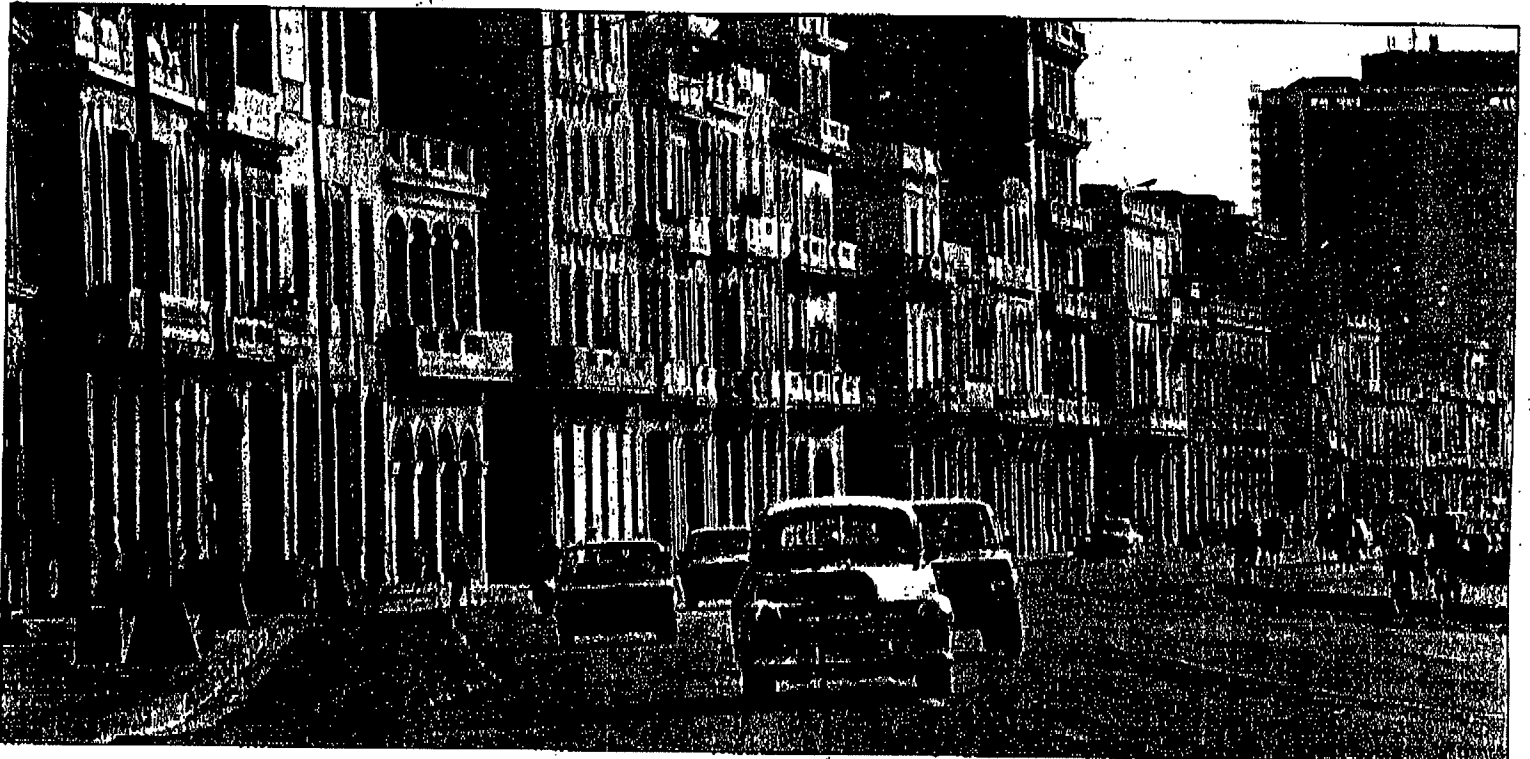


# A VIEW FROM CUBA



Staff Photos / Susan Plageman

**Staff Report**

**B**arely 90 miles from the United States but worlds apart in many other ways, Cuba — the former “jewel of the Caribbean” — is struggling to survive.

Under longtime President Fidel Castro, who took control of the country after a 1959 revolution, Cuba stubbornly remains one of the world’s last communist nations.

A trade embargo imposed by the United States at the beginning of

this decade and the gradual pullout of the former Soviet Union — Cuba’s primary supplier of goods and services — have left most of Cuba’s 11 million people subject to rationing and lacking basic commodities.

Cuba is off-limits to most Americans. It is a violation of U.S. law for American citizens to travel and spend money in Cuba without permission of the U.S. Treasury Department. Access to Cuba is limited largely to journalists, politicians, researchers and humanitarian workers.

At the invitation of the Cuban government, a team of Children’s Express reporters and their adult chaperones visited Havana for a week in late July. Children’s Express, which operates a bureau in Indianapolis, is an international news service for kids ages 8 to 18.

In a two-part series beginning today and continuing next Sunday, the Star’s Focus section (Page D1) will feature reports by the CE reporters, capturing the essence of Cuba, its children, its politics and its way of life.



**OLD GUARD:** As Cuban dictator Fidel Castro has aged, so has the country he has built around him. Vintage American cars now cruise along the Malecon, the sweeping waterfront drive in Havana.

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# Focus

## THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR

SUNDAY, AUGUST 26, 1996

### A VIEW FROM CUBA



**GIVING HER OPINION:** With a poster of revolutionary Che Guevara in the background, a Cuban Pioneer expresses her thoughts during an 11-hour session with President Fidel Castro. The children often cheered in enthusiastic support for their leader and his policies. Some got to hug and kiss him.

Staff Photo  
Susan Flanagan

The memories are ingrained: Police, demonstrators and a party sharply divided. Twenty-eight years after their contentious convention of 1968, the Democrats are coming ...

# BACK TO CHICAGO

By Curtis Wilkie  
THE BOSTON GLOBE

**C**HICAGO — The Democrats' return to Chicago is a bit like the United States establishing diplomatic relations with Vietnam, a practical step in a world moving past the hostilities of 1968.

It is a reunion, after 28 years, of the national Democratic Party and the nation's most reliably Democratic city. Friday night, Chicago celebrated with a free public concert featuring Aretha Franklin in Grant Park, the setting where Eugene McCarthy addressed "the people of the government in exile" after violent clashes between police and anti-war protesters at the 1968 convention.

Bill Daley, son of the legendary mayor and brother of the current occupant of that office, discounts the idea that this year's convention represents final closure on a Democratic disaster. "The convention in August '68 was just another crazy four days in a crazy year," said Daley, chairman of Chicago '96, the host committee. "There's a lot of excitement over having it here this year."

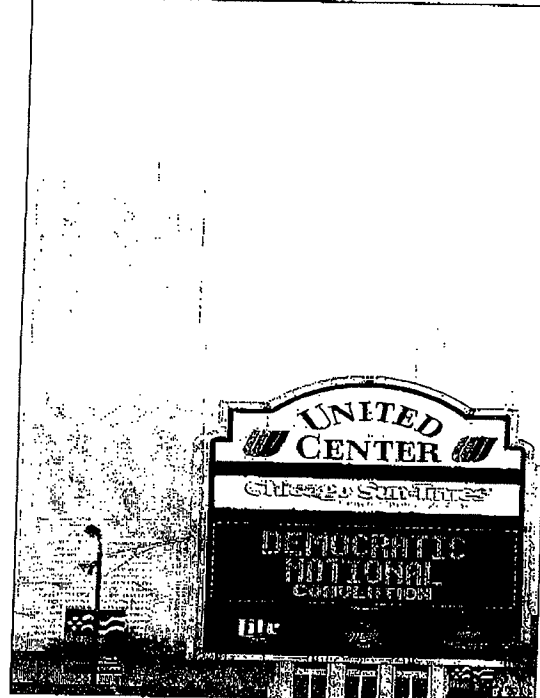
Chicago, which is providing the Democratic Party with \$25 million worth of services, did not attempt to lure a convention earlier, Daley said, because the United Center did not exist, and there was little political stability during the "council wars" of the 1960s, when local Democrats were at one another's throats.

Chicago would rather not look back. At an early planning session, Bill Daley told convention organizers, "We're not going to sit around and sing Kumbaya, we're an African hymn and brotherhood song."

David Axelrod, a Democratic consultant, said memories of 1968 "are really more a fascination with reporters than the people of Chicago and the Democratic Party." Axelrod said the convention is coming to Chicago because the city "is strategically located and represents the personification of hard work and values that the party wants to celebrate."

**Certain reminders**  
Still, there will be television replays, using grainy black-and-white film, of the battles on the streets and convention floor that left the city reeking with tear gas and stained with bile.

See CHICAGO Page 5



**NEW YEAR:** Comparisons to the riot-torn 1968 Democratic Convention are inevitable, but the city of Chicago has a new arena, a new attitude and many of the key players of '68 have departed.

## Government-run Pioneers mix politics and patriotism

Cuba's children, indoctrinated early in life, provide support for Castro's hard-line message

Children's Express

As we walked into the open-air lobby outside the Congress of Pioneers in Havana, we heard the rumbling of the crowd as well as feeling its vibration.

As we entered the auditorium, we could make out the children's chants: "Pioneers for communism, we will be like Che!"

"Socialism or death!"  
With these cheers, the pioneers — 1,088 from all parts of Cuba — showed their patriotism.  
The Pioneers of Cuba is a youth organization, comparable to the Boy and Girl Scouts of America, for boys and girls ages 8 to 14. Those leading were the little, chosen by their mentors.  
They had come in uniforms and ribbons and medals, and most of all to feel their beloved leader and founder, Juan President Fidel Castro.

The Pioneers were founded in 1961 by Castro because Cuba needs young people support the government's ideals.  
The first day of the congress was spent small meetings preparing for the second day — an 11-hour plenary session in which Pioneers could express their con-

Star/News Online

Check out our Web site for more on the Children's Express trip to Cuba.  
News Online, SpeedNet and Internet's best are on the Internet's World Wide Web at <http://www.starnews.com>

George Lukeville

Washington — Don't be surprised in the next several weeks by news reports of an exodus of Cuban refugees rafting toward South Florida.  
That may be an "October Surprise" Cuban director Fidel Castro launch in retaliation for the imposition his country is enduring under a bill co-written by House Rep. Dan Burton and Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., resident Clinton, who had not yet voted for the hard-nosed



cerns to one another and to Castro. The final day was spent in celebration, with the Pioneers participating in a parade, games and musical performances.  
But it was clear the children were most excited by their opportunity to address Castro.

One by one, they would introduce themselves and their place of origin, then express concerns about a variety of topics that affect them.

The Pioneers "loved" Castro as they would love a famous grandfather. The children clapped, waved their hands and cheered the whole day. A few kids got the chance to hug and kiss him.

The Pioneer organization is funded by the government. It is located in rural areas as well as cities.  
"We have 99.6 percent of children in this country in the Pioneer organization," said Erith Alern, adult president of the Pioneers. The government's own figures, however, are less sweeping. It says there are 1.5 million Pioneers out of more than 2.3 million students in Cuba.

According to Alern, Pioneers have no privileges that set them apart from non-Pioneers.  
See PIONEERS Page 3



Staff Photo / Susan Flanagan

**AT THE HELM:** An animated Fidel Castro responded to the Pioneers' concerns with a 90-minute speech.

### About the trip

A team of eight Children's Express reporters and editors and five adult chaperones spent a week in Cuba in late July. The first part of their report appeared in last Sunday's Focus section. An additional story about Fidel Castro's speech to the Pioneers is in today's paper on Page A20.

### War on Cuban economy

The legislation does this by weakening economic havens through a tightened U.S. trade embargo and by allowing the United States

### War on Cuban economy

legislation, nonetheless signed the Helms-Burton law last March.  
It handed the White House a ready-to-wear policy to avenge the February downing of two tiny U.S. civilian planes by Castro's fighter jets.  
Written a full year before the shoot-down incident, the heart of the legislation aims to destroy Castro's government. Helms has said so since 1988 in any number of forums from the House floor to town meetings in Noblesville.

### War on Cuban economy

to penalize foreign nations — even allies — that pursue commerce with Cuba. Some of the law's toughest measures are its economic and legal sanctions on foreign companies that have bought or leased U.S. property Castro seized when he came to power in 1959.  
That blunt economic edge is both the strength and weakness of the law.  
Cuba came close to bankruptcy after its ally the Soviet Union collapsed in 1991. In response, Castro increased ties to the global trade community — with some success. Cuba's economy has recently posted a 10 percent gain, by some estimates.

### Democratic convention

Chicago will host its 28th national political convention Monday, when more than 4,300 Democratic delegates meet at the United Center to nominate President Clinton and Vice President Al Gore for second terms.



Source: Democratic National Committee

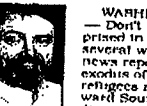
### Where: United Center

**Opened:** 1994  
**Seating:** Unobstructed seats for 29,000 on eight levels  
**Arena floor:** 25,000 sq. ft.  
**Overall building area:** 980,000 sq. ft.  
**Access:** Accessible by mass transit; fenced, continually patrolled parking areas on all sides of center  
**Media pavilion:** 180,000-sq. ft. pavilion next to center built as work space for journalists



■ Delegates: 4,328  
■ Alternate delegates: 605  
■ Media: 15,000  
■ Volunteers: 7,000  
**When**  
■ Aug. 28-29

## Castro might allow another refugee launch as payback for U.S. sanctions



Washington — Don't be surprised in the next several weeks by news reports of an exodus of Cuban refugees rafting toward South Florida.

That may be an "October Surprise" Cuban director Fidel Castro launch in retaliation for the imposition his country is enduring under a bill co-written by House Rep. Dan Burton and Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., resident Clinton, who had not yet voted for the hard-nosed

cause Castro — now with nothing to fear from the United States has started punishing avowed political dissidents openly. Last month, two University of Havana professors were fired after having contacts with U.S. officials and news media.  
**Another Mariel**  
The more likely scenario is that Castro will repeat his 1980 Mariel boat invasion of South Florida that severely undermined President Jimmy Carter's re-election. Dims said.  
Castro could simply repudiate the 1984-85 immigration accord reached with the United States after thousands of rafters tried to

"Now Helms-Burton is hurting them, and it will hurt more," said Larry Birns, director of the Council on Hemispheric Affairs, a Washington-based group that monitors U.S.-Latin American foreign policy.  
While that tough stance gnaws Cuba's communist government, common Cubans incur considerable pain as well.  
The intended consequence of Helms-Burton is to convert the economic ruin of Cubans into a widespread political revolt against Castro in scenes reminiscent of Eastern Europe's rejection of communism.  
That scenario is unlikely be-

Such an action would leave the White House in an untenable and vulnerable position in a highly charged election year when illegal immigration is already a major issue.

Knight-Ridder Tribune

# TOBACCO

Continued from Page 1

of "the worst of civilization's evil empires." And five criminal investigations are under way to determine whether tobacco executives lied to Congress about the dangers of nicotine.

On Aug. 23, President Clinton announced a major attack on tobacco sales to children, where virtually all smoking begins.

But the people of North Carolina are protective of the crop — their state is the highest tobacco producer in the nation.

All of the state's government buildings have smoking zones. Cigarette taxes are only a nickel. And U.S. Sen. Jesse Helms, tobacco's biggest ally in Washington, D.C., keeps getting re-elected.

A grateful tobacco industry has helped renovate the governor's mansion, brought pro basketball to Charlotte, put money in public schools and helped build the colleges and medical centers at Duke and Wake Forest universities.

Tobacco made North Carolina what it is today, a farmer contends. "The doctors here on tobacco, but any occupation you look at, tobacco has touched it, got it going," says Elmo May, 67, a Louisville tobacco farmer who smokes two cigarettes a day.

## Reigns in February

It starts in February in the greenhouse, with seeds so tiny you can barely see them. One acre of seeds will make 300,000 tobacco plants, which produce more than 6 million leaves that are picked, dried, cooked and aged.

The seeds are dropped in trays and the seedlings nurtured for two months in the greenhouse until they're ready for the field in late April.

Planting is tedious, dirty work on a noisy, slow-moving old transplanter. Four workers sit on the back of the chunky vehicle, feeding plants on wheel-like conveyors that clamp the plant, dig a hole in the ground, stick in the sprout and water it.

The workers wrap themselves in plastic trash bags, put on their warm-up pants. Their sneakers are caked with mud. They sit there all day, chilly in the dawn, sweaty in the mid-afternoon, working their backs into a whole of an ache for \$5.50 an hour.

Lamm, a nonsmoker who has "just never gotten" for cigarettes, has been running the farm since the early 1970s, when his father got emphysema. Ed Lamm could not endure the dust, heat and smell of farm life, so he turned over most responsibilities to his son.

Lamm believes the dust from the open air contains his father's smoking on the farm caused the respiratory problems, but he acknowledges smoking probably contributed. "It fit here and there on cigarettes had nothing to do with that, but it would be wrong to say, 'If you live long enough, something's gonna get you.' Unfortunately, how we live our life isn't as important as when we live."

He thinks about the things besides genes that have been handed down. The traditions being passed from his father, brought him to his son. He remembers that when he and his wife, Sandy, were just married, they built a little red-brick house down the road from his parents. And now their son is getting married and fixing up his grandparents' home to live in. It's Stephen's turn, at 23, in master the art of growing tobacco and prepare to run the farm on one day.

In the evening, the television is on in the Lamm's house. A news promotion about the health of women smokers catches Lamm's ear. He looks at his head. "The general public thinks I'll just stop growing tobacco, we'll solve our air health problems," he says. But the tobacco companies "they won't stop making cigarettes. They'll just buy their tobacco overseas. Unless they ban smoking, you're gonna have it. The tobacco companies would come to operate, but American farmers would be out of work."

Sandy Lamm, the family's only smoker, kids that she will run her own cigarettes if the government makes it much harder, or more expensive — to buy them. She's adamant about her right to enjoy her Winston Ultra-Lights. She's smoked since she was 16 and says she has no plans to quit. Smoking is a treat, "like eating a bowl of ice cream," she says.

She didn't wait for her son smoking when he was a child, any more than she wanted him drinking coffee or staying out late at night. Choosing to smoke, like choosing to drink or stay.



File Photo

## UNDER ATTACK: Among the anti-smoking restrictions proposed are curbs on advertising and the accessibility of vending machines.

ing out ill 2 in the morning, is an adult decision, she says.

Still, Sandy says, there are so many vices worse than having a cigarette. "Smoking doesn't cause even a tiny bit of tobacco's not killing everybody. I've had more friends die young from breast cancer. According to the government, if you even come in contact with one cigarette, you'll die."

## Small tobacco town

Louisburg, population 3,047, is 15 minutes but a world away from Raleigh, North Carolina's capital and second-largest city.

The pharmacy sells cigarettes and nicotine patches, and a real estate office has a window sticker proclaiming the office a "Friend of Tobacco." The courthouse is decorated with paintings of tobacco harvests and two dried and framed tobacco leaves.

This is a town with a 1950s feel, where residents know most everybody and their business, where people like Steve Lamm leave the keys in the ignition when they stop at the store. If you see a faster pace, go back to Raleigh, where you'll find traffic reports on the radio and No Smoking signs all over the place.

In Louisburg, it's OK in smoking. You can light up at the Murphy House, the barbecue restaurant where tobacco buyers, graders, farmers and warehousemen eat lunch, or in the Town Hall. At the major grocery store, a No Smoking sign lasted one day.

Although fewer than 1 percent of Franklin County's 36,400 residents are in tobacco farming full time, there's a protective attitude toward the crop. Nearly everyone has some link to tobacco. The county's highest tobacco market, Ford Warehouse, sells more heat-processed tobacco than any warehouse in the country — more than \$30 million worth a year.

In most tobacco towns, everybody in Louisburg knows people in their 80s and 90s who have smoked all their lives and are perfectly healthy. Everybody knows people who never smoked but who died of cancer.

Everybody says selling cigarettes to kids ought to be against the law. And they all point out that unlike alcohol, cigarettes don't cause car accidents, wreck up homes or make people abusive.

"They don't believe all the statistics they hear. 'Nobody will ever tell you where 438,000 tobacco growers get their crop from the sale of a pack of cigarettes; the farmer gets a nickel.'"

Tobacco companies have laughed farmers and farmers and manufacturers made money. The government kept a low profile.

Things have changed. The government tightly controls the tobacco farmer's crop, limiting what can be grown and sold. It also reaps a \$12 billion harvest from tobacco — the federal government gets 85 cents from the sale of a pack of cigarettes; the farmer gets a nickel.

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They say they've known since the 1960s that the manufacturers, "the slightly dollar more important than growers. But they don't want to believe they could trust these companies that have been buying their tobacco for decades. Now, they say they can't."

## Ready to be picked

By midsummer, the tobacco leaves are a leaf long, green and yellow-green, 23 or 30 to a stalk. The thickest and sweetest of them — the ones with the most nicotine — are at the top of the plant. They have no smell or taste and until they're baked for seven days in a barn, they're worthless.

Each plant grows little white blossoms, but they have no lovely scent — even bees don't like them. The blossoms stick in nutrients that should be fed to the leaves, so they're pulled off the stalk or "topped," to make the leaves grow thick and strong.

The leaves are taken to a gas-heated barn where they will cook for seven days at temperatures and humidity levels Lamm checks every few hours. By the seventh day, the leaves are preserved and will keep for years.

When it's done right, the leaves are orange and golden and the smell is full-bodied. Earthy. Similar to the way

## FRIENDS OF BILL

Friends of Bill Clinton invited teen-agers to the White House recently to announce his plan to curb teen smoking. Clinton's measures were immediately challenged by tobacco industry attorneys.

File Photo

a new cigarette smell, but so much better.

The crop is sold at Ford Warehouse on the outskirts of Louisville.

There's 1.5 million pounds of tobacco, stacked in burlap bundles on a concrete floor as a football field and the length of nearly two miles.

At 8:30 a.m., the auctioneer starts his chant: "Five, five, \$5, \$4, dollar, five, five, \$4, dollar, five, five, \$4, dollar, \$4, dollar \$4, dollar, \$4, dollar." The buyers hold up four fingers, signifying a \$1.84-per-pound bid. Those piles, each holding 150 to 250 pounds of tobacco, will go to manufacturers such as Philip Morris and Brown & Williamson.

By midmorning, the buyers are carrying towels to wipe sweat from their foreheads. They move at a fast clip. In seven minutes, they've bought enough to make 10.9 million cigarettes.

Lamm has a little more than 5,000 pounds of his best tobacco on the floor. His 24 piles of tobacco will bring about \$6,100 after the warehouse takes its cut: \$3,560.

## Times have changed

Years ago, farmers and cigarette manufacturers worked together to keep public opinion of tobacco high, and taxes low. The companies bought nearly all of their tobacco from American farmers and donated millions of dollars for community projects.

The public associated tobacco products with the honest, weather-beaten faces of the farmers, and they bought cigarettes. The farmers and manufacturers made money. The government kept a low profile.

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If they went to the point of adding nicotine strictly for the purpose of hooking people on cigarettes, Lamm says, he'd be willing to do it.

David Altman, a medical school professor who spent a year studying North Carolina tobacco farmers, says he's not depressed.

Since the 1960s, he said, the farmers' share of tobacco profits has dropped 80 percent while the manufacturers' share increased 64 percent. Because the government limits how much tobacco farmers grow and sell, farmers can't increase their dwindling sales with volume.

Many farmers became disgusted and got out of the business. Now there aren't many young farmers learning to grow tobacco in the South. County's 220 full-time tobacco farmers, only a handful are younger than 30.

Some tobacco defenders say all the hype about the anti-tobacco movement is simply the anti-tobacco movement trying to make people believe a lighted cigarette is a death wish.

They say people are smoking out tobacco when they're so much more harm. "It may take 30 years to kill you with cigarettes," Sandy Lamm points out, "but it isn't take long to kill you with love."

As government tightens its grip on their livelihood, and the life that used to be simple becomes increasingly filled with regulations, these good-hearted farmers remain optimistic. Eventually, all this will blow over, they say, and things will be all right.

Serious-minded son Stephen is confident enough to be planning his life around tobacco. A wife, Children's money. They'll join him on the trail, the same as he did with his father, Ed and Stephen, and share them the joy of tobacco farming.

"And if I'm half as good as my daddy," he says, "I'll be happy."

The success of ethnic Japanese in business during an era of general economic difficulties deepened the resentment against them.

Libin Yamamoto, sales manager for a charter bus company in San Francisco, recalled how the local constable in her hometown, Chichayo, on Peru's northern coast, arrived one night in January 1943. He announced that the constable was to be reported to Japan in exchange for American civilians being held there.

When her father became ill and was hospitalized, the family avoided joining more than 800 Japanese Latin Americans sent to Japan in December 1945. He spent the next years in the U.S. citizenship classes and picked up application forms, only to have her efforts founder on one question: Had she ever been deported from any country?

# A trip's memories: people, patriotism and the color blue

By Emily Jacobi, 13  
CHILDREN'S EXPRESS

Riding in a minivan down a Cuban road in Havana one night, I got a sense of disbelief. Even after numerous briefings to prepare thoroughly for our trip, actually arriving on this island was an experience for which no amount of pre-interviews could prepare us.

Being in Cuba seemed surreal in many ways. Despite all of our research and information, we still didn't know how the people feel about their life. And there we were, finally in Cuba, and we were going to find out what Cubans thought of us.

Perhaps it was that feeling that led me to gaze out the window of the minivan, searching for something that would show me more of what life is like here in Cuba.

What I saw were many people out in the streets, which was surprising to me, because I had heard that it was almost 10:30, and I don't normally see many people out in the streets in this kind of weather. The roads didn't appear to have a speed limit, and a few cars whizzed past. We saw more bicyclists than cars, more than one person on each bike.

There were other things that reminded me I was in a foreign country. I saw many one-story houses and signs in another language. However, the thing that stood out the most, for me, was blue. Not the sea, or the sky, but the actual color. It was everywhere!

## A pattern of blue

Numerous buildings, rooms and cars were painted blue, even many of the light-colored or bluish tint. Everywhere we went, I saw a large percentage of rooms, cars and buildings painted a color that can only be described as computer screen blue.

I don't know why I noticed all the blue; no one else seemed to until I pointed it out. I suppose it was just because I was looking for something that would be new about life in Cuba. Blue was the first thing I noticed that was different from the United States.

Throughout the rest of our seven-day stay, many things reminded me of what I saw that first night. In fact, on the second day, after the sighting of even more blue buildings and rooms, I decided to make it my personal goal to discover the secret, if there was one, to the blue.

Perhaps the Cubans use so much blue because they are going through a hard time. The color is a way of expressing their feelings of sadness.

While an interesting theory, I saw some clues with it. First of all, if the Cuban people are so sad, why are they smiling and laughing? And the color of their sadness? Wouldn't that just make them more sad? Why not, instead, paint those buildings in happy colors, to inspire them when they are feeling depressed?

I rejected the Picasso theory. In different cultures, colors can mean different things. For example, in our culture, generally speaking, white stands for hope and peace and blue stands for sadness and depression.

Cubans, however, seemed to use the color differently. A 12-year-old in the Congress of Pinar del Rio told us what color he would choose to describe his life.

Teacher's son, "Blue. Because blue is a color which attracts people's attention. In visual arts at schools, we are given the feelings of the colors. For example, the black color is a color that expresses sadness. The red color expresses happiness. That's why blue is my favorite color. It expresses my happiness and at the same time it's an attractive color. I like blue."

## Another suggestion

Another member of our group suggested that perhaps the secret behind the blue is patriotism: the Cuban flag is blue, white and red.

This theory supports another that the 12-year-old pioneer told us: "I like blue because it's an big as the sea and the sky. . . . It's one of the colors of Cuba."

I saw some clues with this theory, too. If it was correct, why didn't I see any red rooms or red buildings? Patriotism can be very powerful, but I didn't think it was the reason behind the blue.

I decided to stop concentrating on theories and to let the people tell me what they thought. On an island, especially a tropical one like Cuba, you have no choice but to be surrounded by blue. It's the sky, the sea — it's everywhere. So really, in a country where you are surrounded constantly by the beautiful blues of the sky and sea, the question is not why you like blue so much, but how could you not?

María Quila, 15, when asked what color described her life, said, "Blue, because it's the color of love, and I feel an affection to the sea. It might be a little ridiculous, but I associate it with God, the sky. I believe a lot in God."

María agreed with me about the sea and blue, and so did Wendy Gonzalez, 16, who said, "Blue, because this is really my favorite color. Blue is in everything — clothes — blue is in the sky. The sky is the most beautiful shade in the world."

Wendy reaffirmed my ideas about the sea and blue, but I still didn't think it was the only reason for the blue. After all, Concha didn't even mention the sky.

Then I realized, it wasn't just one theory that held the answer. It was all of them and more. For every Cuban, blue means something different, but for most it seemed to symbolize good feelings. Blue is such a versatile color — like the sea it can change from calm and content to stormy and angry; from happy and carefree to sad and gloomy. No matter what, blue can always express how the Cubans feel, and that's why they like the color. For some it symbolizes their patriotism and support for their country, for others it's a love for God, and yet for some their delight in the sea and sky surround them.

That is how I will always remember that island country — blue.

# JAPANESE

Continued from Page 1

comment on the details of the lawsuit. But Martin said that in denying benefits to most of the internees who were brought from Latin America, the Clinton administration was simply applying a law over which it had no influence.

Little explanation was given for why the Latin Americans were mostly excluded as they began to be made in 1950. But officials have argued that those brought to the camps from abroad were effectively illegal immigrants and therefore not entitled to the same rights as the roughly 100,000 Japanese-American internees.

Martin noted that Japanese Latin Americans who were granted citizenship by 1952 received it retroactively for the years they served in the camps. About 150 people have qualified for reparations, but more than 300 applications have been denied.

Of the 2,264 people of Japanese ancestry who were deported from Latin America from 1942 to 1954 and detained until as late as 1952, said Robin

S. Tuma, one of the lawyers who filed the lawsuit. Nearly all of those who met the congressional test were among about 3,000 people from a dozen Latin American nations.

According to the 1982 congressional report by a special commission, the Japanese Latin Americans were among about 3,000 people from a dozen Latin American nations.

The arrest and transfer of Latin Americans to U.S. camps began, the report noted, as "a controlled, carefully monitored deportation program to detain potentially dangerous diplomatic and consular officials." But the exercise quickly deteriorated into one in which prominent ethnic Japanese were rounded up and shipped off.

## Success created resentment

Pressed by the Roosevelt administration, Brazil, which had the largest Japanese population in Latin America, interned thousands of Japanese officials. But the exercise quickly deteriorated into one in which prominent ethnic Japanese were rounded up and shipped off.

The success of ethnic Japanese in business during an era of general economic difficulties deepened the resentment against them.

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"I always got to that point," she said, "and I didn't have the right answer."



File Photo

# BEING THERE: AN EMOTIONAL JOURNEY

■ Young journalist finds a piece of her heritage in meeting her relatives on weeklong Cuba trip.

By Jessica Mayorga, 45  
CHILDREN'S EXPRESS  
WASHINGTON BUREAU

Going to Cuba had always been a dream for me. Yet due to political relations between the United States and Cuba, I always found my aspiration to be out of reach.

Ever since I was 4 years old and really began listening to my grandmother's stories and memories of a beautiful paradise, a worry-free utopia of happiness and harmony, I was hooked.

She told of her memories of seeing old men who sat and played dominoes. She described their smiles, almost as sweet as the mangoes that grew in her yard and the coconuts that adorned the tall trees on every street.

Her stories made me want to visit Cuba and embrace it all.

Over the years it hurt me to learn through countless letters from relatives still in Cuba that adults often went hungry in order to feed their children. Still, sometimes there was such little food that the children would wake up in the middle of the night and wonder why they were hungry.

A Cuban woman who left the island in the late 1950s once told me, "It's like (Fidel) Castro just picked up the island and threw it down in the middle of the sea to drown."

As the years went on, I began to see what was once the world's playground became the center of pain and suffering. I learned of little through television news and every newspaper and magazine article I could find.

Not being able to see my maternal family's home firsthand, I had to depend on these letters, which took up to six months at a time to arrive. In the meantime I collected three file cabinet drawers of clippings on almost every topic concerning Cuba. You could say I had an obsession with Cuba; I'd say I had an urge to quench my thirst, to find and preserve my roots.

So, when I stepped off that small jet in Havana in July, I could not believe I was there. As a member of a group of eight reporters and editors from Children's Express, I had managed to legally make this journey. For seven days we would have the chance to experience, report and investigate what to many remains the mystery of Cuba.

## A dream no longer

My first impressions of the nation were made in the dead of night in Havana's Jose Marti International Airport. I stood on the tarmac, attempting to see a lightless Cuba. For a moment, I looked



**ALL TOGETHER:** Children's Express member Jessica Mayorga (second from right) shared an emotional visit in Havana with (from left) her Aunt Elba, Uncle Nenito and cousin Myrna.

around, allowed my jaw to drop for a few seconds and actually pinched my arm.

Yes, I was awake. Yes, I was in Cuba. I knew that this trip would stir up tons of emotions. I anticipated meeting relatives whom I had previously known only through old pictures and letters.

Three days before our departure, I telephoned a family friend in Cuba so she could tell my relatives about my arrival.

On our first full day in Havana, I shed my first tear. As we walked down the Avenida de Los Presidentes (Avenue of the Presidents) on the way to register at the International Press Center, an old man on his bicycle called me over. He stopped and remained seated on his bike with what seemed to be a kind look in his eyes.

I stood on the sidewalk. In Spanish with the Cuban accent, which I admire so much, he asked me if I had a pen I could spare to give to his grandson.

I finally felt like I could do something for a Cuban, so I immediately dug into my backpack and took out one of my better pens. He thanked me and in return gave me a laminated Cuban peso that seemed to be older than me. I graciously accepted it and offered him an American coin.

He met my offer with a bitter, angry response: "I don't want anything that's American or that has anything to do with Americans. Americans are murderers. They just want to kill us. They want to hurt us with all these laws and the embargo. They should just leave us alone!"

I stood in front of him speechless. I bit my lip (attempting to hold back the tears and keep my composure). I shook a little bit, my eyes beginning to water. He looked at me and spewed anti-American insults in spite of the tears that already had begun to trickle down my face. Then he asked me if I had any Cuban dollars. Without thinking, I stuck my hand in my pocket and delivered a crisp dollar bill.

I said to him, "Please take this and buy something for your grandson." He took it. I can't quite remember whether or not he

thanked me for it. I don't believe he did, but I didn't care.

When I turned away I thought to myself, "How and why can he think this?"

It's hard to explain what I feel like for me to visit a country, which I feel is mine, being both the victim and the villain.

Yes, I am an American, but I am also half-Cuban. What the man on the bicycle said scarred me emotionally.

## Meeting the family

On our second night in Havana, five of my relatives made the four-hour drive from their home in the province of Matanzas to visit me at my hotel.

My grandmother's sister, one of her brothers, her niece, a nephew and another woman came. My Uncle Nenito was the first one I recognized. He was exactly how I envisioned him to be from my grandmother's descriptions - a small-framed, handsome man with brown eyes and tanned skin.

As he approached me inside the hotel, he just hugged me. I have never received such a light, warm hug before. He was speechless. Once he let go, he just looked at me and said, "You wait for a moment like this for years and when it finally comes you have nothing to say." I smiled at him and started to cry.

My Aunt Elba was the second one I recognized. She had significantly aged since the last photo we have, taken shortly before my grandparents and mother fled the island in May 1970. Aunt Elba told me not to cry and that instead we should enjoy the few moments we had to share.

I had to get their visit pre-approved by management. Cubans are not allowed in tourist hotels. My cousin Orlando had to play outside the hotel to guard the car. Cubans are not permitted to park their cars near hotels.

Cuban law didn't permit us to visit in my room, so we settled in the hotel lobby. For almost two hours, they showed me photos. They shared memories that matched my grandmother's - the peaceful sounds, the tranquility of times before Castro.

It had been 17 years since my mother or grandmother had returned for a visit. The year before I was born was the last time anyone was able to travel there, until now with my journalist's visa. Politics as usual had prevented anyone from going there or any of them from visiting the United States.

Saying goodbye to them was not easy. My cousin Myrna told me she was not going to say farewell, she was just going to say, "Hasta luego (Until later)," because she knew I would one day soon return. They traveled home and I quickly returned to meet with the rest of my group.

I had accomplished another one of my goals in life - I got to meet a part of my family whom I thought I would never see in person, and I was overjoyed.

Near the end of my trip, I wrote in my journal in Spanish: "Five days of the trip to the homeland which I had previously only dreamed about, have already passed. Now I know more, I've learned more, but in a very small hole inside of me, I hurt a thousand times more, too."

## Journey of discovery

I think that this trip has helped me "find myself." Being in Cuba, I learned more about my heritage. I finally saw the wooden dominoes for sale in a small marketplace. I could see in my mind the men playing with them. I finally found the faces that match my grandmother's stories.

Most of all, I learned to appreciate what I have at home - little things we all take for granted like being able to speak my mind.

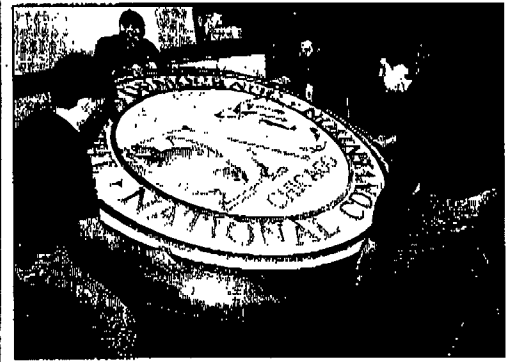
One vivid image I can't seem to expel from my mind was walking down a street of Old Havana. There was an old woman sitting on the stoop of her home. When she took off her worn-out sandals, she thrust them within a few inches of me and asked if she could trade for my new pair of Nikes.

It broke my heart to have to say no to her, but what could I do? I couldn't agree to trade and I didn't feel right giving her my shoes. Maybe it was selfishness on my part.

Reflecting now on what I saw, I compare what I saw firsthand in my grandmother's tales, Cuba has changed. I wish I could say it has changed for the better. Things aren't as glorious as my grandmother remembers. But I believe there is hope somewhere on the island, maybe behind one of those coconut trees.

Before going to Cuba, I experienced everything secondhand. When I spoke to people concerning the island, I would have to say things like, "I read that somewhere that Cuba is like this" or "I've heard that Cuba looks like that."

But now I've seen it for myself. And one day I want to return and help hope find its way home.



**HEAVY LIFTING:** Workers struggle to mount the Democratic seal to the speakers' podium in advance of this week's 1996 Democratic National Convention.

## CHICAGO

Continued from Page 1

It was a climax to a year that began with the bloody Tet offensive in Vietnam and gave way to the assassination of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., major rioting in cities across the country and the murder of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy on the night he won the California primary and vowed, in his last exhortation, to take his faction of the peace movement to Chicago.

By the last week of August, the Democrats were in complete disorder. While delegates fought one another with fists and taunts at the old convention center by the Stockyards, thousands of anti-war demonstrators were attacked by police on downtown streets.

After the convention, Chicago produced a report that questioned the motives of the demonstrators, who conducted guerrilla theater in public parks and threatened to lace Chicago's water supply with LSD. The documentary was titled: *What Trees Did They Plant?*

One of the radicals from that period, Tom Hayden, is now a Democratic legislator in California. He wanted to plant a tree here this month as a gesture to the city, but there was disagreement with officials over the language of a plaque. Besides, said a Chicago official, "somebody would chop the damned thing down."

Now Hayden is talking, instead, about presenting the city with a statue, and he is promoting a performance of "healing" skits and songs before the convention starts.

Hayden is a survivor, a defendant in the raucous "Chicago Rev. trial" at which anti-war leaders were accused of conspiring to incite rioting at the convention. Five were found guilty, but their convictions were overturned.

## Many have passed away

Many of the other figures from the 1968 convention have died, including Hayden's Chicago Seven colleagues Abbie Hoffman and Jerry Rubin.

Former Mayor Richard J. Daley, who presided over the convention with an iron fist, and Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey, who emerged with the presidential nomination, have been dead nearly 20 years.

McCarthy, whose peace forces convulsed the convention, is 80, his hair white, his voice still biting. He was not invited to this year's event, he said by telephone from Washington last week. "Hell, I wasn't invited in '68 either."

McCarthy first challenged President Lyndon B. Johnson in the primaries that year, and when Johnson gave up his drive for reelection, McCarthy founded the party establishment's choice, Humphrey, to the end.

"I don't see much point in going back to Chicago," McCarthy said. "The Democrats didn't make a courageous decision there, if they want to commemorate a courageous decision, they should go in

ern partisan, looked directly at Daley and declared that if McGovern were president, there would not be "Gestapo tactics on the streets of Chicago."

The mayor responded with a shouted epithet, captured by television.

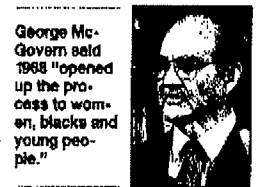
The next night, the Thursday finale, Daley packed the convention gallery with chanting patronage workers holding signs that said, "We Love Mayor Daley." Humphrey accepted the presidential nomination joylessly, and the two peace candidates went their separate ways.

McGovern said he met "shortly after the convention" with Daley, who told him: "The nominee in '72 is either going to be you or young Kennedy" - a reference to Sen. Edward M. Kennedy. McGovern said he admired the old mayor, who arranged one of McGovern's greatest rallies here in the fall of 1972, even though Daley's Illinois delegation had been driven from that year's Democratic convention in Miami Beach by Jesse Jackson and anti-war activists.

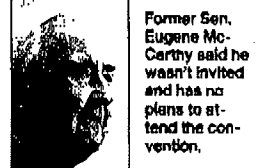
## Remembered on politics

Meanwhile, McCarthy left the Senate and, for all practical purposes, the party. Today, he calls himself a "neo" - neither neo-conservative nor neo-liberal. "Just a neo." He has made several whimsical runs for president in the years since 1968.

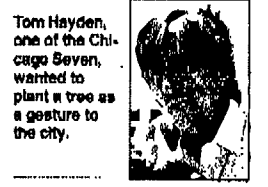
On the morning of McCarthy's last hurrah, an appearance on the



**George McGovern** said 1968 "opened up the process to women, blacks and young people."



**Former Sen. Eugene McCarthy** said he wasn't invited and has no plans to attend the convention.



**Tom Hayden**, one of the Chicago Seven, wanted to plant a tree as a gesture to the city.

ballot in the 1992 Democratic presidential primary in New Hampshire, a breakfast conversation turned from his inauspicious campaign that started in New England a quarter-century before, to Chicago of 1968, and to poetry. McCarthy said he was reminded of a line by the Greek poet George Seferis: "As my years in-

## PIONEERS

Continued from Page 1

But there are unspoken privileges, according to kids we talked to, including admission to the university.

Delegates to the congress received new uniforms, shoes, vests, hats and T-shirts. And throughout the three days, they received things such as paper, candy, pens, and pencils from government organizers.

They wear different-colored scarves to distinguish their ranks. Red scarves are the uniform of the younger Pioneers (ages 6-14) and blue scarves are worn by older Jose Marti Pioneers.

But being a Pioneer also requires much more time than being a Scout in the United States. Pio-

are the first to contribute to the harvest. We love our martyrs, our heroes. We know the meaning of the symbols of our homeland.

And Pioneers share their patriotism openly.

"I love where I live and I am very proud of where I live," Arisley Miranda Cepeda, a 13-year-old Pioneer, said. "We live in a place where we have such wonderful education and such a wonderful leader."

Pioneers organize activities in their communities to mark revolutionary anniversaries. They lead parades, perform plays and organize and take part in games in celebration of the revolution.

Pioneers also have an impact on the day-to-day running of the schools.

Schools teach children from a



**HE'S THE MAN:** Fidel Castro

# Focus

## THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR

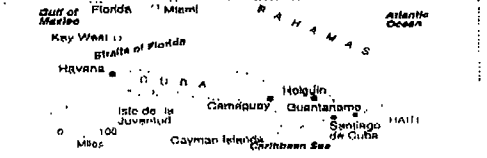
SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 1998

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CHILDREN'S EXPRESS DISCOVERS THE ...

# HEART AND SOUL OF CUBA

EDITORIALS / 2  
LETTERS, COLUMNS / 3  
BOOKS / 6



### Cuba at a glance

**Geography**  
**Location:** Largest island in Caribbean Sea, 90 miles south of Key West, Fla.  
**Total land area:** 42,803 sq. miles  
**Land use:** 23% arable land, 8% permanent crops, 20% meadows, 17% forest and woods, 31% other  
**Major cities (1997 est.):** Havana (capital), 2,175,938; Santiago de Cuba, 440,084; Camaguey, 293,951; Holguin, 242,085; Guantanamo, 207,736

**Government**  
**Type:** Communist state  
**Independence:** May 20, 1902 (from Spain)  
**Constitution:** Feb. 24, 1976  
**National holiday:** Anniversary of the Revolution, Jan. 1  
**Head of government:** Fidel Castro  
**Head of state:** Fidel Castro  
**Structure:** Executive, legislative (National Assembly of the People's Power), controlled judiciary

**People**  
**Population:** (1994 est.) 11,064,344  
**Ethnic groups:** 51% mixtizo, 37% white, 11% black, 1% Chinese  
**Language:** Spanish  
**Religions:** At least 85% nominally Roman Catholic before Castro assumed power.

**Economy**  
**Monetary unit:** Cuban peso  
**Chief crops:** Sugar, tobacco, rice, potatoes, tubars, citrus, coffee  
**Natural resources:** Cobalt, nickel, iron ore, copper, manganese  
**Major industries:** Sugar milling, petroleum refining, food and tobacco processing  
**Major trading partners (in order):** Exports: Russia, Canada, China, Japan, Spain  
**Imports:** Venezuela, China, Spain, Mexico, Italy, Canada, France  
**Labor force:** 4.6 million (1998); 30% services and government, 22% industry, 20% agriculture, 11% commerce, 10% construction, 7% transportation and communications (1989)

Source: The Universal Almanac, 1998

Star Graphic

### ANOTHER VIEW

**It once was the jewel of the Caribbean. Today, despite a U.S. embargo and lost Russian support, the decaying island-nation of Cuba is teeming with national pride and American influences.**

By Lawrence S. Connor  
CORRESPONDENT

Cuba is in deep trouble. It's clearly evident in Havana, where nearly 20 percent of Cuba's 11 million people reside. Outside the 68-year-old Hotel Presidente, where our group stayed, the Avenida de las Presidentes runs through the Vedado residential section. Its white colonnade is graced with bell-shaped trees, but the mansions lining the avenue are crumbling behind rusty, sagging iron fences.

It was our first view of Havana, and it was typical of what we were to see for the next several days. What little progress in construction and repair that was being made in Havana came to a halt after the Russians began to pull out of Cuba in 1991. A U.S. government official said it's as though the city had been moshed.

The government calls this "The Special Period," a time when Cuba tries to recover from the pullout of its longtime benefactor. Still, it continues to stay the bankrupt communist course, though the term favored today is socialism.

Havana is reeling. Broken windows stay broken. High heels in sidewalks grow deeper. Repair work on the buildings has stopped. There are power blackouts, and garbage goes uncollected. It's not what you'd expect from a city that once was the jewel of the Caribbean.

Life is difficult for Cubans. Patricia Fundora Garcia is one of the more fortunate ones. She lives in an 80-year-old house that is most of her family. She lives upstairs with her daughter. Another brother lives downstairs. The house has high ceilings, marble floors and beautiful ironwork railing.

But the faucets provide water only during certain hours. Power blackouts in the next block are common. Garbage is collected in their neighborhood, but in some of the streets, huge mounds of it pile up for weeks

See CUBA Page 4



Star Photo / Susan Pleggen

**PEOPLE'S PRIDE:** Despite a tightened U.S. embargo, a crumbling economy and a decaying national infrastructure, Cuban youths find solace in their patriotism during opening ceremonies of the Congress of Pioneers in Havana.



Gretel, 15 Trevor, 11

### More inside

**In their words:** Gretel, 15, and Trevor, 11, share their impressions of life under Fidel Castro. Page 5

**Images of Havana:** A pictorial package sets the scene. Page 4

**YOUNG PATRIOTS:** Cuban youths (left) clamor to see ceremonies of the Congress of Pioneers, a Cuban youth group founded by President Fidel Castro to foster the ideology of the revolution.

**THE REPORT**  
**Resistance is futile. That's the message Cubans teach youths about patriotism — and that betrayal of socialist traditions could jeopardize their future.**

Children's Express

Silence is approval, or so our parents have always told us. We are taught that passively observing a harmful situation is the equivalent of supporting it. And in most parts of the world, this is true. Silence is approval.

But after spending just a few hours in Cuba, we discovered that the nation is an exception to the rule. Although Cubans often refrain from voicing their thoughts, that doesn't mean they agree with what occurs around them. It didn't take us long to realize that this barrier of silence would be far more difficult to overcome than the English-Spanish language obstacle.

To surmount this barrier, our eight-member Children's Express team learned the body language of the Cubans. During our weeklong stay, we encountered many gestures, signals and facial expressions that, by saying nothing, told us everything.

Our goal was to bring the voices of Cuban youths home to the United States — hopefully allowing people across our nation to gain an understanding of what life is like for the children of Cuba.

The local contingent was comprised of Emily Jacobi, 12; Gabriela McKlerman-Aiken, 12; Jose Pastor, 14; Anghel Narayanan, 15; Amber Bolman, 17; and Megan White, 15. Jessica Mayorga, 16, of Washington, D.C., and Francis Barrios, 15, of New York, also joined the group.

During their stay, the reporters labored to Cuban President Fidel Castro speak to a session of the Congress of Pioneers, toured the city and inter- viewed their Cuban peers.

question the socialist doctrine or President Fidel Castro's actions. Cubans are not permitted to voice their admiration for capitalism or a multiparty government. And Cuban children know that saying or doing anything that could be construed as "anti-government" could cost them opportunities for a successful future.

**Schools are worlds apart**  
 Although the 2,310,000 Cuban students take the same basic classes as U.S. students — math, biology, history, English, chemistry and geography — they also take liberal education, military preparation and Marxism class, which are required.

We visited Lenin Vocational School, touted as one of the nation's finest institutions for university preparation. A few students who were working on summer projects spoke with us about their expectations for the Marxism class.

"What we've heard is that it's the Marxist-Leninist history, the principles of ideology, the foundations of communism," 15-year-old Elaine said.

Performance in these types of classes plays a large role in students' final grades and, ultimately, their careers.

See PERSPECTIVE Page 5



### About the writer

Lawrence S. Connor, retired managing editor of The Indianapolis Star, was one of five adults accompanying the Children's Express contingent to Cuba July 10-23. This story recaps his impressions of his trip.

### Star/News Online

Check out our Web site for more of the kids' observations on Cuba — including a Cuban-American girl's account of her first visit to the island she's heard about all of her life. [StarNews Online](#), SpeedNet and Intertina's Game are on the internet's World Wide Web at [http://www.star.com](#)

### Next Sunday

Members of the Children's Express delegation to Cuba report on the Pioneers of Cuba, a youth group founded by Cuban President Fidel Castro and is similar to the Boy and Girl Scouts of America.

**Mary Beth Schneider**  
 SAN DIEGO — The convention had here now (is empty, save for the electricians and work crews who are hastily pulling down the facade they had so carefully constructed a couple weeks ago. Bob Cole and his new running mate, Jack Kemp, are on the campaign trail, trying to make sure that their campaign doesn't likewise become as deflated as the shriveled red, white and blue balloons that now litter the floor here. Cole's task is hard, but before this convention began, it was deemed by some to be impossible.

Before I came here, political analyst Brian Vargus told me that this election was over. It would take an act of God, he said, for Cole to pull this off.

It's hard to call any convention, no matter how successful, an act of God. And it's being both imagined and praised by enough pundits as an act of God. It was, many said, the ultimate political commercial, with almost every word and nuance scripted. It had the cast of thousands in the live studio audience.

It even had a talk-show host (in Elizabeth Dole, who moved with ease and a microphone through the crowd. Delegates here loved it, not caring if others weren't sure if this was a production of *This Is Your Life*.

### Show biz and more

In short, Republicans put on quite a show, and many in the media weren't willing, not yet, to think that it was more than that. The morning after retired Gen. Colin Powell brought delegates to their feet with a speech that preached inclusion and compassion, the *New York Times* editorialized that Powell was speaking to a party that didn't exist and would never exist if many of these delegates had their way.

But let me tell you about the Republicans I saw and talked to. I saw people on both sides of this party's divisive debate on abortion speak with genuine enthusiasm for their ticket and for Powell. I saw politicians who can read a poll as well as the next guy, and who had come here just trying to

keep a stiff upper lip, reacting like kids at Christmas.

All week, the April here grew. Is it just hucksterism or is it genuine enthusiasm?

Among the Indiana delegation, at least, this mood was real. Not only did these delegates arrive bearing a ticket, but they saw the emergence of the party that many of them think best represents them.

### Kinder, gentler

The stridency that had characterized the Republican campaigns in both the primary season and 1994 was gone. Pat Buchanan was a bit player here, and so was Phil Gramm. On center stage were Powell and Kemp.

It is true that deep tensions remain in the Republican Party

nationally. The abortion issue is not resolved once and for all, it may never be. But that's not the litmus test here.

The litmus test is whether the party can unite despite those tensions and disagreements. And when Powell said this party is big enough to do that, even some people who booed his pro-choice views cheered.

The convention managers can control the speeches and who gets to give them. They can manage the late feelings with music and balloons. But, Sen. Richard Lugar said, they can't control 1,800 delegates. They had a choice to listen or to leave the hall, to applaud or to sit on their hands.

Is it real? He thought so, and so did his colleague, Sen. Dan Coats.

He has preached the politics of compassion and inclusion for a long time. He didn't hear Dole or Kemp in their speeches apocryphally back his charity tax credit, as he had hoped they would, but he said, "I heard enough of what I wanted."

Dole, he said, "recognized that everyone is not in a situation where they can just grab that brass ring" and that government must be not their politics, such as Democrats have offered, but through community-based efforts.

He left happy. And so did every delegate from Indiana I interviewed, is it real, or is it Mc-mores?

At least for now, it sure sounded real.

...neers work in their communities, leading activities for children that promote Cuban ideology.

"We, the Pioneers, are the first who move together with our leaders," one Pioneer testified. "We

young age to love and respect Cuba and Castro. History lessons focus on Cuba. Schoolchildren read about past Cuban revolutionaries such as Che Guevara and Jose Marti, a famous Cuban poet who fought with words, and cur-

remains immensely popular with Cuba's young people.

rent ones -- Naul Castro, the commander of the military, and his brother Fidel.

"Being a pioneer is something big, something important. We are the hope of the future," she said.

EDITED BY: Anand Narayanan, 15, and Megan White, 16

...convention took a stand against racial segregation.

### McGovern will be there

George McGovern, who took up the fallen standard for Robert Kennedy's campaign at the '68 convention, plans to return. "I wasn't going to go at first," he said, "but then I decided I should. I'm rather looking forward to it."

McGovern called the distant convention a "transcendent" epic. He remembers it "as vividly as if it were Wednesday," the mayhem that unfolded on the street below his fourth-floor headquarters at the Blackstone Hotel. "I looked down on it as though I was on the 50-yard line."

But he also recalls the Chicago convention as the place where he got his start in national politics, and the reason for party reforms that "opened up the process to women, blacks and young people" and led to his nomination in 1972.

When McGovern's name was first put up for a presidential nomination in 1968, it triggered the highest drama of the convention. Fighting had reached its intensity at a corner by the Blackstone and the Conrad-Hilton Hotel, where Humphrey and McCarthy were staying.

From the convention podium, Sen. Abraham Ribicoff, a McGov-

ernment, so on the number of those who would judge me."

That evening, McCarthy received only 212 votes out of the 170,333 cast in New Hampshire. But once he led an army that marched on Chicago. It changed the course of the Democratic Party, and none of this year's ceremony will fully blot out the legacy of 1968.

### What became of the Chicago Seven?

**ABERIE HOFFMAN:** Found dead of an apparent suicide in his home near New Hope, Pa. in 1983.

**JERRY RUBIN:** Died after being hit by a car in 1984.

**TOM HAYDEN:** Has been a California legislator since 1982 and was once married to actress Jane Fonda.

**JOHN FRONZES:** He is a professor at UCLA and at one time served as director at the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

**LEE WEINER:** Works with a Washington, D.C. direct-mail firm for non-profit organizations.

**BENJAMIN DAVIS:** Heads an environmental technology firm in Denver.

**DAVID DELLINGER:** Now 50 years old, he continues his activism, attending protests around the country.

Their trial was held in September 1969. All were acquitted of conspiracy charges. Five of the seven however — Hoffman, Rubin, Hayden, Dellinger and Davis — were convicted of intent-to-riot, and sentenced to prison. Their convictions were eventually overturned.

## Cuban children speak out: some light, some serious

### Children's Express

The plenary session was one way the Pioneers could voice their opinions directly to their leaders. They didn't take this opportunity lightly.

Their goals and problems varied. They ranged from improving students' spelling and school attendance to asking for more books and pencils.

Other concerns were less innocent. One girl wanted training in the use of gas masks; a boy wanted to learn how to fire an AK-47.

Here are some of their statements:

**ON BEGGING:** "Cuban children go up to foreigners, asking for money and candy. The real children of Cuba are those who represent Cuba in our work and study and not that small minority that deviated due to a weak political

and ideological work or defamations in their home."

**ON PROSTITUTION:** "(Women should) not in have to sell the liberty of our hearts and beauty for a piece of meat or for a dress, so that in the future we are not slaves, slaves out of ignorance, slaves for selling our beauty, our body."

**ON THE RECORD SUGAR HARVEST:** "So we have won, and that is where we become excited because we see the work we have done and we are reaping our fruit."

**ON MILITARY TRAINING:** "We should take up our weapons and defend this revolution of ours, given to us by our very dear commander in chief."

**ON NATIONALISM:** "We, Pioneers, will remain staunch and will continue fighting even with our nails if necessary. We will put aside our studies if necessary to

fight with our hands, with our weapons, but we will defend our revolution at any price."

**ON THE U.S. EMBARGO:** "We have freedom, we have democracy, where all of us can speak whatever we want. We fight against that unfair blockade which is trying to kill us through hunger and diseases. And this is precisely what (President) Clinton wants. Because we are standing tall. Because the Cuban Pioneers are determined to resist."

**ON MUSIC:** "There are some songs on the radio which basically are great for dancing, but the words are not very favorable. It is my opinion that our festivals should be held with troubadours who can sing songs related to our (heritage) so that these songs can shape our values in our province."

**ON THEIR ROLE:** "There is nothing prettier in this life than the melodies where the national

anthem is played. But some students do not feel this. The national anthem is not being sung like it was being sung in the past.

"We must also stress that there are a lot of behaviors that leave a lot to be desired. There are some students who are refusing to do the activities of our uniform."

"That's where our Pioneer organization has to work. Sometimes we discuss with the students. We do not know exactly where the root of the problem is, and that's the first thing we have to find — where these problems are coming from, whether the home, the school or the weakened mind."

"We are not approaching these students to reprimand them, but rather as friends with the greatest faith and with the greatest hope in order to get together and support this revolution."

EDITED BY: Anand Narayanan, 15, and Megan White, 16