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The Aeolians Behind The Iron Curtain



COVER STORY

THE AEOLIANS BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN

By Stephanie D. Johnson

For two weeks (June 10-24) in Communist Romania the sons and daughters of Paul Robeson, Roland Hayes and Miriam Anderson performed in cultural halls, majestic cathedrals, parks, schools, restaurants, in the airport, or on the plane. Wherever they found a listening ear, the Aeolians sang.

Through their rich spirituals and lively folk music the Aeolians have been immortalized in the hearts of the Romanian people.

Their music transcended barriers, shattered myths and silenced prejudices, an attainment that diplomacy could never accomplish. Who can measure the far-reaching impact of their music?

The concept of "Music the Medium and Friendship the Message" was an idea conceived by journalist Harry Morgan, who for more than two decades has promoted understanding between the U.S. and other nations through an international cultural and educational exchange program. In 1971, Friendship Ambassadors was expanded to include the arts.

As a result of this program, 18,000 singers, dancers and instrumentalists representing more than 350 ensembles have performed in more than 40 countries. This summer the Oakwood College Aeolians were chosen as one of the musical groups to represent Friendship Ambassadors.

Preparation for this tour started more than a year ago, when the Aeolians sang at the General Conference session in Dallas, Texas, in April 1980.

A Polish Seventh-day Adventist was so stirred by their music that he invited them to Poland. He informed them that they could come as Friendship Ambassadors and suggested that they contact Virginia Jean Rittenhouse, director of the New England Youth Ensemble, who toured Poland in 1974.

The Oakwood College public relations department contacted Rittenhouse, who recommended the Aeolians to Friendship Ambassadors.

The Aeolians auditioned and were chosen as Friendship Ambassadors. They had selected to tour Poland but,

due to the political strife there, changed their plans and decided to tour Romania.

The next step was to raise money for the tour, a task that proved to be rather easy. Pastor Wintley Phipps gave a benefit concert and the Aeolians sent letters asking for contributions. The response was tremendous! Two thousand dollars came in one day! Within months the Aeolians had raised enough money for the tour.

Dr. Rosa Banks, executive assistant to the president, worked closely with the Aeolians. Her division, Institutional Advancement, took care of the business portion—receipting, depositing money and forwarding installments to Friendship Ambassadors.

After months of planning and rehearsing, the Aeolians with Alma Blackmon, director, Rosa Banks, Pastor Lance Vincent Shand, dean of students, and Stephanie Johnson, associate editor of the *Regional Voice*, boarded Tarom, Romania's national airline, on June 10 at approximately 7:30 p.m. for Romania. A dream realized.

Bucharest: the Paris of the East

June 11-13—On June 11, a beautiful Thursday morning, we arrived in Bucharest after more than ten hours of travel (with an hour stopover in Vienna, Austria).

Richard Mayo, music and education director for Friendship Ambassadors, met us at the airport and made sure we didn't encounter any problems. Our tour guide, Felicia, gave each of us a red carnation to welcome us to Romania.

Bucharest is lovely! It is a cosmopolitan city with nearly two million inhabitants. The city is filled with colorful sidewalk cafes, classic architecture and people. As the largest city and capital of Romania, it is possible to meet people from Europe, Africa and the Arab nations.

In Bucharest we stayed at the Union Hotel in the heart of the city. It was an ideal location within walking distance of the capital. The hotel had a certain European flavor with its antique plumbing, meticulous maid service and enclosed balconies and appeared to be a meeting place, for African and Arab students gathered to discuss ideas and glean news from home.

For three days we had the privilege of observing the culture, touring the city and conversing with the people. It was an education! Many of the ideas that I

firmly held to were changed as a result of my visit. (I will discuss that later on.)

One of the biggest adjustments we faced while on the trip was the food. Romanian cuisine proved to be quite different from American food. There is little variety in the Romanian diet and the main staple is meat. Romania has rich agricultural lands that produce tons of vegetables and fruits, but the majority of these are exported.

Therefore, fruits and vegetables are a precious commodity. Romania has been faced with serious food shortages. Consumers have been known to stand in lines for hours to purchase butter, bread and meat.

Breakfast consisted of a hard roll, butter, jam, cheese and a fresh tomato. Lunch and dinner were the big meals consisting of soup (bean, tomato, potato etc.), salad, mamaliga (boiled cornmeal, unflavored), string beans and English peas, potatoes (boiled or fried), roast chicken or beef.

For the vegetarians the main entree was fried cheese or an omelet. Dessert was usually custard, doughnuts with sauce, or ice cream. With our meals we were served *appel minerale*, a sparkling, bubbly mineral water that tasted like Perrier water.

Throughout the tour the Aeolians gave spontaneous concerts in parks, restaurants and cathedrals. On Thursday night, Mrs. Blackmon and several of the Aeolians gathered on the porch of the hotel and began to sing. Their music filled the night air and within minutes a crowd had gathered. Although they were exhausted from their travel, the thought of singing for the Romanian people sparked new energy within them and their songs rang out as they sang for their God and their country. They gave a magnificent performance.

Friday afternoon after lunch the Aeolians practiced in the park. Their rehearsal was electrifying. The Aeolians sang freely without fear or apprehension. They sparkled!

On Sabbath morning we started the day early for our journey to Brasov.

Brasov: the Winter Paradise

June 13-15—While on the bus we had Sabbath services. Dean Shand served as our spiritual leader. During the week he arranged morning devotions.

We had a song service and prayer. Steve Richardson taught the Sabbath school lesson. After an hour, our ser-

vices were concluded.

I took this time to reflect on God's handiwork. I gazed upon the rolling hills, majestic mountains, rich cultivated lands and deep blue skies. I could feel God's presence. I knew that God was watching over Romania.

Enroute to Brasov we stopped at Sinaia, a quaint little village that was once the summer residence of King Carol I. The golden rays of sunshine that stretched across the blue horizon magnified the beauty of the village.

The streets were lined with brightly colored castles and sidewalk cafes. The time we spent there was refreshing. In the evening we arrived in Brasov.

Brasov is a city filled with a medieval fragrance. It is one of Romania's major cities. Here you find one of Romania's six universities, a thriving industrial center and 262,041 inhabitants.

In Brasov you find a large German population that has maintained their language, religion and culture. When walking through certain sections of the city you may think you are in Germany. In recent years, the German community is losing many of its citizens to West Germany because of Romania's economic problems.

We stayed at a winter ski resort in Piana Brasov, about ten kilometers from Brasov, until Monday morning. It is a sportsman's paradise nestled in the mountain.

Once we got settled in our hotel, Dr. Banks, Dean Shand, Heather Johnson and I went for a walk. The scenery was breathtaking. We talked about our experiences and reflected on how God had led in our lives.

I am a witness to the fulfillment of God's promise to give us the desires of our hearts. There I stood on one of the highest mountain peaks in Romania overlooking the resort. God had given me the desires of my heart.

Our walk was interrupted by rain. We ran to our hotel and got ready for our festive night in Brasov.

On our way to Brasov we had sun-down worship. It was the perfect ending for a wonderful day. The weather in Brasov was wet and chilly. The climate reminded me of a late fall evening in New England.

We arrived at the inn for the festive dinner. The inn was decorated with a peasant-like interior with long, wooden tables, candles, fresh flowers and a variety of Romanian dishes. The evening

was filled with Romanian folk music. It was a celebration of Romanian culture. The participants dressed in their folkloric costumes reminded me of pastoral days.

The Aeolians brought American culture to the festive night by giving a spontaneous concert. The audience sat spellbound as they listened to them sing "O Shenandoah," "Tonight (from West Side Story)," and "The Sound of Music Suite."

Among the many people who listened to the Aeolians sing was the Honorable Ken Murakami, the Japanese ambassador to Romania. He congratulated Mrs. Blackmon and the Aeolians for their fine performance. It was an unforgettable evening.

On Sunday morning we went to Transylvania, to Bran Castle, better known as Dracula's castle.

It is a huge Gothic castle that was built by the inhabitants of Brasov on November 19, 1377, to survey and defend the Bran mountains during the Middle Ages. Today it is a tourist attraction for those who are acquainted with the legend of Dracula.

Count Dracula *did* actually exist! He was not a blood-sucking vampire as people were made to believe, but rather a member of the royal family about whom these stories were started.

For me it was an interesting study in medieval history. I scrutinized every piece of furniture and china. I studied the architecture, since it was a tribute to the Middle Ages.

We arrived at the Black Church, which was originally St. Mary's Church (Romanian Orthodox). Construction began in the 13th century and was not completed until the 14th century. St. Mary became known as the Black Church because a fire blackened everything.

Inside you find one painting left from the seventeenth century, a portrait of Mary wearing a dark blue dress. Mary's dress was once light blue but, because of the black smoke, it turned dark blue. It is a magnificent cathedral.

In the cathedrals around the world you find rich art and elaborate altars. Romania is no exception. During the Middle Ages life revolved around the church. Consequently, men and women gave their most precious treasures to the building of a cathedral, a project which involved the whole town and took a century to complete. As a result, a memorial to medieval art and worship was left for future generations. Because

I had a knowledge of medieval history, I treasured every moment of our tour to the cathedrals.

After a day of sightseeing, the hour of the Aeolians' first formal concert had finally arrived. It was a time of joyful expectation, for this day represented many months of hard work and endless rehearsals.

The concert was held in the cultural hall, an ultra-modern theatre with red velvet seats and a high ceiling accented by crystal chandeliers. The concert hall reflected the value Romanians place in art.

First Concert in Romania

At approximately 5 p.m. the Aeolians, dressed in concert attire, performed before their Romanian audience. The music they selected reflected a broad range of American music that included such patriotic songs as "The Star Spangled Banner," "America the Beautiful" and "The Battle Hymn of the Republic."

They also sang several folk songs: "Black is the Color of My True Love's Hair," "The Deaf Old Woman" and "O Shenandoah."

The audience enjoyed their repertoire from American musicals: "Tonight (from West Side Story)," "The Sound of Music Suite" and, from the opera Porgy and Bess, "My Man's Gone Now," with Cheryl Colvin, soprano. Cheryl's magnificent voice stirred the audience. It was one of the high points of the concert.

Part two of the program focused on Negro spirituals. This portion of the program was presented as a part of the Black American heritage but the spiritual message could not be overlooked by those who listened in awe. The sweet soprano of Margaret Humphrey was heard as the Aeolians sang "Poor Wayfaring Stranger." Byron Rowe's soulful rendition of "If I Got My Ticket, Can I Ride?" thrilled the audience. "Ezekiel Saw De Wheel," "Hold On," "Give Me Jesus," "You'd Better Mind" and "Sinnuh, Please Don't Let This Harves' Pass" were well received by the audience. Their first formal concert was a triumph.

The audience was mostly composed of youth who ranged in age from five to 30. There were also established men and women who came because of their love for music.

After the concert we listened to Professor Sebesan and his group Crai Nou (New Moon) perform. It was a delightful

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PUBLISHER'S PAGE

REGIONAL CONFERENCES POSITION CLARIFIED— DAVENPORT INVESTMENTS

Much discussion is being heard in the church today concerning recent articles appearing in newspapers across the country which tell of millions of dollars invested by Dr. Donald Davenport, a former physician of the SDA church who turned investor.

These articles stated: "The bankruptcy of a California doctor turned real estate developer, who relied heavily on his Seventh-day Adventist Church to get his financial empire off the ground 15 years ago, may leave units of the church holding the bag for millions of dollars . . . Davenport's Adventist institutional creditors largely of area and regional conferences of the church . . ."

Some have been led to believe that the regional conferences (or black conferences) have lost millions in this unfortunate experience. This is not so. These conferences have never been a part of this program of investments whatsoever. Leaders of the regional work have requested that those persons in charge of the media make a statement of clarity on the term that has been used, lest wrong impressions be formed and this sector of the work be hurt in the days to come. An article released by the *Adventist Review*, our church paper, gives a list of the conferences and institutions that are subject to lose from this venture. None of the regional conferences are on this list.

When the leaders of the regional conferences met for their summer meeting in California, it was revealed that revisions in the special assistance funding for conferences by the General Conference will be presented at the coming annual council when it convenes in October. These revisions in the 1982 budget will bring cutbacks to some conferences in operating funds and a loss to all conferences in funds for evangelism.

Evangelism is the lifeblood of the church, especially in the regional conferences. Evangelism means carrying out the commission given by the Lord while He was yet with us. When regional conferences were organized in 1945, there were only 19,000 black members in the Seventh-day Adventist Church in

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The Editor's Desk



C. A. Dent, M.D., of Nashville, Tennessee, was featured on the "Breath of Life" television program with Pastor C. D. Brooks in connection with the Health Programs series being presented.

SUNSET CALENDAR

	Oct. 30	Nov. 6	13	20
Boston, Mass	4:41	4:32	4:24	4:19
New York City	4:51	4:42	4:36	4:30
Buffalo, N.Y.	5:10	5:01	4:54	4:48
Atlanta, Ga.	5:48	5:41	5:36	5:32
Miami, Fla.	5:41	5:36	5:33	5:30
Charlotte, N.C.	5:33	5:25	5:19	5:15
Birmingham, Ala.	4:57	4:51	4:46	4:42
Jackson, Miss.	5:13	5:07	5:02	4:58
Memphis, Tenn.	5:08	5:01	4:56	4:52
Louisville, Ky.	5:46	5:39	5:32	5:28
Detroit, Mich.	5:30	5:21	5:14	5:08
Chicago, Ill.	4:48	4:39	4:32	4:27
South Bend, Indiana	5:43	5:33	5:27	5:21
Minneapolis, Minn.	5:05	4:55	4:47	4:40
St. Louis, Mo.	5:03	4:56	4:49	4:44
Kansas City, Mo.	5:20	5:12	5:06	5:01
Denver, Co.	5:01	4:53	4:46	4:41
Little Rock, Ark.	5:17	5:11	5:05	5:01
Dallas, Texas	5:38	5:32	5:27	5:24
New Orleans, La.	5:15	5:10	5:05	5:02
Albuquerque, N.M.	5:15	5:08	5:02	4:58
Oklahoma City, Okla.	5:38	5:31	5:26	5:21

Add one minute for each 13 miles west; subtract one minute for each 13 miles east.

THE CONFERENCES IN ACTION



Pastor W. S. Lee, seated between his wife, Ruth Lee, and his daughter, Althea Kennedy.

W. S. LEES RETIRE

Pastor and Mrs. Willie S. Lee have retired from active denominational service for the Seventh-day Adventist church after 44 years. A native of Alabama, Lee began his ministerial service in Oklahoma shortly after graduating from Oakwood College in 1937.

Pastor Lee's most recent position was as secretary of the Mid-America Union headquarters located in Lincoln, Nebraska. He has built churches in Enid, Oklahoma, and New Orleans, Louisiana, constructed a school in Jacksonville, Florida, and pastored one of the largest churches in the Seventh-day Adventist denomination, the Ephesus church in New York City.

He served as secretary of the regional department of the Pacific Union Conference in Westlake, California. In 1966, Lee was called from California to be president of the Central States Conference with headquarters in Kansas City, Missouri. During his tenure as president, a new conference office building was constructed. In 1971 he was asked to be secretary of the Central Union Conference, now the Mid-America Union.

The King's Daughters Club and Allon Chapel church in Lincoln honored the Lees with a testimonial banquet at Union College.

The Lees have three children: Althea

Kennedy, vice president of nursing at Glendale Hospital in California; William S. Jr., pastor of the Stockton, California, church; and Brenda Alexander, a public health nurse in Riverside, California.

ALLON CHAPEL BELIEVES IN COMMUNITY ACTION

Gerald H. Jones and the Allon Chapel Choir of Lincoln, Nebraska, are very community-minded. Lincoln area churches and civic organizations are extending numerous invitations to the choir and the pastor to be special guests.

Jones, who pastors two churches in the Omaha-Lincoln district, is a frequent speaker at Baptist, Methodist and other Christian churches. He has said that "Lincoln is just ripe for the Lord and we must be about our Father's business: telling others about the love of Jesus. If they don't come to us, we must go to them."

Whenever Jones speaks he makes it a point to take his church choir with him. The Allon Chapel Choir was recently asked to participate in a state-wide program sponsored by the Nebraska Chapter of the United Negro Women Organization. The Choir is under the direction of Oscar Harriott.



The new Allon Chapel.

LINCOLN WITNESSES A MODERN-DAY MIRACLE

The old Allon Chapel Seventh-day Adventist Church in Lincoln, Nebraska, has served its purpose, and so the decision was made by Maranatha Flights International to build a new church.

As the day of the groundbreaking ceremony arrived on June 7, pledges of support came not only from the Central States Conference and the Mid-America Union, but also from Nebraska Governor Charles Thone, Lincoln Mayor Helen Boosalis and others in the community.

Six days later, George Bogue arrived with his "cat" and began the excavation for the basement which the workers affectionately called the "pit." Then Maranatha volunteers arrived and Charles

Henkelmann began to mobilize the Allon Chapel forces with the Maranatha brigade to form one Christian group of workers, old and young, men and women, skilled and unskilled, from near and far.

There were people of other faiths and community leaders, including State Senator Shirley Marsh, S. Haywood Cox, Central States Conference president, who worked closely beside the others for one week.

Marlyn Schwartz and Calvin Krueger, co-captains, kept the pace moving along rather briskly. Les Napue came with his cement equipment from Colorado. Carlos Arroyo of the Capitol View church came with his carpenter tools. Joseph Anderson, Sr., came with his bricklaying experience. Rick Krueger installed the carpeting and Fred Murray, with his tractor, landscaped the ground.

One worker observed that "if you turned your back away from the work for even a short time and then looked back, something new and wonderful would have been completed."

Television, radio and newspapers from Lincoln and Omaha reported the "Miracle on 23rd Street." PM Magazine, a syndicated television broadcast with Channel 6, filmed the project in its entirety, including the Sabbath services. Bill McCoy of the *Omaha World Herald* called for clarification on the press release submitted, saying, "Surely, Mrs. York, you must be mistaken—your church will be built in two weeks?" "Yes," came the reply, "I was mistaken. The church won't be built in two weeks. It will be built in twelve days."

On Sabbath, July 18, the church was completed and ready for services. An elaborate weekend program, "A Festival of Praise," was planned. Participants on Sabbath were Russell Bates, associate director of the Personal Ministries Department of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, Dr. Ward Hill, director of the Division of Humanities of Union College who had also donated many hours of labor, Ellsworth S. Reile, president of the Mid-America Union, and William Peeke, director of personal ministries for the Mid-America Union, S. Haywood Cox, president of the Central States Conference, G. H. Taylor, John Napue, Emmitt Slocumb, former pastor of Allon Chapel, and the current pastor, Gerald Jones. A very special part of the program was the baptism of three new members.

GOD'S SPIRIT POURED OUT AT ALLEGHENY WEST CAMPMEETING

Allegheny West



President H. L. Cleveland welcomes campers as his wife looks on.



H. M. Wright (left), Oakwood College and C. D. Brooks, General Conference.



Keynote speaker: W. O. Coe, Columbia Union president.



Old school buddies H. L. Cleveland and C. D. Brooks meet at Allegheny West campmeeting.



F. L. Jones of the General Conference brings greetings to the Sabbath



Conference-wide winners in the Bible Bowl are congratulated by Youth Director C. R. Rogers and the president as the proud pastor looks on, H. L. Cleveland II, Danville-South Boston, Virginia district.



Candidates listen to sermon.



A table setting, Shelia and Carmen show the president's cake.



Ordination candidates and wives, left to right: T. E. Henderson and Shelia, B. Griffith and Carmen.



Retirees honored: Pastor and Mrs. J. H. Lester, and Pastor and Mrs. W. A. Thompson, union secretary.



S. D. Meyers (left), General Conference and E. E. Cleveland, Oakwood College.



Pastor and Mrs. R. LaGrone, Columbia Union, parents of Mrs. Griffith.



A. T. Westney, Columbia Union, Pastor and Mrs. E. C. Ward, pastor, Oakwood College church.



R. L. Woodfork, General Conference.



Hardly a seat is vacant as H. L. Jones presents his message.



The president charges ordination candidates. Tears fell as he sent them forth to "fight the good fight" as W. L. Wright sang, "So Send I You."

THE HOLY SPIRIT TRIUMPHS AGAIN

From May 24 through June 20, a great event took place at the Flint Fairhaven church that literally turned the city upside down.

Robert C. Connor and the "Christ Is the Answer Crusade" evangelistic team conducted a four-week effort, resulting in the baptism of 125 into the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

The presence of the Holy Spirit was felt nightly as this humble man of God taught with power and authority from the Word.

"The glory and praise belong to God. We only permitted ourselves to be used by the Holy Spirit," was the idea expressed by the team as they tirelessly labored among the people living in Flint, Michigan.

Someone told Connor upon his arrival that he did not know this city, for Flint has the reputation of being cold and hard. Unperturbed by such well-meaning but discouraging words, Pastor Connor, with complete confidence, proved that Flint didn't know the power of One who can soften and melt the coldest and hardest heart.

As truth penetrated the hearts of the people, surely all heaven must have rejoiced as men and women, boys and girls stepped forth, drawn by the Holy Spirit, to give their hearts to the Lord and join with that remnant that is watching and waiting for the soon return of our Saviour.

Lonnie Winston
Communication Secretary

OAKWOOD COLLEGE DAY HELD AT SHILOH CHURCH

What better way to promote Oakwood College than to have its illustrious president, C. B. Rock, as our guest?

In his sermon, "From Visible Nothing to Invisible Something," Rock reminded us of the apostle Paul's message to the church at Corinth—a message which is true for us today. "Those things which so visibly transpire in our world are temporary and we can rise above them to our 'invisible something'—eternity."

We believe that, through the training of our young men and women at Oakwood College, this work will be finished and we can soon go home.



Robert Montgomery was one of 125 people baptized during the "Christ Is the Answer Crusade" meetings in Flint, Michigan. Vern Joyner, pastor of the Fairhaven church in Flint, performed the baptism. Local Elder Charles Anderson, left, assisted baptismal candidates.



Many people came to the Fairhaven church in Flint, Michigan, to witness the baptism of friends and loved ones. Evangelistic meetings by the "Christ Is the Answer Crusade" team resulted in the baptism of 125 people.



C. B. Rock, president of Oakwood College.



Baptismal candidates await baptism, having been converted by the "Christ Is the Answer Crusade" team.

God blesses those who obey Him;
happy the man who trusts in the Lord.

Proverbs 16:20

WALTER ARTIES VISITS EASTSIDE CHURCH

The Eastside Seventh-day Adventist Church in Indianapolis, Indiana, was recently honored with the presence of talented singer Walter Arties, director of

the Breath of Life telecast.

At the close of the service, Arties passed our red roses to the elderly mothers and sang a beautiful song for them, commemorating Mother's Day.

It was indeed a day to remember at Eastside.



Pastor L. Homicile and family.

Luc F. Homicile is Haitian born and has many talents which he uses for the Lord. Prior to coming to the United States, he worked as a teacher serving for nine years in that capacity for the Northern Mission of Haiti. During this time he felt the call to a different profession, the ministry.

He came to the United States and worked as a literature evangelist in the Northeastern Conference, their headquarters being in New York City. He worked as a literature evangelist from 1970 to 1973. While working in New York he met and married Ms. Francia Presmy in August of 1971. They have two lovely daughters to present to Christ. They are: Kathy, eight; and Pearlle, three.

After the birth of the first child, the family moved to Atlantic Union College where he studied the ministry in 1973. Upon graduation in 1977, he worked as a literature evangelist in Canada. After working just six weeks in Canada he had earned his scholarship to Andrews University where he graduated with an M.A. degree in Systematic Theology.

In March 1979, he accepted a call to join the ministerial family of the Northeastern Conference, pastoring the Morija SDA French Church, Manhattan. He is presently at Temple Salem, Boston, and Philadelphia Mission, Cambridge, Massachusetts. His wife is working on a B.S. degree in Nursing at Boston State College while they labor there.

The Homicile family loves the gospel ministry and enjoys working with fellow Haitians. Pastor Homicile believes with all his heart that the pastoral ministry is a teaching ministry in which the youth deserve first priority. His favorite biblical figure is Daniel.

Pastor Marc Conel Thevenin was born in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. He is the fifth child of Marie Carmen Valentine and

Germain Thevenin. He was raised as an Adventist attending the Horeb SDA Church in Haiti.

He graduated from the Franco-Haitian Adventist Seminary in 1973 with an Associates degree in Theology, and completed his Bachelors degree in Theology from West Indies College, Jamaica, West Indies, in 1974.



Pastor Marc Thevenin and family.

Before entering the graduate program at Andrews University, he worked for one year as literature evangelist for the Quebec Conference, Quebec, Canada. He received his M.A. degree from Andrews University in June of 1976.

In 1977, he became a member of the Northeastern team of ministers. His internship was done under the supervision of senior pastor Matthieu D. Birmingham at the Hebron SDA French Church, Brooklyn, New York.

Pastor Thevenin is married to the former Marie Solange Cezil. To this union has been born one son, Markneil.



Pastor Edward Herndon and family.

Pastor Edward Herndon was born in Newark, Ohio, to Edward Lee and Florence Herndon. He attended grade school in Newark and Lima, Ohio, and completed his school education in California at Los Angeles Academy and Newbury Park Academy. While living in California he and his parents became Seventh-day Adventists under the inspiring ministry of Pastor Hope Robertson.

Pastor Herndon spent two years in Europe as an Army Medical Specialist. Following his army stint, he attended Oakwood College. He graduated from Andrews University with a B.A. in

Theology and a Masters in Religion from the graduate school at Andrews. He taught in the public schools of Benton Harbor, Michigan, before accepting a call in 1971 to serve as the Bible teacher at Northeastern Academy.

Pastor Herndon is actively involved in the Mt. Vernon church where he serves as local elder. He has assisted in tent efforts under the ministry of Pastor Keith Dennis. He has continued to serve faithfully under the leadership of Pastors Baptiste, Lee and Doctor Smith. He conducts the weekly baptismal class at Mt. Vernon, and is one of the team leaders in the Prison Ministry at the Ossining Correctional Facility in Ossining, New York.

Pastor Herndon is married to the former Sandra Neely of Washington, D.C. She is a graduate of Oakwood College and Michigan State University. Mrs. Herndon serves in the Northeastern Conference Department of Education as Associate Director of Education and Reading Specialist.

The Herndons have two lovely daughters, Erika, 7 and Elaina, 5.



Pastor Charles Parker and family.

Pastor Charles Parker was born to William and Alice Parker in Bridgeport, Connecticut. He attended the public schools in that city. His mother was a faithful member of the Bridgeport SDA Church and raised her son in the message. At fifteen years of age, Charles made his public commitment to Christ, and as a young man helped to establish two church bodies; the Norwalk and Stamford churches in Connecticut.

In 1963, he married Phyllis Jean Moore. Several years later, he moved to Huntsville, Alabama, and attended Oakwood College graduating in 1977.

He joined the working force of the Northeastern Conference the same year and was assigned to the Ellenville-Newbury District in the Hudson Valley where he still labors.

Pastor and Mrs. Parker are the parents of two daughters, Phyllis, 17 and Charlene, 9.

His favorite Bible characters are Elijah and Moses.



Pastor Carlyle Langhorn and family.

Pastor Carlyle George Langhorn was born in Brooklyn, New York, and was raised by his mother, Thelma Davis-Langhorn on Long Island, New York. He was baptized at the age of 14 in the Gordon Heights SDA Church and is a third generation Seventh-day Adventist.

Pastor Langhorn is a graduate of Oakwood College, class of 1976. He obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in Theology and in 1979 the Master of Arts degree in Religion (concentration Pastoral Leadership) was conferred upon him at Andrews University.

Since 1976 when he began his ministry with Northeastern Conference, he has pastored two churches. They are: Pioneer Memorial SDA Church, in Niagara Falls, New York, and he is presently at the Norwalk SDA Church in Norwalk, Connecticut.

He is married to the former Neida Rene Young of Sacramento, California, who holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Office Administration. They are the proud parents of Carlyle, Jr., 2 years old and Crystalle Rene, 1 year old.

The most memorable event in his personal life was when the Lord used his witness to win his two brothers, Clifton D. Davis, and Cedric E. Davis, to Jesus Christ. His favorite Bible character is Moses.

“LITTLE RICHARD” TAKES SYRACUSE BY STORM

The city of Syracuse, and the Mount Carmel Seventh-day Adventist Church in particular, are still buzzing about the big



Richard Penniman, “Little Richard.”

gospel storm that swept into the city on the night of April 17th.

For seven nights Evangelist Richard Penniman—better known as “Little Richard”—sang and preached the gospel to overflow crowds at the Mount Carmel church. The audience was held in awe as Richard related how God miraculously transformed him from the king of rock and roll to a spokesman for the Rock of Ages.

New hope sprang up in the hearts of many as he told how God had delivered him from a life of degradation and sin. The nightly invitation to accept Jesus as Lord and personal Savior resulted in more than 80 souls taking their stand for Christ.

More than 2,000 were enrolled in the Faith for Today Bible Course. At least 20 who took their stand are receiving Biblical instruction in the pastor's Sunday night Bible class. The meetings received city-wide coverage through television and radio.

ECSTATISTICS NOMINATED FOR GOSPEL MUSIC AWARD

The Ecstatistics Gospel Singers have been nominated for a Gospel Music Academy Award as the outstanding male group of 1981. This is the first time a musical group from an SDA church has been so honored.

The winners of the Gospel Academy Awards will be announced on September 19 at a black tie affair in Brooklyn, New York.

Recently, the Ecstatistics were the recipients of a community service award

from the Health and Hospital Corporation of the city of New York for dedication in bringing hope and inspiration to the patients of the Bird S. Colar Hospital in New York City.

They have set up a scholarship in memory of the late Mervin Todd Lewis. Winners of the scholarship are Bernard Small (R. T. Hudson Elementary, Bronx, New York) and Maurice Harvin (North-eastern Academy).

May heaven's richest blessings come to this group as they use their talents to serve the Lord.

HIGHER HEIGHTS

Noreen Sealey has accepted a call from the Adventist Volunteer Service Corp (AUSC) to teach English in Lumbum Bashi, Zaire.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Nat Verner of Bronx, New York, she is a member of the Ephesus church in New York City and a recent graduate of Oakwood College, Huntsville, Alabama.

Hederka Newberry will join her for mission service in Zaire.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DAY CELEBRATED AT BETHESDA

The Bethesda SDA Church in Amityville, New York, held Community Services Day on May 23. Guest speaker for the occasion was Pastor Ronald Smith.

Smith challenged the members and visitors to work actively in their communities to reach those souls who are lost and searching for a better way of life.

He warned the congregation that it is the devil's business to prevent God's people from doing His work. He continued that unless we place ourselves in God's hand we will not be able to withstand the wiles of the devil.

In closing his sermon, he invited each member to have his aim fixed on the stars and his hold on Christ as strong as the Rock of Gibraltar. His timely message did much to awaken the spirits of the listeners.

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It is possible to give away and become richer! It is also possible to hold on too tightly and lose everything. Yes, the liberal man shall be rich! By watering others, he waters himself.

Proverbs 11:24, 25



Monya Frazier, newly-elected president of Future Homemakers of America, is flanked on the left by her pastor, Fred Nealy of the Oakland Avenue church in Florence, and on the right by her mother, Montell Frazier.

SDA YOUTH HEADS NATIONAL ORGANIZATION

Monya Frazier, a seventeen-year-old accelerated student at West Florence High School in South Carolina, was elected president of the Future Homemakers of America (FHA). This is the highest honor a member can receive, said the *Florence Morning News* on Wednesday, July 22.

The convention at which she was elected to this highest office was held in San Francisco July 10-18.

Monya is the daughter of Montell Frazier of the Oakland Avenue SDA Church in Florence. She is the last in the family of three boys and three girls. Monya lays claim to fame as a Seventh-day Adventist twice. She was baptized with her mother while a fetus and again when she was nine years old. She feels that being a Seventh-day Adventist is the greatest of all her accomplishments. She is a counselor in the Pathfinder club, one of the pianists of the church and an usher.

"My commitment to the church," she says, "is to use my talent in my present position and to help my peer groups both in and out of the church so that they, along with myself, will be able to withstand the 'Shaking Time.'"

Monya's mother was unable to afford the necessary finances to send her to church school, but she feels that the association with academy young people has been her only deprivation.

Monya has been facing the public in a winner's role since the eighth grade, when she won first place in the oratorical contest and participated with second place in the Optimist Club. In ninth grade she won first place with the American Legion Post and in tenth grade came in first in the post and area. Then, in 11th grade, she won in the post, area and dis-

trict. She has awards, trophies and certificates for participation in the Voice of Democracy by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Legion Elks by the Elks, the South Carolina Speech and Communication Festival and the 4-H Speaking Contest, just to name a few.

While she was a freshman at West Florence High, the counselor pointed out the various clubs open for membership. She chose the Future Homemakers of America, which was connected to the Home Economics Department. She was elected president of that club that year at the age of fourteen. She remained an officer until she went to the national convention in San Francisco, where more than 1200 delegates from around the country and Puerto Rico, representing one percent of the membership, were gathered.

To elect a president was quite complex. The first procedure was to elect fourteen national officers—three from each of the divisions or regions of the country plus two at large as members of the board of trustees. From these there were five who chose to run for the presidency. In this case, there were four white girls and one black—Monya. Male members of the organization number only seven percent. For the first time in the 36-year history of the 12,500-chapter organization, a black person was elected president. She succeeds Amy Montierth, a native of Mesa, Washington.

Monya will have a local office at West Florence High and a national office in Washington, D.C., where she will spend one week each month. There is an executive secretary to take care of matters while she is away at school.

NORTH CAROLINA FEDERATION HOLDS CAMPOREE

The North Carolina State Federation of Seventh-day Adventist Youth had its annual Pathfinder campout weekend on June 26, 27 and 28 at Jones Lake State Park in North Carolina. More than 155 Pathfinders participated.

The Durham Pathfinder Club, under the direction of Master Guide Anthony Moore, led out in this event. Pastor Donald Belton of High Point, North Carolina, was the guest speaker. His sermon challenged the Pathfinders to "Dream" and let Jesus support those dreams after we

make the first step.

The following clubs were in attendance: Durham, High Point, Fayetteville, Charlotte, Council, Greensboro, Kinston, New Bern, Wilmington and Newport News.

North Carolina Federation President Michael Harris was present for the weekend.

CHAPLAIN AT CAMPMEETING

During the South Atlantic-Southeastern campmeeting, Navy Chaplain Meretle H. Wilson talked with young people regarding military service. Youth Directors F. W. Parker and G. W. Timpson coordinated the discussions for both Sabbaths.

Wilson discussed some of the difficulties that Sabbathkeeping youth may face in the armed services. He answered questions regarding enlisting and being drafted. The subject of diet was also discussed.

Other young men were present who are or have been in the services. They testified to the problems they had experienced in Sabbathkeeping. Wilson also gave personal experiences in assisting both enlisted personnel and officers who were having difficulty observing the Sabbath the way they believed God would have them to.

EPHESUS CHURCH IN ACTION

The Ephesus Seventh-day Adventist Church in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, under the direction of the temperance secretary, Carolyn Howard, and Adell Follette, a nurse practitioner, conducted its first Five-Day Plan to Stop Smoking May 11-15.

J. L. Follette, pastor of Ephesus, and Cosby Davis, O.D., were the preacher and doctor who were the contributors. During the course of the five days, seventeen of the 22 persons who went through the experience quit smoking.

CORRECTION

In the last issue of the *Voice*, under the topic, Atlanta Minority Writers' Guild, we reported that Georgianne Thomas was the public relations director of Delta Airlines. The director is really Jim Ewing. Mrs. Thomas is public relations tour coordinator.



Sallie Coopwood is the oldest tenant in the Haynes Gardens Apartments in Nashville, Tennessee.

HAYNES APARTMENTS CELEBRATES TENTH ANNIVERSARY

Haynes Gardens Apartments, a 208-unit complex sponsored by the South Central Conference, celebrated its tenth anniversary on August 27 with representatives from the mayor's office, Senator Bonner's office, the Metropolitan Ministerial Alliance and other civic and religious organizations.

Dr. Robert Hardy from Meharry Medical School and Robert Lewis, president of the Citizens Bank and Trust, gave greetings to the group assembled under a tent erected on the lawn for the occasion. Dr. J. L. Powell from the Baptist Theological Seminary offered the invocation.

Dr. Dogan Williams, president of the ministerial alliance, read the Scripture. Dr. N. G. Simons, Riverside Hospital's retired administrator, gave the history of Haynes Gardens.

Dr. C. E. Dudley, president of the Haynes Gardens Housing Board, told of the future plans for Haynes Gardens. In his address to the future, Dudley mentioned the projects that are now under construction in Clarksville, Tennessee, and Cleveland, Mississippi.

He pointed out that the Christian is to redeem the whole man, and all men, wherever man is found. He received the

loudest applause when he said that "It is love of mankind that causes us to want to build in this neighborhood a high-rise for senior citizens."

Sally Coopwood was honored for being the oldest tenant. Gwendolyn Baynes was recognized as one of the first to move in who has been with Haynes Gardens for ten years. After the program, there were refreshments and an open house.

NEWS BITS

● The members rededicated themselves to God and invited the stewardship leader for the conference, I. J. Johnson, to return and spend a full week. Johnson promised to do so with a smile. T. J. Hemingway is the pastor.

● Pastor Hemingway smiled broadly as he announced that the Woodville, Mississippi, church had sent in their full goal for this year's Ingathering. Now a goal for a building fund is being sought, since they plan to build next spring.

● With a three-inch-square advertisement in the weekly paper, Hemingway, who earned his doctoral degree in geological research, plans to have articles in the newspapers of his district every week. After discussing the part Mississippi played in the development of the Adventist work among blacks, Pastor Hemingway was asked to give a story to the paper. He did, and it was printed. The editor included in his next editorial the progressive example of the Adventist church. With newspaper and radio (he has a popular weekly program), Hemingway is bringing the activities of the church to the attention of the community.

● Dr. Charles D. Joseph, born in Birmingham, Alabama, and now president of Lake Region Conference with headquarters in Chicago, was the kick-off speaker for the 35th campmeeting of the South Central Conference. The nightly meetings were held in the Ashby Auditorium. The Sabbath meeting was held in the Oakwood church.

Taught in his early school years by his mother, Joseph received his master's degree in chemistry from Northwestern University. It was here that he recognized his call from heaven to the gospel ministry. He then went to Oakwood Col-

lege and Andrews University, where he received his bachelor's and master's degrees. He received his doctorate from Vanderbilt University. Joseph is married to Vivian Hollander of Indianapolis. They have three children.

Joseph labored in South Central Conference for twelve years, building five churches, baptizing hundreds of members, marching with the civil rights movements in Mississippi and working with Earl Moore to purchase the health van which was for a time the only health facility in that historic march on Washington.

● The First SDA Church of Springfield, Tennessee, recently celebrated its annual ladies day with Bertha Branch of Nashville as guest speaker. The guest choir was The Ambassadors for Christ, a group of young people whose motto is "Singing to Praise the Lord." Henry Holt is the pastor. Willie E. Collier is the public relations secretary.

● The Gospel Advent Choir of the Middle Tennessee District gave its first anniversary program this year. The guest speaker was Henry Holt of the New Life SDA Church in Nashville. The First Baptist church of Springfield served as host. Greg Germany of Nashville was master of ceremonies. Many choirs of Robertson County in middle Tennessee joined in the colorful celebration, including the Ebony Ensemble and Eddie Williams and Company of Nashville. "The program was a first for us, and if we humbly say so ourselves, it was an inspirational one," says Doryel McGarrett.

HARRIMAN MEMBERS REALIZE A DREAM

Mrs. A. McMorris, Mrs. G. Boyd and Mrs. E. Estridge, along with the late Mrs. A. Cane of Harriman, Tennessee, had a vision of building a church for the Lord. With much commitment, perseverance and divine aid, the church was paid for in less than four years.

One of the staunch supporters of the project, Mrs. Risitor, gave insight into the struggle that pioneering Adventists in Harriman faced. She remembers her father and another Adventist believer being arrested for wearing overalls in the town on Sunday. Times have really changed.

Dr. F. S. Hill is the minister.



Pastor and Mrs. Milton Baez.



Pastor and Mrs. James Ford.

SOUTHWEST REGION CAMPMEETING

W. C. Jones, president of Southwest Region Conference, gives an account of the largest spiritual convocation ever, according to the report the local newspaper printed. The crowd reached its peak of 5,000 on the last Sabbath.

The administration purchased three trailers for the campground for first aid, trust services, H. W. Kibble and clerical work. L. Battles, the conference builder, constructed a new restroom. In spite of running out of space on the grounds and downtown hotels, the campers stayed by because they wanted a blessing.

R. L. Woodfork delivered the keynote sermon, while S. D. Meyers administered the spoken word on the first Sabbath. Workshops were held during the week by C. L. Brooks—Sabbath School,

Mable Sterling—nutrition and sewing classes, Ellen Anderson—Bible instruction seminar, and Nathaniel Lee—classes in mechanics.

The youth pavilion began with E. W. Shepperd. They had a parade downtown and an investiture service. Charles Cason and Irvin Glenn conducted a seminar for Pathfinder staff. All kinds of water sports, honor classes, field trips and various recreational activities were included.

Following the spoken word by C. D. Brooks on the last Sabbath, an ordination service took place with W. R. May as speaker while M. L. Baez and J. Ford ordained. The Shepherdesses sang and presented a golf cart for the pioneers to be transported across the campground. Pastor and Mrs. W. W. Fordham were honored and given a plaque for their dedicated service. He was the first president of Southwest.



Pastor and Mrs. W. W. Fordham stroll across the camp, relaxed and enjoying the country air at Lone Star Camp.



Youth enjoyed sailing, skiing and other water sports at Lone Star Camp.



L. Battles built a lovely restroom for ladies and men at Camp Lone Star.



The Cherub choir from Hammond presented music for the divine worship hour at the Louisiana Federation in Monroe.



Director Givens and the Pathfinders of Monroe, Louisiana, who hosted the Southern Louisiana Federation, March 6-8.



Enter to learn;

depart to serve.

INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM

The Division of Institutional Advancement Program, formerly named the development office, cares for a multiplicity of vital concerns and is the area of emphasis for Oakwood College during the new quinquennium.

Oakwood is and has for several years been in stiff competition for its students and its dollars. It is no longer possible to assume that fellowship and goodwill are sufficient for attracting either commodity. It is now necessary, more than ever, for us not only to structure a quality program on campus, but to skillfully market that program via our publications and public relations. It should be clear that this battle for students and dollars demands ingenuity, vigilance, travel budget, personnel and perseverance.

Anyone who thinks that Oakwood can compete with state colleges, where students can attend for less finance, or with our sister Adventist colleges, who are waging vigorous competition for our youth, doesn't really understand the situation. By offering blacks in our churches and SDA high schools scholarships, college credits for high school course work, and repeated canvasses of the senior classes in their union (one black academy reports that the union college of that area made seven visits to them last year), the "U.C.'s" of Adventism are making it clear (and it is understandable) that they are seriously in the business of competing with us for the black Adventist scholar.

Add to this the rising cost of transportation (and don't forget that 90 percent of our students come from out of state and around the world) and the inevitable increase of tuition, etc., and it is evident that Oakwood cannot take itself for granted. It is precisely because we cannot and because we do have a marketable product that must be vigorously sold that the office of IAP must be well-staffed, highly visible and consistently productive.

Our recent successes with Bush/BECA direct mail solicitations (Chart 1), our highly productive Aeolian tours (Chart 2), our local UNCF and annual fund drives and our national and international recruitment efforts give reason for both thanks and optimism.

The Aeolians—Continued from p. 3

treat, for we had the opportunity to listen to Romanian folk music. The Crai Nou gave a magnificent performance!

Romania possesses some of the most ornate and elaborate cathedrals I have ever visited. During our stay in Brasov we had the privilege of visiting two cathedrals: St. Nicholas and the Black Church.

St. Nicholas Cathedral (Romanian Orthodox) was built in the 14th century. It commands a special reverence and awe. It is a masterpiece with a gilded ceiling and Persian rugs. The cathedral was lighted by candles. Old women dressed in black with toil-worn faces came to pray for their souls and the souls of their children.

On our way to the Black Church in the heart of the German section we passed a Jewish synagogue. My mind reflected on the Holocaust and the great dispersion of the Jews.

The history of the Jewish people in Romania is a sad one. The Romanian Jews have been so fiercely persecuted that it struck the conscience of the world. In the midst of their darkest hour, God has always kept them and blessed them.

After the performance we returned to the hotel for supper. During supper the Aeolians sang for the patrons and staff. They seemed to have endless energy!

Well, another day was done. Tomorrow morning we would head for Piatra Neamt.

Rejoice in the Lord always; and again I say, Rejoice.

Philippians 4:4

Davenport—Continued from p. 4

North America. Because of the constant evangelistic thrusts these conferences have carried for the souls of mankind, this membership had climbed to 130,000 at the end of 1980. In spite of the reduction in funds to be voted in the fall, we feel that the blessings of heaven will attend us as we continue to preach the "word" wherever people are found.

Two issues that have brought concern to the church body lately are: the "new light doctrine" of Desmond Ford and the Donald Davenport investments that appear to be crumbling. The black sector of the church, in most instances, has had a lifetime experience of hard trials through which the sure word of God has been the only thing that has given us courage to press onward as we have held to the simple truths of the Bible. We will not lose our trust in the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy now! We will not change now! We will not quit now! We must stay with the church! God will see us through to the end!

Society has seen to it that the majority of black people have had meager incomes through the years with which to provide for family and church needs. Financial investments could not become a part of their vocabulary. It has ever been kept before the black leaders how dismal their organizational operations have been since the first days of organization as conferences. Successes have come only through the guiding hands of the Almighty. I guess we would say, in the words of the late F. L. Peterson, "We have sent our timber up to heaven." More money is always needed to keep the ship afloat and we have constantly made the bricks without the straw. We have never enjoyed the pleasures of having extra money to spend, other than in the work of the church. It appears that with the direction the nation seems to be going, the black work of the church will need a new plan of financing if we are to get on with the job before the Lord comes.

C. E. Dudley

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If you profit from constructive criticism you will be elected to the wise men's hall of fame. But to reject criticism is to harm yourself and your own best interests.

Proverbs 15:31, 32

IN THE NEWS

OBITUARIES

Herman Edward Richards was born in Westmorland, Jamaica, West Indies, in 1898. He came to the United States in his youth and graduated from Atlantic Union College in South Lancaster, Massachusetts, with a bachelor of theology degree. Later he attended Pacific Union College in Angwin, California, where he received a bachelor of arts degree in biology.

He engaged in literature ministry and pastoral work in New York and Minnesota. He is best remembered by Oakwoodites, however, as chairman and professor of biology at Oakwood College from 1945 to 1949. He was mentor to a generation of black Seventh-day Adventist doctors and nurses who now serve or have served in many countries around the world.

Although he became a U. S. citizen, in 1950 he chose to return to his beloved Jamaica, where he continued faithfully in denominational employment as a pastor, evangelist and teacher of biology at West Indies College.

He retired from active service in 1973 but continued in the counseling ministry and as student benefactor. After a brief illness, he died peacefully on February 12, 1981, at the age of 82.

Survivors include his wife, Le Oris; two sons, Earl (missionary dentist in Nairobi, Kenya) and Winston (urologist in Loma Linda, California); one daughter, Lois Henderson (R.N.) of West Medford, Massachusetts; seven grandchildren and a host of other relatives and friends.

He was laid to rest in Jamaica on February 20, 1981, there to await the glorious fulfillment of the blessed hope, the soon return of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

"Even so, come, Lord Jesus."

deJuana Danielle Marsh was born on December 18, 1961, in Los Angeles, California, and passed away on June 14, 1981, in Atlanta, Georgia.

deJuana was an ardent, promising youth of the Adventist church who had just completed her freshman year at Oakwood College after graduating from Georgia-Cumberland Academy and completing Atlanta-Berean Junior Academy. She was a leader among the youth

and had plans to follow the line of her ancestry, which included Anna Knight, one of the most revered pioneers in the Seventh-day Adventist church, particularly in the area of education.

She leaves to mourn her loss: her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elliott Marsh; two sisters, Shontielle and Ayako of Atlanta, Georgia; a maternal grandfather, Oree Knight of Los Angeles, California; paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Euranus Marsh of Niles, Michigan; and a host of relatives and friends. She was buried in Soso, Mississippi, as a part of the family tradition.

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