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Counsels Caution

To the Editor of The Times:

In reply to Mrs. Billman's letter concerning Senator Goldwater in the Feb. 13 Hartford Times, let me say that the late President Kennedy most assuredly did not let communism into power in Cuba.

While we know that the invasion of Cuba was bungled by the CIA under JFK, let us not forget that this was planned back in 1959.

Mrs. Billman repeats, and obviously agrees with George Romney who had said, in effect, that JFK should not have let the Reds come to power in Cuba.

Mrs. Billman attempts to show that the Arizona Senator had the right idea in wanting to send troops to Cuba to have the water turned on for our naval base. This would have been a far more serious act than some people think. Under international law we would have been aggressors. We cannot march into Cuba as if it were part of U.S. territory.

I must reject as hearsay the idea that Senator Goldwater was the first one to recognize Castro as a Red.

JOHN F. HAYES, JR.
New Britain

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Goldwater's Way

Senator Goldwater is correct in saying that he offers the voting public the only clear choice among presidential aspirants. Where he errs is in assuming that his distinctive conservative anarchism represents a responsible preference. The Senator's rollicking guise of diplomacy is clear enough to be sure. Clearly irresponsible. Damning the poverty stricken, censuring the United Nations, or threatening to export Marines to Cuba make the Senator more of a security risk than the Soviet KGB at a CIA parley. The global array of madcap confusion strikes a mood of depression and pessimism in many Americans and perhaps Senator Goldwater has support firmly rooted in diplomatic frustration.

But Mr. Goldwater is not likely to be our star of hope. The question of choice is whether the United States citizenry prefers to sustain the existing approach to foreign policy or to embrace as the alternative a hysterical prince in a fool's paradise. The impetuous Senator from Arizona may present a discernible choice but in terms of his political perspective his visibility is zero.

Charles L. Padgett, Jr.