

Mushroom imports to be investigated

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Senator John Heinz (R-Pa) recently announced that Special Trade Representative Robert Strauss has ordered an investigation into the illegal diversion of mushrooms into the United States.

Heinz said that the Republic of China (Taiwan) has attempted to exceed U.S. limits on Taiwanese mushrooms by shipping part of their crop to Hong Kong where they are mixed with mushrooms from the People's Republic of China, repackaged and then shipped to the U.S.

Heinz raised these charges in a June 6 letter to Strauss. The Special Trade Representative's reply, dated October 6, enclosed a copy of Strauss' letter to Customs Commissioner Robert Chasen requesting the investigation. In his letter to Chasen, Strauss said:

"Our negotiators have been informed by officials of the ROC that Taiwan ships mushrooms to Hong Kong, packed in brine for sale in Asian markets. However, we understand that Hong Kong mushroom packers have been desalting the

Taiwanese mushrooms, mixing them with mushrooms from the People's Republic of China, and labeling them as Taiwan-origin mushrooms to be shipped to, among other places, the United States. This raises a number of problems regarding possible violations of Customs laws and also possible circumvention of our March 1977 understanding with Taiwan regarding the level of mushroom shipments to the U.S.

Thus, we request that Customs investigate and inform us at the earliest

possible date of: (a) the true source of the canned mushrooms shipped to the U.S. from Hong Kong; (b) whether the processing of Taiwanese mushrooms in Hong Kong results in a "substantially transformed" product that should be marked as originating in Hong Kong; and (c) whether there is commingling of these mushrooms with PRC mushrooms, such that mushrooms imported into the U.S. are not being properly marked and, therefore, dutiable as products of the PRC."

"I am glad to see that the Administration has at least taken this first step to help protect American mushroom growers who have been battered year after year by foreign imports," Heinz said. "I can only hope that this investigation will be followed by concrete steps to halt the illegal shipment of mushrooms."



John Frey



Doug Hershberger

Pa. 4-H dairy judges score second place at World Dairy Expo

UNIVERSITY PARK - Pennsylvania's 4-H dairy judging team came home from the World Dairy Exposition with a second placing in the National 4-H Dairy Judging Contest, it was announced recently by Paul Anderson, Extension dairy specialist at Penn State University.

Members were Douglas Hershberger, Quarryville; John Frey, Willow Street; Todd Grice, Washington; and Jeff Harding, Brookville. Anderson coached the team.

Aside from the team's second place in overall

competition, they also scored a second place in reasoning for the entire contest, were first in Holstein judging, second with Ayrshires and Guernseys, and third in Jerseys.

Harding was the second-high individual in the contest and also second in overall reasoning. He was third highest individual in judging Guernseys.

Frey was seventh in individual judging, Hershberger placed 16th. He was second high man in Holstein judging.

Grice was the team alternate.

Ralston Purina makes movie at Umberger's

RICHLAND - Umbergers Inc., Richland, was busy with activity last week as a movie crew from New York City, N.Y., completely transformed the store overnight to show Ralston-Purina dealers, through a thirty minute movie, how to improve their in-store merchandising.

Clarence Kreider, manager of the store said the basic theme of the movie was to show dealers they can clean up their own store, using their own people and \$100 or less in paint and supplies. Kreider said they put eye catching signs up, along with more attractive

displays for better merchandising. Seven thousand dealers across the country will have the opportunity to view this film, he said.

This was the first film Ralston Purina did on actual location for merchandising. Up until now they have only used film strips.

Kreider said his new store looked "terrific, looks like a new show room. It's a remarkable transformation. It should have a good impact on dealers that see it." Kreider said our customers have been complementing us on the stores new appearance.



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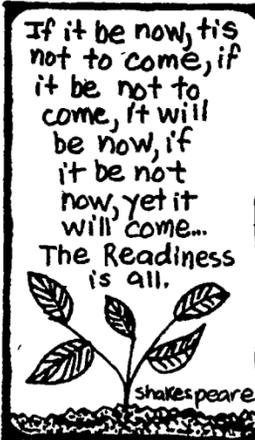


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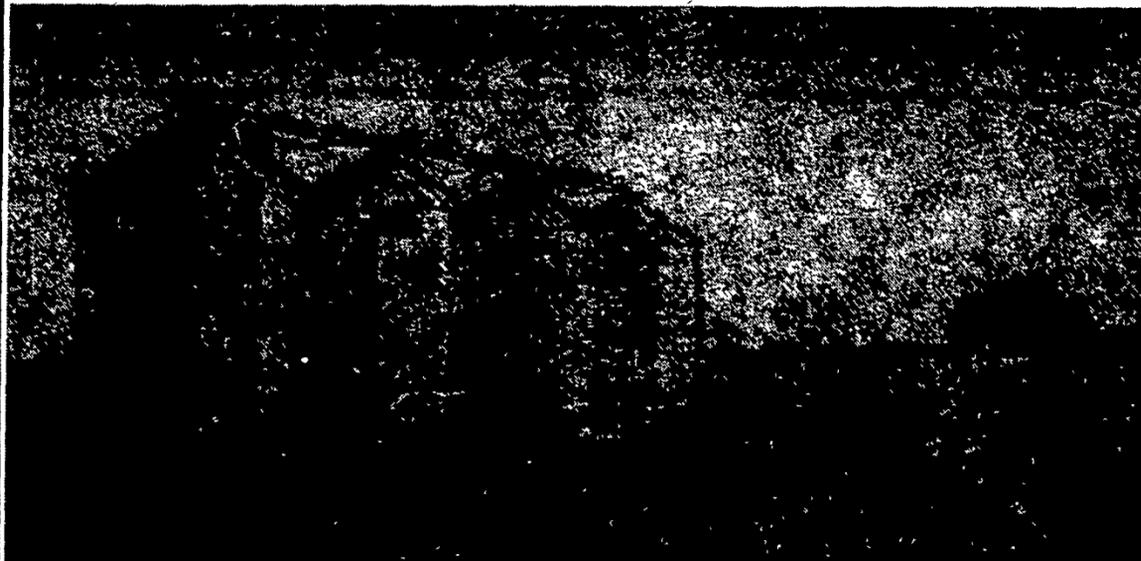
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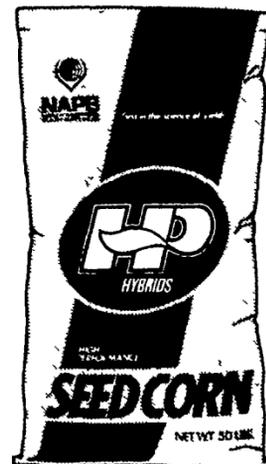
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