

THE GAZETTE'S
EDITORIAL PAGE

Bill Williams
Associate Editor

Phone 864-3293
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Free Enterprise—See How It Works

Just for a moment, now, we'd like to show you how free enterprise works.

Wait a minute! Don't go away... this is interesting.

Forget, if you will, the ever-increasing press of our "political heroes," the threat of total, global war, the belief in Washington that the individual fares better by sending dollars along to D. C. where they can be administered more to the individual's benefit.

Let's talk about free enterprise.

Yesterday, The Gazette announced that 108 luxury apartments were to be built in Fern Forest.

Now, what does this mean to Gastonia, to the people living here?

The first and most obvious benefit will be to the tenant. He wants a nice place to stay, or he won't lease the unit. He wants comfort, convenience, nice accommodations at a fair price, or he won't sign on the dotted line.

But, what can it mean to Gastonia?

First, there will be employment of workmen, subcontractors, material dealers, bankers, utility companies and others. Money will be spent. It will flow into the community life, bringing more food, more clothing, more shelter, more luxuries, more recreation.

But, over the long pull — what will it mean?

Specifically, it will mean that a vacant piece of property will be utilized and will go on the tax books at a greatly increased valuation.

This piece of property yields approximately \$40 a year in county

and city taxes now. But, when the project is complete, taxes amounting to around \$6,600 a year will go into the city and county treasuries.

The city will collect a minimum of \$2,900 annually in water and sewer charges alone. Then, the apartments, being all-electric, the city will again collect, this time for electric power alone. This figure is estimated at \$14,256 per year.

Meanwhile, a physical eyesore will have been turned into a well-planned, neat, well kept and pleasant-looking project. If this doesn't materialize, then our faith in home-owning Americans will have been punctured.

Now, for the frosting on the cake. The city and county gets this income for the economic life of the apartments, which reasonably could be expected to average around 35 years.

This makes a grand total of \$23,816 annually, or \$833,560 over a 35-year period.

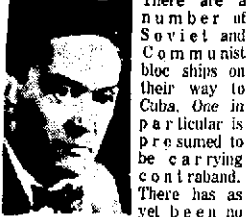
Now, if the rates on taxes, water, sewer and electric power go up, just a little, you can see how much more this will mean in county-city revenue.

In the end, what have you got? Well, if all goes well, you have a pleased tenant, an attractive apartment project, a well-led government, and, if vacancies are kept low, a satisfied group of investors.

This, friends, is free enterprise.

Show us anything in a federal housing project that can match this, and we'll take back everything we ever said about Khrushchev.

It is Wednesday morning as I am writing this article, and the President's proclamation of a selective blockade has just gone into effect. We are now waiting for the other shoe to drop.



LIPPMANN
For the present, all depends upon these orders. As of the present moment, we do not know whether these orders are to turn away from Cuba, to proceed and submit to search, or to proceed and to refuse to submit to search.

or an invasion of Cuba. They may be right. But I have lived through two world wars, and in both of them, once we were engaged, we made the same tragic mistake. We suspended diplomacy when the guns began to shoot. In both wars as the result we achieved a great victory but we could not make peace. There is a mood in this country today which could easily cause us to make the same mistake again. We must in honor attempt to avoid it.

UNTIL WE do know, we can only speculate as to whether the Soviets will engage themselves at sea on the way to Cuba, will submit to the blockade and retaliate elsewhere, or will limit themselves to violent statements without violent action. There are those, for whose judgment I have profound respect, who think that it is now too late for this country to influence the decisions of the Soviet Union and that the President is now irrevocably committed to a course which can end only with a total blockade

suspended, the President would have shown Mr. Gromyko the pictures, and told him privately about the policy which in a few days he intended to announce publicly. This would have made it more likely that Moscow would order the ships not to push on to Cuba. But if such diplomatic action did not change the orders, if Mr. Khrushchev persisted in spite of it, the President's public speech would have been stronger. For it would not have been subject to the criticism that a great power had issued an ultimatum to another great power without first attempting to negotiate the issue. By confronting Mr. Gromyko privately, the President would have given Mr. Khrushchev what all wise statesmen give their adversaries—the chance to save face.

There are some in Italy. But Italy is not on the frontier of the Soviet Union.

THERE is another important similarity between Cuba and Turkey. The Soviet missile base in Turkey, is of little military value. The Soviet military base in Cuba is defenseless, and the base in Turkey is all but obsolete. The two bases could be dismantled without altering the world balance of power.

If, as the first concrete step in the disarmament we've talked so much about, there could be an agreement to remove offensive weapons from

fringe countries, it would not mean, of course, that Turkey would cease to be under the protection of NATO. Norway does not have strategic weapons on her soil and she is still an allied nation. Great Britain, which is a pillar of NATO, is actually liquidating U. S. missile and bomber bases on her own soil in accordance with Western strategic doctrine.

For all these reasons I say that an agreement of this sort may be doable and that there may exist a way out of the tyranny of automatic and uncontrollable events.

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"I Warn You! You're Playing With Fire!"



THERE IS, I know, no use crying over spilled milk. But I am making the point because there is still so much milk that can be split.

We have, we must note, made two separate demands. One is, that no more "offensive weapons" shall be brought into Cuba. On this demand, we shall soon have a showdown. Considering the unanimity of the other American states, considering the strategic weakness of the Soviet Union in this hemisphere, there is reason to hope that the quarantine of Cuba will work, though we must expect retaliation elsewhere.

But the President has laid down a second demand, which is that the missile installations already in Cuba be dismantled and removed. How this is to be done is a very great question, even supposing that there is no shooting conflict at sea. And it is here, I believe, that diplomacy must not abdicate.

There are three ways to get rid of the missiles already in Cuba. One is to invade and occupy Cuba. The second way is to institute a total blockade, particularly of oil shipments, which would in a few months ruin the Cuban economy. The third way is to try, I repeat try, to negotiate a face-saving agreement.

I HASTEN to say at once that I am not talking about and do not believe in a "Cuba-Berlin" horse trade. Cuba and Berlin are wholly different cases. Berlin is not an American missile base, it is not a base for any kind of offensive action, as Cuba is by way of becoming.

The only place that is truly comparable with Cuba is Turkey. This is the only place where there are strategic weapons right on the frontier of the Soviet Union. There are none in Norway, there are none in Iran, there are none in Pakistan.

Cold War Initiative To U. S.

stood by.

NOW THAT Moscow is embroiled in the Chinese-Indian conflict it was the free world that seized the opportunity to act while the Russians for once must react. Although the blockade of Cuba is limited to "offensive weapons," it introduces an entirely new element in East-West relations.

To be sure, the blockade carries its own risk since in any war, hot or cold, there is always a danger of miscalculation. But any conflict can always be terminated if one side throws in the towel.

In the face of Russia's massive buildup of atomic weapons in Cuba the United States had no choice but to impose the blockade even at the risk of underestimating Russia's retaliatory intentions.

However, President Kennedy deliberately gave Premier Khrushchev a wide avenue for retreat by raising the whole Soviet-Cuba issue in the United Nations.

SOME U. N. quarters were critical of the "dramatic Madison Avenue-type" buildup that preceded President Kennedy's declaration of the Cuban blockade.

It is unfortunate that the President acted only two weeks before the Congressional elections, one authoritatively said. "This casts a political shadow on the historic significance of the blockade."

Nevertheless, the consensus is that by boldly exposing the duplicity and falsehood of Soviet foreign policy the President has placed the cold war initiative in the hands of the non-Communist nations.

When Britain, France and Israel attacked the Suez Canal in 1956, Russia seized the opportunity to suppress the revolt of the Hungarian Freedom Fighters while the United States

stood by.

FOR SIX YEARS Communist Hungary refused the U. N. permission to investigate on the spot Russia's role in the suppression of the 1956 revolt. There is little chance that Fidel Castro and Soviet mentors will agree to let U. N. teams in to inspect Russia's weapons in Cuba.

Should Moscow discontinue the shipment of arms to Cuba during the long-winded debates in the United Nations the resulting lull will spur the behind-the-scenes negotiations for another East-West summit meeting.

John Steinbeck, Writer Of Books

John Steinbeck, one of this country's greatest writers, is doing little writing these days.

He has fashioned quite a nest egg from the formidable poundings of his typewriter. He can afford to sit back and take it easy now, rocking away, smiling, as the royalties pour in.

The other day, Steinbeck was awarded the 1962 Nobel Prize for literature.

Sometimes it takes time for recognition to catch up with fame. In Steinbeck's case, it has finally caught up.

His greatest fame came at the writing of "The Grapes of Wrath" that described the hardships and perils of a family of Okies trying to move westward to California.

Recently, he authored a whimsical story called "Travels With Charley," which The Gazette ran in serial form a couple of months ago.

Steinbeck's writings are filled with lingering excitement, sound, moving sentences that come out right and make the reader keep going for more.

For 30 years, he has been turning out best sellers.

For many of these years, he has been at the top in his profession.

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WASHINGTON (NEA)—Where President Kennedy's decision to "quarantine" Cuba against the injection of Soviet missiles and aircraft leads should soon be known.

Top administration officials refuse to speculate on the solution, saying that decision is up to Russian Chairman Nikita Khrushchev.

High State Department officials say: "We are prepared to deal with anything. Our plans have been contemplated for a long time, including contingency plans for Berlin. They may be accelerated and could be triggered by this action."

On the other hand, President Kennedy's letter to Chairman Khrushchev, delivered in Moscow with a copy to Russian Ambassador Dobrynin in Washington, expresses the hope that he will be prepared to resume the path of peaceful negotiations. This could lead to another summit conference soon.

President Kennedy's action is, of course, not aimed at Cuba directly but at Russia. The move is justified by international law under Article II, Section 4, of the U. N. Charter. It says: "All members shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state."

There are two good sharp campaigns in the two far western Congressional districts, the 10th and the 11th, with Republican challengers hoping to unseat Democrats Basil L. Whitener and Roy A. Taylor.

Most of the excitement though, as usual, is on the

briefing by top government officials on foreign policy developments.

At that time all the emphasis was put on avoiding a showdown on Cuba so that full attention could be given to the Berlin situation if it became acute.

It now develops that on the

second day of the conference the government learned by aerial photo reconnaissance (which confirmed refugee reports) that the Russians had made an amazingly rapid buildup of their missile striking capabilities.

Visiting editors and newscasters

were told nothing of these developments, however, and left Washington completely misinformed. This experience could well lead to discontinuance of all such mass indoctrination sessions for newsmen in the future.

State Department officials

now point out that this is the first time that Russia has established missile bases outside the Soviet Union. None of the Eastern European satellite nations, nor Communist China, has such installations.

While the North Atlantic

Treaty Organization established missile bases in Turkey and Italy in 1957, this was done openly, by authorization of a NATO resolution after Western Europe had been targeted by medium range ballistic missiles on Russian soil.

More attention has been given two other closely-contested districts, the Eighth and Ninth, but Republicans Carroll Barringer and Robert Brown are waging determined campaigns in the 10th and 11th.

Altogether, these are the four districts cited by most optimistic sources in the GOP's Operation Dixie organization which might give the Republicans as many as four Congressmen from North Carolina.

The odds are against this, and the odds are especially heavy against unseating Taylor. Most political sources say Whitener will turn back Barringer but this is a "new look" 10th district, altered as much as any in the state by the 1961 redistricting.

Whitener's former district was the 11th and Taylor's the 12th. Taylor's new 11th merely added Madison, McDowell, Vance and Polk. Whitener's new district retained three fairly large counties with normal Democratic majorities, Gaston, Cleveland and Rutherford and added four others — from the old 10th, Catawba, Burke, Mitchell and Avery. Mitchell and Avery are the only two normally Republican counties.

Whitener is opposed by former Conover mayor Carroll Barringer and Barringer may be expected to get his support mainly from the newly added counties, including his home county of Catawba.

Brown has even less advantage in the 11th. The county in this district normally Democratic and Taylor does not appear to be in trouble.

Brown, a newcomer to North Carolina, is a Barnardville dress manufacturer. He pulled something of an upset in the May primary by defeating a better-known Republican figure, Dan Judd of Asheville.

Charleston News and Courier

Relief Racket

An investigation in Washington, D. C., has disclosed at least \$18 million in relief money has been paid to ineligible clients in the District of Columbia in the last five years, Sen. Robert C. Byrd of West Virginia has said.

A mother of four children, who had been receiving \$154 a month for four years, represented the man who lived in the house with her and earned \$85 a week as her brother when he was really her husband.

Another mother of six who was getting \$191 a month said the man in the house was her brother-in-law when he really was her husband and

earned \$65 a week.

The well-furnished apartment of a woman on relief contained a three-speed record player, a television set, two telephones, a typewriter and a radio.

In the homes of 102 relief families were 138 telephones. One home had three separate telephone lines. In 155 homes on relief were 167 television sets, 12 of them having two sets each.

Rank discrimination is apparent in the distribution of public money. The entire nation pays taxes for maintenance of the District of Columbia

UNDER THE charter, the regional organization sanctioned to deal with threats to the peace in this area is the Organization of American States. The O. A. S. moved quickly to support the U. S. position.

Further action by the United Nations, if blocked by a Soviet veto in the Security Council, could be referred to the General Assembly. Here there is a minimum opportunity for the use of force but a maximum opportunity for obtaining world censure by a majority of the U. N. members.

A blockade by the United States, acting alone, would come only if the O. A. S. and U. N. refused to take action.

The distinction between a quarantine and blockade is that a quarantine is action by a duly constituted authority to deal with a threat to the peace. A blockade, which is an act of war, would stop all shipments into Cuba. And a state of war with Cuba does not now exist.

A WEEK before the President's speech to the nation, 400 editors and newscasters from all over the country were in Washington for two days of

professional planning. Stopping the shipment of missiles and bombers is only the first step. Privately, Defense and State Department officials say to watch these three points:

1. The blockade, now limited to shipments of "offensive" weapons to Cuba, will be gradually tightened militarily and

economically unless the Cubans get rid of their 1,000- and 2,000-mile missiles and their 1128 planes capable of bombing cities 800 miles away.

If necessary this tightening will continue until Cuba struggles economically. State Department experts think that by next spring Cuba could be brought to the verge of collapse.

2. The blockade against the Cuban clandestine running of arms by airplane and small boat to other Latin American countries will be tightened. There will be more patrols, greater alertness. Officials believe that the Cubans have been shipping by the present blockade.

3. The blockade aims at forcing the Russians into a naked confrontation with the United States on the Atlantic Ocean or Caribbean.

That is, the blockade's second aim is preventing a war in Berlin. As one military man puts it: "The showdown in Berlin may take place on the

high seas off Cuba."

High officials in both the Department of Defense and the State Department have been worried for some time that Nikita Khrushchev might go too far in Berlin in the belief that the Kennedy administration would not fight in a showdown.

Khrushchev said as much to poet Robert Frost and others.

THE BLOCKADE, in one sense, is an attempt to jar Khrushchev. Bombing or invading Cuba would have pitted Americans essentially against Cubans. Stopping Russian ships on the high seas and threatening to sink these Russian ships if they do not obey American orders puts the United States directly against the Russians.

Officials say that they believe it is better to have this showdown with the Soviet Union than to have it in Berlin.

Since World War II the Russians have usually stayed out of the front lines. In Korea, Laos, Sout Viet Nam, the confrontation is with satellite Reds or Chinese but not with the Russians.

In this action of stopping Soviet ships on the high seas the Soviets are caught in a trap, says one Defense Department man.

If they meekly obey they've had it; if they don't obey and we force them to stop or sink their ships, they've had it."

DEFENSE OFFICIALS say