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My Ten Day Visit to Korea

by
David S.C. Kim

On August 8, 1970 at 11:00 a.m. at San Francisco International Airport I got on Northwest Orient Airlines for Seoul, Korea after 11 years away from my mother-land. In 1959, I landed in Seattle with the same air line. I felt very excited to see the development of Korea after 10 years, and furthermore to see my True Parents and Korean Heavenly families after long years of waiting. Also, it meant response to our Master's invitation to Korea last November. My unfinished earthly and heavenly task prohibited me to make earlier visit to Korea. I took 2 weeks vacation from the job, finally determined to take a short trip to Korea this time.

Lots of past memories, good and bad, crossed my mind as I was in the air for 12 hours to Tokyo, Japan. International time difference between United States and Far East did not bother me at all, but I was rather spiritually lifted up, enjoying myself being alone, thinking of Heavenly things, praying for all American families in our territory who are really trying hard to do our Master's work. Especially I visualized Vernon's endeavor at Boise, Idaho to set up permanent new chapel there. Each of our precious family faces in Northwest group came up to my mind.

One day was allowed to stay at Tokyo, Japan on the way to Seoul, Korea, because of air plane time schedule. On August 9th I stayed at the Imperial Hotel which has very modern facilities for foreign tourist. Before I left Tokyo the next morning, I called Japan Unification Church Hq. to see Mr. Kuboki. Unfortunatly he was in United States to make arrangement to invite distinguished guest speakers for World Anti-Communist League (WACL) conference in September at Osaka--sponsored by our organization in Japan. His secretary Mr. Noriyuki Abe was reached, and we agreed to visit church Hq. even for a few hours next morning before I left Tokyo for Seoul, Korea. I saw many dedicated young men and women working hard on both Anti-Communist movement and Principle witnessing. Their devotion and dedication to our work is encouraging to all overseas Heavenly families and there are lots of things to be copied and learned from them for the benefit of American families. Before I left Japan I received our Master's message that I should come down right after my arrival at Seoul to Haioon Dai Resort Beach, near Pusan City area, South-east end of Korean Peninsula, where 34 District Directors and all H.S.A. Hq. Directors were having a special training session.

On August 10th (Monday) I arrived at Kimpo International Air Port being delayed a few hours because the plane had trouble with wheels after landing. The climate of Seoul was extremely hot. Mrs. Won Pok Chei and other old members in the Principle, who remained at Seoul area, received me with a warm welcome. All the key members in Korea are on the field for a 40-day summer witnessing campaign. Right after I visited H.S.A. Hq. and prayed, I took a Korean express train called "Unification" for Pusan city to see our Master and other directors at Haicon-Dai Resort Beach. For first time since 1959 I enjoyed my travel by Korean train, which took 6 hours for nearly 400 miles from Seoul to Pusan. I could meet both old and new members who were staying at the beach hotel. I was able to sleep Korean style on the floor in bed room. I felt very comfortable and had sound sleep on Korean style floor for first time since I left United States. Our master and His few immediate children were staying at other hotel and expected to see him next morning. I heard that He and other members eat together at the beach hotel where all key members were having training session.

On August 11 (Tuesday) before our Master came to our hotel, I got up early to greet Him at the hotel where He was staying with his children. I bowed to Him and He introduced me to His few children whom I had privilege to meet for the first time since 1959. After a delicious Korean breakfast, I had a chance to report to the training session on "My 10 years Missionary Diary". I spoke 2 hours on our Northwest work from 1959 up to 1970. I shared my thornful road with all directors--sometime with seriousness, other times with American jokes to ease serious atmosphere. They are the ones who run the whole dispensation on Korea and makes new history. On that ground foreign mission fields were possible, and they are real field commanders in Principle movement and Anti-Communist campaign throughout the world. So they are a precious group of people to our Master and to God. Being with them, in the presence of our Master, I was really up-lifted in spirit and in body. For firsttime since 1959 I had really enjoyable time and meaningful training session sharing many things.

At near the end of my report, I presented a special gift to our Master, on behalf of our American family. The gift was a small plaque of the story of "Golden Spike", which was driven in 1869, 101 years ago to unite the East and West railways at Promontory Summit, in Utah on May 10, 1869. It helped make America to the present stage of the wealthiest nation by this accomplishment. It symbolized unity of the East and the West--Pacific Ocean to the Atlantic Ocean. At the present at the historical site, Promontory Summit, Utah, re-enactment of the historic event is scheduled and attracts the public and many tourists.

I explained all significance in presenting the gift to our Master. One of the 100 year old actual gold plated spikes was put on the plaque with a small picture of 2 engineers meeting together. The date of presentation is engraved as August 15, 1970, and presented from me and our American family. Another bronze plate was engraved "The East Meets the West." Also two centennial coins are attached on the plaque. This precious gift is exhibited in our Master's living room at Hq., Seous, Korea. All detailed

work was done by Galen Brooks. Two additional gifts are together-- with golden spike plaque--large frame of picture of two locomotives meeting together, and one scrap book which contains all historical brochures and pamphlets for further inquiry on the historical event which took place 101 years ago. Thus the gift consisted of 3 parts. I explained each of them in detail to our Master in the session.

I was glad to have two remaining days of training session with our Master and all Directors from all over Korea. My attendance was just timely to receive the blessing at the southern part of Korean peninsula. Everything turned out to be well planned and timely.

On August 12, in the evening, I had another chance for a question-answer session from all members who attended in training session. After bathing at Seaside with our Master, all members had to leave for their own Districts for their heavenly duties. Our Master offered me a ride to Seoul in his own car with His immediate children. It is 430 miles from beach to Seoul. It was the first time I could ride on Korean freeway, constructed with Korean materials, finance, labor, engineering and techniques. Our Master explained to me all detail on Korean freeway. I had sufficient time exclusively with our Master. Some pictures taken with Him, will be sent to you later. As soon as we arrived at Seoul, I presented some gifts to Real Mother, new born Prince Heung-Zin and other key members. Also I prepared small amount of donation to our Master on behalf of N.W. American family. After lunch our Master took me to the huge land of forest which is purchased by our Master for future International University; recently purchased 100,000 Pyung (1Pyung is equivalent to 6 square feet) site of land and forest. He explained to me His future plan. I was surprised to see how and when He has already prepared for world scholars to come to Korea in the future. Then He took me to the Air Gun Factory and then to the Anti-Communist Training Center. In the past lots of opposition and unfounded bad rumors have prevailed abroad on the air gun. The scale of the factory has reached to international level. All the equipment is invented by Him and our family members in the factory. I was surprised again when I had tour with Him and He explained all details. I and our N.W. American family are lucky not to have criticized our Master in the past on any kind of plans in the course of Dispensation. This air gun manufacture is one of His plans. Through my observation, He is very deep and precise in fulfilling God's will, and how small a creature I am in comparison with His plan and His wisdom. I made up my mind again to co-operate with His Air Gun sale within my ability. Next I visited Anti-communist training center where all government officials and local civilian leaders are receiving 1 week training to arm them with theory of "Victory Over Communism." Key church members are the trainers. High ranking government officials have to come to the center in order to become armed with new ideology to smash evil philogophy of Communism. The center buildings have up-to-date facilities for lectures on new critique on Communism delivered daily. In Japan our Japanese family are using the same strategy and methods used in the Korean training center, already developing to an International scale. Later I will refer to anti-communist activity in Japan when I spent 2 days there on the way back to the United States.

I stayed for 2 days at Mr. I. C. Kim, one of my Heavenly Trinity, and President of Federation of Victory Over Communism, in Korea, relaxed, having wonderful time with him and his family.

On August 13 (Thursday) I officially visited HSA. Hq. office which is located separately from Mother Church building. I had chance to chat with newly appointed president of H.S.A., Mr. Y.W. Kim, and Mr. K.Y. You, Director of Cultural Department, chief editor of "Sang Wa Monthly," and Mr. Y.T. Chant, editor of "The Way of the World," and other directors of H.S.A. I invited them to a genuine Korean lunch at a Korean restaurant. In the evening the 1st Israel families (12 members out of 36 families) gave me a welcome dinner party, and I enjoyed the special dinner of Korean barbecue and freely talked for a few hours. It was a pleasure to meet Dr. S.H. Lee (M.D.) one of my other Trinity, who is an expert on new theory of Critique on Communism. Anti-Communist lectures in Korean and Japanese are based on his published book "New Critique on Communism." He and I stayed together at Mr. I.C. Kim's home talking all night. We discussed the matter of international campaign on Anti-communism. He is living at Taijon, 150 miles south of Seoul. Soon he will move to Seoul to join active movement of anti-communism, and also plans to engage in general practice at Seoul. I spent invaluable time with him even for that one night.

On August 14, I had a chance to remeet Mrs. Youn, a lady who is oriented from Buddhism and possesses a powerful psychic power and is spiritually gifted. I met her 11 years ago with our Master, trying to convert her to our faith; exchanged many spiritual matters with her at that time because my life was saved by a Buddhist priest who was very similar in spiritual power and I had a chance to study Buddhist religion and spiritual phenomena. Now she is helping our Master's work in many ways as 3rd religious person. She had already received when she would meet me, and knew when I had arrived in Korea. Prominent politicians and celebrities are coming to her for spiritual advice. We had wonderful give and take. Two other Directors were present with me. She witnessed to us that our Master is Real Father to mankind and He is fulfilling most of His mission by 1970, and in 2 years the world will radically change in God's way. She knew all this through her spiritual ability and her psychic power. I was amazed to see her ability as one of Buddhist followers. She prays for our Master and His followers to accomplish God's will. She emphasized Love, Harmony and Co-operation among the Heavenly families, otherwise Satan will hinder our Master's plan for all mankind. We all were impressed with her remarks. How true it is!! Also she commented on me, saying that I am the loyal and powerful general to our Master, have deep understanding of the Truth, and will promote my Heavenly Mission from this year after long suffering and long preparation of 10 years. I felt good when she knew what I am going to do for our Master from now on.

Right after lunch with her, I joined our Master who took me to Chung Pyung Dam Reservoir area where the site of 250,00 Pyung (1 Pyung = 6 sq. ft.) area is purchased for future "International Training Center for Overseas Families" to come to Korea to be trained. It is the most beautiful site on the edges of surrounding reservoir resort area. Soon you may come to see it. Already small construction is on the way. For the third time I was surprised

to see our Master's plan for His followers throughout the world. I wondered in my mind which area can I help to please our Master and help His project, and found out how small I am in comparison with Him, and am determined to spend the rest of my life for the cause of The Principle movement. We had wonderful time till late evening. I visited my relatives for awhile whom I had neglected so many years since my dedication to this movement.

I did not stop my planned schedule, but on this same evening I got on express night train for NamWon area, South-western part of Korea where my life was saved by a Buddhist Priest at Buddhist temple in the mountains, and also visited district Hqs. of our movement. I felt it would be very meaningful to visit each district Hqs. before my time in Korea ran out. Since most of time with our Master was nearly completed, I started another planned schedule.

On August 15 (Saturday) was the 25th Anniversary of Korean Liberation from Japan in 1945. I arrived at Nam Won City by Korean night express train, and visited the Chung Yong Sa Temple which is the most meaningful place in my life and longed to visit for 10 years, where a Buddhist Priest saved my life during the Korean War (Ref. "The Establishment of H.S.A. and My Role" in both "Way of The World", July, 1970, and in "United Temple Bulletin", May, 1970). The most discouraging thing was that the Priest moved someplace else and there was no way to locate him, and a new lady owner was in custody of the Temple and the land. A girl taxi driver and District Director were with me all the time.

After 1 hour visit, I proceeded to Chunju, Kunsan, and Iri where I visited local churches HQ. and encouraged all Principle workers. In Kunsan city, I visited all the places of special significance to me; my former house, the Presbyterian church where I met my wife while we were young and single, and the houses where my 5 children were born. Finally I proceeded to Taijon where Dr. S.H. Lee, one of my Trinity and specialist of Anti-Communist theory lives--a general practitioner in the city. I stayed over night there since there was no means to return to Seoul as I arrived late, so we had a second session since he came up to Seoul to see me. Thus I almost completed my tour to south-western districts within a day. The weather was very hot, unbearable, roads were bad, but I made it on schedule.

On August 16 (Sunday), I got on Korean Greyhound Bus at 6:00 a.m. to attend Sunday morning service at Seoul Hq. I felt as if I were riding on American bus and was in United States for 3 hours. The bus is the same as the Greyhound in U.S. and the driver and bus stewardess are Koreans. The bus was riding on Korean freeway and was very comfortable. After Sunday morning sermon was over, I had a chance to greet all of congregation officially and spoke 1 hour on "What I Felt Since I Arrived in Korea". That evening I was scheduled to speak to all members of Seoul District Churches at combined meeting. I presented 2 hours report on "My 10 Year Missionary Diary" in which the details were presented--sometimes serious, other times relaxed, with heavenly joy and encouragement, having give and take with nearly 300 congregation seated inside

and outside the church building. I commented highly on Miss Kim in Washington, D.C. and Mr. Chei in San Francisco and their work, for their never-ceasing spirit of dedication and devotion. After the meeting I was able to meet old and new members in the Principle.

On August 17, I visited several relatives and stayed at one of my relatives house and began to prepare to leave for the United States. On August 18, I spent most of the time at Hq. of "Federation of Victory Over Communism" to get some materials for Anti-communist movement. Only one day was left for me in Seoul, Korea as I scheduled to spend 2 days in Japan with Japanese key members, on the way to the United States.

The day of August 19 was the birthday of Prince In-Zin. I had privilege to attend 6 o'clock ceremony with our Master, Real Mother and all key 36 families. Heavenly foods were shared from Prince's special birthday table. I was scheduled to leave Korea in the afternoon. Our Master spoke of many things to all of us after sharing food, one of which was on the death of Mr. Eu, ex-president and his problem in Spirit-world. Also he announced that He will call back all missionaries to Korea for re-assignment very soon, and asked me when I would be ready. I answered on the spot that I will be ready very soon. Our Master gave me gift of 2 pairs of tailored suits with extra trousers, for spring and summer seasons. He chose the colors by Himself for me, and I will wear them when preaching and special occasions come to me. Also He listened to me request, on this meaningful day, for His calligraphy. He wrote 2 pieces in Chinese letters for me; one is "United Faith" and other is "Unity of Mind is the Source of Many Lucks". Lunch time was almost approaching. Beside His lunch table I had very private session with Him discussing several things on the work of the West Coast, relationship among Korean missionaries, and follow-up of American blessed couples, etc. I had lunch with Mrs. Youn, Buddhist lady, before I left for airport. We had wonderful spiritual atmosphere.

At 3:00 p.m. Mrs. W.P. Chei another remaining key member of Hq. saw me off at Kimpo International airport. I had to leave as scheduled, but I resented leaving so early after just 10 days (Mon, 8-10 through Wed., 8-19). At the moment my Heavenly Mission is not yet completed and I had to leave anyway. In Tokyo, Japan Mr. Noriyuki Abe, Secretary of President, was waiting for me for my 2 days schedule with Japanese key family members. I took western style Hotel near Japanese Church Hq.

At Tokyo Church I saw few films on "Anti-communist Movement" and WACL (World Anti-Communist League) which was held in May with 13 nation representatives. Also they plan one more conference at Osaka in September, having 43 nations represented. In late evening I treated a few of the staff with Japanese Susi. We all enjoyed the meal.

On August 20, I and Mr. Abe proceeded to city Osaka where one of the largest world fairs "Expo. 70" is being held, and also active movement in Principle work was taking place. For few hours we had to stand on the train from Tokyo to Osaka at express train because all seats were sold out--too many people visiting the

Expo-70. Mrs. Tanaka, wife of District Director, blessed couple, and Mr. Mawarimichi, chief of General Affairs, welcomed us at railroad station and guided us to Expo-70. We planned to visit 4 pavilions of Japan, Korea, America and Russia. We had to wait for a few hours to get into pavilions of Japan, America and Russia so instead of getting in, I just set up the conditions for visiting 3 pavilions in front of their buildings. Fortunately we squeezed in Korean pavilion through back door. We speeded up our schedule at Expo. 70, then we visited one of prominent Principle Training Centers in Japan at Takarazuka City, near Osaka. Sacred Ground is there, our Master's calligraphy is hung, 120 trainees can be accommodated, special prayer house is run by 3 older ladies and the entire site is 2000 Pyung. It is a very quiet mountain resort area with beautiful forests with trees and brooks. Few young trainees were talking to me, even reading "The Way of the World." They were very pleased to see me. A question and answer session was provided. Miss Yamazima was reading my article on "New Year's Message" in "Way of the World" for our discussion.

Too much time was running out at the center, so we had to say good-bye to young people and then go back to Osaka District Church Hq. where I stayed overnight. Mrs. Tanaka treated us with special Japanese crab dinner at restaurant. We really enjoyed the delicacy of the food. At late night I was asked to speak to 60 trainees in Osaka Church Hq. and spoke on "How I Met Our Master" which is my favorite testimony anyplace, anytime, to anybody. We sang sacred songs together--in English and in Japanese. Spontaneous The East and The West Met here in Osaka, Japan. They are eager to listen to many heavenly things which we do not find in American Youth. They are all totally dedicated to the Principle movement, so naturally they get results.

We had only a few hours to get up to catch 6 o'clock train to go back to Tokyo, but I was not tired even though not sleeping, simply because of strong spiritual give and take; and reciprocal relations to produce blessing are maintained, so physical fatigue is eliminated. Before going to bed, I met Mr. Tanaka, District Director who was very busy for fund-raising for WACL Conference, from Industries and Political circles in Osaka area. He is working very hard for this special task to be done. I see Mr. and Mrs. Tanaka (Blessed Couple) as very important figures in Principle movement in Japan.

On August 21st I got up at 5 o'clock to catch the express train to Tokyo at 6 o'clock. In the afternoon I was requested to speak in English to 15 college graduates and students who were receiving training at Tokyo Church Hq. I was told that they understood English and can speak, read "The Way of the World" magazine. For 1 hour and a half I spoke on the Principle and gave my 10 years missionary experiences and encouraged them to go on. I really enjoyed them and talked freely. Question and answer sessions were provided. We all forgot the lunch time hours with unexpected positive session of give and take between us. I told them to study English more and they may come to United States to help Americas Anti-communist campaign in near future. After lunch I officially visited the Hq. of "Japan Federation of Victory

Over Communism" and other office in relation to Japanese Principle movement and enterprise. Before I left airport I had chance to have private session with one of the leading Pastors in Japan, Pastor Nakamura, who is a member of World Revival Theological Assembly, and who visited Seoul, Korea recently and met our Master to receive special instruction to develop world wide campaign to explain the Principle Message based on theological point of view. He also knows ESP or Physic Power Phenomena. Lots of common interests he and I had and we spent meaningful time. He asked me to send some valuable materials on our Master, witnessed by Arthur Ford of America and Anthony Brook of England. In the future I would like to work with him of course. At 3 o'clock I got on Northwest Orient air line to head to United States via Honalulu. Safely I arrived at San Francisco (after 6 hours delay) on the same date since there is 17 hours difference between Japan and Pacific Coast Time. One of the 4 engines stopped in the air and had to go back to Tokyo to trade the air plane. With many good results and new determination I returned to my mission field.

After 3 days enough rest at Oakland, California, I flew to Utah, and I found I was promoted to a Supervisor from Section Counselor at work, and Galen too, got merit increase. Galen took care of the chapel, pigeons, lawn, etc., very well for 2 weeks while I was gone.

I want everybody in N. W. group to do their Heavenly Responsibility to bring new people to our work, and specially pray for our Master's 3 projects to come:

1. World Anti-communist League (WACL), will be held at Osaka, Japan in September. 43 Nations will participate.
2. 700 world-wide young couples will be blessed in October in "Sacred Marriage" in Seoul, Korea. Seoul City Stadium will be used for world-wide T.V. telecast and Radio Broadcast.
3. 1,000 member Hunting Campaign from Japan and Korea will meet in Korea in month of November or December, in order to prove our air gun's efficiency to the whole world.

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What we are is God's gift to us: what we become is our gift to God.

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The Situation in Korea

(cont. from last N.B.)

After the Korean War, Dr. Syngman Rhee continued to head the

government as President. He was revered in his country for his long record as a great fighter for independence, but he found it increasingly difficult to move the country forward effectively and in unity. Politics, selfish interests and the dearth of managerial talent stymied any quick buildup of a strong and real momentum toward the economic and social growth so desperately needed. Even worse, the people were benumbed into apathy by the catastrophe that had overtaken them. It seemed that the whole country had to take a long deep breath after the trauma of the war....

One of the deep-rooted difficulties faced by the ROK even after WW2 was rooted in the arbitrary division of the Korean peninsula into two irreconcilable regimes. During the forty years of Japanese occupation, the natural resources of the North and South had been exploited and developed together. The North, with rich mineral resources and abundant waterpower, was built up as the industrial segment of the land. The South was poor in mineral wealth and had less natural power potential. It was the food producer. The two sections had been mutually supporting until the split at the 38th parallel broke down intercourse between the areas. After the division of the peninsula, the Republic of Korea had to start almost from scratch to build its own industrial base. By 1957 simple rehabilitation was well advanced, except for housing. Capital investment along with AID funds finally went more to increase production of cement, fertilizer, coal, electric power and textiles--all basic needs that previously had to be met, if at all, by imports from outside the country. These first stirrings of broader economic growth began to capture the people's interest. They also opened up possibilities for manipulation by special interests and selfish groups and encouraged political emotion.

The welter of conflicting factors came to a head in the 1960 elections. Evidences of attempts at election riggings and subversive tactics by President Rhee's party brought widespread student demonstrations, later joined by many of the citizenry, and led to the resignation of President Rhee....

The next few years were politically turbulent and represented the Republic's deepest crisis in her development. A caretaker government, followed by a new constitution and a newly elected government could not sort out the complexity of issues and emotions. Political disintegration became a threat. A military coup followed in May of 1961, led by the then Brig. Gen. Park Chung Hee.

For over two and a half years the South was governed by an appointed Supreme Council for National Reconstruction until, through the general election held in the fall of 1963, the resumption of constitutional civilian government took place. Gen. Park Chung Hee retired from military duty and ran in the election for President, winning by a narrow margin. A new and energetic government was formed and economic development became the first priority of effort for the whole country. The Republic of Korea had weathered one more storm but what would follow was as yet unclear.

Under renewed impetus, a speed-up in Korean development began to take place. The first Five Year Economic Development Plan was carefully drawn to help guide resources into a balanced program. Many basic issues were tackled and hard decisions made. One of the most difficult of these, affecting Korea's economy, was the problem of restoring relations with Japan. After violent debate, student demonstrations and much soul-searching, the Normalization Treaty with Japan was concluded, a step which led to important new relationships with the economic giant of the western Pacific....

At the end of the sixties the Koreans can point to economic progress literally undreamed of in the late fifties. Exports have grown from a meagre 30 million dollars a year at the beginning of the decade to more than 700 million in 1969. Growth of the gross national product has varied over the latter half of the decade between 8% and 12% a year and reached 15% in 1969.

When the Second Five Year Plan ends in 1971, Korea expects to be self-sufficient in food and to have reached a self-sustaining momentum in its economic growth. In relation to the gross national product, per capita income by the end of 1971 should have doubled over what it was in 1961. This, in real terms, vividly illustrates both the energy of the country and the enormity of the task already performed and yet to be done, because per capita income in the early sixties was not much over one hundred dollars per person--the barest of subsistence levels--and only a tiny fraction of the American per capita income at that time.

The Korean record represents a very human story of awakening drive, determination and pride--and of the basic values of the mutual support and trust between our country and the Republic of Korea. Korea has recovered from the shock of the Korean War and there is a perceptible excitement, bustle and sense of purpose in the air these days. The citizens are better fed, better clothed, industrious and, in good old Army parlance, "standing tall." The economic record is indeed impressive but it is, in real terms, only a good beginning. There are many political and economic fragilities in the system. Future obstacles to be overcome are many and difficult, but the will to cope with them is there....

One very important development affecting the national spirit has been the possibly unexpected result of sending Korean troops to participate in the war in Vietnam. When in 1965 the Government of the Republic of Vietnam, with American support, invited the Republic of Korea to help it to defend its freedom, the ROK response was quick but the decision was far from easy. The dangers from its own North, few resources and the old traditions of the "Hermit Kingdom" argued against a positive answer. But the ROK people, from the lessons of the Korean War, have come to understand the meaning of mutual security. Their freedom and integrity were saved in 1950-53 by the willingness of many other nations to come to their aid. So it was finally in this spirit that the ROK government responded to South Vietnam's appeal for help. To send troops was a tangible way to demonstrate the gratitude that all of the free Korean people felt for the Americans and men of other nations who fought with them to preserve the freedom of their Republic against Communist invasion....

The Republic of Korea's rapid economic growth and increased international prestige in the past few years has brought increased dangers to national security. The ROK achievements have not been viewed with composure by Communist North Korea. So the progress of today is menaced by the same aggressive regime that violently tried to smash and take over the infant Republic in 1950. To understand some of the basic factors involved we should look at the Republic of Korea's location in Northeast Asia.

The Republic of Korea is of prime importance to the cause of free nations in the Western Pacific and Eastern Asian areas. Geographically, it occupies a vital position across the approaches from continental Asia to the Northern and Western Pacific and the Japanese islands. The Korean peninsula lies at the apex of three Great Power triangles--Russia, Red China and Japan. North Korea has common boundaries with both Russia and Communist China. Seoul, the capital of the ROK, on the other hand, is also closer to Vladivostok and Peking than it is to Tokyo. The burgeoning economic and social strength in the independent Republic of Korea, combined with its stalwart armed forces and with the United Nations Command's support, including American and Thai forces, presents a hard nut to crack for any expansionist forces from Communist Asia. The presence of American troops alongside the ROK forces has been a successful deterrent to any resumption of open hostilities since the armistice. The Armed Forces in the ROK have carried out the mission of the original directive given them by the United Nations back in 1950, that of helping to reestablish and maintain peace in the area. They have been needed to keep in check the openly and increasingly truculent North Korean dictatorship.

The Republic of Korea is important in our highest aspirations for a world community of peaceful, prospering and independent nations, but by that very fact is a target for the North. In the clamor of conflicting ideologies of today's world, the Republic of Korea provides an example to other developing countries in the Far East to show that societies such as theirs, directly adjacent to hostile Communism, can modernize and prosper through the combination of their own efforts and mutual support with other free nations.

But free institutions do not long flourish nor do people plan, work and invest for tomorrow in an atmosphere of fear. So North Korea has tried even harder in the past few years to create an atmosphere of fear and to break up the ROK's economic progress by increased threats of violence and war. That she has not succeeded is a great tribute to the people of the Republic.

North Korea, no wiser for the Korean War and unrepentant, has not changed her objectives. During the past several years, it has been said openly and often by North Korea's dictator, Kim Il-Sung, that his aim is to bring about the reunification of the Korean peninsula, by subversion and, if necessary, by force, and the sooner the better....

North Korea, at the time of the Armistice in 1953, had also suffered great destruction and was close to total exhaustion.

After the war, the North's Communist allies began providing extensive military and economic aid. A goal was set to make North Korea a Communist show window of industrial and economic development, exploiting North Korea's natural resources in mineral wealth and water power. At first North Korean progress moved markedly ahead of the slower start in the South, but as the years went on it began to falter. Planned production and construction schedules fell increasingly behind, difficulties arose in many segments of the economy and the poor quality of goods produced hurt trade with other countries. The initial flow of aid from Chinese Communist and Soviet sources began to dry up and these problems became accentuated by the split between China and Russia.

North Korea tried to straddle the fence in the Communist ideological schism but gradually moved in fact to the Soviet side in return for a new inflow of both military and economic assistance from the USSR. At about this time, in late 1964 and 1965, Kim Il-Sung also began to shift his strategy for a takeover of the Republic of Korea....

In 1964, Kim emphatically expressed his dissatisfaction with the past progress of the North Korean "anti-ROK operations" aimed at subverting the South....He ordered a sweeping overhaul of the entire North Korean subversive apparatus and a start in the rapid training and development of a major force of subversive warriors. Actions to translate his dictates got well under way in 1965 and were expanded further in 1966 and 1967. As a result of this program he built a greatly strengthened capability for propaganda, espionage, subversion, terrorism and sabotage--based on a pool of thousands of well trained and organized agent-infiltrators and command-guerrillas. These he began to try to "export" by infiltration into the Republic of Korea, beginning in 1966 and increasingly in 1967 and 1968....

In October 1966, Kim Il-Sung, in a speech to his party congress, indicated that more aggressive measures were needed. Starting within a week thereafter there were 22 serious violations by North Korea of the Armistice, involving their ground incursions into or across the DMZ. They cost the lives of over twenty ROK soldiers and six Americans. The message was plain that a new North Korean aggressiveness was on the move. The United Nations Command and the ROK government and armed forces began to take the steps necessary to cope with this aggressiveness and frustrate it.

These defensive steps were timely because no sooner was the long, brutally cold Korean winter over in early 1967 than North Korean armed agent bands began infiltrating again into and south of the DMZ, in total disregard for the Armistice, to spy out the land and make attacks on ROK and U.S. personnel in or near the DMZ. During 1967, in the area south of the Military Demarcation Line to a depth of ten or twenty miles, there were 123 small but vicious firefights as compared to a total of 19 in 1966.

Later in the year 1967, North Korea opened up a new front in her subversive operations. This was done by infiltrations through the thousand or so miles of indented and exposed ROK coastline of

small teams of armed military agents who were highly trained, tightly organized and thoroughly indoctrinated. Infiltration was carried out through the use of the North Korea fleet of numerous specially built, fast agent boats, usually about eighty-five feet in length. They were designed top-side to look like the thousands of fishing boats that ply the coastal waters, but streamlined below the water line and powered with three or four high-speed Soviet diesel engines giving them top speeds in excess of thirty-five knots.

(to be concluded in next issue of News Bulletin.)

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Comparative Religions

(cont. from previous News Bulletin)

What Do We Really Know About Jesus?

Jesus, the person about whom the Book of Revelation spoke, was born around the year 4 B.C.E., and died sometime during the early 30's of the Common Era. Beyond his general teaching that the Kingdom of God was at hand, and various statements and actions attributed to him by later generations, we have little information about him personally.

This is strange, since Jesus lived during a period from which we have a great number of records. We know that in Palestine at the beginning of the Common Era, rabbinic writings and Roman records were carefully compiled and scrupulously preserved. Yet, other than what we find in the Christian Bible, there is practically no contemporary evidence of his life and activities. The few references to him in rabbinic writings are very late and their meaning is questionable. Nothing is said of him in the Roman records, and comments about him in other writings, such as those by Josephus, are plainly later Christian insertions. No wonder, then, that at one time certain Christian scholars questioned whether Jesus actually existed.

Yet the lack of historical information about him is understandable. One reason, certainly, is that the period of his ministry was quite brief and his association with the people extremely limited. Then, too, during his lifetime Jesus was hardly an important figure, even in tiny Palestine. Actually, his life became significant only in the years after his death, when Christianity finally became a religion.

So whatever real knowledge of Jesus we have must come from the New Testament, a collection of traditions, letters, and other material gathered and edited some 20 to 125 years after his death. Even here the details of his life are frequently vague and sometimes contradictory. Hence, it is often difficult to determine the facts about exactly what Jesus did, what he said, and where he went. For example, the New Testament gives us three different reports of Jesus' last words. The Gospels of Matthew and Mark quote him as having said just before he died, "My Father, my Father, why have You forsaken me?" The Gospel of Luke reports his final words as, "Father, into Your hand I commend my spirit." And the Gospel of John states that Jesus' last utterance was, "It is finished."

Nevertheless, the New Testament does contain valuable historical information. In fact, it is the indispensable source for an understanding of the development of early Christianity.

About the New Testament

What exactly is the New Testament? To begin with, it is a collection of twenty-seven writings gathered into a single book about one-fourth as large as the Hebrew Bible. The title really means "New Covenant," because at one time the English word "testament" was used where we today would prefer "covenant." It was named the "New Testament" since the Christians believed that it was the record of God's "new covenant" with mankind in place of the Hebrew Scriptures, which they now called the "Old Testament."

In the main, the writings of the New Testament contain information about the life and teachings of Jesus, the development of early Christianity, and the faith and regulations of the newly-formed religion. These were produced by people associated with the early Church, and they lived in various centers of the Mediterranean world, such as Rome, Athens, Corinth, Ephesus, Antioch, and elsewhere. Like the Hebrew Scriptures, the New Testament is the product of the gathering and editing of materials coming from various periods and its twenty-seven different books, written in Greek, were produced during the years between approximately 50 and 150 C.E. Some of them are very brief, like the Second and Third Letters of John and the Letter of Jude, which are simply one chapter apiece. Most of the others are considerably longer.

The writings of the New Testament fall into five main categories. The first consists of the Gospels, four books that deal primarily with the life and teachings of Jesus. The word "gospel" means "good tidings," and it comes from the Old English "good Spiel," which became shortened to "gospel." Because the first three--Matthew, Mark, and Luke--are quite similar to one another and contain a great deal of information in common, they are known as the "Synoptic Gospels." The last, the Gospel of John, is very different from the others, and many scholars believe it was written considerably later.

The second type of material in the New Testament is contained in the Acts of the Apostles. This material relates the story of the work of the Apostles, or "those sent forth" to teach the Christianity during its early days. As such, it deals with the activities of Peter and Paul and those associated with them in spreading the message of Jesus among first-century Jews and Gentiles of the Mediterranean area.

The third category of New Testament material is represented by the fourteen Epistles, or "letters" of Paul. Many scholars believe that some of them were not originally written by Paul but ascribed to him by later tradition. However, they all contain information about the problems faced by the early Christians, such as, whether they should carry on the Jewish rite of circumcision, and the various regulations and practices developed by the young movement.

The fourth group of New Testament writings represents material similar to that appearing in the Epistles, for it, too, contains "letters." However, these letters were written not by Paul but by other leaders of early Christianity to help their followers meet various new problems that arose. Among the more serious problems was "heresy," or teachings about Jesus, Christianity, and church practice that differed from those sanctioned by the movement's leaders. For instance, there were certain people who wanted to exclude all Jewish writings, even the "Old Testament," from Christianity. The writers of these epistles strongly opposed this.

The Book of Revelation represents the final type of material found in the New Testament. As we have already observed, it is an apocalypse, a "revelation" concerning the events leading to the messianic age. It tells of the glorious future which the followers of Christianity will enjoy once their persecutors and other evil forces are destroyed and the Kingdom of God is established. The Book of Revelation contains many strange visions, including the well-known one of the "four horsemen of the Apocalypse" who, before the coming of the Messiah, will devastate the earth with sword, famine, plague, and wild beasts.

This collection of material, together with the books of the "Old Testament" arranged in somewhat different order from that in the Jewish Bible, comprises the Protestant Bible. The Roman Catholic Bible contains, in addition, seven books from the Apocrypha, the collection of writings that the Jews had not considered sufficiently sacred to include within the Hebrew Scriptures.

Editors note: The rest of this chapter deals with the life of Jesus. Because of the length of this portion, and because it is written from the Jewish viewpoint, this will be skipped over. We will begin next month with the life of Saul or Paul and early Christianity. Much of this portion will also be excluded. It is the editors feeling that much of this does not deal with the title Comparative Religions.

(to be cont. in next bulletin--See last page for source)

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NEWS REPORT

Portland, Oregon

Maxine Pearson

There has been much activity in preparing for the birth of the new baby, as we have gathered furniture, prepared the room, etc. I was finally forced to quit working, and it is quite a privilege to have a little more time each day to read, study, and prepare Principle material.

Vernon has been gone for most of the month on a personal 40-day witnessing campaign. We have been very thrilled as he writes of the response he has had. Our prayers have been with him in support of this effort.

This world is God's Melody, His Love song to man. He the composer, the conductor, the entire symphony. Man the audience to listen and enjoy. This symphony is perfect, each note each tone rings true and perfect. Like every melody it has a rhythm. The rhythm of Life the rhythm of creation, orderliness, placement and timing of all things. Like everything it can be enjoyed, with pleasure and a smile. But to understand, to know its meaning and intricacies its movements, crescendo's and diminuendos, here in lies true happiness and joy to the soul. For the pleasure of something enjoyed and understood can never be compared to superficial or surface pleasures. Who has not felt a haunting melody that seemed to flow through the body, touching the spirit and setting every nerve end tingling with joy. Music is a communion in Spirit for its pleasure and not physical or fleshly, but those of the spirit bringing pleasure and expression to the inner man.

 MAKE ME AWARE OF PEOPLE

Lord, make me aware of the wonder of people. All kinds of people, old or young, important or humble, neighbor or child or foreigner or stranger on the street. You have made us all so marvelously varied. Outwardly so different in face and form and circumstance, yet basically so much alike. Each of us going his own way with such private passion, locked in his tiny universe of self. However we strive to share, give, communicate, we're bounded by the limited horizons of our own concerns.

God, make me more vitally cognizant of these other worlds spinning behind all these faces. Such complex, fascinating worlds, filled with memories, worries, anxieties, philosophies, ambitions, experiences.

Remind me to listen, really listen when people open their mouths, like small doors to that world and try to share what's inside. Remind me to look, really look, into the hopeful windows of their eyes. I can never really enter, no, but how much I can learn from these brief glimpses. How much my own world can be expanded. (And how much I can give just by listening.)

Lord, make me always aware of the wonder of people--people who live and think and breathe and feel, the same as I do. People laughing, crying, loving, hurting, touching. People gazing into store windows...hailing taxis...scrubbing floors. People with the same sand hot against their feet on a windy beach...or a cold sidewalk bitter through broken shoes.

The sheer wonder of people, God. In joy or torment or the little acts of everyday Your people. My people. An extension of you, and so of each of us.

If I can identify with other people, taste their tears as well as mine, rejoice in their rejoicing, then I can be more completely your creation, and more aware of who I am myself.

(Source: Woman's Day magazine, June, 1970.)

BIRTHDAYS:

Joon Soo Kim -- Sept. 13

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by

Milton G. Miller and
Sylvan D. Schwartzman

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Rabbi Eugene B. Borowitz