

No. 1

# VIETNAM TODAY



# VIETNAM TODAY

NEWS MAGAZINE OF THE  
VIETNAM FIELD

CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE

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**NUMBER 1**

This magazine is issued three times a year by the missionaries serving in Vietnam. We shall be glad to accept any special gifts to make the publication possible.

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Vietnamese  
Tribes  
Chinese  
Cambodians



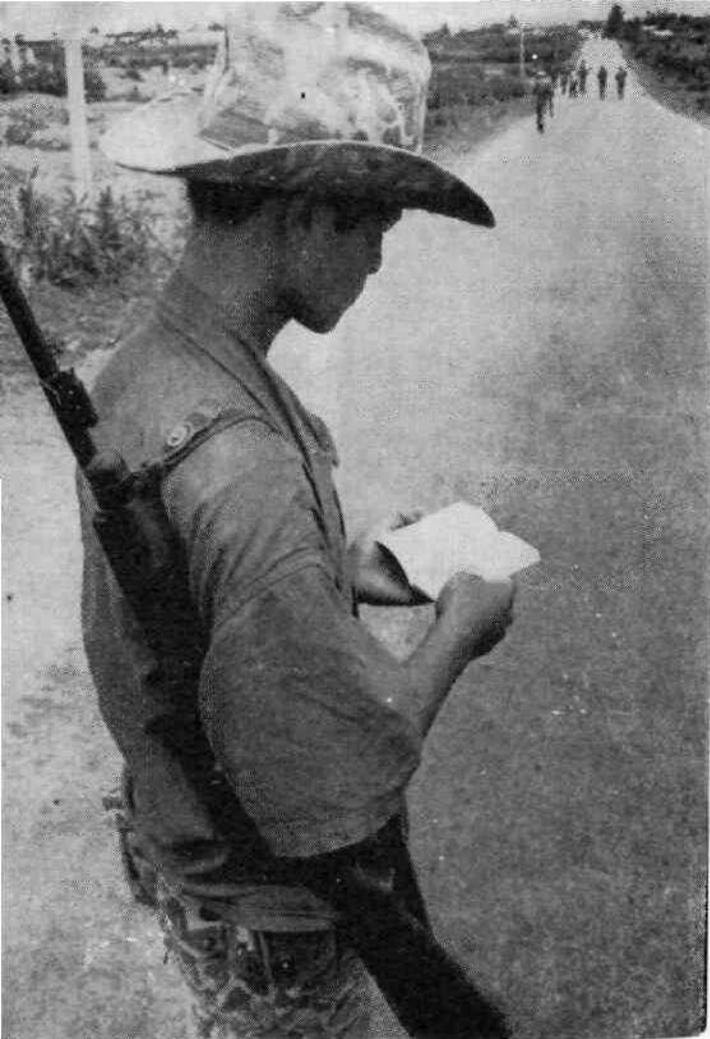
TODAY we introduce to you our new Vietnam publication. We trust it will not only be a great source of information, but also a force that will drive you to more earnest prayer, as we undertake this tremendous task of proclaiming Jesus Christ to the multitudes in VIETNAM TODAY.

For many years our missionaries have published two magazines, each semi-annually. THE CALL OF VIETNAM told primarily of missionary work among the Vietnamese people. JUNGLE FRONTIERS confined its information to the Tribal section of the field. These publications have always been enthusiastically received by our readers around the world. It was felt that

the two magazines should be combined and expanded to include the work among the other language groups that are being reached today.

The vast majority of the approximately 17,000,000 inhabitants of Vietnam are the ethnic Vietnamese. They number 14,500,000. The remaining population is composed mainly of three minority groups — Tribes, 1,000,000; Chinese, 850,000; and Cambodians, 600,000.

God has given abundant fruit among these peoples, and this magazine which you hold in your hand will present to you the challenge of this day of glorious opportunity.



*Reading with deep interest*

# ON THE



*Garth takes the written word to men on the front lines*

Pictures and article by  
GARTH HUNT

**L**ife for the average Vietnamese citizen has been abruptly disrupted by the savage war engulfing the country. For the 600,000 men in the armed forces it has meant exchanging pleasant hours in the office, in the classroom, in the shop, or on the farm — for the misery of a lonely outpost, a rain-filled trench, a perilous patrol, an early grave.

To these who daily face danger and death, God has sent us with His Living Word. We go by military plane, helicopter, convoy — over enemy-filled jungle and on often-mined roads. Is it foolish to take such risks? Dare we consider our own safety when at the end of the journey we can preach to either a handful or hundreds of troops and leave in their hands a gospel portion?

# WAR FRONT



*Ready to listen*



*Slogging along*

*Men in fox holes are not forgotten*



On a recent trip up near the demilitarized zone we met several platoons of troops plodding along in the rain. We gave each one a Gospel of John. Our immediate reward was a warm smile or a heartfelt «thank you» — who can tell the eternal result?

Many are killed and many wounded. One Sunday night at the close of the evangelistic service at the Cong Hoa Hospital, two of those who had just accepted Christ asked me if I remembered them. They were members of the 33rd Ranger Battalion, a famed unit in the Vietnamese army, and had heard us proclaim the gospel in their camp. Now they had believed!

There is fear, loneliness and death on the war front, but when the Word of God reaches a man's heart there is new hope, joy and salvation.

THIS INTERESTING ACCOUNT WAS WRITTEN BY DOT TAYLOR WHO, WITH HER HUSBAND, SPENT FIVE YEARS AMONG THE CAMBODIANS IN SOUTH VIETNAM.

**D**eep in the south of Vietnam was a province where a missionary had never lived. Here we were sent. We expected to minister to the millions of Vietnamese, but to our amazement we found small Cambodian communities on every hand. In our province alone the Cambodians numbered over 68,000. Fascinated by this discovery, we inquired and learned some interesting facts. Several hundred years ago much of South Vietnam was part of Cambodia and the great Khmer empire. Gradually the Chinese pushed the Vietnamese southward into this Cambodian area. The Vietnamese, in turn, swallowed up the easy-going Cambodians, took their land and left the majority of them tenant farmers in abject poverty.

## **ADVANCE BARRIERS ARE DOWN**

Today there are scores of villages in South Vietnam where hardly a word of Vietnamese is spoken. The Cambodians have always followed the traditional Buddhist beliefs of their motherland, but when religious freedom came to Vietnam the strong ties of a State religion eased and the barrier weakened. The Cambodians have no love for their rulers, the Vietnamese, but neither have they rebellion. They are a peace-loving people, only desiring to plant their rice and reap its harvest. Because of the war, large areas are too dangerous to farm. This situation leaves many destitute.

Five years ago we made our first attempt to evangelize the Cambodians. We invited missionaries in Cambodia to come to Vietnam and preach in the market places in our province. The results of four days of preaching were four precious souls. For over a year we met regularly in the home of one of these new Christians. Week after week people found Christ as Savior.

At last it became necessary to build a church to accommodate the group which had grown to over forty. These believers, with Vietnamese Christians helping, diligently built a thatched chapel on the main road. The «church» continued to grow just as in the Book of Acts.

Soon after, the district leaders of the Vietnamese Church appointed a student pastor to care for this group and another nucleus that had sprung up in a nearby town. A good foundation in spiritual truths was laid. Though few could read, the young Christians learned to pray and sing songs in both Cambodian and Vietnamese. They endured much scoffing from their neighbors, but God strengthened them by many «signs and wonders» just as in the days of the early Christian church. In spite of severe setbacks over the years, the Christians in both of these villages are still faithfully meeting.

As yet there is still a language barrier since the preacher is Vietnamese and the congregations are largely Cambodian. It is obvious that a Cambodian-speaking preacher or missionary is needed. Because of the non-existing diplomatic relations between the two neighboring countries, it is impossible to call a pastor from Cambodia. However, since the missionaries were refused re-entry into Cambodia, two families have now come to serve the Lord in Vietnam. The Cambodian Christians rejoiced when they heard a missionary would soon join them.

Why worry about two villages of Cambodian Christians, you ask? This is, we believe, but the «earnest of our expectation»! In the southern part of Vietnam today there are well over 400,000 people of Cambodian origin. We have but touched a handful of them. That handful, however, has been very responsive and is indicative of a receptivity among the Cambodians throughout the South. These people who are no longer bound by traditional ties to king and priest seek for something to satisfy their soul's desire. Now when the barriers are down, we advance. May this gospel light bring A BRIGHT TOMORROW to the descendants of some of the oldest inhabitants of Vietnam.

Picture by Pete Allen



# THE SILVER CROSS

by DALE HERENDEEN

Once again the silver cross on a khaki collar becomes a story of courage and dedication. This time the scene is South Vietnam. The men, chaplains of the Armed Forces of the United States of America. For some this is the third conflict in twenty-five years and the record of their quiet devotion is being written in sweat and blood along tangled trails, verdant plains, and emerald seas. Where the American military man fights, be it through dense jungle, in mangrove swamps or from the clean grey deck of an aircraft carrier, the chaplain is there too. He is a man who is ready to help, whether assisting some weary medic out on operations, preaching a sermon under forest foliage or chapel roof, or spear-heading social action on behalf of the Vietnamese populace. Yet most of these chaplains, like the men of their unit, have been yanked out of a routine peace-

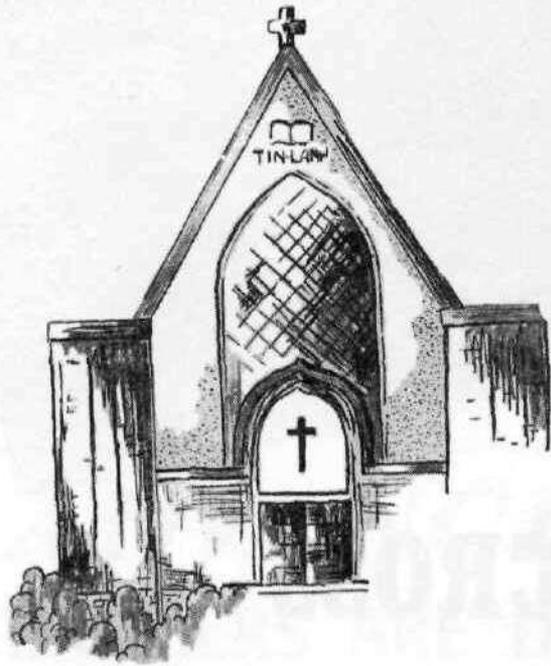
time installation and thrust into this vicious war.

As military ministers their first duty is to effectively serve the men of their assigned unit. Logistics, transportation, communications, aviation, artillery, infantry, these and many more make up the American army in Vietnam. But their vision has gone beyond the military. They seek service on a wider range. And it is often at this point that we of the Christian and Missionary Alliance in Vietnam have come to hold the chaplains in special regard. Many warm friendships have been established. How often the chaplain has come to ask: «What can my men and I do to help you in your ministry?» Or, in outlying military areas they will seek out the local Gospel church to see what needs the pastor and his flock might have.

This humble desire to serve has in the past months led to

the construction of churches, the establishment of new orphanages, the setting up of Christian refugee villages, and countless smaller projects that bring glory to God. Vietnamese Christians have come to deeply appreciate these preachers in suntans who wear a silver cross. To them it is a symbol of love and concern which finds its source in the Saviour.

A long and bitter war is being waged in Vietnam today. The suffering, anguish, destruction and loss are beyond estimate. And it is not over yet. Today, we of the Alliance wish to express our appreciation to, and admiration for the chaplains who have served and are presently serving here. They are marked by a silver cross on a khaki lapel. Their Divine Commander is Christ our Lord; their parish the broad plains, the dark jungles and the open seas of South Vietnam.



DESPITE HARASSMENT,  
THEY CAME AND FOUND

# STRENGTH

**T**he passengers scrambled down from the bus and looked in dismay at the earth piled high across the road, blocking all travel. The Viet Cong often harass the people of South Vietnam in this way. Hidden in the mounds of earth may be grenades and mines which will explode on contact, maiming or killing the unfortunate nearby.

Now they must wait for the soldiers to come

and spray the piles of earth with rifle fire in the hope that any hidden mines will explode. This time there was no explosion so the passengers warily began to clear the road. Their hands shook at their dangerous task for they knew that a live mine might still be lurking there. As the pastor and his wife did their share of the perilous work they prayed, « Lord, protect us ! »

Many of the pastors and their wives who

attended the Annual Conference of the Evangelical Church of Vietnam (C & MA) held in Saigon passed through similar perils in order to attend. One young pastor had to travel by river boat for two hours through Viet Cong infested waterways. He was the only man on the boat. All the women cried out in alarm when they saw him climb aboard, telling him he would surely be captured by the V.C. if he attempted to make the trip. «No», he said, «I'm God's servant and He will keep me». Some travelled for two weeks, waiting for buses and planes to leave, blown bridges to be repaired, battles to finish before they could proceed. But all arrived safely, with their hearts full of expectation. More than 340 delegates were registered and each service was attended by at least 1,500 people, the largest attendance in the history of the Church.

Rev. L. L. King, Foreign Secretary of the Christian & Missionary Alliance, and Rev. Philip Teng of Hong Kong were the guest speakers. The Lord used His servants to bring messages keenly

appropriate to the varied needs of the delegates and much blessing was experienced. One defeated pastor, who in recent years has caused many problems in the Church, made a public confession. With great brokenness he asked the forgiveness of all present for having been a stumbling block to so many.

An impressive ordination service was held as nine men were set apart for the holy service of God. Despite the fact that the country is ravaged by war, pastors were sent to open three new stations.

In these days of adversity, the Church is being purified and strengthened. Throughout the Conference many testimonies were given of God's abundant grace, protection and provision during days of trial and nights of terror.

As the Conference concluded, all the delegates, under the leadership of Rev. Doan Van Mieng who was solidly re-elected as President for another term, looked forward to new heights of blessing and opportunity in the months to come.

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## Extension...

Y Siok and H. Kri, his wife, will be going to Buon Ho any day now. The parsonage is finished except for the floor. Sunday they were really enthused as he had between 40 and 50 at his service and four were saved! The mother church in Banmethuot has taken its first offering for this extension work. This is an encouraging step on the part of the Banmethuot Church and the offerings will help the new work in Buon Ho tremendously.



*Pastor Y Siok, the only tribal graduate from the Vietnamese Bible School in Nhatrang*

Significant news item from C. Griswold

# THESE MEN SPEAK



Frazier Pleiku

*I BELIEVE VIETNAM IS ON THE BRINK OF A GREAT AWAKENING, A GREAT HARVEST! Never in the history of Vietnam has the Church had such opportunity. National pastors, awake to the challenge, refuse high-paying positions and remain faithful to God's call upon their lives. May God anoint us all with His Spirit as we together reap this tremendous harvest.*



Hunt Saigon

*« God has given us the burden of reaching the nation through its armed forces. This can be done as thousands of Gospel portions are put into the hands of the fighting men. NEVER HAVE WE HAD SUCH AN ENTHUSIASTIC RECEPTION! Pray unceasingly that a great harvest of souls shall be reaped from this sowing of the Precious Seed. »*



Reed Phu Bon

*« There can be no doubt that this is a time of awesome upheaval for the country of Vietnam. A time of terrible heartache, uncertainty and fear for her people. However, GOD IS FASHIONING FROM THE CHAOS OF HUMAN SUFFERING A VITAL AND SHINING IMAGE OF FAITH, and is daily opening up new avenues to communicate that faith to others. »*



Herendeen Saigon

*« The price of war in Vietnam is running high. Disrupting her culture, shaking age-old foundations, and pushing her youth toward rebellion and despair, the situation is critical. THE CHURCH MUST BE PREPARED TO MEET THIS UPHEAVAL TODAY, TOMORROW IT WILL BE TOO LATE. »*



Henry Dalat

Pioneer missionaries found the Vietnamese satisfied in their spiritual darkness. This is no longer the case. Spiritual darkness has born bitter fruit. Having sown to the wind, they have reaped the whirlwind. The whirlwind of war has brought forth confusion of mind and restlessness of soul. **THIS IS OUR UNIQUE HOUR OF OPPORTUNITY** to present the Prince of Peace to this troubled sea of war-weary humanity.



Jackson Dalat

Please remember that **VIETNAM IS RIPE FOR A GREAT MOVING OF THE SPIRIT** in the cities, in the country, and in the mountains. Never have we had Bible School classes that brought more joy and satisfaction! Never have we had a group that seemed to so appreciate the study of the Word. Pray with us that this visitation of the Spirit might come soon!



Pendell Can Tho

«Terrorism... Bombings... Restricted travel... **BUT GOD = OPPORTUNITY!** Weekly meetings in the city prison... over 200 prisoners converted in three months... Sixty young people attend the Saturday night Youth Center Bible study... A 500 bed military hospital is visited — patients receive tracts, Gospels and a personal witness. If ever there were open hearts, it is **NOW.**»



Steinkamp Saigon

«In Vietnam many methods are employed to spread the gospel message. **LITERATURE IS ONE OF THE MOST EFFECTIVE.** A spoken word may last for only a few seconds and is gone forever. The written word, however, is more permanent in that it can be read, re-read and pondered.»



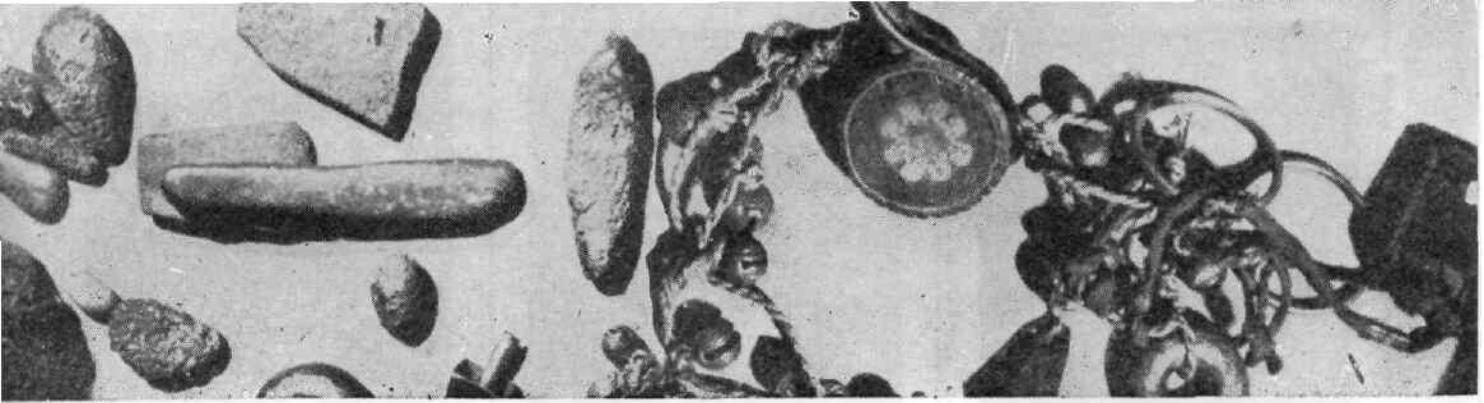
Livingston Saigon

«While many friends bemoan the neglect of any mention of missionary or national church activity by American news media, one fact remains. **MISIONARIES AND NATIONAL WORKERS ARE SEEING MIGHTY THRUSTS INTO SATAN'S DOMAIN.** People throughout Vietnam listen to the Gospel with an intentness that would thrill any preacher anywhere.»



McNeel Banmethuot

«**WAR? YES! OPPORTUNITIES? MANY TIMES YES!** In the very presence of destruction, waste and loss in conflict, the door to and fro the tribesman is opened wide. Shifted to and fro amidst the loud hammering of battle, he often comes to us when we cannot go to him. May the church now be purified and strengthened to meet **ALL** her opportunities! »



# Shroud of TERROR

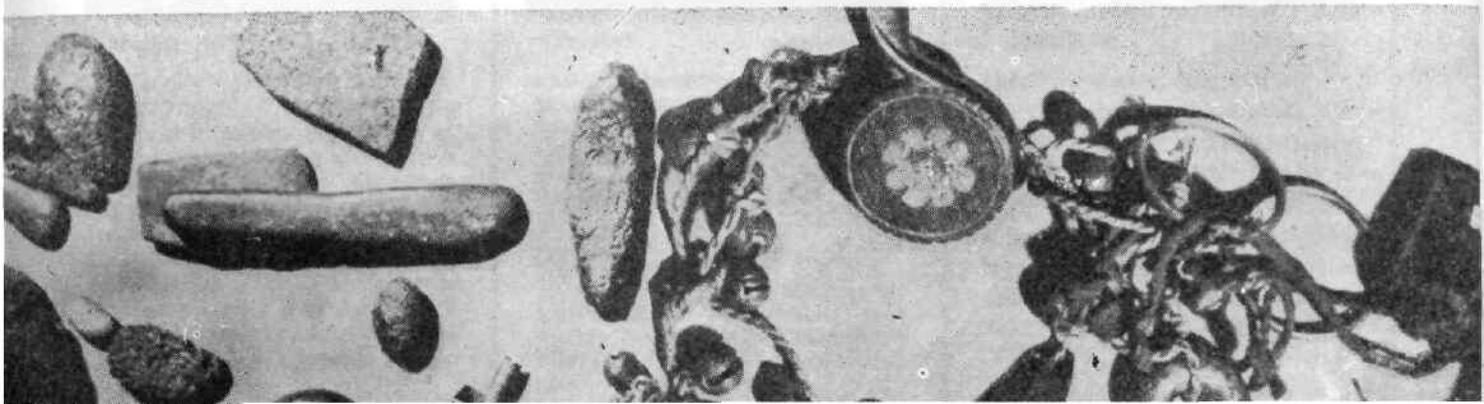
**H**igh on the slopes and hidden in the farthest recesses of the mountains live many heathen tribespeople whose hopeless condition is so aptly described by Isaiah: «For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people.» They grope in fear and superstition, searching for healing to bring relief to disease-racked bodies; they long for peace of heart and mind to lift the shroud of terror from dread-filled nights; they search unknowingly for the truth which could set them free.

Seeking to appease the evil spirit responsible for a severe illness, a sick tribesman tramps the fields guided by the eerie light of a flickering torch in search of certain herbs which, when cut at night, cooked and eaten, will assuage the wrath of the spirits and bring healing to his body. Only after witnessing the heart-rending devastation of disease in all its cruelest forms can one truly appreciate the tribesman's consuming fear of the spirits who they implicitly believe are the cause of every disease and all physical affliction.

The tribesman hangs buffalo tails from the beams of his house hoping to bring good luck and ward off evil and sickness. If a plague has claimed a number of lives, the village paths are closed. The chief declares a curse on the village, and if a stranger ignores the warning and enters the village, he is taken captive and bound until the curse is lifted.

What brings deliverance from this bondage of superstition? There is only one remedy — Jesus Christ. When a tribesman accepts Christ he is free not only from his sin, but also from the shackles of superstition that have bound him from birth.

by George Irwin



# Jungle Etiquette

*candid glimpse of mountain customs through the eyes of a visitor from abroad*

Observing proper etiquette in an «advanced» culture such as our own can often be a painful and bewildering experience for someone not familiar with our ways. This is for the most part due to the fact that our etiquette is made up of rules of conduct and specified reactions to given situations which are usually at variance with man's «natural» instincts.

We often make the mistake of feeling that because other cultures don't follow our etiquette, they have none. This is far from true, for even very primitive people have rules of proper conduct that are as important to them as all our gracious niceties are to us — though not nearly as hard to remember!

For example, take a typical meal in a tribes household. A woven mat is spread on the floor of the house to serve as «table», and here the first rule of etiquette is carefully observed — the diners remove their shoes (if they're wearing any) and squat on the mat in a circle around the food. It's perfectly polite to sit on the «table», but walk on it with shoes on? Never!

Once comfortably seated, there's no confusing array of cutlery and glassware to befuddle the stranger, simply the essentials of eating — a big basin of steamed rice, another of a vegetable and meat stew, and a small bowl of hot peppers and rock salt for seasoning. These are enjoyed freely with the fingers, or perhaps with the aid of a large spoon. Care is always taken not to drop food particles from one communal bowl into another for this, of course, would be considered «bad manners». In contrast to the studied quiet of Western etiquette, a tribes mealtime is punctuated liberally with enthusiastic smacks indicating true appreciation for the cuisine!

After each has eaten his fill, the diner pours water from a gourd into his mouth, being careful not to touch his lips to the gourd, and after vigorously swishing it around, spits it out the nearest window or through a convenient crack in the bamboo floor. At this point he rises and steps back from the mat, often emitting a very audible belch which, aside from its obvious function, serves as an acceptable expression of the diner's complete satisfaction and comfort.

When the men have finished, the women and children very «informally» eat the left-overs at the fireside. This allows the women to enjoy their meal in peace and quiet, without the strain that more sophisticated societies place on the lady of the house. After cooking and baking and arranging the table settings, our etiquette requires that she appear, fresh and serene, at the table and carry on a sparkling, stimulating conversation with her guests, while meticulously seeing to their needs and seeming to enjoy her own plate of food. Quite a feat when you stop to think of it!

As the men gather after mealtime, tribes etiquette once again frees the women from the social obligations of a western hostess, for her presence is neither needed nor expected. She is free to withdraw into the shadows to listen to the male discussions or roll up in her blanket for the luxurious after-dinner nap for which many of her more «civilized» sisters so fervently long!

Though jungle etiquette may be far removed from that of the Western world, it can't be said it doesn't have its merits!

**THE  
LEPROSARIUM  
PROGRAM  
IS GEARED  
TO THE...**

**HEALING  
of  
BODY  
AND  
SOUL**

«I've come to ask if you'll give us permission to start a youth group in our village.» This startling question came from the young Raday tribesman who acts as nurse at the leprosy segregation village of Plei Tomak in Phu Bon Province.

Several of the village young people had just returned home from a week of Bible School at the mission station and were filled with enthusiasm and eager to continue learning. They had decided to begin regular meetings on their own to learn hymns, memorize Scripture and pray since they couldn't always have a pastor or missionary there to teach them.

They also had on their very ambitious schedule a time set aside to go visiting to talk with other «houses» about their faith in the God of Heaven. This is the result for which each member of the leprosarium staff prays. This is the aim of the entire leprosy program — that the «whole man» may be healed.

There are gratifying signs of the success of physical treatment when the face of a patient, formerly swollen and distorted with disease becomes once again smooth and normal, or hands, long lifeless, become useful as a result of expert surgery and patient physiotherapy.

The evidence of genuine spiritual healing having taken place in the heart of a patient is sometimes very sudden and dramatic with a life being transformed instantly and completely. However, usually the signs are more subtle, coming gradually and with regular progression as in the physical healing. After the initial decision to follow Christ, there is a time of learning, and as the heart begins to understand a little of the greatness and holiness of God, there is a dropping away of the old ways and the image of a new creature begins to emerge.

These signs of spiritual progress are noted with gratitude and joy by all those who have dedicated themselves to the task of ministering to these unfortunate people. However, there's yet another step to go before the healing is to be considered complete. On the day that a patient's heart is so full of the love of God that His faith begins to overflow to those about him, it may be said that the treatment has been wholly successful.

The request of the young people in Plei Tomak is an indication that the miracle of true faith is at last welling up in their hearts — may it soon reach the point of overflow.



## REVERIE

Hot sun... aching backs... planting time in the vast Mekong delta rice paddies of South Vietnam. It was on a day such as this, forty years ago, that I received the gospel witness. My name is Cuong. I thank God over and over again for sending missionaries to share the message of Christ's redeeming love. They first brought the gospel to our area in 1926. Our fertile fields are now in the throes of a great military conflict... one-third of the rich delta plantations lie barren... Christians are as scattered sheep... Our testimony costs us the exchange of ancestral lands for a refugee camp... God's church is a militant, ever-moving force that continues to grow in spite of adversity. The sowing of the « seed » is unlimited... in prisons... in hospitals... in refugee centers... in growing cities. Your prayers and support are essential for the gathering of the harvest.

by R. Pendell



# *I ate a bird's nest and liked it !*

**Y**ou want soup? How about bird's nest soup with chicken? Very delicious! » The words of the Chinese waiter were enticing and being a person who will try anything once, I consented to begin my meal with a small bowl of sea swallow's nest soup. To my surprise the hot broth that was served five minutes later did not contain bits of moss, twigs, straw or feathers. It was thick, white and beige in color. I could pick out bits of chicken and noodles, yet mingled in the whole was a white gelatinous substance.

Curious to know more about this unusual delicacy, I called the waiter once again and asked if he would explain why this soup has the reputation of being one of the most popular dishes in Southeast Asia. And as the story goes...

Long before the United States military forces began construction on the new harbor at Cam-Ranh Bay, there lived the little sea swallows who made their nests in the marine rocks and caves where the boisterous sea lashes and the wild winds howl. The nests are semi-oval in appearance, about the size of a quarter of a tennis ball and hang from the high ceilings of the caves. They are white or of a very pale color and seem made up of a series of entangled fibers. These fibers are the salivary secretions of the bird itself. No twigs or leaves compose any part of the nest. Usually two crops of nests are gathered each year. The first is performed prior to the egg laying in order to force the swallow to rebuild its nest immediately. After the second nest is built, it is necessary to wait until the eggs are laid and hatched and the young bird can fly before these nests are gathered. Thus the species is preserved.

The waiter assured me that nests are not only rare, but difficult to secure — hence the high price on the menu. One small bowl of soup costs one hundred and twenty piasters or one U.S. dollar. Preparation of a bowl of soup is quite elaborate. The nests are first put into hot water where they dilate and unravel thus freeing the impurities and foreign matter which are picked out with tiny tweezers. Then the extra goodies are added: chicken or crab, noodles or tapioca. The most aristocratic of dishes is sea swallows' nest with young pigeon.

« Do you suppose I could just peek at a nest before it is cooked? » I asked. My friend disappeared and returned with a dried fibrous object on a china saucer. Clinging to the center of the nest, as if to prove its authenticity, was a tiny grey feather and a piece of curly sea-weed.

I tasted my soup. I found the chicken flavor easy to trace, even a bit of fresh ginger, but the actual flavor of the bird's nest I could not detect. Upon questioning the waiter about this he announced, « Oh, there is no flavor, but the nest is so nutritious, especially good for the lungs and digestion! »

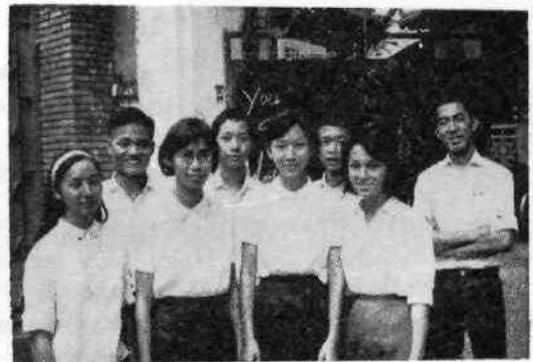
by JEAN LIVINGSTON

# 契 團 生 學 教 督 基

## OUTREACH

**T**oday, in a Chinese-English high school with a student body of more than two thousand, Bible classes are taught by a missionary. This ministry began ten years ago and has continued with an ever-increasing outreach.

Because the young people were hesitant to attend church, and their parents often forbade it, we needed a place where we could meet informally with them outside of school. After much prayer and a long period of waiting, the Lord provided such a place near the school when a missionary couple moved into the neighborhood and opened their home to the students. A number of those who met there were Christian young people and they invited their unsaved classmates to the Bible studies. Thus the Student Christian Fellowship came into being, holding its first meeting about a year ago. A group of twelve met on that occasion. Each week numbers and interest increased as word spread to students of other Chinese-English schools.



*Officers of the Student Christian Fellowship*

We now meet in a commodious place which we call the Intersarsity Evangelical Fellowship Center. Here we can have our meetings indoors or out on the patio, depending upon the weather. This central location makes it possible for us to reach a larger number of students. More than six schools are now represented at the Tuesday noon gathering with an attendance ranging from fifty to eighty.

Enthusiastic Christian youth take turns leading the group in singing gospel choruses. The reading of a Scripture lesson in English and special music are a part of the weekly meeting. The crowning point of our gathering is a salvation message, usually presented in English and translated into Chinese.

Our prayer is that other Chinese-English high schools will begin their own Student Christian Fellowship groups, and that these young people will experience the new birth.

by BETTY ARNOLD

# NEWS IN BRIEF

**FIREWORKS.** — The Woody Stemples celebrated their 5th wedding anniversary with a bang! A grenade missed its mark, rolled into their yard and exploded — breaking the house windows and imbedding deadly shrapnel in the walls. God protected! One half hour earlier Charlotte and the baby had been sitting on the front porch.

**ORDAINED TO THE MINISTRY.** — In a moving service held at the close of the annual field conference, Mr. Kenneth White was set apart to the ministry of the Gospel of Christ. May God richly empower him as he labors in the Dalat area.

**OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF BABES.** — While visiting the Dalat School in Malaysia, Marge Pendell went shopping with her first-grade daughter, Gwen. Seeing a pretty item in a store window, Marge exclaimed, «Oh, I LOVE that!». Gwen in all seriousness intoned: «Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world!» Chagrined, Marge quietly added, «Oh, I mean I LIKE it».

**A HEARTY WELCOME** to Ed and Ruth Thompson, and Paul and Eunice Ellison. Unable to return to Cambodia where both couples have served for many years, they have joined our ranks here in Vietnam. Their ministries will be very effective for there are thousands of Cambodians here; and the Mngong, the tribe with which the Thompsons have for years been working, spill over into Vietnam.

**GIRLS GIRLS.** — We are happy to announce the arrival of little Laurie Lee Frazier on June 6th, and Joanna Elizabeth Long who was born on October 13th.

*Ralph and Linda Duell with Eric and Ian*



*Ed and Clair Minor and family*



**A SPLENDID STAFF.** — God wonderfully provided when He sent to the Dalat School the added teachers we so desperately needed. They each left excellent positions at home to join the Vietnam family on the field. All are loved, happy and ever so busy! The new arrivals: Miss Lorraine Regnier, New York; the Ed Miners from St. Louis, Missouri; the Ralph Duells from White Plains, New York; the John Halls from Ottawa, Canada. Tirelessly and with great devotion the entire home and school staff train and teach the missionaries' children. We thank God for their dedication.



John and Penny Hall



Lorraine Regnier

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## A HEART FOR THE M. K.

by RUTH KELCK

Life for the Missionary Kid is not always as he would like to have it. Often my heart is strangely touched as I counsel with him and begin to better understand life from his point of view. «An understanding heart, Lord»... is my frequent prayer.

This is not to say that I feel sorry for the M. K. for his privileges are many. Who else can have the adventure in travel, the breadth of experience, and a firsthand knowledge of people and places? I ask not for sympathy, only for understanding.

To be accepted and loved is an inner need of every man and is uppermost in the life of a child. If he lacks the inner assurance of this acceptance and love, problems are bound to develop. The M.K. has no Mom or Dad available to listen when a teacher is unfair. He longs to find acceptance... and I pray, «Give me an understanding heart, Lord».

Security is the supporting base for the well-adjusted child — an inner security that permits

him to operate at top production, a reality that backs him up all the way. Often the M.K.'s security is shaken when he returns to school; the confrontation of new dorm parents, a switch in roommates, different teachers, and always the change in environment as he leaves for school in another land, another climate, another semester of adjustments. Freedom from anxiety and doubt? Permanence or stability? His security is at stake in every change. And every fifth year there is a cultural change, sometimes a shock, as he returns to the States for a year of furlough. «An understanding heart, Lord»... is my prayer.

M.K.s are on the mission field because of their parents' choice, not necessarily their own. What for the parents is a joyous sacrifice, may well be second choice for the child. Separation from Mom and Dad is never easy — especially when you are young. And it's then that I pray — «Give me an understanding heart, Lord. Especially for the M.K.».

Miss Kelck is principal of the Dalat School

# DON'T WE CARE ?

by ED MANGHAM

One night, as on my bed I lay,  
I thought, as I so often do, of the thousands of souls  
that had passed on that day,  
my Lord known by only a few.  
These few are today with Jesus above  
praising His Name as they sing,  
for they had been told of Christ's matchless love  
and on Him their sins each did fling.

But those who knew not of my Lord,  
what of them — who knew not because they weren't told.  
What of the men whom God must condemn,  
yet who knew not that there was a fold ?  
Lord, why must they die never knowing Thy Name,  
not given one chance to hear,  
Is it that we, who know well that you came,  
have somehow just ceased to care ?

Lord, give us a want,  
a desire of heart to go and to gather them in,  
to tell of Thy Son who was given from the start to come,  
and to die for their sin.  
Oh, what a story we have for the world,  
and how we should hasten to tell  
each man we meet, who with sin is filled,  
of the only path by-passing Hell.

Written by a Dalat School graduate

