

can charm 'em

a Swedish plate commemorating the American bicentennial — a doubly meaningful gift.

Swedish bell chimes that ring when heated with lit candles also make an ideal gift, especially at Christmas time.

American Indians can take advantage of the current popularity of Indian jewelry and Navaho rugs for a special gift.

Some gift stores stock wood carvings from all over the world. Carved trinket boxes from Poland, India and Pakistan are available, as are carvings from many countries.

Foreign language records can help a third or fourth generation American learn the language of the "old country." Not only will it help communication with great-grandmother, it may also prepare for a trip "home" someday.

A visit to the bookstore may

turn up a volume of folklore or customs or even short stories by a popular author from a given country.

If you do want to buy an ethnic gift, try going beyond the obvious. Do a little research to learn what crafts are popular in the country in which you are interested.

A little research will pay off in ideas but you'll still have to search for distributors. If you know someone who is actively involved in ethnic oriented organization or who has worked at the river front festivals ask for advice. That someone should know what is available and who sells it.

If all else fails, as a last resort, visit a card shop and send someone special a card that says "Merry Christmas" in your favorite language.

—DIANE HUBEL



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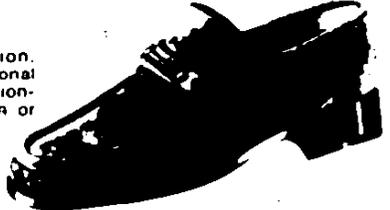


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