

# Trips: Trips - 48

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Dag Hammarskjöld's samr.

Sec. Gen's trip to India 1956

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Feb. 8

W. Tauzer (Viz. Inform. Officer, ECAFE)

— to Andrew Cordier (Exec. Assist. to the Sec. Gen.)



BANGALORE

*trap file*

8 February, 1956.

Dear Mr. Cordier,

George Ivan Smith asked me to send you clippings from the newspapers. George was in an unabating rush all the time he stayed in Bangalore, pushing or being pushed from one place to another. He also wanted me to add a few lines of my own about the Secretary-General's visit, both for you and Mr. Katzin.

From what I saw, the Prime Minister went out of his way to be nice to the Secretary-General. Their arrival was timed so that Nehru's plane (a two-engined Ilyushin) presented by the Soviet Government and Piloted by an Indian touched down half an hour before the Secretary-General's Dakota, bearing the United Nations flag and UN lettering. The Prime Minister and the Secretary-General were housed in what is called the Palace, a park so huge that I never discovered the Palace. Two cottages, side by side were reserved for the two parties - and the Prime Minister came over to greet the Secretary-General almost immediately after the latter's arrival from the airport. From the attached programme you will see that the Secretary-General and the Prime Minister met during their stay in Bangalore at the Flower Show, at the opening session of ECAFE, at the Rajpramukh's lunch, at the Chief Minister's dinner, and again at the airport, when the Prime Minister advanced his departure by half an hour to see the SG off.

The Secretary-General addressed a Civic Reception, enjoyed watching the beautiful Indian dancing, and certainly enjoyed to walk through the Botanical Gardens and the visit to the flower and fruit stands of the Show. The Secretary-General seems to be a big walker and apparently also a keen Botanist. He raced up a rocky mount to inspect a little watch tower, one of four Kempegowda tower, built some 7 400 years ago by King Kempegowda famous for his sagacity and vision. The four towers were intended by the King to indicate the eventual boundaries of a future bigger Bangalore.

The Secretary-General was garlanded on every possible occasion, with Bill Ranallo or George dutifully taking the garlands over after ~~in~~ a respectful while and acting as flower bearers. He also planted the seedling for a tree in a prominent place in the Botanical Gardens, -- for the first time in his life, he told us, - at the same time and only some 25 yards away from where the Prime Minister was engaged in the same occupation.