

December 21, 2006

Friends of History,

I welcome the opportunity to share with you about the success of a new program that visited North Dakota during this past year. We were fortunate to host the TRACES BUS-*eum*, which visited the North Dakota State Capitol Grounds and nine high schools across the state.

TRACES is a non-profit organization that provides public access to true-life stories of Midwest men and women who lived between 1933 and 1948. The program that we hosted was titled *Vanished: German-American Civilian Internment, 1941-1948*. This brought to life the experiences of individuals who were caught a social void caused by World War II. The program provided a combined interpretive program and museum exhibits about this important subject.

We were very pleased to have 2,056 visitors to the BUS-*eum* at nine high school assemblies the State Historical Society of North Dakota contracted TRACES to deliver on the SHSND's behalf, and a total of 3,463 total visitors during its journey around the state. This is an excellent turnout for an outstanding and unique mobile programming venue. We look forward to participating in future programs with TRACES. I recommend that interested parties visit [www.TRACES.org](http://www.TRACES.org) website to see for yourselves what opportunities exist there.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Merlan E. Paaverud, Jr.  
Director  
State Historical Society of North Dakota