

1975

Tuhs, V. Nam

Pleiku

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL MINISTRIES IN PLEIKU

The main medical ministry of the Alliance is a leprosy treatment center located 8 kilometres from Pleiku city. Most of the 1300 leprosy patients live in their home villages or in four segregation villages created for leprosy people. Only patients with special problems such as ulcers, leprosy reaction, or non-leprosy related diseases requiring hospitalization are housed in the Center wards. Of the 33 in-patient beds 20 are usually filled with leprosy patients or their family members needing this special care. A general medical outpatient clinic is held daily at the Center for the surrounding community. A staff of nurses visit 23 villages or clinic points once every 28 days to dispense the medicines and check the general progress of the disease and extreme deformities, sores and ulcers. Our national staff, who are also leprosy patients, includes 18 tribesmen and 1 Vietnamese. One Bahnar tribesman has had two and a half years of Bible School training at the Banmethuot Bible School, and therefore acts as a student pastor for all leprosy villages. One other Jerai patient had been appointed as student pastor in one leprosy village after two years at Banmethuot Bible School when he was killed by a mine last June. None of our national nurses has had formal training, but a western nurse holds regular teaching classes to improve medical knowledge and nursing care. Our western staff includes Robert Greene, M.D., John Hall, D.C., Olive Kingsbury, R.N., Margaret Herren, R.N., Dawn Deets, R.N. (furlough 74-75). Our activities at the Center include : regular foot soaks, regular physical therapy treatment, shoe making, tarsorrhaphies (corrective eyelid surgery), amputations, corrective cast therapy, skin grafts, heat lamp treatments, and teaching. Nineteen families live in the staff housing at the Center. A cement walkway connecting the newest ward with the main hospital section was completed in February 1975. Vehicles include: 1 landrover, 1 scout, 1 trailer, 1 tractor (leprosy center property), 1 Mazda pickup, 1 International Travel-all(mission), and 1 Honda pick-up(pers.Deets).

The spiritual ministry of the Center has been especially encouraging recently. Each leprosy clinic is preceded by a gospel presentation prepared by a national worker. Each week workers go to witness in non-leprosy villages and have seen the blessing of the Lord as some have come to trust in Jesus as Savior. Sunday School and Church for patients and workers is held weekly at the Center. Following that workers go to two villages to hold Sunday services. Prayer meetings are held each morning in the wards, and in the evenings the workers meet together. During the Christmas season the workers organized and presented a play and music dramatizing the Lord's birth. Many from the surrounding villages came and some heard the gospel for the first time. It was a great encouragement to the staff to see how the community received the gospel so attentively. Five other leprosy villages in the two provinces of Pleiku and Phu Bon have their own church building where regular services are held, usually led by one of their own lay leaders. Three of these churches have regular Sunday School sessions as well. We were especially thankful this past year to have three of our leprosy patients attend the lay leader's training sessions in Pleiku, helping them to care for their village responsibilities more effectively.

In addition to his work at the leprosy center, Dr. Greene supervises treatment at the Evangelical Clinic in town. A medical technician, who studied in Saigon in a three year training course, heads the out-patient clinic. Last month he saw approximately one thousand out patients of which 75% were Vietnamese, and 25% were tribes. After screening all these patients he consults with Dr. Greene regarding the more difficult cases. Each morning Yong, the medical technician and Dr. Greene make rounds on the inpatients discussing the diagnosis and treatment of each. The clinic has 30 beds and a seven bed nutrition center for children. Of the inpatients 75% are tribes and 25% are Vietnamese. Dr. Greene also spent time teaching the nursing staff in general medicine and teaching Yong some surgery. Yong is also a committed Christian and has contributed a

great deal to the witness of the clinic. Rev. Nhuong, our Vietnamese administrative director, was also interested in the spiritual ministry of the clinic and over the last few months several patients became Christians.

The Greenes have been especially thrilled over the wonderful relationship the Lord has given them with some of the local Vietnamese doctors. Each week they have conducted a home Bible Study for doctors, a pharmacist, military officers and their wives. On two separate occasions doctors attending for the first time commented that this study was the first time they had ever read the Bible. The province medical chief was the most faithful participant and remarked how the Bible Study gave him peace in his heart. Thankfully, all of these families now have a Bible to read and consult in these present times of crisis.

PRAYER MANUAL 1975

WEDNESDAY

VIET NAM

Pleiku

(Mailing address: P. O. Box 84, Pleiku, Viet Nam)

Bahnar work.

Rev. and Mrs. J. Gail Fleming 1957

Jarai work.

Miss Sharon Allwine 1967

*Mrs. John W. Hall 1966

Leprosy work.

*Robert Greene, M.D. 1971

*Mrs. Robert Greene 1971

Miss Olive Kingsbury, R.N. 1952

*John W. Hall, D.C. 1966

*#Mrs. Bruce Downes 1965

Miss Margaret Herren, R.N. 1974

Jarai language study.

*#Rev. Bruce Downes 1971

Quinhon

(Mailing address: P. O. Box 18, Quinhon, Viet Nam)

Vietnamese language study.

‡Mr. and Mrs. Johan Companjen 1972

Saigon

Mission headquarters (Mailing address: P. O. Box 923, Saigon, Viet Nam).

Rev. and Mrs. Jack H. Revelle 1949

Miss Betty Lou Hartson 1959

Miss Dora E. Landes 1969

Publication work (Mailing address: P. O. Box 329, Saigon, Viet Nam.

Interim Publications Director, Rev. Jack H. Revelle).

*To furlough in 1975.

#Missionaries of The C&MA of Australia.

‡Missionaries of Alliance Zending Centrum "Parousia."

WEDNESDAY

VIET NAM

Saigon, continued

Alliance Guest Home.

Mailing address: P. O. Box 410, Saigon, Viet Nam

Street address: 329 Vo Tanh, Saigon

Telephone: 22429

Rev. and Mrs. R. P. McNeel 1957

International Protestant Church.

Mailing address: P. O. Box 1232, Saigon, Viet Nam

Street address: 7 Tran Cao Van, Saigon

Telephone: 91457

Rev. and Mrs. Thomas H. Stebbins 1956

CAMA Services (Mailing address: P. O. Box 1232, Saigon, Viet Nam).

Rev. and Mrs. W. Eugene Evans 1947

Vietnamese work (Mailing address: P. O. Box 410, Saigon, Viet Nam).

Mr. and Mrs. Reginald E. Reimer 1966

Still Held by Viet Cong

Rev. A. E. Mitchell 1948

Miss E. Ardel Vietti, M.D. 1957

At Home

†Miss Mildred R. Ade, R.N. 1950

Miss Mary L. Andrea, R.N. 1970

Miss Elizabeth I. Arnold 1947

Rev. and Mrs. Edward H. Bedford 1973

Miss D. A. Deets, R.N. 1959

Rev. and Mrs. David R. Douglas 1958

Rev. and Mrs. Merle E. Douglas 1959

Rev. and Mrs. G. Ross Duncan 1958

Miss Helen E. Evans 1950

Mr. and Mrs. David F. Hartzfeld 1968

Rev. and Mrs. D. Franklin Irwin 1951 and 1952

Rev. and Mrs. H. LeRoy Josephsen 1958

†Rev. and Mrs. James F. Lewis 1966

Rev. and Mrs. James H. Livingston 1958

†Leave of Absence.

we assume that this is written by Dr. Greene in the third person. see 2/94

New at the Freshwater Center