

Public Fast Warns of Possible War

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A Three-Day Prayer and Fast warned New Zealanders of the serious threat of a Communist take-over in their country

At Christmas time we called all our members together for a meeting in Wellington. It was directed against man's greatest enemy, Communism. This country was originally called "God's own country" but now she has her arms open to Communist infiltration. Communism is seducing New Zealanders on a social and cultural level. We want this country to remain pure and receptive to God and so we decided to work over the holiday period to wake New Zealand up to this serious threat.

As each of the families from the other cities arrived we felt so much joy bursting forth and so much strength. For four days, from morning until night, we studied the Divine Principle and anti-Communist theory. These are the only weapons we need. At this time of the year most people are eating rich food and lying around on the beaches and so we decided to do the opposite and hold a Three-Day Prayer and Fast.

It is time for New Zealanders to wake up to the reality of a Communist take-over bid in their country. Twenty-one of our members marched to the Wellington War Memorial to begin battle. Amongst the fasters were two of our youngest members, Chris and Anne. Both had been in the family only a few days but were fully determined to complete the fast. As we marched towards the Memorials we all felt that this was the beginning of an even greater battle to free New Zealand from Communist influence.

It was a real privilege to stand on that Memorial in defense of our country. It felt as though all those New Zealanders who died in the two world wars to preserve our freedom were standing there with us. Most of all we could feel God's joy to see man opposing Communism. Never before have we demonstrated so openly and loudly to the public. Many people were very shocked when they realized who we were and when they read the placards saying, "Beware of the wolf in sheep's clothing", "This is God's own country not Mao's own country", "Wake up New Zealand, you are anti-American and look to Red China and the USSR", "New Zealand look to the free world not the Communist world" and others. The most controversial placard warned the people of a third world war with the sign of the hammer and sickle.

A very determined spirit sparkled amongst all the fasters. When we were not praying we were singing or contacting people. Because our purposes for being together at the Memorial were absolutely united we felt drawn together very closely as a family. This was reflected very much in the people's reactions.

While at the Memorial a Minister of Parliament, some nuns, the Russian Ambassador, the South African

Ambassador and a gang of Communist youths visited us. They all came with different motivations. The Minister of Parliament came to pat us on the back, as did the South African Ambassador. We were especially pleased to see the Minister because Parliament was closed at the time and we had been hoping that somehow it could be possible for a Parliamentarian to visit us. The nuns came to sing with us and to tell us that their convent was praying for our fast. The Russian Ambassador appeared in the latest model Mercedes, black, and stared at us through his window.

When he was offered a pamphlet he violently rejected it and then furiously drove off. The gang of young Communists came late at night to try to destroy our placard. They were creeping towards the placards until they suddenly realized that we were all sleeping right there. They ran back to their car and drove off.

There was never an inactive moment. Many East Europeans came to tell us how they had been persecuted under Communism. They told of torture, broken families and execution. These people were living testimony to the brutality of Communism. Some had not seen their families for over fifteen years.

All the people we talked to were very willing to receive pamphlets and often stopped for hours to talk about the anti-Communist theory and the Unification Church. The day after we began the action we were front-page news in one of New Zealand's nation-wide newspapers. Soon after that radio began broadcasting progress reports twice every day for the three days. Reporters came from several other papers and shortly before we were due to finish the fast a television crew came and filmed us before the daily news program. They filmed us praying, singing and taking our first bite. They asked us why we were doing the fast and how people were reacting to the slogans.

We told them that the fast was to draw people's attention to the threat Communism poses to New Zealand. Like all the news media they were particularly interested in our warning of a Communist -- Free World War. We said they should take the placard as a warning of what will happen when the western world weakens to Communist pressure. After interviewing us they talked co members of the public about the demonstration.

Everything which happened in those three days was a real victory for God. Even the police came to guard us at night. They would come and sit amongst our sleeping bags and ask us about the Unification Church and God. Every night there was always one of us who talked with the police through until the early morning.

During the whole three days we burnt under a hot South Pacific summer sun. We had the sun from about six in the morning until eight or nine at night. We finished the Prayer and Fast about half a day before God's Day with victorious hearts. This was the first blow we have struck against Communism in New Zealand but in no way the last. We are determined to prepare New Zealanders for the day when we must rise up and throw Communism out of this country completely.

As God's Day 1975 approached we felt so happy that we could give these three days of Prayer and Fast to our Heavenly Father on His birthday. We celebrated God's Day with a walk to a rose garden and through some wild bush to the top of a hill overlooking Wellington Harbour. It was so joyful amongst the trees and the birds. Our German shepherd, Tongil, gave us the most fun by climbing trees to eat pine cones. In the evening we concluded God's Day with a special meal. It was a really heavenly feeling being together in one family, experiencing the same joys, hopes, disappointments and victories. We are hoping now that this year will give us many more brothers and sisters to share this great experience of celebrating the birthday of our Heavenly Father.