

# READ THE "TRUE STORY"

From three different sources, in the past week, communiques have reached this office with the "true" inside story of the Cuban affair: namely, a secret Kennedy-Khrushchev "deal." We intended to ignore them. But when such luminary giants as "Time" and "The Edmonton Journal" take up the chorus, how can we resist?

The "real story" is that we are all fooled by a grand conspiracy. It seems that the two K's arranged for the following sequence: 1. USSR builds bases in Cuba; 2. at the appropriate time USA "discovers" them and issues a "quarantine" ultimatum; 3. USSR makes a statesman-like withdrawal. Thus Mr. K (USSR) wins world's approval for his sweet reasonableness and Mr. K (USA) wins his election.

Everybody is left smiling, except a thoroughly confused Castro, who is left holding the bag. There are, of course, various embellishments

to the plot. The romantic version has an old-fashioned "royal betrothal" arranged between Caroline and a grandson-on-the-Volga. A slightly less cheerful version has the two sinister K's pooling their resources to subjugate the world by fear and force. Either way, the planet ends up as the private corporation of K & K unlimited.

"Subversive plot" and "grand conspiracy" stories have been both cloak and crutch for the credulous, the superstitious, the fearful, as long as history has been recorded. They facilitate "scapegoating." We enlightened ones are seldom taken in, for we need no scapegoats. But all too often the conspiracy stories are swallowed whole.

Naturally we intended not to believe. But that was until our Cuban correspondent discovered that those "bases" were clever fabrications made of cardboard.

# DEBATE THE REAL ISSUE

A good share of the recent hassling in Red Deer over the provincial Liberal power takeover platform has apparently been a hassle over labels. It has been another long, inconclusive debate which once again failed to distinguish for us the true and certain dividing line between "free enterprise" and "socialism."

But there is no need for dismay and frustration because of this failure. Labels really aren't that important, except to "phrase-mongers" and professional sloganeers. For most of us, who don't have to worry about our public polling image, the real question is simply whether or not our province will benefit from public takeover of power.

In the short run, will public power cost us more or less than private power—this is our first question. Will government control be more efficient and give better service? Will a public monopoly be more responsive to consumer needs than private industry (which also tends toward monopoly)?

On the other hand, will public ownership, in the long run, tend toward bureaucratic ossification? Will it discourage investment from

abroad? Will it tend to stifle those cherished democratic intangibles called initiative and independence?

No one knows the answers to these questions of course. Not even the Liberal biggies who pontificate most vociferously. We know partial answers perhaps. And we have our personal preferences. But the answers, for the most part, come out of experience, out of "try it and see."

Nevertheless we must debate, for we have no other *modus operandi* for arriving at public policy. Unlike the religionists or the Marxists, we cannot depend on revelation from on high or the "science" of dialects to bring us to a sure conclusion.

This is why we can be genuinely happy—as well as amused—over the weekend disputations at Red Deer. We like to see an issue attacked and defended with real spirit. We think the enthusiasm speaks well for our future. We only hope that beneath the heavy barrage of slogans, labels, and invectives which furnished headline stories, there was some genuine debate on the real merits and demerits of public power for Alberta.

# COMPLETE THE QUESTIONNAIRE

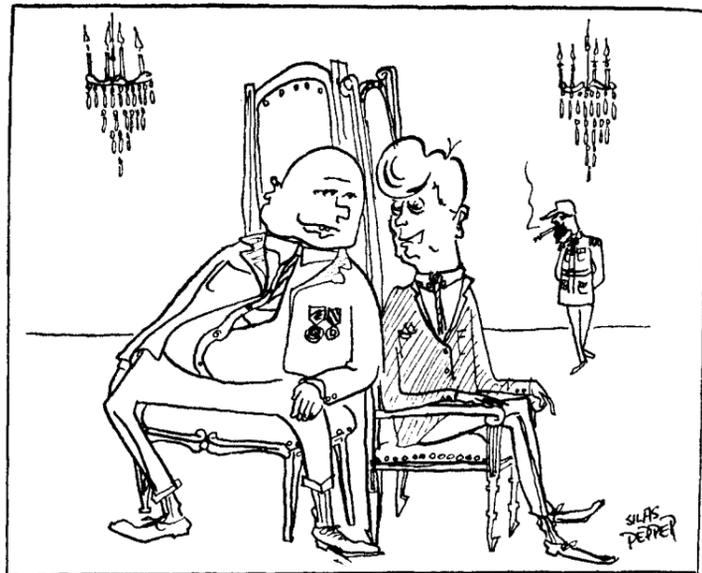
One week from now some 1,700 students of this university will be receiving questionnaires in the mail. They will be asked to complete the forms, answering questions about what they want in the new Students' Union Building.

The expanded SUB should be a community centre for this campus. We have a campus situation much like this situation in the City of Edmonton, where plans for a downtown civic centre aim at "providing a heart" to the city.

But SUB won't—and can't—be the heart of

this campus unless it is tailored to meet the needs of this particular campus. This means the student body itself must be consulted. Individuals have to be asked what they need. Groups have to be asked what they need. Questionnaires have to be first prepared, then answered.

Twenty per cent of the university enrolment will be asked for opinions. For the results of this sample poll to mean anything, at least 85 to 90 per cent of the questionnaires have to be completed.



BOY WON'T THEY BE SHOCKED WHEN WE PULL THE BERLIN BIT NEXT SUMMER

featurette

# REDS IN GUIANA

by John Barr

Second in a two-part series of evaluative articles on British Guiana. John J. Barr is in third year political science, and spent part of the summer in B.G. as a writer for the Georgetown "Daily Chronicle".

At the forefront of our concern for British Guiana is our concern about the problem of Communism. The Communist conspiracy seeks to interpose itself into Latin America, as it has already done in Cuba. The leaders of international Communism are looking for an opening on the actual land mass of the South American continent, an opening in which they can obtain a foothold; they want a beachhead from which they can expand right across the continent and bring it under Communist domination.

They think that British Guiana will be that beachhead.

Where did all the Communist trouble in Guiana start? Back in 1942, a good-looking and intelligent young East Indian Guinean named Cheddi Jagan was studying dentistry at Northwestern University, in Chicago. Socially unaccepted, young Cheddi met Miss Janet Rosenberg, the brilliant executive member of the Young Communist League. Attractive Janet drew ostracized Cheddi under the benevolent and protective wing of the Communist Party, where she later married him. In the mid-forties, they returned to Guiana, ostensibly to set up a dental practice, actually to lay the groundwork for a Communist State there.

### GUNNED DOWN

The sugar estate owners in Guiana soon tired of Gheddi and Janet and their interminable agitation among the sugar estate workers, and so Cheddi came to be ruled *persona non grata* on the sugar plantations.

One of Cheddi's subsequent off-estate meetings turned into a half-fledged insurrection, in which seven of his followers, attacking a sugar refinery with their bare hands, were gunned down.

Always alert to the public relations implications of his acts, Cheddi ordered his remaining followers to carry the corpses eleven miles into Georgetown, and stage a mass-protest. The police stopped the little vanguard from entering the town, however, and so Cheddi led his boys around the environs of the City to bury the dead on the other side. Each year thereafter (until very recently), Cheddi and his Ministers used to re-enact

symbolically the epic moment, and lay wreaths on the graves of the fallen.

Despite setbacks, Jagan has managed since 1952 to build a powerful and widely-based popular party, the People's Progressive Party, which relies on East India ethnocentrism for electoral support, and the guidance of old-line Communists (like Jagan, Trinidadian "personal secretary" Jack Keshall, and Brindley Benn) for leadership. Breaking the present weak hold of the PPP on Guiana will not be an easy task, however, owing to the fanatic racial loyalty of Jagan's East Indian supporters, who support Jagan because "he is one of us", not because he is a Communist—most of them refuse to recognize that Jagan is a Communist at all, or if they do, they rationalize that he poses no danger.

### VOLCANIC BOMB

In many ways, the internal power-struggle now going on in Guiana between the Democratic and Communist elements far outweighs in importance the evolving situation in Cuba. Cuba may be a Red stronghold and a dedicated member of the Communist Camp, but because Cuba is an isolated island, the harm she can do is limited.

Guiana is not, like Cuba, isolated from the rest of the Americas. Guiana is a continental nation—and a Communist Guiana would be a superlative jumping-off point for Red infiltration and subversion right across northern South America. If Guiana falls, and that eventuality is not all unlikely, the oil-rich plains of Venezuela and the Aluminum-rich jungles of Surinam will have been outflanked at one swoop.

The unstable and volcanic bomb in nearby Northeastern Brazil, where self-proclaimed "marxist" Francisco Juliao has been laying the foundations for insurrection and terror, will have been brought that much closer to the Kremlin, and to external aid and comfort.

A Communist Guiana would pose the worst of omens for the future and freedom of the remainder of South America—and, ultimately, for the freedom and future of North America. Before, when Castro duped the North American "liberal" intelligentsia into believing that he was nothing more harmless than a liberal democrat, we had an excuse for being ignorant, for being duped. Had we recognized the developments in Cuba for what they were becoming five years ago, the present instability and Red oppression there could have been easily averted. Well, this time we have been warned.

# THE GATEWAY

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