

Editorial Opinion

# Facing the Problem

The multiplicity of factions and situations which precipitated the present crisis in the Congo can be analyzed and discussed ad nauseam. However, this analysis and shifting of blame will do little to help the current situation.

Belgium's suppression of or at least lack of educational aid to her underdeveloped possessions might be part of the cause of the present crisis. Similarly the United Nations might be blamed for not taking a stronger stand and helping this immature country to develop; but we cannot erase the past and must face the future.

The Congo crisis may serve the Soviet Union in two ways neither of which is exactly going to further the interest of the United States.

By denouncing UN Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjold, the Soviets hope either to replace the definitely pro-West Hammarskjold or establish a three-man secretariat in which East, West and neutralist blocks would be represented.

But the Soviet Union's proposal to fire Hammarskjold probably will not succeed and he will complete the remaining two years of his five-year term, though probably stripped of his effectiveness.

The second way in which the crisis may serve the Soviets is to enable them to establish a puppet communist regime in the Congo. Working through pro-Communist Antoine Gizenga, the Soviet Union may get control of the Congo and thus pass over the Mid-East barriers to establish Moscow-directed communism in a major section of Africa. This would give Russia a kind of jumping off place from which to spread its communism throughout Africa.

The Soviet Union announced its support of the Gizenga regime in the Oriental Province of the Congo calling it the official government. Then, a determined President Kennedy literally chose sides in a blunt statement backing the Kasavubu regime.

The battle line has been drawn and another Korean style "police action" may be necessary. We certainly hope that if challenged, President Kennedy will not back down. We are not sure the United States can afford the price it may have to pay for going "soft."

Unfortunately, there is no guaranteed support from the United Nations because its composition has changed drastically from the early fifties. The more recently admitted Afro-Asian nations will not look favorably upon interference in what is technically civil strife because they wish to preserve the right of self-determination.

Hence the preservation of the United Nations as a force in world affairs is also at stake. If the United Nations cannot solve the Congo problem itself, it will probably be powerless in future situations.

The United States must consider not only its own interest in preventing the spread of Moscow-directed communism but also the preservation of the right of self-determination for newly independent countries.

A Student-Operated Newspaper

# The Daily Collegian

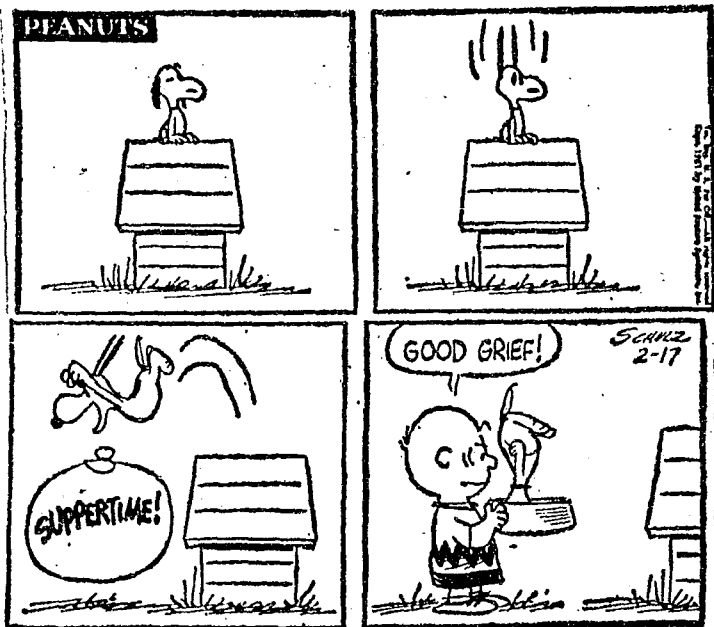
Successor to The Free Lance, est. 1887

Published Tuesday through Saturday morning during the University year. The Daily Collegian is a student-operated newspaper. Entered as second-class matter July 6, 1934 at the State College, Pa. Post Office under the act of March 3, 1879.

Mall Subscription Prices: \$3.00 per semester — \$5.00 per year. Mailing Address — Box 261, State College, Pa.

JOHN BLACK  
Editor

CHESTER LUCIDO  
Business Manager



Letters

# Coeds Give Their Views On Housing

TO THE EDITOR: Each sorority on this campus has a suite for which they pay around \$1200 a year. In addition to this the Department of Housing has kindly consented to allow the girls a set of rooms on one floor for which they pay room and board charges (every girl on the campus can submit a room preference and Housing tries to fulfill the requests).

But problems have arisen when sorority girls return from student teaching and cannot live with a chosen roommate. In several of the sorority groups, the girls have rearranged themselves in the most convenient manner while retaining full responsibility for the room to which they were assigned, retaining the same mailing address and signing out in the proper place.

Now one group has been threatened with being dispersed all over campus and several other groups have been given approximately one week to rearrange themselves again. The Department of Housing chooses to ignore the fact that girls have different study and sleeping habits which govern the choice of roommate and has imposed hardships on a number of girls by ignoring their requests.

The reasons given by the Department of Housing for insisting upon its own arrangements are the amount of paper work involved and the fact that advisors and deans must often contact a student and should have the correct address.

We have not asked the Housing Department to do any paper work and are willing to maintain full responsibility for the room to which we were assigned. We also wonder how much paper work is going to be involved in dispersing a group of 50 girls all over the campus. In the light of this threat, the argument about paper work seems and is quite silly.

In so far as the argument on the need to be contacted is concerned, every girl has retained the same mailing address (the method by which most departments contact their students is mail) and can be contacted at the same phone number (in most cases they have moved only a few doors down the hall).

We are not imposing on the Department of Housing by asking for any privileges or new arrangements but we are asking them to please let us alone.

—Sue Guiney '62, Mary Ann Weaver '62, Carolyn Dietrich '61, Helen Oakes '62, Johanna Zalar '61, Marie Meyer '61, Jan Abele '62 (Editor's Note: See story on page one.)

Snowed

# Elements of Forecasting

by joel myers

Being a weather forecaster, while probably the most unrewarding occupation in the world, is certainly one of the most fascinating.

The uncertainty and variations associated with the weather are unparalleled.

However, there are many aspects of the science of weather forecasting that are unknown and perhaps unappreciated by the layman.



MYERS

Contrary to popular opinion, the weather forecast is the product of the scientific method in its purest form. Each prediction involves the application of many complicated laws of physics and chemistry and relies on many thousands of ever-changing factors.

The inaccuracies of some forecasts, which are actually much less frequent and pronounced than the public believes, are due to the scale in which forecasters deal.

The atmosphere is a highly complex mixture of gases that has a lateral extent of several thousands of miles and a height of many hundreds of miles. Yet the public demands detailed forecast in terms of a few miles.

Many persons believe that the movements of air currents and the various weather systems are difficult to diagnose and forecast with great ac-

curacy. This is not the case.

These air streams and weather systems can be predicted with great accuracy. The difficulty lies in translating the broad picture into a detailed local one.

The changeability of the weather, the complex nature of the atmosphere and the topography, which plays a crucial role in all weather conditions, makes perfect weather forecasts for your backyard an impossibility. However, the 90 per cent accuracy that forecasters claim is practical enough for most purposes.

Remember, the general public is not the only user of forecasts. They are, as a matter of fact, one of the smaller consumers.

Airplane pilots, construction companies, fruit growers and other out-of-door activities as well as chain firms, such as bakeries, require detailed weather forecasts, and experience has shown that tremendous amounts of money can be saved by following the advice of these forecasts.

Those persons who are skeptical of the weatherman's accuracy might compare the accuracy of scientists in other fields. Medicine, for example, can claim a much lower percentage of accurate diagnosis.

Letters

# Housing Policies Queried

TO THE EDITOR: I am a little confused concerning the role of the Department of Housing in the life of the Penn State coed.

We are not to maintain friendly relationships with the cleaning women and housemen in our dormitories. Why not? When we are in constant contact with these people, I cannot and refuse to understand why we should limit our relationship with them to a passing "Hello."

Some of the finest people I have had the opportunity of meeting have been employed by the Department of Housing.

Until last week there was a ratio of approximately one hundred girls per iron in our dormitory. Since then, one iron has had to serve the needs of the entire dorm.

I object to having my room examined for electrical appliances while I am away on vacation. Our rooms are not donated to us.

When I lock my door and leave the dormitory, I would like to feel that my possessions are undisturbed until my return. The Department of Housing, I feel, has ample opportunity to check my room in my presence.

I realize the difficulties the department faces. We have certain obligations to them and the majority of us do our best to meet these obligations.

I only wish that the officials of this department would realize that we are not uncivilized barbarians. We are in college for an education; not a course in housekeeping.

—Barbara Frengel, '63

# Gazette

TODAY

Angel Flight, 6:25 p.m., Ewing Lounge  
Intervarsity Christian Fellowship, 7:30 p.m., 111 Boucke  
Wesley Foundation Sweetheart Dance, 9:00 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.

HOSPITAL

Justo Andrade, Robert Bisch, Mark DuMara, Frank Fee, Andrew Hallstone, Carolyn Houston, Alfred Kettinger, Robert Kish, George Koeck, Stephen Kotch, Linda Levy, Fred Marcus, Nancy Noikot, Howard Penkower, John Reber, Kenneth Reynolds, Ronald Simmons, Frederic Tietz, Margaret Tighe, Dale Troutman.

Interpreting

# Congo Stand Draws Battle Line

By J. M. ROBERTS

President Kennedy's endorsement of Congo President Joseph Kasavubu's forces has drawn the battle line in the Congo.

It offers a direct test of Soviet Premier Khrushchev's Jan. 6 commitment to support Communist civil war in emerging countries.

The Soviet Union has described the pro-Communist Antoine Gizenga group, the political heirs of slain ex-Premier Patrice Lumumba, as the only legitimate government in the Congo, which the Reds have a "sacred duty" to aid.

The President was calm, but his words were direct and ser-

ious as he warned the Soviet Union, without naming her, against unilateral action. The United States would react against that, he said, as a United Nations member.

Kennedy was not trying to bring the issue to a head. He was trying to keep the Soviets from bringing it to a head. He was about as blunt as diplomatic language will permit.

He was no less blunt in reminding the smaller nations where their true interests lie—in the United Nations.

But the effect was an attempt to line up the United Nations on the side of Kasavubu, which borders closely on intervention and may not be well accepted either in the United Nations or in the Congo.

It smacks of choosing up sides, as the Soviet Union already had done, in a situation where one of the paramount issues, among the African and Asian countries, is self-deter-

mination. This can be self-defeating.

The point may have been reached where it is now necessary in order to block the Communist drive in Africa. But it injects an issue which has always proved troublesome to the United States, as witness Latin America.

For one, the United States and the Soviet Union both are now working from the premise that one or another political group can eventually establish a central government in the Congo.

Expert observers have repeatedly expressed doubt that this will be possible in the foreseeable future. An uneasy truce between the factions, and the tribes into which the factions are divided, constantly enforced by the United Nations during a long period of political tutelage, is about the best that can be hoped for.



ROBERTS