



1975 New Headquarters are found

Top: The new national Headquarters , 43/44 Lancaster Gate, in central London.

During his visit in February 1974, True Father had urged Dennis and Doris Orme to acquire a significant building in the very center of London which could be used as the national headquarters of the Unification Church.

Doris Orme recalled, "He said it should be splendid enough to invite anyone—even the Queen—with a ballroom, crystal chandeliers, everything." Though such a large acquisition seemed impossible for such a small movement, Doris 'kept praying.' One day, while Dennis was in Korea, she was taken to see the former Norwegian Embassy and Seaman's Hotel at 43/44 Lancaster Gate in Bayswater. The building had everything that was required and even better it was but a few hundred yards from the Kensington Gardens holy ground established ten years earlier in 1965. 'Somehow the bank lent us the money,' she said, 'it was God's miracle.'

In the summer of 1975, the new headquarters at 43/44 Lancaster Gate was acquired and has served as the national headquarters until today. David Franklin was appointed to take care of general affairs, moved in a few weeks after the purchase of the headquarters building and faithfully served in the same role until 2014.

Soon after, many members from European nations came together in the UK to form the European One World Crusade, using the new HQ as their main witnessing centre. Subsequently they spread throughout the country where they worked for three months before moving on to Germany, France and Italy taking with them many new members who had just joined. During this period well attended and lively 2, 7 and 21 day workshops were held in Cleeve House and the Manor House, Dunbar.

SMMF (Sun Myung Moon Foundation) was set up as a charitable organization to receive the estate at Stanton Fitzwarren.

1975-77 True Parents' sixth visit

When True Parents visited the UK in October, 1975, they stayed at the Lancaster Gate HQ in a small apartment. A meeting with European leaders was called to visit the new building and to discuss the future of the European IOWC. True Parents heard reports from each nation, being especially interested in the progress of ginseng tea sales, a business newly introduced from the church's Il Hwa company in Korea. He also spoke at length of the significance of the time period, 1976-1977 and of the mission of Britain in God's providence, the meaning of the rise and decline of the British Empire and God's current hopes for the country.

During their visit, True Father took time to personally meet and counsel some of the couples he had Blessed in the 1970 Blessing of 777 couples. One member who was there recalls: "He looked me straight in the eyes and with an incredibly kind and compassionate voice, told me he knew I was suffering but that in time it would all pass away". Examples of such intimate concern for church members were remembered by many to be the most significant aspect of True Parent's visits. Even when their own children accompanied them, they would spend all their time with their church family.

On October 22, 1975 Paul Rose MP made a speech in the House of Commons accusing the Unification Church of brainwashing, deception, illegal fund-raising and break-up of families. He repeated these accusations to a newspaper and the Church fought a libel action against him. Paul Rose was co-founder of FAIR (Family Action Information and Rescue), an anti-sect organisation. Two years later Paul Rose settled out of court, retracting his accusations, but paying no monetary compensation.

By 1976, around fifteen centres had been established in the UK. On-going workshops were held at the farm, near Swindon, Cleeve House, Dunbar and Lancaster Gate HQ. In summer 1977, No.42 Lancaster Gate was rented from the Norwegian Embassy, having previously been a nurses hostel.

This added much needed capacity to the HQ building. In 1979 this building was finally purchased.

Forty British members flew to the USA for three weeks to support the Washington Monument Rally in September 1976. Following this, the UK leader, Dennis Orme, was asked to go to New York to start a daily newspaper, The News World. He took with him a select group of British members including Brian Hill and Bryan Warner to help him with the project, and the News World duly started coming off the presses on December 31, 1976. Hamish Robertson was appointed acting vice-president of the UK church in the absence of Dennis Orme.

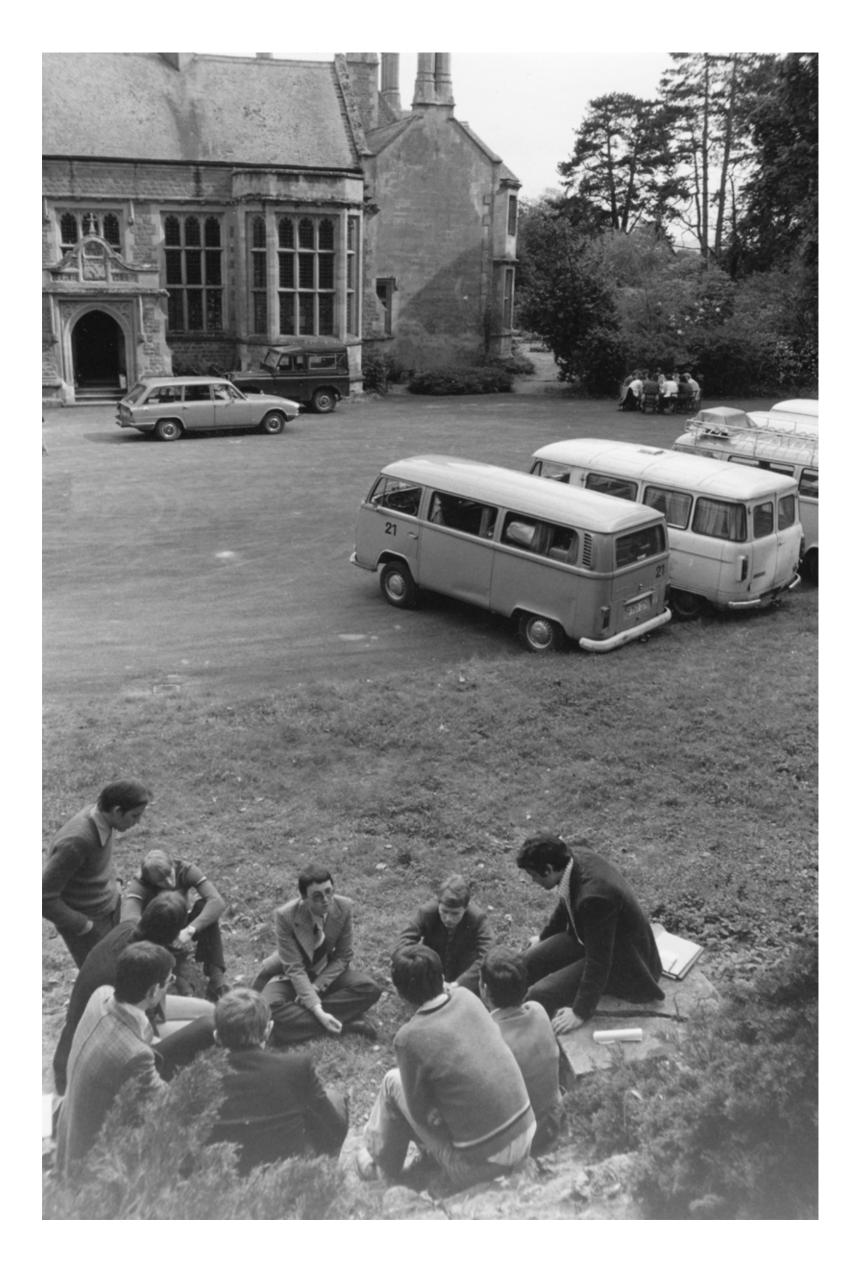
In autumn, 1976 Rev. Won Pil Kim, the first disciple of True Father, came to stay for several months in the UK in a private capacity, residing first in the London HQ, then Cleeve House and finally in Dunbar, where he inspired members with his faith, wisdom and infinitely patient and kind nature.

In summer, 1977 Dennis Orme returned and True Father asked for 150 European crusade members who had been working in Germany to come to the UK. Pioneers were sent out to fund-raise and witness from existing centres and some were chosen to pioneer new towns. These were Glasgow (Mary Franklin), Ipswich, Leeds, Exeter, Aberdeen (Pat Iversen), Perth (David Fraser-Harris), Dundee (Eddy Rose), Stirling (Tony Wood) and Inverness (William Haines). Many more centres opened to house the ever-increasing membership and campaigns reached every corner of the island.

In 1977 a fishing venture was initiated in Falmouth, Cornwall with two line-fishing boats run by members, including Baby Lion built by Ed Stacey and the fish, mainly mackerel, were sold across the south of England. At the same time Luigi Bacca, the Farm Manager, ran a chicken rearing and sales business.

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One World Crusade workshop, held in Cleeve House in 1975.



유럽 성지 택정

IOWC and Home Church

1978 True Parents' seventh visit

This visit of True Parents was significant in several respects. Firstly, it was the longest period (more than 120 days) that they had spent in any country other than Korea, Japan (when a student) and the United States. Secondly, it came during a particularly tense period marked by the "Fraser Committee" investigation in the United States (known popularly at the time as "Koreagate") and therefore offered a close up view of True Parents' versatility under great pressure.

True Parents' visit to the UK this time came as a complete surprise to the members in Europe. Many of them were gathered in Chateau Mauny in France for a large workshop of members' parents when the news of True Parents' impending arrival in London was received. At his regular Belvedere Sunday Service speech on May 7, 1978, ("Heavy Burden") True Father had given no indication of his intention to travel to Britain. Apparently no one in the United States knew of his plans.

In fact, True Father had first announced his plan four years earlier on his visit to Britain in February 1974, "The time will come when I bring many thousands of the International Mobile Team from America. I think that England will be completely clobbered. I think 3,000 Unification Church members will completely overwhelm Britain".

True Father flew from the USA to London on May 14, 1978 with Ye Jin Nim and stayed in the UK London HQ until September 19, a providential period of 120 days. True Mother did not accompany him immediately, as she was in the advanced stages of pregnancy. In a speech entitled 'Perseverance and Contemplation' delivered on August 27, True Father explained, "I feel I must announce myself to every nation of the world, but I only started speaking after I thought my foundation was secure enough. Now that the foundation is laid in America, I must work in England for four months and take responsibility for this country."

It was not easy for True Parents to enter the UK this time and they were delayed for three hours at Heathrow Airport by immigration officials before being granted temporary admission. An extension was finally granted in a legal battle over the ensuing months. The British government tried to raise the matter of the US subpoena in evidence when they attempted to deny Rev. Moon an extension of his entry visa. However, Rev. Moon was very well supported by many scholars who had participated in the 1974 ICUS, and at an immigration hearing in June, 1978, Rev. Moon's counsel, Mr. Fox-Andrews QC, remarked that it was not the responsibility of any person to second-guess the plans of the US Senate. The judge emphatically agreed and reprimanded the government for having relied on press speculation.

Press attention for Rev. Moon's visit was intense. It was speculated that he was planning to set up his international headquarters in the UK and MP's spoke of their alarm in the House of Commons. The Blessing, on May 21, 1978, of 118 couples from all over Europe gave rise to a round of articles in which the familiar charges of brainwashing and sexual immorality were aired. Some tabloid newspapers made much of the separation condition announced after the Blessing with headlines such as "Moon slaps 40-day Sex Ban on newly -weds."

True Father said he was concerned with the decline in Britain and on several occasions mentioned the threat of communism. It was the time of Jimmy Carter's ill-fated presidency in the US and Britain was suffering from the excesses of a socialist government that barely lasted out the year. True Father said that by coming to Britain for an extended period, he wanted to give the nation a "heavenly chance", "In fact, staying forty days in England was so important that I thought, 'If the government refuses to let me stay, I will just disappear from sight and then leave after the forty days are up.' I knew that woe would come to this country if I could not stay."





Top: The 118 couples, Blessed on May 21, 1978.
True Father and Ye Jin Nim officiated this Blessing.
True Mother couldn't be there as she was in the advanced stages of pregnancy.

1978 Blessing of 118 couples in London

In his visionary speech, "The Age of New Dispensation," delivered at his first Sunday service in the UK, True Father announced his intention to hold a Blessing. Commenting on the British penchant for "cherishing their own traditions", he gave a clear hint of the international flavour that the event would have, "Are you going to marry for England, or for the sake of the world? Before you come for blessing, you should prepare yourself in such a way that you can marry someone of any race or nationality."

Over a period of three days, True Father spoke in depth to around 250 blessing candidates assembled in the HQ Ballroom. After speaking for several hours on the second night, he began carefully matching a few couples in the early hours of the morning on May 19 and then continued later in the day and once more on the following day, which was the day preceding the Blessing. Those present observed the serious mind and caring heart with which True Father matched each and every couple. It was as if he were battling with the ancestors of the candidates, who represented many European nations and the bitter historical struggles of past history.

On Sunday May 21, 1978 at UK headquarters, a solemn Blessing of 118 couples took place. Almost all of them were international couples and the significance of that particular Blessing was that it represented European Unity.

The Blessing was officiated by True Father and his eldest daughter, Ye Jin Nim, who stood in for True Mother and who was only 18 and single at the time. It was the largest blessing held outside Korea until that time and the only one where True Mother did not officiate with True Father.

A reception was held in the evening at the Kensington Town Hall, during which Ye Jin Nim sang 'Beautiful Dreamer' and the ecologist and entomologist, Professor Kenneth Mellanby, who was among the well- wishers, recited a poem that elicited a great deal of laughter from the audience. Songs and skits were offered by many groups of members representing their nations, which created a joyous, spring-like atmosphere. A large wedding cake was cut and distributed to all the couples and guests, among whom were a few parents and relatives who came at short notice.

On the following day, many newlyweds returned to their respective missions, observing a period of abstinence. So much had been packed into those four days. As one of the brides remarked, "The only reason I knew it wasn't all a dream, is when I woke up in the morning and saw the Blessing ring on my finger".



1978 A new IOWC is formed

Immediately after May 21 Blessing, True Father began to assemble a new IOWC. Apart from the newly blessed couples, a group of 20 members arrived from Germany on May 24 and others continued to assemble until May 27. On that day at 23:00, True Father spoke to the 500 assembled members. By June 1, another 300 members from Europe had arrived.

A lottery was held and members were sent out in groups of twenty to church centres already established around the country. Two weeks later, 150 members from Japan arrived, and finally, 70 students from the Unification Theological Seminary in New York State (both the graduating and junior class) arrived at the end of June. The seminarians were promptly sent out by True Father to do Home Church work and to live in their Home Church area.

On July 20 True Father re-deployed the seminarians to the regional centres, where they were asked to serve for three days and then on assuming leadership to send out the members to find their own Home Church.

Top: True Father speaking with Col Sang Kil Han translating to the members in London's Headquarter,

1978 Reasons for selecting Britain

True Father shared with the members and leaders of the new IOWC about why he had chosen Britain for their crusade. The reasons fell into two categories: the situation of Britain itself and the relations Britain had with the rest of the world.

Concerning Britain, he noted that it was a rather small country and that although it was once a first rate nation was now 'third rate'. This was causing the British people to search for something to bring them back to a first rate position. Furthermore, there was at yet no atmosphere of resentment or persecution toward the Unification Church by the people or the media. The intellectual level is one of the highest if not the highest in the world. The Christian tradition was also strong. Oxford and Cambridge were a center of intellectual activity.

The position regarding relationships with the world was equally favorable. Britain had an in-

terflowing connection with the Commonwealth of 29 closely knit nations, much broader than America's worldwide connections. If Britain responded positively, that could influence 29 others. Moreover, historically Britain led America. America has followed trends set in Britain. If the French or Germans were to perish, it would not make much difference to America, but if Britain perished America will be greatly concerned. "Britain is good bait to catch a big fish. If Britain is won, America will be divided in two parts. The American young people will be on Rev. Moon's side".

Finally, if the ideological efforts were a success in Britain, then even if the continent fell, Britain could still be a bastion of strength against communism. Given the tremendous advances of communism in the early years of the Carter presidency, this was a realistic concern.



1978-79 The Establisment of Home Church

Top: A group picture of the Go World Brass Band, in Trafalgar Square, London, 1980.

Middle: True Father in the midst of the Go World Brass Band members.

The first 40-day witnessing condition started on June 1, 1978 with the directions that anyone who found three spiritual children could go home. In his speech, "Start of the 40-Day witnessing Condition," which was actually delivered in early July, True Father gave precise direction on how to accomplish results through the providential mission of Home Church:

"This is the order in which to work. Go and visit each of your 360 homes and pick out which ones are positive (A), not so bad (B), and negative (C). Then you will have forty to fifty 'A' houses: out of these choose twelve to visit every day, and then the three best to work on." (July 4, 1978).

Every person was to teach Divine Principle in the Home Church area and to report each day to the centre, which would then report to Lancaster Gate Headquarters. A second 40-day condition started from July 10 to August 20.

At the end of this condition, workshops were taught by seminarians around the country. Crusade teams spread out to 40 towns and cities and each member worked and, in many cases, lived in their 360 Home Church area investing themselves heart and body in the families that were living there.

Amidst all that was going on, True Mother and several of the True Children joined True Father in the UK on July 18. True Mother had given birth to their sixth son, Young Jin Nim, in New York.

Workshops (2, 7 and 21 days) in the 1970's were held in Rowlane Farmhouse and later at Cleeve House, South Farm, Dunbar and London HQ and from 1979 in Chislehurst. From 1978, every weekend an average of 50 guests plus their spiritual parents attended 2-day workshops at South Farm. 7 Day workshops were also set up in Byfield at the home of Gratton and Dorothy Darbishire.

The Go World Brass Band was originally formed in the USA in the spring 1976, at the time of the preparations for the Yankee Stadium rally. True Father decided to bring over a nucleus of band members to form a European band under the leadership of Kevin Pickard from America. At Cleeve House, True Father gathered the musical members from the IOWC, divided them into ten bands and bought a great many instruments for them, even demonstrating how to pack them into a minibus and trailer. He bought ten new minibuses and trailers to enable the GWBB to travel throughout the nation. At that time True Parents invested so much for the sake of the British people.



Throughout their stay, True Parents kept a demanding schedule. One member working in Lancaster Gate recalls the pattern, "Each day, Father awoke early, around 4 am. One brother would bring in all the daily newspapers for Father to read. Breakfast began at 7am. There were always many leaders arriving from all over Europe and the world. The meals were really more meetings than mealtimes".

Results were good, though not as good as True Father had wanted. By the beginning of September, seminary graduates who were Ph.D. candidates went back to the United States and it was clear that an extension period (stated by True Father to be a second 120 days) would be needed to fulfill the goal of tripling membership. On September 5, 1978, True Father spoke of his disappointment that members had not followed his precise guidance for Home Church work, but encouraged them to continue.

In August True Parents toured the whole country and met with IOWC members in every centre to hear their reports and to encourage their activities. During his visit to Scotland, he fished as the guest of Professor R.V. Jones on the River Don near Aberdeen.

On September 15 True Father called members from all over Europe for a Matching ceremony in the London HQ. 205 Couples were Matched together, this being the first occasion that a Blessing did not follow on immediately. True Father explained why he had been able to give another Blessing, "England has been very kind to me, unlike America. I am now on my way home to Korea, but England has been very gentlemanly. That's why a double blessing came to Europe...these blessings here in England represent the 'United States of Europe".

On September 18 True Father spoke of the victory of the Washington Monument rally and the next morning September 19 True Parents left the UK to Japan, 131 days after their arrival.

After True Parents' departure, a great rally in the form of a concert was held in London's famous Royal Albert Hall on November 7, 1978. Home Church members from all parts of the UK attended, as well as many Londoners and the hall was full to its capacity of around 5,000 with hundreds unable to get in. The GWBB in their red and gold uniforms had led marches and rallies throughout the city to prepare for this event and a large choir was gathered and trained for the occasion. A professional record of the music was produced.

True Father called Henry Masters and Brian Hill to come to the USA to design and build many fibre-glass fishing boats for the Ocean Church providence.

Middle: The Go World Brass Band leading a march through London, preparing for the big event at the Royal Albert Hall.

Bottom-Left: Royal Albert Hall rally poster November 1978.

Bottom Right: Over 5,000 guests pack the Royal Albert Hall in London to hear the Divine Principle, November 7, 1978.





