Human Rights Tops Agenda for Carter’s China Visit

Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter pose with students in native costumes at a Beijing school for the deaf that employs teachers trained by Global 2000.

Former President Jimmy Carter urged Chinese leaders to address and correct human rights violations, including those surrounding the 1989 Tiananmen Square confrontation, on a trip to China this spring.

Following his return to the U.S., he called for renewal of China’s most favored nation (MFN) trade status to be based on that country’s willingness to address and correct human rights abuses. Congress will vote on whether to extend China’s MFN status this summer.

During a speech at the College of Foreign Affairs in Beijing, President Carter, whose administration first normalized relations with China, said, “We are all bound by some universal commitments derived from the charter of the United Nations and its various declarations involving human rights.”

President Carter went on to say that the U.S.’s inquiry into issues involving freedoms of expression and religion did not constitute “interference in the internal affairs of another country,” referring to Beijing’s consistent response to criticism of human rights violations in China.

“There have been worldwide concerns about the fate of the Chinese students and workers who have not been guilty of violent crimes or subversion. My hope is that the Chinese government will decide to grant amnesty to all nonviolent dissidents,” said President Carter. He also proposed that no further trials be held and that imposed sentences be reduced or commuted.

Thousands of Chinese have been jailed in conjunction with the June 1989 pro-democracy movement that culminated in the peaceful demonstration by students in Beijing’s Tiananmen Square. After weeks of restraint, the government forcibly removed students, killing hundreds and arresting thousands more.

President and Mrs. Carter visited China in conjunction with The Carter Center’s Global 2000 program, which launched two health initiatives there in 1987. The projects were designed to train special education teachers and to assist in bringing modern prosthetics technology to China’s 3 million amputees.

“Although Rosalynn and I are quite proud of The Carter Center’s health projects, I was concerned about travelling to China at this time because of the human rights viola-

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In Perspective
Carter to Chinese Students: Human Rights a Global Concern

The world is changing rapidly, and in profound ways. The global system of telecommunications is changing people’s ability to know about themselves and about how others live. The entire world becomes involved in major events, as was the case recently with the Gulf war, the present turmoil in the Soviet Union, and the Tiananmen Square confrontation in 1989.

Together, we face pressing problems: nuclear proliferation, wars, the spread of communicable diseases, environmental deterioration, and the population explosion, to name a few.

International trade is becoming ever more vital to the well-being of all citizens, and trade imbalances are leading to undesirable protectionist restraints. Foreign debt of many developing countries is almost unbearable and prevents addressing the needs of people in those nations with income normally expected from their own exports.

These kinds of stresses make it almost impossible for any one government in isolation to weather the storms of change. International cooperation becomes increasingly desirable.

Chairman Deng Xiaoping and I recognized some of these needs when we decided a decade ago to end 35 years of estrangement between our two countries and to establish full and complete diplomatic relations. As a result of this, both nations have benefitted greatly. We signed a trade agreement, extended America’s most favored nation policy to China, welcomed China’s full participation in the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, and encouraged frequent and unrestricted visits between our officials and private citizens.

Most notably, I personally invited Chinese students to come to our country for their higher education. Since then, tens of thousands of exchange students have brought mutual benefits to our societies.

He and I understood that our relations could not work well if we lacked a common understanding of world affairs. Recognizing that we would inevitably have different interests and perspectives, we knew that it would always be beneficial to share views in a frank and open manner.

We are all bound by some universal commitments involving human rights.

There is a fundamental question that must continually be addressed: Does the world consist of individual countries that can pursue their distinct and independent interests, or is our era increasingly characterized by the interdependence of separate countries, none of which can exclusively control its own destiny? I think it is the latter option, but today there seem to be misunderstandings between our two nations on this fundamental issue.

We are all bound by some universal commitments derived from the charter of the United Nations and its various declarations involving human rights. Being mutual signatories of some of these documents, our nations must expect our policies to be scrutinized and analyzed by others.

Your government is expressing grievances toward the U.S. for making these inquiries and expressions of concern. High-level visits between our two countries have almost ceased. A free dialogue has become almost impossible. This situation is not in the best interests of either nation.

I should remind this audience that I do not speak for the U.S. government but as a private citizen.

There are now 40,000 Chinese students in the U.S., many of whom, since June 1989, do not know how to deal with their quandary. Almost unanimously, they are loyal to their country and do not advocate violence or subversive activities. They request assurance of freedom of speech as Chinese law guarantees. They want to know that their passports are valid, that they can return to China without being detained and then go back to a foreign country to continue their education. They want to be able to engage in constructive dialogue with Chinese officials overseas.

In order to restore the good relations forged by Chairman Deng Xiaoping and me and maintained until June 1989, my hope is that the Chinese government will decide to grant amnesty to all nonviolent dissidents, including the Buddhists in Tibet and Christians who were not involved in violent or subversive activities but just exercising their rights as worshipers.

Other Americans and I raise issues of human rights not in an attempt to impose our values on any other nations or out of disrespect for the sovereignty of other governments. We have unmet human rights needs in the U.S., and I am equally concerned about these.

The struggle for human rights is a global concern. My hope is that, on their own initiative, the government leaders of China will address these questions and act in a generous way to alleviate legitimate concerns. When I return to the United States, I will encourage my countrymen, and especially members of Congress, to resume visits to China. Only with full discussions and free exchange of ideas can disputes be avoided and misunderstandings be resolved.

Excerpted from Jimmy Carter’s speech at the College of Foreign Affairs, Beijing, April 1991.
Donald Hopkins stands on the brink of helping to achieve what has been accomplished only once before in the history of medicine: the worldwide eradication of a disease.

While at the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Dr. Hopkins worked to wipe out smallpox, the first and only disease ever eradicated by medical science. As senior health consultant to The Carter Center’s Global 2000 program, Dr. Hopkins now has turned his attention to eradicating another debilitating disease: Guinea worm.

Guinea worm (dracunculiasis) is a devastating, but easily preventable, disease that is contracted in 17 developing countries through contaminated drinking water. Although not usually fatal, Guinea worm causes severe pain and now disables 3-5 million people every year.

Lessons from History

“At the CDC, I became fascinated with what smallpox meant to history,” says Dr. Hopkins. “I came to recognize that it affected the very fabric of every society in which it occurred.”

The effects of Guinea worm disease also permeate society. “The disease attacks farmers at harvest time, saddling them with an enormous economic burden. It even prevents children from going to school,” says Dr. Hopkins.

Following the successful eradication of smallpox in 1977, Dr. Hopkins authored Principes and Peasants: Smallpox in History, which was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize.

“Smallpox is a dramatic illustration of how we’re all in this boat together. Across races, countries, even continents, people were all terrorized because of this disease. The successful campaign to eradicate smallpox showed that we were able to get rid of the terror when the whole world banded together,” he says.

Dr. Hopkins examines water for signs of Guinea worm larvae.

His work on the smallpox campaign led Dr. Hopkins to look at other diseases that had the potential for eradication. In 1980, while still at the CDC, he chose to focus on Guinea worm. In 1986, he proposed the project to Carter Center Executive Director William H. Foege and to Jimmy Carter.

The Means to an End

“I was attracted to The Carter Center because of its flexibility and President Carter’s unique ability to bring people and institutions together to work toward a common goal. The Center had the added advantage of having Bill Foege at its helm,” he says.

At The Carter Center, Dr. Hopkins works with other international health groups, such as The World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF, and the United Nations Development Programme to mobilize support for eradicating this little-known disease. Two years ago, for example, Global 2000 brought together the international health community at a conference in Lagos, Nigeria, that raised nearly $10 million for Guinea worm eradication efforts in that country. In 1990, Global 2000 projects in Ghana and Nigeria reduced the incidence of Guinea worm by more than 30 percent.

This year, Dr. Hopkins believes the program will achieve its most stunning success to date: the total eradication of Guinea worm from Pakistan.

“If we continue at this pace, I feel certain that Guinea worm will be completely eradicated from the world by the end of 1995,” says Dr. Hopkins.

A Distinguished Career

Dr. Hopkins’ fight to eradicate Guinea worm is but another step in a distinguished public health career. A graduate of Morehouse College, he received his M.D. from the University of Chicago School of Medicine and his M.P.H. from Harvard University. At the CDC, he served as deputy director prior to coming to The Carter Center.

This February, Dr. Hopkins was named an Outstanding African American by the National Research Council and its parent organizations—the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering, and the Institute of Medicine. Today, his portrait hangs in the National Academy with those of previous awardees, such as George Washington Carver, Mitchell W. Spellman, William E.B. DuBois, and U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Louis Sullivan.

“I was shocked when I saw the list of previous awardees. Many of them are people I’ve admired all my life. I would never have imagined myself in such distinguished company,” says Dr. Hopkins.

Although he has received many honors, there are no awards on Don Hopkins’ desk; only a Guinea worm he calls “Henrietta,” preserved in a jar of formaldehyde.

“I’m looking forward to the day when she will be the last of her kind left in the world,” says Dr. Hopkins. “To have helped make that happen would be an honor indeed.”
tions being perpetuated in that country," said President Carter.

"But when the government agreed to include human rights on the agenda of my meetings with leaders and to let me give a major human rights address, I agreed to go."

While in China, President Carter discussed human rights and other issues with Premier Li Peng, General Secretary Jiang Zemin, Foreign Minister Qian Qichen and others. He also met with Chairman Deng Xiaoping's son, Deng Pufang, who has been involved in implementing Global 2000's health programs.

President Carter's request to meet with political prisoners or their families was denied by the Chinese government; he was told that only the families of prisoners could pay such visits and that it would not be convenient for him to see family members.

"I trust that the friendship that was forged between me and Chairman Deng Xiaoping and between our two great nations can be perpetuated and even enhanced during the coming years," said President Carter. "This is important not only for our two peoples, but for the entire world."

**In the News**

"China's leaders are violently allergic to criticism. But last week they allowed a prominent American to air some irritating thoughts before a domestic public audience for the first time since the 1989 Tiananmen massacre. Visiting former President Jimmy Carter told some 400 people at Beijing's Foreign Affairs College that 'worldwide concerns' for imprisoned Chinese protesters are legitimate, pressing and curable—by a grant of 'amnesty to all nonviolent dissidents.'" —*TIME* magazine, 4/29/91

"Mr. Carter, who made human rights one of the major elements of foreign policy during his presidency, raised the topic in all his meetings with Chinese officials, according to a U.S. Embassy spokesman. 'He made a very strong pitch on human rights and repeated the themes of his speech,' the spokesman said." —*Washington Post*, 4/15/91

"Jimmy Carter's performance in China this week is further proof, as if any more were required, of what potent qualities are wrapped up in this singular individual." —*Atlanta Constitution*, 4/16/91

"Former President Jimmy Carter urged Chinese leaders Sunday to release jailed dissidents and not to reject international criticism of China's human rights abuses as 'outside interference in internal affairs.'"

—*Associated Press*, 4/15/91

"In a hard-hitting speech to the future diplomats trained by the college, Mr. Carter rejected Beijing's assertion that other countries had no business making an issue of human rights in China. 'Our nations must expect our policies to be scrutinized and analyzed by others,' Mr. Carter said."

—*The Hong Kong Standard*, 4/15/91
A task force that will work to improve the mental health of Americans has been established at The Carter Center under the direction of former First Lady Rosalynn Carter.

The Task Force on Mental Health Policy will provide leadership, mobilize resources, and act as a catalyst for positive change in the field of mental health. The group also will seek to reduce the stigma attached to mental illness.

Mrs. Carter has worked to improve the lives of those suffering from mental disorders for more than 20 years and was instrumental in securing the passage of the Mental Health Systems Act of 1980.

“I firmly believe that by joining forces we can have a significant positive influence on mental health policy in the 1990s and beyond.”

Rosalynn Carter Named Distinguished Fellow at Emory

In a move to recognize and strengthen women’s involvement in public service, Rosalynn Carter has been named Distinguished Fellow of the Emory Institute of Women’s Studies.

“Emory University is honored to have Rosalynn Carter lead our efforts to acknowledge women’s contributions to public service,” said Emory President James T. Laney.

In conjunction with the appointment, the Institute has created three programs. The Rosalynn Carter Honorary Fellows in Public Policy and Global Affairs program will bring women who have prominent records in public service to the Emory campus to meet with students and to lead seminars. An intern program will provide a financial award to undergraduate students who are studying public policy and global affairs at the Institute. And the Rosalynn Carter Distinguished Lecture in Public Policy and Global Affairs will provide a forum for major speakers on campus each year.

According to Mrs. Carter, “These programs will demonstrate the value of public service and inspire future generations to pursue careers to improve the quality of life for both men and women.”

Task Force members, who will meet quarterly beginning this fall, will study central issues in mental health and the barriers to implementing preventive measures.

“We hope to focus on problem solving and identify themes to unify the mental health field,” said Dr. John Hardman, director of the Task Force Secretariat.

The project is funded by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, which chose mental health as one of its first program priorities in 1979.

Mrs. Carter and New York City Mayor David Dinkins dedicated an affordable outpatient mental health residence this spring in NYC.
**Soviet News Archive Open to Researchers**

*Only Videotape Library of Soviet TV Sheds New Light on History*

One of the world’s most comprehensive archives of Soviet news programs is now available to historians and media analysts who want to trace the development of glasnost and perestroika in the Soviet Union.

Since 1984, The Carter Center of Emory University’s (CCEU) Soviet Media and International Communications program has taped daily the national news program, “Vremya,” as well as an assortment of programs such as “Vzglyad” (“View-point”), “Actual Interview,” and “International Panorama.”

According to Ellen Mickiewicz, who directs the program, “Our archive, the only videotape archive of Soviet television programs in the United States, is a useful tool to historians and media analysts who want to see for themselves how Gorbachev’s policy of openness impacts news coverage in the U.S.S.R.”

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Researchers watch the news live on the Emory campus and code the information according to a system developed by Dr. Mickiewicz and media experts from the Annenberg School of Communications at the University of Pennsylvania.

According to Dr. Mickiewicz, “Vremya” differs significantly from its American counterparts in the way it reports the news. “Instead of quick summaries, ‘Vremya’ will show entire speeches and events,” she said.

Applications for access to the archive should include a short description of the project, projected dates of archive use, and estimated hours of viewing time required. Submit letters of application to:

**The Soviet Media and International Communications Program**
**The Carter Center of Emory University**
**One Copenhill**
**Atlanta, GA 30307**

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**Center Launches Public Lecture Series**

This fall, The Carter Center and the Jimmy Carter Library will launch “Conversations at The Carter Center,” a series of informal programs focusing on events in the Middle East, issues in international health, the growth of democracy in Latin America, and the American presidency.

“Conversations” will be held one Tuesday evening each month from September-November 1991 and January-March 1992. Tickets can be purchased by writing: “Conversation Tickets, The Carter Center, One Copenhill, Atlanta, GA 30307” or by calling 404-331-3942. Series tickets for all six lectures are $25; tickets for individual programs are $5 each. All proceeds will be donated to Friends of The Jimmy Carter Library and Museum.

**Upcoming Programs**

**September 10, 1991**
*“Relief from Ancient Scourges: Health Challenges of the 21st Century”*
Dr. William H. Foege, executive director, The Carter Center

**October 8, 1991**
*“Promoting Democracy in the Hemisphere: Why it Matters; How We can Help”*
Dr. Robert A. Pastor, director, Latin American and Caribbean Studies

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**November 5, 1991**
*“The Middle East Peace Process: Lessons from Previous Arab-Israeli Negotiating Efforts”*
Dr. Kenneth W. Stein, director, Middle Eastern Studies

**January 7, 1992**
*“The White House Years: The Press and the Presidency”*
Jody Powell, former press secretary to President Jimmy Carter

**February 11, 1992**
*“Papers of the Presidents: Windows on the Past”*
Dr. Donald Schewe, director, The Jimmy Carter Library and Museum

**March 10, 1992**
*“The Art of Conflict Resolution: New Avenues of Peace”*
Dayle E. Spencer, director, Conflict Resolution Program and William J. Spencer, member, INN secretariat
Women and History: 
A Legacy in Learning

In February 1988, more than 1,500 participants gathered in Atlanta for a historic symposium convened by former First Ladies Rosalynn Carter and Lady Bird Johnson and supported by Betty Ford and Pat Nixon. "Women and the Constitution" brought together leading female scholars and political figures from all 50 states and 10 foreign countries to examine women's roles in U.S. history, politics and policies. "One of our goals," said Mrs. Carter, "was to leave a legacy for our children and grandchildren." Now that legacy is here.

The Carter Center of Emory University (CCEU) has developed a comprehensive curriculum program for adults and university students that includes a textbook, a teacher's guide, scholarly papers, and keynote addresses—including speeches by Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, Barbara Jordan, and Geraldine Ferraro. An essential reference tool, the package is designed to function as the principal element in an elective course on women and government, or as a supplemental unit for courses in American history or government. It also makes a perfect program guide for women's study groups and organizations.

For more information or to order, call toll-free 1-800-367-3379 (in Georgia, call 1-800-222-6527).

Human Rights Violations Continue in El Salvador, Guatemala

Despite repeated efforts to draw attention to human rights issues in El Salvador and Guatemala, violations continue in both countries, according to Human Rights Program Associate Susan Casey. Ms. Casey travelled to each country this spring to follow up on the activities of two groups that are past recipients of The Carter-Menil Human Rights Prize.

"The prize has enabled us to continue working in these extremely difficult times."

"The majority of Salvadorans and Guatemalans face conditions of abject poverty and the denial of fundamental human rights in addition to the effects of prolonged war," she said. "For these people, peace will never come as long as the military institutions that have for decades violated human rights are still in power."

In El Salvador, the Consejo de Comunidades Étnicas Runajel Junam (CERJ), which won the Carter-Menil Prize in 1990, reported that this year alone, six of its members have been murdered, another was shot and wounded, and yet another has disappeared. In Guatemala, one member of the Grupo de Apoyo Mutuo (GAM), a 1986 Carter-Menil prizewinner, was detained and beaten by police agents.

In spite of the continuing violence, CERJ President Amilcar Mendez called the Carter-Menil Prize crucial to the group's efforts. "The prize has enabled us to continue working in these extremely difficult times," he said. Nineth Montenegro de Garcia, GAM president, said the prize money "enabled us to buy an office building, secure rooms to temporarily house those fleeing violence, and establish a medical clinic." The Carter-Menil Prize, established by Jimmy Carter and Dominique de Menil, is awarded each December to an individual or group that best exemplifies human rights leadership.

In each country, Ms. Casey also met with human rights monitors, labor leaders, peasants, government officials, and U.S. embassy personnel to identify ways in which Jimmy Carter and The Carter Center of Emory University's Human Rights program can most effectively support human rights efforts in those countries.

"Although there continue to be serious human rights violations in both countries, there is at least some movement toward change in El Salvador. Guatemala, however, has not captured the attention of the international community in the same way," said Ms. Casey.
The Economics of Peace

The second consultation focused on the economic impact of the Gulf war in the Middle East and the response of the international community to troubled economies in the region. Participants stressed the need to differentiate between short-term emergency assistance and long-term development aid.

American Law Center Established in Soviet Union

The Emory University School of Law, in cooperation with the Moscow Law Institute, has established The American Law Center in Moscow. This is the first joint American-Soviet endeavor to offer a comprehensive, independent study program in American law for Soviet lawyers and legal scholars.

CCEU is a sponsor of the Law Center, which was proposed by former President Jimmy Carter to Soviet Secretary General Mikhail Gorbachev in 1988.

According to Harold Berman, U.S.-Soviet Relations Fellow at CCEU and Woodruff Professor of Law at Emory, the immediate purpose of the Law Center is to provide a basic education in the fundamental principles and techniques of American law.

"Participants then will be better qualified to advise Soviet and American enterprises involved in joint economic relations, as well as Soviet legislative and administrative agencies dealing with matters that require a knowledge of American legal institutions," said Prof. Berman, who initiated the program. In addition to helping legal practitioners, the program will help Soviet legal scholars better prepare themselves to teach and write about American law.

"We see this program as an initial step in a long-range effort to deepen mutual understanding between lawyers of different countries," said Prof. Berman, a leading scholar in the fields of Soviet law, international trade law, and comparative legal history. "We hope that this first project undertaken by the American Law Center in Moscow will eventually lead to the formation of a Joint Center for the Study of Soviet and American law, with headquarters in both countries." Such a joint center might be located partly at CCEU, where it would focus on joint legal solutions to problems of concern to both the U.S. and the Soviet Union.

The 16-month program of instruction in American law began in April, when approximately 50 Soviet lawyers and legal scholars began three months of part-time independent study. They will continue their studies through next summer in courses taught by professors from leading American law schools.

The summer 1991 session will be conducted by Prof. Berman; Emory Law School Dean Howard Hunter; Yale Law School Professor Mirjan Damaska; Pennsylvania Law School Professor John Honnold; and Harvard Law School Professors Benjamin Kaplan and Detlev Vagt. Courses will cover the historical development of the American legal system, American constitutional law, criminal law and procedure, civil law and procedure, business law and corporate finance, and commercial law of international sales.

Genuine education is always directed toward peace.

Despite the turmoil in Soviet internal affairs, Prof. Berman believes that the American Law Center in Moscow will be successful.

"Education is always an enterprise that is directed to the future, and genuine education is always directed toward universal peace. I expect the American Law Center in Moscow will start something that will last for at least 100 years," said Prof. Berman.
Hepburn Honored for Work to Save Children's Lives

International film star Audrey Hepburn was honored by the Task Force for Child Survival (TFCS) in February for her work on behalf of the world’s children.

According to former President Jimmy Carter, who presented her with the 1990 Child Survival Award, “Audrey Hepburn's role as UNICEF's Goodwill Ambassador has taken her to many of the places that most of us would not want to go. She has gone to these countries to hold children in her arms, to support the programs of UNICEF, and to let the world know that this is a cause worthy of the support of us all.”

The Child Survival Award, established by the TFCS in 1988, honors significant achievements in protecting the lives of all children. According to TFCS Director William H. Foege, “We hope this award will help heighten awareness of the need for continuing, long-term support of child survival programs.”

The award was presented at a dinner co-sponsored by the TFCS and the U.S. Committee for UNICEF. The event drew nearly 700 people and raised $110,000 for UNICEF.

“I can testify to what UNICEF means to children because I was among the recipients of food and medical relief right after World War II. I have a long-lasting gratitude and trust for what UNICEF does,” said Ms. Hepburn. Even before her appointment as Goodwill Ambassador nearly three years ago, she participated in fundraising and advocacy activities on behalf of children.

Ms. Hepburn has traveled extensively throughout the world, speaking on behalf of children, visiting UNICEF-assisted projects and witnessing a full range of child survival and development programs.

Merck & Co. Donates Sight-Saving Drug

A disease that has blinded an estimated 335,000 people and impaired the vision of thousands more is being successfully treated thanks to the generosity of Merck & Company, an American drug manufacturer.

River blindness, spread by black flies living near fast-moving water, infects an estimated 18 million people in Africa, Latin America, and the Arabian Peninsula. In addition to the physical suffering the disease causes, it also wreaks economic havoc as entire villages abandon arable land in an attempt to escape it.

Ivermectin, developed by Merck & Co. to treat livestock parasites, is highly effective against river blindness. A single tablet administered once a year to an infected person prevents the loss of sight. Four years ago, Merck & Co. agreed to provide free of charge all the ivermectin needed to prevent the disease in developing countries.

“This is truly a miracle drug,” said William H. Foege, executive director of The Carter Center and chairman of the Mectizan Expert Committee.

The Committee, established at The Carter Center in 1987, oversees the distribution of ivermectin. Its efforts to date have reached 27 countries in Africa and Latin America, and more than 3 million treatments—consisting of one tablet of ivermectin given annually to each infected person—have been provided since September 1988. The drug is distributed through community-based groups, and the Committee is currently working to improve delivery systems in each country.

“Our next goal,” said Dr. Foege, “is to reach each year the six million people considered to be at highest risk of blindness. This program means there is now hope to save the sight of thousands of people.”
The Tie That Binds
Fly Fishing with the Presidents

A special exhibit that reflects a long-time passion enjoyed by Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter is on display through the summer at the Jimmy Carter Library. “The Tie That Binds” exhibit features a treasure-trove of paraphernalia that documents the sport of fly fishing.

“As you go through life, you meet different groups of people,” said President Carter at the exhibit’s opening. “But there is a special group of people who I think without any doubt are superlative—the fellow fly fishers that we’ve met around the world.”

The exhibit, mounted in conjunction with the American Museum of Fly Fishing in Manchester, Vermont, features historic and modern materials along with some items from the Carter’s personal collection. In conjunction with the exhibit, Trout Unlimited chapters of Georgia are holding fly-tying and casting demonstrations in special weekend seminars at the library through the end of June.

“In America, we don’t have kings, so there is no sport of kings,” said Library Director Don Schewe. “But if there is a sport of presidents, it’s fly fishing.” President Ford is an avid fly fisherman, as were Presidents Eisenhower and Hoover.

“But if there is a sport of presidents, it’s fly fishing.”

The centerpiece of the exhibit is the oak rolltop desk at which President Carter ties his flies. A pond, complete with live trout, sits in the museum lobby, and the exhibit also includes information on the protection of Georgia streams and the environment.

Historic artifacts include the first American edition (1874) of Izaak Walton’s “The Compleat Angler,” a section of Victorian fishing materials, and Hardy and Winchester reels. Also on display are early tools for fly-tying, such as a vise owned by Theodore Gordon, the father of American dry-fly fishing.

In conjunction with the exhibit, the Carters donated two of their fishing rods to the American Museum of Fly Fishing’s permanent collection.

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