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ADA President 1960-1961: Charles Heston Patton

American Dental Association

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Charles H. Patton

Charles Heston Patton

1960-1961

Doctor Patton, of Philadelphia, became the ninety-seventh president of the Association at the 1960 meeting in Los Angeles. As president, Doctor Patton was a member of the United States dental mission to the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union also sent a dental mission to the United States in 1961.

Doctor Patton, an orthodontist, served the Association as a member of the Board of Trustees from 1953 to 1959 and as a member of the Council on Scientific Session from 1948 to 1953. He was president of the Pennsylvania State Dental Society and the Philadelphia County Dental Society. Doctor Patton was an assistant professor of cleft palate therapy at the University of Pennsylvania School of Dentistry. He was born in Pennsylvania in 1897 and died in 1973.

John F. Kennedy, Democrat, was elected president in 1960, defeating Richard M. Nixon, Republican. Cuba was invaded at the Bay of Pigs by about 1,200 Cuban anti-Castro exiles, who were repulsed. The East Germans built the "Berlin Wall" to stop the exodus of East Germans to the West. Major Yuri Gagarin of the Soviet Union became the first person to orbit the globe. Commander Alan B. Shepard, Jr., made the first United States sub-orbital space flight of 302 miles.