



SCOTT SMITH AT ANGKOR WAT, CAMBODIA

couple to embark on such an adventure with three small children - 7, 5 and 9 months. The truth is, if you can take small children anywhere, you can take them around the world in a trailer. Kids, we discovered, are better at taking things as they come than grown-ups, and some ways, small children adapt better than older ones. In point of health, our three were better off that year than their cousins at home. And if we had one special thing in our favor, as we covered 30,000 miles and 31 countries, it was having our children with us. They made friends for us everywhere we went. They attracted affection, and they returned it. They were undismayed by strange smells or bizarre surroundings. They prevented too tight a schedule of 'places of interest'. And unless we had had to chase them through the flower beds, how could we have lain on the ground to see the Taj Mahal through a garden of flowers?"

To the young Smiths, this was a magic carpet adventure - family-size. Something out of the Arabian Nights, Huckleberry Finn, with bits of individual fantasy. In THANK YOU, MARCO POLO, Mac Smith tells the whole wonderful story of the caravan as only a reporter can, in the kind of prose which takes his readers with him.

Smith

Thank You, Marco Polo



Wake-Brook
House

Thank You, Marco Polo

THE STORY OF THE FIRST AROUND-THE-WORLD
TRAILER CARAVAN



Illustrated with 12 Color Plates & 72 Black-&-White Photographs

McGregor Smith, Jr.

Thank You, Marco Polo

THE STORY OF THE FIRST AROUND-THE-WORLD
TRAILER CARAVAN

This is an adventure book, the dramatic saga of 105 people, 47 trailers and more than a year of almost constant travel.

It all started as the dream of a man, Wally Byam, who did not live to see it materialize. The dream was to retrace the caravan routes Marco Polo had followed more than 7 centuries before. This modern caravan would be an American home-town-on-wheels. It would explore the partially-finished Asian Highways, being built as a United Nations project, from Singapore to Turkey. It would probe deep behind the Iron Curtain.

In the early fall of 1963, the caravan assembled in California. It was made up of trailers from all over the United States and Canada. The members ranged in age from Lorie Smith, 9 months, up to the 60's and 70's. Most of the "households" were strangers to one another. The thing they had in common was that they were infected with trailer adventure virus - even the McGregor Smiths, Jr., who had not tried trailer travel until their shakedown cruise from Florida to the Pacific Coast.

"It would be easy," the author says, "to jump to the erroneous conclusion that we were a brave, if somewhat irrational

Photographs: Fran Hall and Mac Smith

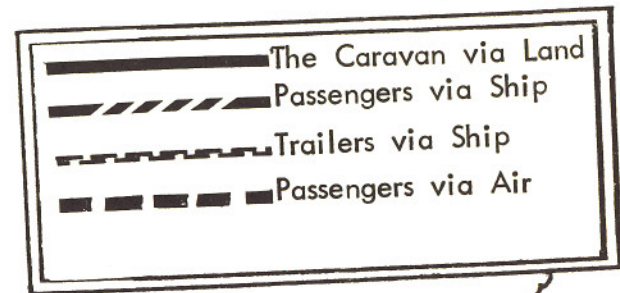
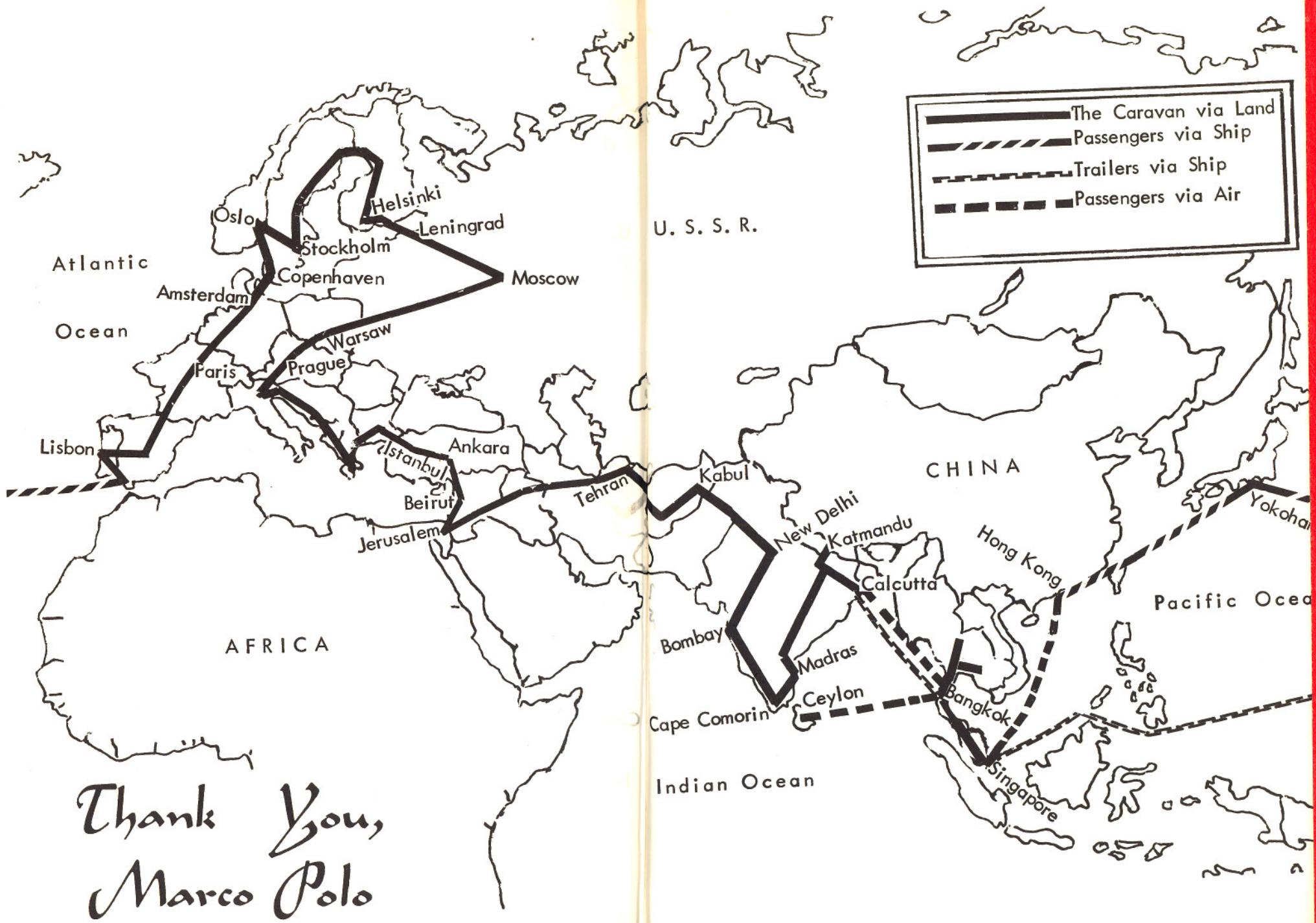
Printed in the U.S.A.

WAKE-BROOK HOUSE
THANK YOU, MARCO POLO
McGREGOR SMITH, JR.
\$5.95



THE SMITHS ON TOUR
Judy, Jackie, Lorie, Mac, Scott

McGregor Smith, Jr. was born in Nashville, Tennessee and grew up in Miami and New Orleans. He studied at the University of Tennessee, University of Havana and received a B.A. from Florida Southern College. Following war service, he went to Mexico to do graduate work at Mexico City College, receiving an M.A. in creative writing. He has free-lanced and worked for the Miami News and the Miami Herald. The Chicago News wire service distributed a series on his trailer experiences behind the Iron Curtain. He is now teaching journalism at Miami-Dade Junior College. He is active in Florida conservation work and is a member of the Board of the Tropical Audubon Society.



Thank You,
Marco Polo

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