But, how long would it be before the nuclear warhead would hit their carrier?

The Sino-Soviet difficulties are real, and they cannot be considered without thinking of Cuba. The Cuban with the growth on his face is standing beside Russia today because the Russians have the most to offer him in the communist world. However, if China becomes a nuclear power how long will it be before the arrogant, restless Cuban leader sides with the Chinese?

These things might not happen tomorrow or next year. But something is going to give in this world soon. The situation cannot remain at a power stand-off forever. When hell does break lose there is no question that the United States—meaning every citizen—will be involved.

We cannot afford to be unprepared.

CADET SLOUCH

by Jim Earle



"That's weird lookin' stuff—What did it taste like?"

Do You Need Any Insurance?

EDITOR'S NOTE: From reports heard on the campus this week, it seems that graduating seniors are once more being hounded by those smiling friends of everyone — insurance salesmen. A column written by last year's Battalion managing editor, Ronald Bookman came to mind when the cursing started among seniors. Here is that column reprinted for those who did not see it last spring.

By RONALD BOOKMAN
The phone rings.
I say hello.

"Hello, Ron. Say, got a minute? Good. I'd like to check your insurance coverage with you if you don't mind."

Click.
That scene is repeated at least a hundred times a day when at least a hundred seniors are hounded by at least a hundred insurance salesmen.

Now, I already have life insurance. And hospitalization and auto insurance. I don't want any more insurance and when I do I'll call my insurance man.

College Station has some reliable, professional-minded insurance agents. But some can't resist the thought of cashing in on the wallets of Aggies innocent in the ways of the world.

College regulations prohibit these scavengers from invading the dorms and apartment areas—but that leaves the phone, the mails and traitors who sell their buddies' names for a cup of coffee or a tall one.

One shrewd would-be salesman had nerve enough to send post-age-due letters hawking his bill of goods. If you're ever been disgusted, it's when you pay the postman two cents for a letter and it's an ad that would insult

the intelligence of the lowest frog.

With graduation time gleaming ahead, the pace is quickening and sickening as it becomes evident to these smoothies that they have only a few more months to soak the seniors.

This isn't to say juniors and undergrads aren't immune, but the senior year is the time of ambush.

These birds work round the clock, and midnight or noon is a common time for them to pound on the day-duck's door or phone.

Memo to these characters. I have enough common sense to know what I need and when I need it. I do business with a reputable agent, and when I want something I call him. Give the Aggies a break, and let them ask for insurance when they want it.

Re-Election Campaigns Getting Hot Across State

By GARTH JONES
Associated Press Writer
Two veteran Texas legislators, in the midst of hot re-election campaigns, got in a backstage squabble Thursday over who should introduce whom.

However, heated words was the only exchange between U. S. Sen. Ralph Yarborough and U. S. Rep. Omar Burleson in a noisy meeting just before Yarborough spoke to the annual membership meeting of the Taylor County Rural Electrification Association in Merkel.

Burleson arrived at the Merkel meeting to find that he had been removed from the program as the person to introduce Yarborough and replaced by former State Rep. Max Carriker, Roby, who is opposing Burleson for Congress.

When Yarborough arrived Burleson met him backstage and demanded to know why "Max Carriker's crowd" had been allowed to change the program. The senator's reply was lost in the hubbub. Burleson continued that since Yarborough was a visitor in his district then Burleson felt the senator owed him the courtesy to let Burleson make the introduction.

"We'll have a talk. I have lots to talk to you about," Burleson said as Yarborough turned toward the stage.
Carriker made the introduction. Yarborough said in his speech that special interests fighting him also are seeking to destroy the REA program. "The hucksters of hate after me are after you, too," he said.
In Wichita Falls, Gordon McLendon, Yarborough's Democratic opponent, said "minorities are on the march in America."
McLendon said in a speech

for the Rotary Club that he has no fault with any group who cries out against denial of their rights "but I have no sympathy with minorities which attempt to use general rights, the rights granted all of us by the Constitution, as bootstraps to lift themselves to a position of special privilege, power and immunity."

George Bush, Republican Senatorial candidate, said in a statement for release in Amarillo that conservatism is the real answer to the challenge of the 1970's. "The challenge cannot be met through deficit spending, a virtually free imports program and the addition of other huge government bureaus and give-away proposals," he said.

Gov. John Connally told a crowd at the Port of Beaumont dedication that during the next 15 years, "while Texas is absorbing a population increase greater than the population of Oklahoma or Louisiana, we will need 80,000 new jobs each year in industry alone. To assure that these job openings will be available, there is much yet to do: we must assure a program for our schools which will guarantee excellence; we must develop a statewide water program to meet the needs of this and future generations, and we must work at both the state and local levels of government to maintain favorable tax policies."

Don Yarborough, Democratic candidate for governor, said in remarks prepared for a Dallas luncheon that he wants a beef abating law.

"Texas cattlemen are being swamped by imported inferior beef from other countries," he said. "Our local beef raisers have seen their very livelihood threatened by this food of mostly inferior meat."

SGT Initiates 6
The A&M chapter of Sigma Gamma Tau, national honorary scholastic society for students majoring in aerospace engineering, has initiated six Aggies into the group.

Three of the students are from Midland. They are Alfred J. Pylant, Edwin Carl Heikkila Jr., and Charles K. Seaman.

The other three students are Armand J. Chaput, Omaha, Neb.; Lynn B. Harding, Dallas and Leopoldo F. Perez, Madrid, Spain.

Sound Off

Editor,
The Battalion:
In regard to the Sound Off of Tuesday, April, I fear that Mrs. (or Miss) Holland committed a far greater sin than the one she reports was committed against her. She has chosen to measure the characteristics of a profession consisting of several million members by the behavior of one who she assumes is a member of that profession.

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By Charles M. Schulz