

MARG Green + Nancy Kane

To Diane Roche: RSCJ Social Activism in mid-1960's

Sister Marguerite Green and Nancy Kane participated in the march organized by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, in March 1965. On March 24, twenty-four students accompanied by the chairman of Barat's Art Department, Albert Pounian, left by train for Montgomery, and the next day Marguerite Green and Nancy Kane flew to Montgomery. Both the train and the airplane arrived in Montgomery about noon on March 25. Therefore, the contingent from Barat did not march the whole fifty miles from Selma but joined the marcher in Montgomery at the black Church of St. Jude. From there they continued the three-plus mile march to the capitol.

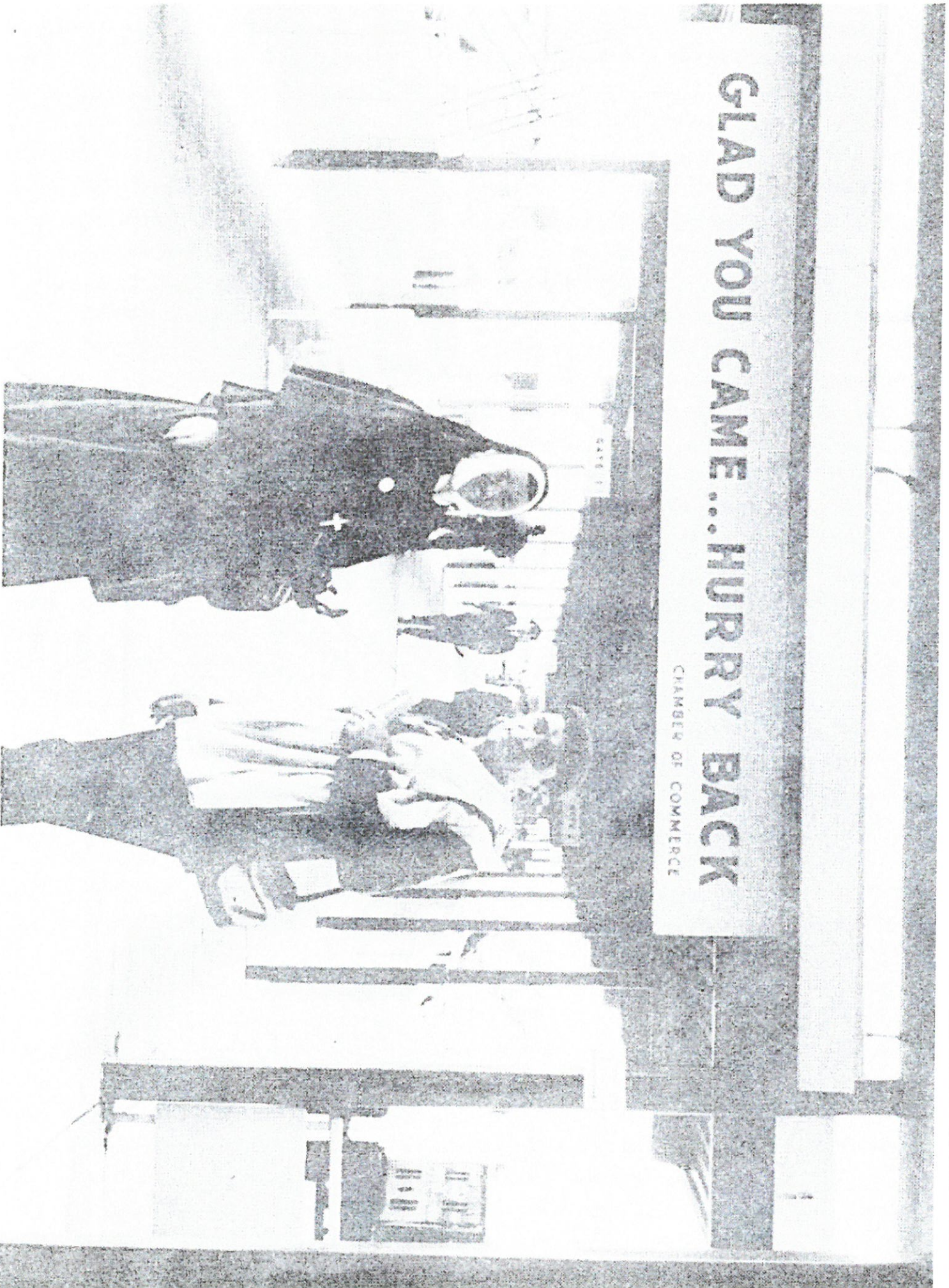
Of the Barat faculty members who participated in the events in Montgomery, only Nancy Kane was living at the time when Martha Curry was conducting interviews for her history of Barat, but Nancy was able to remember several details about the march to the steps of the capitol. She remembered that all the black churches were open that day to accommodate the marchers, and she commented on the cheering they received as they progressed through the black neighborhoods. Nancy recalled "the sense of euphoria like we were coming into the Kingdom" as the marchers progressed towards the capitol, and the fact that, when one small black girl

saw her in the habit, she exclaimed, "That's my church." Nancy, however, also remembered that, "As we got close [to the capitol], the atmosphere changed and we were really sort of scared. . . . I never felt such hatred."

When they and the rest of the marchers arrived at the capitol steps, they listened to speeches delivered by Martin Luther King, Jr., Whitney Young, and several other member of The Southern Christian Leadership Conference. Since Nancy's and Marg's flight back to Chicago did not leave until the next morning, they slept overnight on benches in the Church of St. Jude.

GLAD YOU CAME... HURRY BACK

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Mother Kane and Mr. Pounian pause under ironic sign before returning to Bar



Mother Green and Mother Kane hurry to join the line of march in Montgomery.

