



**PRESIDENT RECEIVES REPORT—** President Richard M. Nixon is receiving a memento from Luther Leavitt, Jr., front, of Barrow, Alaska who along with other Boy Scouts presented the President the annual report of the Boy Scouts of

America. The boys visited the White House on Feb. 5 on the invitation of Nixon. The 17 Scouts and Explorers represented 6½ million-member Boy Scouts of America.

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# Barrow Scouter Meets President Dick Nixon

Fifteen-year-old Luther Leavitt, Jr. returned to his home in Barrow this week after an eight-day trip from New York to Washington highlighted by a visit with President Nixon.

The son of Luther Leavitt, Sr. the youth was one of 17 top Boy Scouts and Explorers chosen nationwide to report to top government officials in observance of Boy Scout Week, Feb. 7-13.

Before leaving on his trip Jan. 30, the eighth grader stopped in Fairbanks for interviews.

At that time, he mentioned that more than anything else he was looking forward to talking with President Nixon.

Having been in scouting seven years, Luther is now the junior assistant Scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troop 58.

He was selected for the trip on the basis of his outstanding record in scouting, school, church, and community services.

The rather shy five-footer mentioned that he is in the choir, youth club, and student council and that math is his favorite subject.

He is also in the top 20 per cent of his class.

No doubt he will have a lot to tell his four brothers and five sisters about his trip last week. Three of his sisters are currently living in the lower 48.

In addition to the visit with Nixon, Luther and the other scouts spent two days in New York where they met with United Nations' leaders, toured the New York Stock Exchange, and visited the Ed Sullivan show. They were also, each presented with a \$300 scholarship by the Readers' Digest Foundation.

Stops were made in North Brunswick, N.J. at the national BSA headquarters and at the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland.

In Washington, the group met with members of Congress and department heads and visited the Supreme Court.

While in Fairbanks, Luther discussed some of the activities he had participated in as a scout.

The Barrow youth, who is a Star Scout, two steps below an Eagle Scout, listed wood carving, wood work, painting, first aid, and scholarship as areas in which he had earned merit badges.

He also has two other awards which many people would be reluctant to try for—a 40 below and a 100 below certificate.

To earn the first award and thus become a member of a "40 below club," he had to spend no more than two nights outside and accumulate temperatures of minus 40. For the 100 below club, he could spend no more than 5 nights out while accumulating minus 100 degrees.

And, unlike scouts who camp in the lower 48, in the winter Luther and his troop sleep in snowhouses, similar to igloos, rather than tents.

He explained that in the summer the troop does even more camping at which time they live primarily off the fish they catch.

And, for Luther, the warmer temperatures call for another kind of fishing as he often accompanies his father on whaling trips.

When asked what he does on the trips, the youth smiles and said, "I just make coffee and wash dishes."