



New Hope News

Vol. 4 Number 12

September 1, 1977

Church Faces Civil Rights Test



Unification Church President Neil Salonen and Dan Fefferman at a press conference held in New York on August 9. "Congressman Fraser would send a believer to prison because he refuses to discuss his religious associations."

by Bill Cook

Once again, the civil rights of Unification Church members are being tested, this time before a Subcommittee of the U.S. House of Representatives. For well over two years, the House Subcommittee on International Organizations chaired by Congressman Donald Fraser of Minnesota has been investigating individuals and organizations suspected of having ties with the South Korean government. The Subcommittee's probes into the Unification Church and other organizations founded by Rev. Moon have been widely publicized, yet no substantial evidence has been revealed to justify such an investigation.

Last month, Dan Fefferman, Director of the Church center in Chicago, was requested to testify before the Subcommittee in Executive Session. In addition to his work with the Church, Dan was an FLF staff member for six years and an officer of the National Prayer and Fast Committee. He testified on two occasions, for over five hours, about those organizations.

The Freedom Leadership Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit educational organization, concerned with the fundamental values of freedom and the dangers of totalitarian communist ideology. The Foundation publishes a bi-weekly newspaper, *The Rising Tide*, sponsors seminars on ideological counterproposals to communism, and distributes books and literature.

The National Prayer and Fast Committee (NPFC) was a "nationwide religious crusade for prayer and repentance during the Watergate crisis." Rep. Fraser has alleged that NPFC was a lobbying effort on behalf of the Korean government to block the impeachment of Richard Nixon. To the contrary, the purpose of NPFC was spiritual, not political--to inspire unity in a divisive national crisis, and to remind America's leaders and citizens of our need for God's guidance.

The Unification Church, Freedom Leadership Foundation, and National Prayer and Fast Committee have never had, and do not have now, any connection or relationship of any kind to the Korean government.

After lengthy testimony, Dan refused to answer certain questions which he believes transcend the legitimate confines of the area of the investigation and constitute a violation of his and others' First Amendment rights. When he refused to answer those questions on First Amendment grounds, the Subcommittee voted to recommend to the full Committee on International Relations that Dan be cited for contempt of Congress. The recommendation for citation will have to be debated in the Committee, and if passed, would go to the full House of Representatives for debate.

In the post-Watergate era of American politics, probes into potential wrongdoings and scandals have become more prominent and popular, as the press is eager to give them coverage. In light of the current "Koreagate" investigation (a separate inquiry being conducted by a Subcommittee of the House Ethics Committee, not to be confused with the Fraser Subcommittee investigation), it might seem relevant to investigate the activities of any prominent Koreans in America. However logical this guilt by association might seem at first, in the long run this practice hurts many innocent people. It is the same vein in which the Spanish Inquisition, Salem witch trials, and McCarthy hearings of the 50's were conducted.

Nonetheless, Unification Church members have answered questions and provided information to the Subcommittee. The point at which Dan felt it necessary to draw the line was the point at which he was asked questions which departed from the area of the investigation. Dan questioned the relevance of questions which probed the religious beliefs and associations of various individuals. When the Subcommittee members provided no substantial reasons for their asking such questions, Dan declined to answer. In a public statement, Dan made it clear that his purpose in refusing to answer those few questions was not to conceal information or to avoid incriminating himself, but to protect First Amendment freedoms of religion and

President Salonen's Statement to the Press

America was originally settled by people escaping religious and political persecution in Europe and elsewhere. Nevertheless, religious intolerance has been a consistently visible phenomenon here, even among people with such a history. The early Quakers for instance were imprisoned for refusing to swear oaths. Fear and mistrust of Catholics when they first migrated is also well known. They set up their own colony in Maryland, known for its tolerance. However, Jews and Unitarians were banned. Jews have often been stereotyped as "agents of Zionism" whose loyalty to the American system was in doubt.

Mormons are another example, their founder Joseph Smith being killed in mob violence amidst a mood of hatred, fear and bigotry. Realizing the imperfection of man, our founding fathers made religious freedom a cornerstone of American democracy, protecting it in the First Amendment of the Constitution.

Historically the problem seems to arise when new ideas or groups with different values begin to live together with other groups in society, but before any real understanding of the differences can take place. After a period of exposure, the worst and most irrational fears these groups have about each other prove unfounded, and real acceptance and respect begins.

This is the position the Unification Church finds itself in today. Fear and mistrust of our values, jealousy of our rapid growth and success have led to irrational charges of brainwashing, mind control, or our being the "agent of a foreign power." Organized groups of professional vigilantes actively strive to alienate members' parents and then charge huge fees to kidnap these members and attempt to force them to recant their religious views. The classical steps in the evolution of prejudice--antilocution, avoidance, discrimination and physical attack are already underway.

More recently, our opponents have

raised the spectre of the Unification Church as an agent of an un-American power--the same accusation so frequently used to justify anti-semitism--in order to reinforce the image of the church as a bunch of deluded American young people under the influence of a sinister Oriental spellbinder.

It is this setting that we have viewed the investigation by the House Subcommittee on International Organizations, chaired by Congressman Fraser, with considerable anxiety. In an effort to avoid unnecessary publicity and resulting damage to many innocent members and their families, several of us met with Congressman Fraser in his office on May 27, 1976. We expressed our concerns and our belief that our organization was not involved in anything relevant to the scope of his investigation. We further expressed our desire to cooperate fully and to minimize publicity, which would be damaging to our members, their families, and associates. We felt at that time that he understood.

In an extreme example of "bad faith" the Subcommittee's next communication with us was an invitation to a highly publicized hearing--for me to appear together with three harsh critics of the church, at least two of whom are totally unqualified to be given a Congressional forum as an "expert." I respectfully declined.

Later that summer, under threat of subpoena, I agreed to give testimony in an executive session. In keeping with my continued concern to minimize publicity I have to this day honored our understanding that such testimony be held confidential.

The Subcommittee unfortunately has been either unable or unwilling to honor its obligations in that regard.

Apparently not content with my testimony, the Subcommittee has begun contacting numerous members of the Unification Church and threatening to subpoena them unless they agree to private, off-the-record talks. When asked

by our attorneys to indicate what evidence they had to warrant such a broad investigation, they declined to give any satisfactory answer. At the taxpayer's expense the Subcommittee is conducting a fishing expedition--probing people's personal lives, religious beliefs and private associations in an apparent attempt to dig up something it can use against Rev. Moon or the Unification Church. In the process, the Subcommittee would now make a prisoner of conscience of a religious believer simply for asserting his First Amendment rights.

We are not so naive that we cannot understand the Subcommittee's potential interest in any organization which has its roots in Korea, and has many Korean citizens in leadership roles. Therefore, we have asked them to simply indicate--privately to our attorney, or publicly if they so choose, what evidence they have that involves the Unification Church of America, or its members. To pursue the investigation without doing so is a classic example of attempting to establish guilt by association.

Mr. Fraser makes no end of talk about human rights of dissidents in South Korea or Iran, but when it comes to people with whom he disagrees, where is his respect for human rights? During the debates on the House Committee on Internal Security, Mr. Fraser condemned the very same McCarthyist tactics which his subcommittee now seems to employ.

This new brand of McCarthyism is extremely dangerous to the United States. When Congress probes a citizen's private affairs on the basis of his religious affiliation, this bodes ill for others as well. What would prevent a pro-Arab congressman from questioning Jews about their religious, business or political activities because of their "ties" to the Israeli government? Or Catholics because of their "ties" to the Vatican state?

Congressman Fraser would send a believer to prison because he refuses to discuss his religious associations. How is

(Continued on Page 2)

(Continued on Page 2)

Dan Fefferman: "Prisoner of Conscience"

Good morning. My name is Dan Graydon Fefferman, I am twenty-eight years old, and have been a member of the Unification Church for eight years. I come from a culturally Jewish, religiously agnostic family. However, when I was 19 years old I had a personal experience with Jesus Christ. This began a series of life-changing events that culminated a year and a half later when I was invited to hear the teaching of the Reverend Sun Myung Moon, which I believe is an important new message from God for all mankind.

After joining the Church I moved into a center with other Church members and spent two years witnessing and teaching the Divine Principle while concluding my undergraduate studies in political science at the University of California at Berkeley. After graduating, I joined the staff of the Freedom Leadership Foundation, a non-profit educational organization working to advance the cause of freedom in the struggle against totalitarian Communism. Later, in 1974, I served as executive director of the National Prayer and Fast Committee, a nationwide religious crusade for prayer and repentance during the Watergate crisis. I am currently serving as the director of the Unification Church center

in Chicago.

About three weeks ago, I received a subpoena from the House Subcommittee on International Organizations chaired by Congressman Don M. Fraser. The Subcommittee is investigating the relationship between Korea and the United States.

On two separate occasions, Mr. Fraser's subcommittee required me to leave my work in Chicago and give lengthy testimony in Washington, D.C. My testimony lasted more than five hours. I attempted to be cooperative in explaining anything I know about relationships between myself, the organizations with which I am associated, and the Korean government. However, Mr. Fraser persisted in asking questions about the internal business of my Church and my personal and religious associations. I believed these questions to be an invasion of the privacy of myself and my associates. After consulting with counsel, my decision was to refuse to answer these questions.

I felt very strongly that the questions pressed by the subcommittee constitute a government invasion of my religious and associational liberties. Because I believe so strongly that the state should

not conduct inquisitions into any person's religious beliefs and associations, I was bound by my conscience and by principle to decline to answer. I did so to protect my own freedom, to protect the freedom of other members of the Unification Church, and ultimately to protect the freedom of all religious believers in our country.

I do not believe this is contempt of Congress. It is a conscientious stand for the freedom granted by the Constitution of the United States. It is unfortunate indeed that the subcommittee feels so threatened by my exercise of my First Amendment rights that it now seeks to jail me as a prisoner of conscience. (I would like here to point out that my decision is entirely my own. I do what I do because I believe it is right, not because the Unification Church has told me to do so.)

Also, according to the *Washington Post* and *New York Post*, the chairman of the subcommittee told the press that I refused to answer questions about links between the Korean CIA and the organizations with which I am associated. As I indicated before, this allegation is absolutely untrue. I answered every question which had anything to do with connections between

myself, the organizations to which I belong, and the Korean government. The questions I refused to answer had nothing at all to do with any "Korean connection." I challenged the subcommittee chairman to demonstrate the pertinence of his questions. However, his response did not, in my view, supply any justification for an imposition on my First Amendment rights. I trust that the full House Committee on International Relations will not uphold the subcommittee's recommendation that I be cited for contempt.

The subcommittee's legitimate interest in the KCIA does not give it carte blanche to probe every aspect of the life of every member of the Unification Church. The subcommittee's action in seeking a contempt citation against me is easily comparable to the abuses of the late Senator Joseph McCarthy.

Regardless of the outcome -- even if I have to go to jail -- I have no regrets. My refusal to cooperate with the subcommittee's inquisition is a matter of conscience and principle -- not based on anything I have to hide. I stand not on the Fifth, but on the First Amendment.

August 9

Abuses of Power Detailed

The Unification Church released the following list of abuses of power by the House Subcommittee on International Organizations in a press conference held August 9 in New York.

June 1976, BAD FAITH

On May 27, 1976, Unification Church President Neil A. Salonen met with Representative Fraser, the chairman of the Subcommittee. At that time he volunteered all information relevant to the question before the subcommittee and offered to be available to answer any other questions that might arise. Concerned that this inquiry would be misinterpreted by the public as a Congressional investigation of the Unification Church and its religion, and that Church members would suffer embarrassment and discrimination as a result, Mr. Salonen sought to resolve the subcommittee questions quickly and quietly.

Congressman Fraser responded with assurances that he would show respect for the privacy and religious freedom of Unification Church members, but less than a month later he "invited" Mr. Salonen to appear in a public hearing against unqualified and prejudiced "witnesses." Even without Mr. Salonen's participation, this format instigated a trial-by-media of the Unification Church, aggravated the existing religious intolerance toward Unification Church members, and made headlines for Congressman Fraser.

June, September, 1976, UNQUALIFIED WITNESSES

Witnesses called by the subcommittee to testify in public session have been unqualified and irresponsible, and have made unfounded sensationalistic charges, using the subcommittee as a platform to play the media.

Robert Roland, who testified June 22, 1976, has no expertise in Unification Church affairs whatsoever but has sought any forum possible to attack the Church because his wife joined the Church more than 10 years ago.

Chris Elkins, who testified September 27, was an unstable Church member for several years, leaving and re-joining the Church on no less than four occasions. He held no position of any stature in the Church, and his testimony is replete with falsehoods.

Allen Tate Wood and Jai Hyon Lee overstepped their areas of expertise to indulge in speculations, innuendo, and groundless allegations. The subcommittee let these smears pass unchallenged into the public record.

September, 1976 PRESS LEAKS

The subcommittee has repeatedly leaked confidential information to the press in frequent violation of its own rules. *The New York Times* reporter Richard Halloran apparently obtained a copy of Unification Church President Neil A. Salonen's confidential testimony, given in executive session. Mr. Halloran quoted from this highly sensitive, private material in articles published by *The New York Times*.

An article published by the *Washington Star*, September 30, 1976, quoted subcommittee staff member Richard Manzy as its source for other leaked material from Mr. Salonen's confidential testimony.

Even less reputable publications, such as the U.S. Communist Party's *Daily World* have been privy to leaks of confidential information from "an aid to Representative Fraser."

March, 1977 LEAKS TO CHURCH OPPONENTS

On at least one occasion, portions of executive session testimony were shown to a private citizen who actively opposes the Unification Church.

Allen Tate Wood, making a media presentation against the Unification Church on radio station WOR in New York, referred to specific portions of Mr. Salonen's testimony before the subcommittee. He later admitted that he had been allowed to read portions of the testimony, even though he is a well-known opponent of the Unification Church.

March, April, August, 1977 MEDIA GRANDSTANDING

In repeated press releases, the subcommittee has referred to unspecified 'evidence' of 'operational ties' between the Unification church and the Korean government. Not one shred of this evidence has been shown to the Church or appeared in the press. No legitimate purpose can be served by feeding unsubstantiated allegations to the media, yet on March 2, April 4, and August 4, the subcommittee repeated its vague allegations in wildly reported statements and press releases. As a result the Unification Church has been unjustly maligned, and the chairman of the subcommittee has made headlines.

July, 1977 USE OF RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION AS A CRITERIA FOR INQUIRY

Members and former members of the Unification Church with no apparent relevance to the subcommittee's mandated area of concern have been contacted by subcommittee investigators and threatened with subpoena if they declined to co-operate. The subcommittee has refused to clarify its purpose in its pursuit of such individuals as Farley Jones, Sam Pell, Susan Bergman, Bob Sullivan. Therefore one can only conclude that the subcommittee is simple contacting members of the Unification Church indiscriminantly.

July, 1977 INTIMIDATION OF MEMBERS' PARENTS

The father of one Church member was contacted by subcommittee "investigators" and ridiculed for approving of his child's membership. The conduct of subcommittee staff in this and other instances has demonstrated that--far from being impartial investigators--staff members are actively working to damage the Unification Church.

August, 1977 NON-PERTINENT AND UNCONSTITUTIONAL INQUIRIES

In formal session, the subcommittee exceeded both its mandate from the House of Representatives and its authority under the Constitution in probing the personal and religious association of Dan Fefferman, director of the Unification Church in Chicago.

President Salonen's Statement

(Continued from Page 1)

that different from what President Carter has denounced--or for that matter what the Chairman Fraser himself has denounced-- as a violation of human rights in the Soviet Union or Chile?

The Unification Church honors Korea as the Holy Land of our faith, not unlike the way Jews honor Israel. However, a Jew can love Israel and still disagree with Israel's policies toward the Palestinians. Thus, to say that Korea is our Holy Land is not to say that we approve of Korea's policies toward political dissidents, or anything else. Neither does our love for Korea supersede our loyalty to the United States. We teach that the ideals of America point the way toward the ultimate establishment of the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth. One great strength of

this nation is her commitment to freedom for all. This is one reason we object to the Subcommittee's methods of investigation thus far. The inquiry has not been limited to possible illegal connections with the Korean government, but has insensitively probed the private lives of our members without due respect for their religious and civil liberties.

How Dan Fefferman or the other Unification Church members who are now being subpoenaed before the Subcommittee view the line at which their responsibilities to Congress end and their protected rights begin is a matter of personal conscience. Legal technicalities and the unprecedented nature of these questions may complicate the issue--but they do not complicate our moral position. Whatever each of them may decide, we deplore the situation which made such a decision necessary.

Test

(Continued from Page 1)

association. In that conviction, Dan has taken his stand, and because it has meaning for all Unification Church members, we have chosen to support him in that stand.

Included in this issue are copies of the public statements made by Dan Fefferman and Church President Neil Salonen at a recent press conference in New York. Also included is a list of abuses by the subcommittee against the Church during the course of the investigation.

Additional copies of these statements or reprints of the four full-page newspaper ads published recently may be obtained by contacting the Witnessing Task Force at the Headquarters in New York.

New Hope News

REV. SUN MYUNG MOON,
Founder

NEIL A. SALONEN
President

Louise Strait EDITOR

Published by
The Unification Church
Witnessing Task Force
4 West 43rd Street
New York, New York 10036
(212) 730-5770