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A FABULOUS TRIP

On March 16, 1963, 36 teen-agers and five adults boarded a New York-bound bus for the NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE M.Y.F. U.N.-WASHINGTON STUDY TOUR on PEACH AND WORLD ORDER. There were nine delegations, one from each of the Methodist Church's N.C. districts. Each contained four delegates. Applications were submitted to a panel within each district; thus the panel chose the M.Y.F.'ers who would make the tour. The main purpose of our trip was to study the United Nations more closely and especially in relation to the church as an instrument of world peace. We attended U.N. committee meetings and had a fact-filled guided tour of the buildings. Each afternoon after we had completed our day at the U.N., we evaluated the day's activities and shared thoughts and ideas

about different phases of the tour.

One of the highlights of the trip was a visit to the Cuban mission to the U.N. We realized that this was quite a special privilege not offered many. Here we talked with the youngest member of their diplomatic corps, Otto Marrero, a nineteen-year-old Cuban boy. He offered many thought-provoking statements and brought the threat of Communism in our hemisphere into a much more alarming focus. He spoke to us about Cuba under the hated Batista and about Cuba today under the beloved Castro.

After leaving New York on Wednesday, we traveled to Washington, D.C. where we stayed until Friday. Here we talked with Senator B. Ederette Jordan, attended a session of the Senate, and visited our representatives. We also visited the Russian and West German Embassies in Washington. These two visits were in great contrast. The Russian with whom we spoke was a cold, shrewd diplomat who spoke for an hour without really saying one thing or committing himself on any subject. The German press Attache, who told us about her country's striving toward freedom and how they intend to make the dream of a United Germany a reality, was a very warm and sincere person.

For entertainment during the tour, we attended Broadway plays, ate Sukiyaki at a Japanese restaurant, climbed to the top of the Empire State Building and the Washington Monument, and had a guided tour of the White House. This brief summary of this most fabulous trip hardly serves to properly describe all of the good times and the knowledge absorbed through this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

by Ellen Highsmith

SPECIAL THANKS

As editor of the Smoke Signal, I would like to thank the staff for the fine job of reporting they have done. Thanks also goes to the typists for the extra time and effort they have given. Our sponsors have given much more than moral support. Miss Thomas and Mrs. Harper have donated their time, effort, and talent and this is much appreciated.

CONGRATULATIONS, SENIORS