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GLOBE-TROTTING With Ginny . . .

Children Keen To See
Palais Des Nations

By Virginia Harris Hendricks

GENEVA, Switzerland--(BP)--Our 13-year-old Bill was keen to see the United Nations European headquarters palace in Geneva. He had exacted a promise that we would stop there during our vacation.

After arriving, we were reminded that the Palais des Nations is Europe's most important international conference center. Here world health, labor, nuclear weapons, and world disarmament are discussed.

Young Joe talked his Daddy into a side trip away from the tourists to investigate something of interest to a seven-year-old. Through the crushing crowd, I watched our other two sons shadow the American guide, hanging on his every word. Their eyes widened as he pointed out a closed door where the Russians had torpedoed late disarmament talks. They looked in wonder upon the desks where important leaders have conducted historic meetings.

When we entered the balcony of a square vestibule, I was lifted from my travel-tiredness by an arresting decoration on the opposite wall. There were three white bas-reliefs, sculptored by Great Britain's Eric Gill.

In the tremendous center picture there was a huge figure of reclining man, reaching out to the hand of God, which was in turn reaching out to lift man up. On either side were smaller works: on the right was God's gift to man . . . the world's fruits and resources. On the left was man's gift back to God . . . himself.

We all came away from Geneva with different impressions. Mine is the memory of two young faces lifted in hope and trust in the United Nations. More important is the significant picture of the only hope for world peace: man's gift of himself to God through God's Son, God's greatest gift to man.

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outline should read: Bob Hendricks, 11 . . . all eyes.

NOTE TO EDITORS: We are moving this story in the set at this particular time because of the tide of interest which will be in the United Nations currently with the arrival of heads of governments to address U. N. This may furnish you a ready audience for this piece.--Baptist Press.