

## EAST COAST INTERNATIONAL TOUR

### GETTYSBURG

THE GETTYSBURG TIMES, SATURDAY, AUGUST 25, 1990

# Peace in Amber: The light of hope

In the world of precious stones, amber is a jewel; a gleaming, golden resin from conifers turned to stone over countless centuries. In amber is often found, held away from corrupting forces, bits of flower or leaf, or even extinct insects, rare, delicate clockwork jewels themselves.

I live in Gettysburg, a town that has more than once felt the heavy tread of history.

Just west of town is a memorial, dedicated in 1938 by Franklin Delano Roosevelt. It is a large column dedicated then to peace in this country, and rededicated in 1988 to peace throughout the world.

At the time of the rededication of the Eternal Light Peace Memorial, the electric lamp that had glowed for about 20 years from the top of the Peace Light, as it is commonly called, was replaced with a gas burner such as the one that had burned there when the monument was first built.

The light as it burns now seems more appropriate, set there in the woody darkness to flicker and flare against the obstinate night. The flame of peace, after all, is nothing if not frail. That is something we must never forget.

I have always thought it a delicious irony that from the Peace Light one can see the insectile antennae of the allegedly top-secret Site R, officially known as the Alternate Joint Communications Center

**T.W.  
Burger**



beneath Raven Rock Mountain.

Sometimes called "the underground Pentagon," it is one of the sites from which a nuclear war would be waged upon the world, leaving the planet in cinders, but presumably safe for democracy.

I like to think of Site R as the "Infernal Light War Memorial." Occasionally, well-meaning people demonstrate before its gates and are, amazingly, arrested. The Pentagon is a jealous god, and brooks no sass.

On a moonless night, the Peace Light stutters its light an amazing distance across the grassy slopes it overlooks.

Site R, of course, is as dark as the Devil's gut.

On the day of the rededication of the Peace Light, several hundred children came to Gettysburg to perform a musical play called Peace Child.

One of those children was Amber van Oyen, then 12, who was one of 33 children from 16 countries who made up the core

cast of the play.

A couple of weeks ago, I met Amber. She had come back to Gettysburg from The Netherlands to visit friends she had made during her 1988 visit.

She said performing in Peace Child changed her life.

Over lunch, Amber talked excitedly about her experiences with Peace Child, among other things. She was animated, direct, brimming with possibilities. She was, in a sense, the very antithesis of everything for which the brooding computers under Raven Rock stand.

It is fascinating, don't you think, that after a thousand generations of destruction, we still keep the idea of peace locked away, like a rare, bright beetle in amber? In the night, driving by the Peace Light, I think of the hopes that flutter there in that orange flame.

I also think of troops gathered, ready to scorch their way across the Biblical deserts of the Middle East. I think of binary codes streaming through the simple, deadly brains of missiles poised to strike and send the final fires racing to the end of history.

And I think of Amber and people like her, where peace flares the brighter for being held by innocence. The dream of peace will suffice where the reality gutters in the winds of war. For now, it must.  
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## Peace Child Foundation

The Peace Child Foundation was established in 1982 to promote the "Peace Child" play and to work to make its dream come true. Since then, more than 700 "Peace Child" productions have been presented in forty-seven states and nine other countries, including numerous presentations in the Soviet Union. In an historic achievement, the Foundation in 1986 effected the first reciprocal U.S. — Soviet youth exchange in history with a spectacular twelve-city tour of the two nations. Having concentrated heretofore on the U.S. — Soviet relationship, Peace Child Foundation is expanding its focus of concern by adapting the program model to other areas of serious conflict in the world. In this regard, the East Coast Tour presents Peace Child's first broadly international cast and includes children from the Middle East and Central America among its fifteen-nation representation. The East Coast Tour production also focuses for the first time on the environment as a major global concern.

Although tours are an important part of the Foundation's programs, most "Peace Child" productions are actually done by individual groups within local communities using the Peace Child "Study Guide". Churches, schools, clubs, youth groups, community service organizations, and other groups have all found "Peace Child" to be a creative and fun project for teaching peace. The "Study Guide" is available from the Foundation or in the Lobby during Intermission.

Communities across the nation are being encouraged and assisted by the Foundation to establish formal Peace Child chapters in connection with their "Peace Child" projects. A Peace Child chapter assures that the marvelous energies for international understanding generated by a "Peace Child" project do not dissolve, but remain available and active within a community. Often, a Peace Child chapter may be a community's primary means for showing its support and response to national and international peace projects, in addition to conducting its own activities. Chapters are easy to form with guidance from the Foundation's national office. Membership in a Peace Child chapter distinguishes a community and individual persons as "world citizens" whose horizons extend well beyond their immediate borders.

We earnestly encourage young persons to participate in Peace Child's international exchange programs and domestic tours. Twenty-five youth programs are planned for the summer of 1989, including three programs in Europe. Two family tour trips to the U.S.S.R. are planned for which adults are encouraged to apply. Pick up application forms during Intermission, or contact the Foundation for information:

PEACE CHILD FOUNDATION  
3977 Chain Bridge Road  
Fairfax, Virginia 22030  
(703) 385-4494

## The Peace Child Foundation

and the  
Peace Child Committees of

Harrisburg      Hershey      Pittsburgh      Baltimore  
Gettysburg      York      Chautauqua

*present*



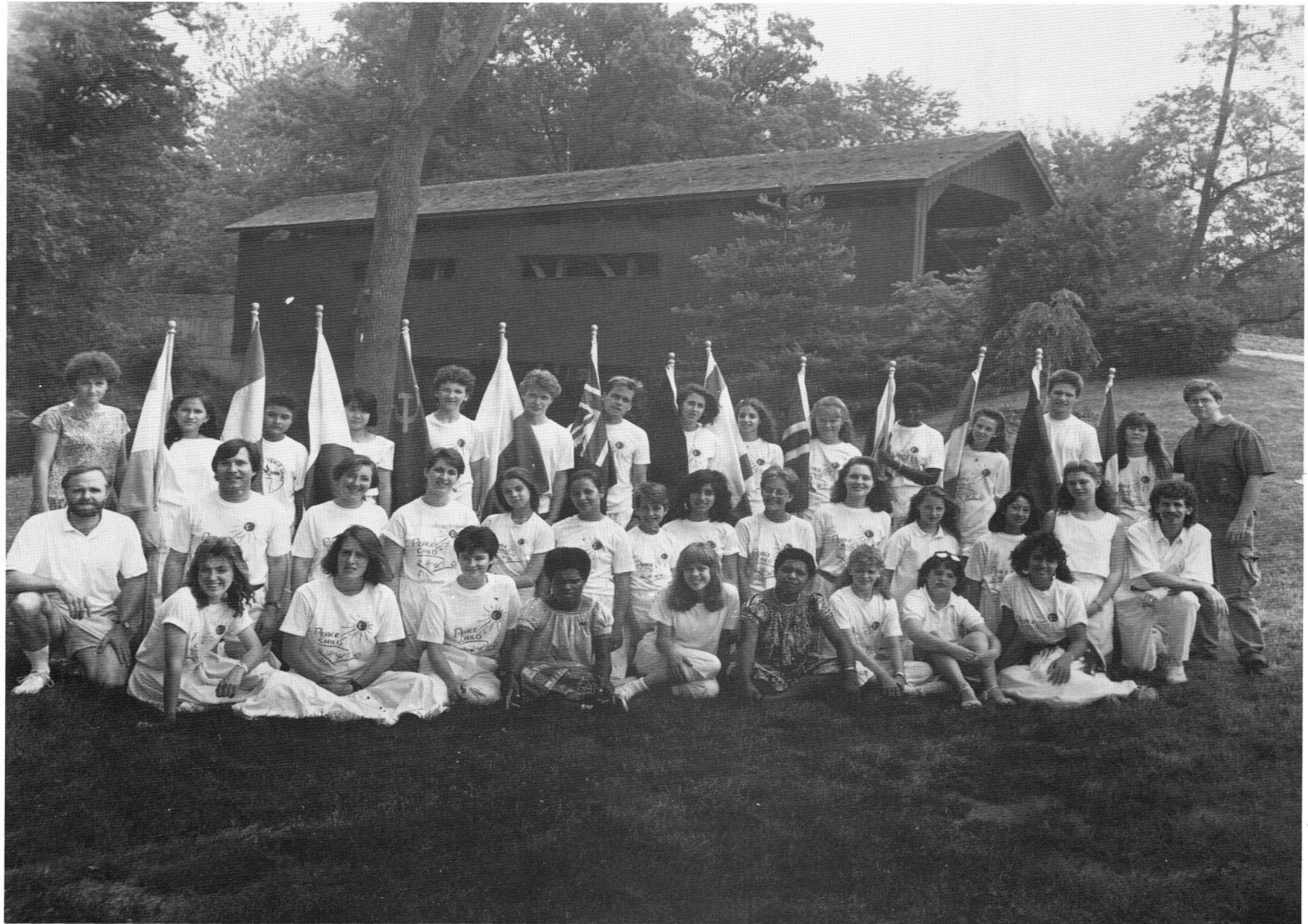
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# PEACE CHILD INTERNATIONAL

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**East Coast Tour**  
**June-July 1988**





## The Cast

<b>Cecilia Asi</b> , age 23	Papua New Guinea
<b>Melissa Berkemeier</b> , age 16	United States
<b>Melissa Dawn Bryant</b> , age 11	United States
<b>Lisette Morales Camacho</b> , age 15	Nicaragua
<b>Wendy Cameron</b> , age 14	United States
<b>Megan Carney</b> , age 18	United States
<b>Ann Cummings</b> , age 16	Canada
<b>Ariane Dihlmann</b> , age 17	West Germany
<b>Kirsty Fletcher</b> , age 13	Australia
<b>Edith Palma Flores</b> , age 14	Nicaragua
<b>Mika Fujii</b> , age 19	Japan (Hiroshima)
<b>Slava Galliulin</b> , age 16	U.S.S.R.
<b>Anna Gatcliffe</b> , age 14	Great Britain
<b>Tasha Gheyselinck</b> , age 15	Belgium
<b>Siobhain Gibson</b> , age 16	Belgium (Irish ancestry)
<b>Natasha Gromushkina</b> , age 13	U.S.S.R.
<b>Roula Khoury</b> , age 16	Israel (Palestinian)
<b>Stephan Klatt</b> , age 17	West Germany
<b>Veronica Mone</b> , age 16	Papua New Guinea
<b>Monica Mudrecka</b> , age 13	Poland
<b>Marganeet Ofir</b> , age 17	Israel (Jewish)
<b>Kiera O'Sullivan</b> , age 18	Ireland
<b>Karen Otterstad</b> , age 14	Norway
<b>Jo Oyeniran</b> , age 14	Great Britain (Nigerian ancestry)
<b>Rachel Riddles</b> , age 13	United States
<b>Noretta Shank</b> , age 16	United States
<b>Deborah Snyder</b> , age 18	United States
<b>Henriette Steenstrup</b> , age 13	Norway
<b>Pawel Sydor</b> , age 17	Poland
<b>Amber Van Oyen</b> , age 12	Netherlands
<b>Ella Vitiuk</b> , age 20	U.S.S.R.
<b>Cara Wolfgang</b> , age 14	United States (Vietnamese ancestry)
<b>Craig Young</b> , age 21	Australia

## The Chorus

Please refer to the local program insert for the names of the chorus members in your city.

## “Peace Child International”

A play in two acts.

There will be one fifteen-minute intermission.

The play is set in the year 2025 in a school somewhere in Australia. The story is a flashback to an international youth festival taking place in Moscow in the 1980's.

Peace Child Foundation  
gratefully recognizes

THE FRANKLIN H. AND RUTH L. WELLS  
FOUNDATION

for its major grant in support of the Tour.

## Tour Schedule

June 30	Harrisburg	July 7-11	(Hershey)
July 3	Fiftieth Anniversary Rededication, Eternal Light Peace Memorial, Gettysburg	July 9	York
		July 13	Pittsburgh
July 6, 7	Gettysburg	July 17	Chautauqua, N.Y.
		July 20	Baltimore

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*Peace Child Foundation expresses deep gratitude to the Greater Harrisburg community  
for its marvelous support in serving as Host City for the Tour.*

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### Tour City Coordinators

Harrisburg (Host City)	Gettysburg
Irene C. Baird and Keith W. Yackee	Christina Glatfelter and Janet M. Powers
Hershey	York
Carole Bartlett	Bill Schintz and Rev. Rod Mundy
	Pittsburgh
	Nancy Ann G. Kaczynski
Chautauqua	Baltimore
Jennifer E. Berke	Lionell P. Bell and Vivienne Shub

### Special thanks to ...

Greater Harrisburg YWCA  
MetroArts Resource Network for the Arts, Harrisburg  
Interfaith Peace Committee of Greater Harrisburg  
Dauphin County Area Agency on Aging  
Tri-County Retired Senior Volunteer Program  
Emogene Trexel  
The Donald B. and Dorothy L. Stabler Foundation  
Aer Lingus Airlines  
Hersheypark & Arena  
Continental Airlines

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Institute, Washington, D.C., and the United Nations Environmental Program.*