

# "Operation Service"

Evangelizing the Unreached Mountain Peoples

## NEWS BULLETIN TO OUR DONORS

Box 101,  
Da Nang (Tourane),  
VIET NAM.

August 1956.

Our Beloved Comrades,

We thank you for all your good fellowship - from the springs of our hearts! What kind, friendly letters you have sent us, and what reassuring and encouraging gifts! You are part of this new venture of faith now, as you take on the burdens of these poor tribespeople with us.

### MIRACLES OF GOD'S HELP

Since our last circular letter #43 in which we asked for special prayer, we have actually felt lifted along, as if great spiritual forces were in motion in our behalf. How humbled we feel, how grateful, how full of praise to our Heavenly Father!

#### 1. Survey almost completed.

We have discovered ten tribal centers in four of the coastal provinces of Central Viet Nam, and two of these are already occupied, another will be shortly. By the end of this year we are trusting God to help us open all ten areas. Our next general circular will give more details.

#### 2. New Bible School started.

Your gifts enabled us to accept five students and begin teaching them the Word of God - 3 OUA and 2 HRE. Here in Tourane we have daily classes with three consecrated Vietnamese teachers. So many tribespeople now speak Vietnamese that we can start in at once using that language. Our students, living near Vietnamese centers, can also read and write. We plan to bring in a number of promising students from each area later on, as the centers are opened and the Gospel spreads. We shall need a large center when the school expands.

3. "OPERATION SERVICE" is a missionary society known in Vietnamese as Cơ Đốc Truyền Giáo Hội - "Christian Propaganda Society", with a Committee, and full Government authorization on the way. God has sent to us a number of wonderful Vietnamese Christian men who are eager to get the Gospel to the mountain tribes.

#### 4. New Assistant Director.

Mr. Nhuc has been with us a month and a half already, and is principal of the Bible School. Your gifts helped to bring him and his family of seven children all the way from Saigon (600 miles), where he was doing secretarial work. He is a former pastor from the north who had been waiting for a church ministry for two years. We searched for weeks for a house for him here, and by a miracle the day after he arrived we were able to rent a nice furnished house for him near us, for \$27.00 a month. Having so many children makes his monthly allowance twice as high as a couple, but he is well worth it, \$80.00.

#### 5. First Vietnamese missionary occupies HRE tribe.

Mr. Khiem, a fine Christian with Bible School training, is now settled in a populous area at Son Ha, Quang Ngai province, and is proclaiming the Gospel there for the first time. The HRE tribe numbers about 50,000 to 60,000. We hope later on to establish a full-scale mission work here with foreign missionaries, medical personnel, school, etc. Many villages are easy of access, and this is the most important tribal center in the four provinces.

6. CUA tribe occupied.

In a few days a fine Vietnamese missionary will enter Tr. Bong among the CUA people, where we have a small mud and thatch house rented for him. We have been offered land with a French house which is now a shell, having been damaged in the war. Our only expense will be putting in doors and windows and a roof.

Our three CUA students are the very first from this area to hear the Gospel. Back in the mountains these people are very difficult to reach, and are wild looking indeed. They bring huge bundles of tea and cinnamon bark to the market to sell. Two district chiefs and a number of others prayed when we were there last week. Prospects are wonderful for a great work in this area of many thousands of tribespeople. We plan to put a foreign missionary there some day.

7. Medical training for our workers.

The Government has offered to give six months training in the hospital at Hue to any workers we wish to send there. We are sending two Vietnamese women, one Mr. Nhuc's oldest daughter, who will later on work among the tribes. This will be a great ministry, as the tribes of Central Viet Nam have absolutely no medical assistance whatever. We have given out thousands of anti-malaria pills, and most of these were the first the tribes had ever seen. They are about 100% malaria-ridden.

So your investments in this work are helping to bring salvation to many. We are going a step at a time, seeking the full will of the Lord in everything. We are asking no one here to join us, but many are flocking to us to offer their services. As funds permit we expect to take on many of these who are called of God to the tribes.

Let us go on together in His Name, and in the Power of His Might. God has promised us, "Ye shall reap, if ye faint not." May the fires in our hearts for these needy ones burn on higher and brighter and hotter. We have found our "Trail's End", which is the beginning of a hundred trails back into the vast unexplored interior, and God is with us. Very cordially and gratefully yours, as we help together the "heavy-laden" ones,

In His Name,

Laura I. Smith

Gordon H. Smith