

## Stunt Night Set For This Evening

### 'Albrightian' Editor Wins National Contest For Editorial on Safety

Jose M. Sanchez, '66, editor of "The Albrightian" was recently named by the Lumbermen's Mutual Casualty Company as winning editorial writer in the sixteenth annual College Newspaper Contest on Safe Driving.

A total of 266 entries from 97 colleges and universities were registered in the national contest. A total of 33 states competed with Sanchez being the only winner from the state of Pennsylvania.

San Diego State College and the University of Southern California were top prize-getters with three awards each. Although "The Albrightian" entered all aspects of the contest, except cartooning, Sanchez' editorial was the only winning entry.

The editorial, titled *Quem Deus Vult Perdere, Prius Dementat*, appeared in our issue of December 14 which may be remembered by Albright students as the Christmas issue emphasizing safety.

For his winning effort Editor Sanchez will receive \$100 in cash. Presentation of the award will be made in one of the chapel programs in the near future. Mr. James Kemper, Chairman of the Contest Board, will make the presentation.

Entries were judged by Charles F. Carpentier, Secretary of State, Illinois, Springfield; Dr. Roy McCall, President, College of the Desert, Palm Springs, Cal. and Fowler McCormick, International Harvester, Chicago, among others.

### Pittsburgh Seeks Teachers; Interviews Slated Wednesday at Kutztown State College

Pittsburgh Public Schools are embarking on a large recruitment program to interest talented teachers in the advantage of living in the "Renaissance City" and teaching in a large city school system with salary schedules of \$5,000 to \$9,250 in twelve increments.

The Pittsburgh Public Schools will have 400 teacher vacancies in its 115 elementary and secondary schools in September 1963 and they are attempting to fill these positions with highly rated personnel. Pittsburgh teacher needs are in art, chemistry, physical education for girls, physics, elementary and secondary special education, science, mathematics, industrial arts, foreign languages, vocational education, and all elementary school fields.

Dr. Elizabeth Graf, director, instructional services, elementary schools, will visit Kutztown State College on March 6, to interview col-

### Editor, Publisher To List Careers In Field of Books

Roger W. Straus Jr., publisher and editor, will speak to a chapel audience this Tuesday, March 5, on "Book Publishing as a Career."

Mr. Straus, who is a lieutenant in the United States Naval Reserve, retired, attended Hamilton College and the University of Missouri.

He was an editorial assistant and associate editor of "Current History," a reporter and feature writer for the "Daily Reporter" of White Plains, New York, and an editorial writer and reporter for the "Columbian Missourian."

He is also a former editor and publisher of "Asterisk," former associate editor of "Forum," and past president of the R. C. Page Company. Mr. Straus, who served for some time as advisor to the University of Missouri Press, is currently the president of Farrar, Straus, and Company, Inc. and Chairman of the Board of Publications for "Partisan Review."

As a writer, Mr. Straus has penned several novels including *War Letters From Britain* and *The New Order*.

### Groups Vie For Honors

Annual Contest Will Take Place In Krause Hall

Albright College fraternities, sororities, and other organizations will compete tonight at 7 p.m. in the annual Stunt Night sponsored by Student Council.

Council President Barry Parney announced that the various groups participating in the talent program will present skits, and that trophies will be awarded to those organizations placing first and second. The program, which will be held in Krause Hall is open to all Albright students. Admission is free.

In the past organizations have presented programs lasting from fifteen to twenty minutes each. Seven organizations participated last year. Those included the Pi Tau Beta, Kappa Upsilon Phi, Alpha Pi Omega, and Zeta Omega Epsilon fraternities, Pi Alpha Tau and Phi Beta Mu sororities, and the Daywomen's organization.

Last year's program was won by the Phi Beta Mu sorority. This year the organizations will have skits based on the central theme "Comedy."

The Essay of Elmer L. Mohn, class of 1902, which was scheduled to appear, in part, in the February 15 edition of "The Albrightian" begins in this issue. Publication was delayed by editorial difficulties in preparing the Albright graduate's thesis. The portion in this issue constitutes one quarter of the entire essay.

### KTX Hears Speaker At Chaplain's Home

On Sunday evening, February 17, the members of Kappa Tau Chi, the Albright College fraternity for pre-theological students, met at Chaplain Marlow's home. Dr. J. Arthur Heck of United Theological Seminary of Dayton, Ohio, was the speaker.

For three months in 1959 he was interim minister at the Union Church of Santiago, Chile.

He has served on the staff of the adult department of the General Board of Education of the Methodist Church in Nashville, and as Execu-

### Philosopher to Lecture In Assembly Program For Juniors, Seniors

Dr. Huston Smith, philosopher and authority on world religions, will be on the campus of Albright College as a Danforth Visiting Lecturer on Thursday, March 7.

In 1956 Dr. Smith was appointed the first professor of philosophy at Massachusetts Institute of Technology since the early days of the Institute. He accepted the appointment, he says, because it "offers an unparalleled opportunity to tackle, head on, the problem of closing the gap in understanding which has developed between the scientific and humanistic components of our culture."

### Council Obtains Motion Pictures For Friday Eves

Student Council President Barry Parney reports that SC plans three movies for showing in Krause Hall on weekends. Parney said "The Brothers Karamazov" will be shown Friday, March 15, if Sports Night is not rescheduled for that date. Other movies chosen are "Something of Value" and "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof." They will be shown on March 29 and April 5 respectively.

Admission is free to all students of Albright College.

Parney also said that Juniors wishing to run for Council President in the April 9 election must contact him by a deadline set for this Tuesday at 5 p.m. He added that juniors aspiring for the office must be in good academic and social standing.

Student Council was represented on the student committee meeting with the evaluators who were recently on campus. On that committee Council were President Parney and Vice-President Carl Schneider.

Born of missionary parents in Soochow, China, and a native of that land until he was seventeen, Dr. Smith's early years provided an appropriate background for subsequent research in his special fields of comparative philosophies and religions. He has supplemented this background with field studies in the Near East, India, Southeast Asia, and Japan.

Believing that understanding alternative perspectives requires entering into them as fully as possible, he has lived in Israeli kibbutzim, Indian ashrams, Burmese meditation centers, and Zen monasteries in Japan, undergoing in each the discipline and training expected of regular participants.

Out of these experiences and a decade of teaching in the field, came "The Religions of Man," published by Harper's in 1958 and by Mentor in paperback the following year.

Dr. Smith's campus engagements as a Danforth Visiting Lecturer will take him to seven other outstanding colleges and universities in 1962 and 1963. He visited fifteen campuses under the same auspices last year.

### Alliance Francaise Presents Two One-Act French Plays At Philadelphia Academy of Music

Two one-act plays by two of France's outstanding playwrights will be presented by the Alliance Francaise of Philadelphia at the Academy of Music at 8:30 March 12.

They are Jean Giraudoux' "L'Apollon de Bellac," a comedy,

and Jean Cocteau's "Orpheus," a tragedy.

The plays will be performed by Le Treteau de Paris, founded five years ago by Jean de Rigault. The company is now in its fifth tour of American universities and colleges. Although Le Treteau de Paris has never appeared in Philadelphia, it did give a performance at Haverford College two years ago. The company is appearing in America under the auspices of the government of the French Republic and with the patronage of Edouard Morot-Sir, counselor to the French Embassy in the United States.

The Giraudoux play has been directed by Rene Clermont, while the dresses have been designed by Pierre Cardin. Jean Leuvrais has directed "Orpheus." Dresses for the Cocteau play have been designed by Balenciaga. Jacques Noel is the designer of sets and costumes for both plays.

### DR. J. GORDON CHAMBERLIN APPEARS IN CHAPEL; CONTENDS THAT 'CHRISTIANS SHOULD BE WORLDLY'

Dr. J. Gordon Chamberlin, an ordained Methodist minister, was scheduled to speak before a junior-senior chapel yesterday at 11:10 a.m. His topic was to be "Christians Should Be Worldly."

Dr. Chamberlin received his Bachelor's degree from Cornell in 1935, his Bachelor of Divinity degree from Union Theological Seminary in 1938, and his Doctor of Education degree from Columbia University in 1951. From 1951 to 1960, Dr. Chamberlin served as an associate minister at

Christ church, Methodist, in New York City, and as minister in charge of Christian education at the Hennepin Avenue Church in Minneapolis and the Riverside Church in New York City.

For three months in 1959 he was interim minister at the Union Church of Santiago, Chile.

He has served on the staff of the adult department of the General Board of Education of the Methodist Church in Nashville, and as Execu-

tive Secretary of Education and Missions of the New York Conference of the Methodist Church.

In the teaching vein, Dr. Chamberlin has been an associate professor of Christian Education at the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. He has also written several articles for periodicals and journals. His books include *The Church and Its Young Adults*, *The Church and Demobilization*, *Parents and Religion: A Preface to Christian Education*, and *Churches and The Campus*.









## IN THE LION'S DEN



By Mike White, Sports Editor

### The Player of the Week

Once there was a little boy who had magical hands. This little boy liked to play with great big giants. He would play their game, which was stuffing a big round ball through a metal hoop. All the giants told him to go away, because he was too small to play their game with them. But the little boy stayed to play. And believe it or not, in a little while, he got to be better than all the giants.

Then one dark night, there came up from the South two big Clouds, who tried to beat the little boy up. But the little boy with the magical hands showed the big, bad ugly Clouds that he was bigger and better than they were.

Interesting little fairy tale, isn't it? It could have been told as David and the Goliaths, or Jack and the Beanstalks, but the message still comes out the same. This week, Albright all-American Tommy Pearsall showed the big boys who was boss on the ball court. The Albrightian's sports staff is proud to name Tommy as the **Player of the Week**.

There was no doubt in our minds as to who deserved the honor this week. After breaking the 2,000 point barrier two weeks ago, Tommy began to show the rest of the league his dust. He had a big game in the losing effort against MAC Northern Division power Wagner last Wednesday, and broke his all-time scoring record here. Local fans took this as Tommy's peak effort, but the Mighty Mite shifted into high gear for the last home game of his career and played the best game we've ever had the privilege of seeing on a college floor.

Nobody around Albright picked the Blue Hens by less than fourteen. They were running third in a conference that was sending its top two teams, LaSalle's Explorers and the Hawks of St. Joseph's, to the big post-season tourneys, the NCAA and the NIT. They were led by all-American candidate Nate Cloud and his "little" brother Pete, who is almost as good. Their starting five average 6-4, with three men just as tall as that cooling the bench. Our starting five barely averages 5-11 and it gave away eighteen pounds per man.

What made the difference? There aren't any words that haven't already been said to describe him. He is the Miracle Man, Tommy Pearsall, the little boy with the magical hands.

### Questions Welcomed

The Sports Staff of The Albrightian will be happy to answer any questions or letters submitted to me at the newspaper's offices in Krause Hall or at Albright Court, apartment A-1. We would like to hear your comments concerning Albright sports, intercollegiate as well as intramural, and any new ideas you may have to improve them.

## Wrestlers Win Two, Drop E-Town Match

Albright's wrestlers upset the Juniata team by a 17-15 score before a home crowd Saturday, Feb. 16.

Captain Mike Marino, Albright's all time high scorer, pinned John Veals, the Juniata 123 pounder in 4:27. Then Lion's Gene Stecher was pinned by Dean Richards, before John Kutzer, with 37 points so far this season, topped Mel Rummel by a 10-4 margin.

Sal Branca lost a third period pin to Juniata's Kent Trexler, after which Irv Godbolte, returning to the line-up for the first time since last season, decided Ken McFadden 5-2, giving the Lions a one point edge. Dave McNeely and Mike Goldberg both won close decisions to sew up the match. Ken Rubble of Juniata pinned freshman Steve Volpicelli making the final score 17-15.

#### Wagner Beaten 21-15

Coach Ford's Lions stopped Wagner College by a 21-15 score Tuesday, Feb. 19. Captain Mike Marino began the match with a handsome 7-0 decision over his Wagner opponent. Jack Snyder and once-defeated John Kutzer followed with pins in 4:56 and 2:39 respectively. Then Albright ran into trouble when Sal Branca was pinned, but Paul Jacobs recovered to take a 6-5 victory in the 167 pound class. Freshman Dave McNeely scored the last Lion win by pinning his Wagner 177 pound opponent in 6:53. Mike Goldberg was stopped in 7:06 before Steve Volpicelli at heavyweight defaulted because of injury.

#### Broken by Elizabethtown

Mike Marino and John Kutzer were the only winners for the Lion wrestlers Saturday, Feb. 23 in the last home match of the season. The final score was 26-6. Gene Stecher, Sal Branca, Paul Jacobs, and Steve Volpicelli lost by pins, while Mike Goldberg and Dave McNeely suffered decision losses.

The Lion grapplers travel to Hofstra for the MAC playoffs. Team record 5-6 going into Lafayette.

## War Is Good

What's wrong with war? asks a letter to the editor of the CLARKSON INTEGRATOR? Clarkson College of Technology, Potsdam, New York.

William R. Wald lists these benefits of war:

War encourages basic research, creates employment, boosts the economy of the winning nations, destroys obsolete people, equipment and methods, builds a country's spirit and sense of unity, makes people rich, strengthens the churches and eliminates the undesirable component of the population (Continued on Page Two)



**BIDDING ADIEU**—These five seniors comprised the nucleus of the Albright basketball squad for most of the 1962-63 season. One of them, 6-4 Norm Bautsch, graduated in January and his departure was considered by many as the death blow to the Lions' MAC pennant hopes. Pictured above are from left to right, Bautsch, Ray Sommerstad, Ted Evans, Tommy Pearsall, Stan Saul and Coach Will Renken. Saul was the surprising sparkplug in the upset over Delaware last week while Pearsall has been his usual brilliant self all year long. They will surely be missed next year. (Staff photo by Marv Zwerin).

## Renkenmen Close '63 Card Against Scranton Cagers In Away Tilt Tomorrow Night

By Art Arbogast

Carrying a so-so 14-10 record, the Albright basketball team invades the Scranton University campus tomorrow night for a clash with the tall Scranton forces in the 1962-63 finale for both quintets. Coach Will Renken is expected to go with his usual starters, Tommy Pearsall, Stan Saul, Tom Davis, Ted Evans, and Ray Sommerstad in an effort to raise the Lions' MAC mark to the .500 level.

The Red and White, hit hard by injuries, poor academic records and the graduation of top rebounder Norm Bautsch, show a mediocre 6-7 report card in MAC competition, good enough for just eighth place. Hofstra College, beaten only by Albright in conference play, and the high scoring Crusaders from Susquehanna University have qualified for the MAC playoffs to be held this weekend at Muhlenberg College, Allentown. Susquehanna meets Southern Division king Drexel while the Flying Dutchmen from New York face Haverford College, the Southern runner-up. Susquehanna and Hofstra are favored to meet in the final with the winner getting a berth in the NCAA small college Eastern tournament to be held here at Albright March 8-9.

#### Big Upset Over Delaware

Last Saturday night the Lions closed the home portion of their schedule with a thrilling 71-70 upset of highly-touted Delaware. The Blue Hens, ranked as high as fifth in the nation earlier in the year, and boasted a starting line-up averaging 6-3. The smaller Lions played their usual aggressive, deliberate game and eked out the razor-thin verdict. A wild second half saw the totals knot 50-50 seven times until little Stan Saul, an unsung hero all year long, sank a jump shot with 13 seconds remaining. Two Delaware shots were missed after that and little Stan came up with the loose ball as the final gun sounded and Albright was home free, 71-70. Tommy-gun Pearsall led all scorers with 23 while All-American candidate Nate Cloud racked up 20 for the Blue Hens.

#### Seahawks Surprise Lions

Wagner College made the long trip from Long Island worthwhile as it squeezed a 68-61 decision from the local cagers. The game was a nip and tuck affair all the way until Hal Pedro and Marty Ansa sparked a late Wagner rally that zoomed the Seahawks into the lead. The close contest was spiced by a bench-clearing melee between Tommy Davis and a visiting player. Davis found himself on the bench for his boxing tactics and Albright found itself minus a rebounder. Ansa was high for the night with 24 while Teddy Evans was the big gun in the Albright attack with 17 markers.

#### Moravian Mauls Again

Dick "Butch" Kosman, Moravian's all-time scoring monarch, paced the Greyhounds to their third straight

trouncing of an Albright five. Kosman, who earlier this year had tallied 43 points against Albright, limited his display of pyrotechnics to 31 markers. By the time he had stopped shooting, Moravian was beyond reach, 77-55. Cornerman Teddy Evans defended the tough Hound defense for 17 points to lead the point parade for Will Renken's raiders.

#### Dips' Defense Demolished

Franklin and Marshall College boasted of nothing less than the eighth ranked defensive team in the nation! The Diplomats were expected to easily jolt the slumping Lions. However, the combined efforts of Tommy Pearsall and Captain Ray Sommerstad paid off handsomely in a sensational 82-41 clobbering of the Big Blue from F&M.

After the host basketballers had jumped to an early lead, Renken sent his men into their now patented press which began to produce results almost immediately. By intermission time, the visiting Red and White corps led 32-23. High for the night for the hot-handed Renkenmen was the Mighty Mouse, Tommy Pearsall with 21 points to his credit. Sommerstad was next in line with 17.

#### Susquehanna Shakes Stall

The Albright cagers absorbed a humiliating defeat at the hands of Susquehanna, 60-28. The first half saw the Lions attempt a possession game, holding the ball for as long as seven minutes without taking a shot. The strategy seemed to be paying off when the Crusaders, obviously rattled, found themselves in the short end of an 8-7 score-board reading. However, the crew from

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Selingsgrove went to work and scored nine buckets to make the half-time score, 16-8. Realizing that the stall was ineffective any longer, Renken ordered his troops to go back to their normal type of game.

With Albright moving the ball at regular speed, Susquehanna made shambles out of the affair. They scored an amazing 42 points in the last twenty minutes to complete the slaughter, 60-28. The score sheet for the Lions resembled a junior high school game's totals. High man was Ted Evans with a grand showing of nine points. Pearsall was held to a mere eight on three field goals and two fouls.



# Pro And Con In The Cuban Crisis

## 'Invasion Would Be Foolish' Claims Grelinger

By Paul Grelinger, '65

Much war has been averted. Intense excitement no longer exists as the result of the Cuban crisis. The newspapers are reaching other areas of the world for more satiable news. The event, however, merits retrospection and a considerable amount of reflection. It is exemplary of a trend in American thinking (led by erroneous and sometimes sensationalistic news reporting) which is militaristic, and just plain unintelligent reasoning with respect to many of our foreign problems, as well as domestic issues. The Cuban crisis, if not a turning point in world politics, appears to have been at least a dreaded indicator of an all too prevalent trend in the United States.

Our bargaining position in the Cuban issue was better than in any of our foreign policy moves in the last decade; our estimation of the enemy was accurate. Early in the crisis the President himself promised the Cuban people and the world that the United States would not invade the island unless provoked by Soviet aggression in the Western Hemisphere. To attempt any but a retaliatory invasion of Cuba in the early stages of the crisis would have been sheer insanity. Yet, as one of many millions of concerned observers, and a newspaper reader as well, I felt that the American public, as though it was the only way it knew how, wanted the invasion which would have lost all our advantage.

What was the American position? Geographically, Cuba has been within the grasp of the half opened fist of the two American continents. Cuba would have been crushed with little more than the twitch of a muscle. The seven, eight or more thousands of miles which separate Cuba from Russia make any immediate military aid from the U.S.S.R. by air or sea inconsequential. Strategically, Cuba is an impossibility. Why then invade, when the Soviets must have realized what a suicidal position they had taken?

What sort of moral support does the United States have? The immediate threat which the Russian missiles posed to the nearby Central and South American countries, plus the change in Castro's policy which the presence of Russian manned missile bases presupposed, resulted in unanimous Latin American backing of the United States' blockade. Nonetheless, in Latin America, and especially in Europe, the popular opinion was much similar to the United States' position in the Suez crisis. Neither continent would have been too pleased with the invasion. Europe was not even happy about the blockade. Much sentiment was, in fact, with Castro. The neutrals or non-aligned, as usual, vacillated.

From a legal standpoint the blockade itself was a violation of international law, although it was acquiesced if for no other reason, is one writer's opinion, that it set a precedent in the art of blockade. "We had, until the time of the crisis, applied pressure through the embargo which in itself might have been effective. Militarily and economically, therefore, we would have had a strange hold on the island."

Our last vital point has been brought to the fore in an article by Charles Bolton in *The Nation* of November 17. His theory not only negates any possibility of U. S. military aggression in Cuba but reveals very tenable reasons for the construction of Soviet intermediate range missile bases and for the confidence with which our government took its stand.

Bolton's theory focuses upon the balance of nuclear power concept paramount in East-West relations and the new U. S. counteracting force policy. According to Bolton production of inter-continental ba-

listic missiles has lagged in Russia to the point at which the U. S. holds an advantage over the U.S.S.R. in a ratio of 3 to 1. However, the U.S.S.R. holds a great number of intermediate range missiles which would be effective against the U. S. from a base with the proximity of Cuba. Also, the Soviet knows that the United States has, in all crises, hundreds of nuclear weapon laden bombers air borne around their land. If the countervailing force policy was to be used, the attack would come in two waves. The first wave will be designed to destroy all bases in the Soviet Union, missile or conventional type of aircraft. The first wave will come if provoked by Soviet aggression, either nuclear or conventional. After the first attack the onus of decision devolves to the Soviet; will they pursue attack or capitulate? If they decide to retaliate our retaliation of their initial aggression, we would unleash the record attack aimed at the cities and capable of "overkilling" the Soviet Union twenty-five times. Try to picture a man in Khrushchev's position faced with a dearth in intercontinental missiles and conventional aircraft bases near the U. S. Wouldn't you be just a little bit nervous about the preponderance of power in the hands of the West? Bolton can't imagine that a man in Mr. K's situation would be jockeying for a more advantageous bargaining position in world politics. Instead, he envisions a man fearful of even losing the position he already has. Possibly Khrushchev saw Cuba as his last chance to regain some equality in the battle for the balance of power.

However, let me go back to the point I was trying to make in the opening paragraph, the plus of the Cuban crisis. Cognizant of the facts presented here, it seems ridiculous that the President and the National Security Council would have any intention of alienating world opinion or causing a nuclear war by an abortive invasion of Cuba when they stood to reap a diplomatic gain. Intelligence, world opinion, geographic, military and economic considerations all made the answer too obvious to a rational observer. Yet, in other situations specially domestic, putting aside the supreme and extreme Cuban example, information is not always so clear. An American public which is unable or unwilling to analyze correctly the important aspects of one of the most important life-death issues of this century, is obviously one which is going to fall way short in its consideration of the less important day-to-day issue on the domestic front, for instance. Furthermore, when an effort is put forward where must the public look but to the newspapers who have made it their policy to sell, not inform, or to the funny tube which is also wrapped up in commercialism, cowboys and doctors. Informative newspapers do exist as do the informative and controversial news programs. But what percentage of the population are those few going to reach? The comparative minor-

### MOHN . . .

(Continued from Page Two)

The low rental value of a dollar.  
The decreased purchasing power of a dollar.  
The tremendous increase in Federal, State and Local Taxes.

If these three major trends were only passing in nature, then no marked change in financial policy would be needed. Yet, no thoughtful student of Finance or Government believes they are temporary in any sense of the word.

Here in America, we believe that the individual, not the State, is supreme and that it is our job, as such, to discharge our moral obligations to our families and to society. If one should die without having met them then, to that extent, he has weakened society if indeed he has not disrupted the family.

Marriage in the great majority of cases, especially amongst the younger groups, is not the result of a sound, logical economic planning. If it were, I am very much afraid marriage would occur, in most cases, in advanced ages.

Isn't it true that when a man and woman marry they have for all practical purposes entered into a marriage contract, the essence of which is that the wife has, in most cases, agreed to withdraw from a gainful occupation, has agreed to take care of the home, to bear and raise the children. The husband, on the other hand, agrees to provide food, shelter and clothing for the family of his creation.

A man who does not bring his thinking in line with the philosophy that it is his job, as the head of the family, to immediately provide the "where with all" in sufficient amount so that if he, the husband, should be removed from a gainful occupation by some unexpected calamity, or even by death, the wife could hold the family together is, indeed, living in the dark ages of social justice.

At this point, it is important that one realizes that the greatest gift a mother can give to her child, or children, is her time . . . not spending her time in a mill or office. There is, of course, an alternate possibility, i.e. to postpone the marriage until such a time as the necessary funds are in hand.

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ity of educated such as you or I? What happens to the majority who elects the leaders of our country? In what direction is their course being directed. The Cuban crisis exemplifies some of that trend. Not only should we abhor the headlines, though they resort to power which the invasion of Cuba represents, we must do some careful thinking about the trend, the tough guy's illogical "Yeah, we aren't going to let anybody push us around" solution which I have heard all too often.

## U. S. Invasion Needed Before Castro Becomes Impossible to Dislodge

By Jose M. Sanchez, '66

"Remember the Alamo!" "Remember the Maine!" "Remember the Lusitania!" "Remember Pearl Harbor!"

These war slogans are much more meaningful than what they seem to be at first. Each of them is aimed at stirring up American patriotism by recalling a certain treacherous incident which was performed against the United States or its citizens. Very nationalistic, but as can be expected, also very selfish. These were all direct threats to American security, threats to this thing called democracy.

But let us ponder this a minute. Before turning to the United States, the enemy must have attacked and defeated other groups; groups which apparently shared beliefs similar to the United States. Groups which were depending on American support since they shared the same ideology. But Uncle Sam sat idly by and minded his own business, ignoring the pleas for help and waiting to see if he had to be dragged into the struggle.

However, this is history and now the New Frontier, full of young intellectuals and their experienced aides, can be guilty of no such flaws. This is 20th century American foreign policy—active and ambitious. Active and ambitious. This is what some five million Cubans thought too. When Soviet military backing of their Red government made it practically impossible for a counter-revolution to succeed, anxious eyes turned to the mighty neighbor and begged for aid. The powerful American big brother could be counted on for defense against the Communists. But wait, something was missing. A slogan. How could one be created when there had been no direct aggression against America? And so, practicing his best "righteous" doctrines of non-intervention, the Yankee shrugged his shoulders and quipped: "Sorry, bud, I can't help you."

Fortunately for him, Lafayette, Pulaski, Von Steuben, Muranada and others had been more kind in 1781. Just months later, after Soviet aid had flooded Cuba with war materials, President John F. Kennedy announced a naval quarantine on Cuban military trades until "offensive" weapons had been removed from the island. Notice the term "offensive," a distinct threat to internal tranquility. The bear's paw was reaching a bit too high, endangering the eagle's nest. Cuban hearts leaped with joy at Kennedy's decree. "The Gringos are slow to anger, but now they will free us!"

Within forty-eight hours dismantling of the Soviet missiles in Cuba had begun. But within seventy-two hours, the same John F. Kennedy was assuring Nikita Khrushchev that "we will not invade Cuba." The threat to American security had dissipated and things were back to normal . . . in the United States. Liberation of the Cuban people? "Well, let us wait and see," said the State Department, "perhaps something will develop." Shades of Mr. Micawber! Just as Berlin in 1953 and Hungary in 1956, now it was Cuba's turn to wait . . . and wait.

Of course, there are some very good arguments against an American invasion of Cuba. By the way, I refer to a full-scale attack, not a repetition of that shameful, half-hearted disaster at the Bay of Pigs. Foremost among the objections is the "What will they say?" fear. Government leaders in Washington feel that they will be criticized should an invasion be ordered. They prefer the easier alternative of the

status quo. This line of thinking fits perfectly the model of American statesmanship. "Never do what others may disapprove of" has been a favorite White House adage through the years. And so, five million slaves remain subjugated by a madman.

This principle of awareness of others' reaction is very worthwhile and idealistic. But where was this conservative feeling when Kennedy announced the quarantine? Where was it when Zachary Taylor invaded Mexico of his own accord in 1846? All right, you may claim, but these were threats to our national security, a rather familiar term by now. How about some instances which did not place the U. S. in danger? Fine, why did, and still does, the United States recognize and even finance the fascist dictatorship of Francisco Franco in Spain? Why did, and still does, the United States allow Syngman Rhee's below-the-belt maneuvering in Korean politics? Why did, and still does, the United States support tyrant Chiang Kai-Shek as the ruler of ALL China? Fear of world opinion? Nonsense! Why did these things happen and why do they still go on? William J. Lederer has the answer in his hard-hitting book "A Nation of Sheep." He says, referring to the Cuban fiasco: "In this, America failed. All that was needed was facts, courage and common sense. We flubbed all three. We didn't know what was happening in Laos, China, Turkey, Chile, Bolivia, Indonesia, Viet Nam, Iraq or Iran."

There is another objection to Yankee intervention. The more conservative factions of the nation, Barry Goldwater excluded, claim that such a bold action would plunge the West into an all-out nuclear war. The backers of this hypothesis were dealt a severe setback in their logic when Premier Khrushchev buckled under American demands. If the Soviet brass wanted an atomic conflict, that was the moment for one. The Red leaders decided against it and have now practically abandoned.

These two arguments against an invasion are ridden with fallacies, but they must still be considered for lack of a really good argument in favor of the move. There is only one principle that backs up my demands for action. Freedom. Millions are starving for lack of food, millions are incapable to free themselves, millions are asking for help. What do they think of America? Is this the way of winning any kind of war, hot, cold or tepid? American foreign policy is way overdue for its 100-year check up. Political blunders such as those pulled in Laos, Viet Nam, Korea, etc. are not raising American prestige abroad. Action is needed. Action is available. Why hesitate? The longer the Castro regime remains in power, the longer and more costly it will be to dislodge it.

Let us forget the Alamo, forget the Maine, forget the Lusitania and forget Pearl Harbor. Let us remember the oppressed people of Spain, Portugal, China and Cuba and, above all, let us remember freedom!