

THÀNH-DƯƠNG
CƠ-ĐỐC PHỤC-LAM
PHU-H...

This is Vietnam

A Special Edition of the

Messenger Magazine

Vol. 20 No. 3 1970



"Anything Can Happen In Vietnam - And It Usually Does"

1. Girls Christmas choir of Montagnard church at Dame near Dalat. 2. Over 400 baptisms in 1970 such as this one at the Saigon Adventist School's Dat Moi church with Pastor Le Huu officiating. 3. Signs such as this one are prevalent around the Long Thanh orphanage near Long Binh, where Adventists conduct the largest branch Sabbath School in the world. 4. The orphanage recently received help from SAWS through the gift of friends in America. Many boxes of clothing were distributed. 5. There are thousands of others who need help. 6. "Happiness Is" being a young Adventist in Vietnam! Where else is the challenge of evangelism any greater? 7. Nearly fifty student nurses are in preparation for work as full-time humanitarians at the Saigon Adventist hospital. 8. SAWS volunteer workers spend hours preparing clothing and other materials to aid unfortunate victims of war and flood throughout the countryside. 9. "How about us?" "We need a school and other things too!" 10. So life goes on in spite of war. 11. Traffic increases and so does the need for a better way of life — the Adventist way.



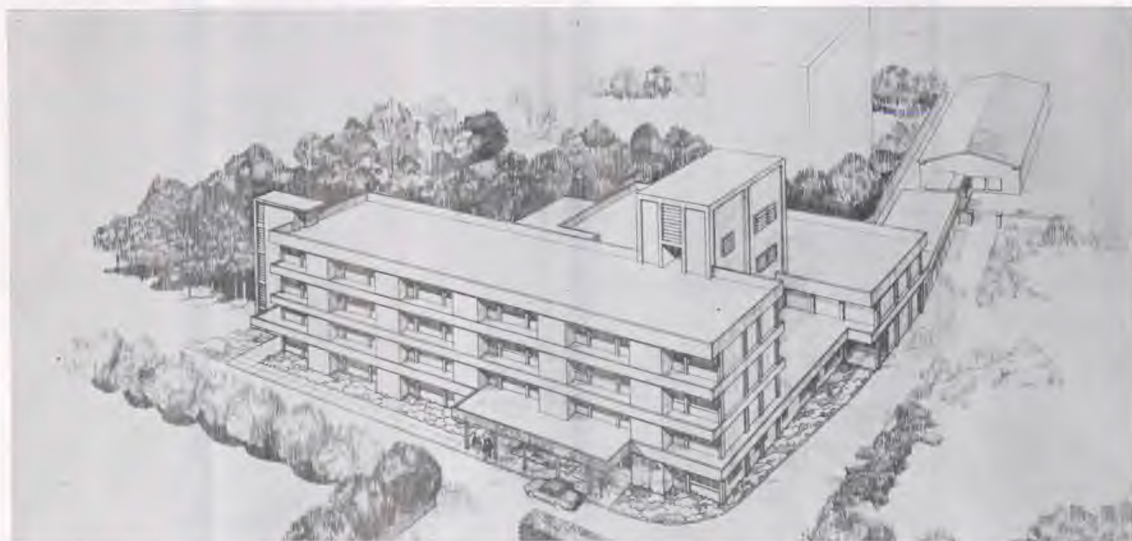


CROWDED. On the right is a typical scene at the Saigon Adventist Hospital in South Vietnam—crowded hallways. Cots are placed in every available spot in the hospital in order to take care of the hordes of Vietnamese who crowd the hospital's clinic. There is no room at the present site for expansion, so a new hospital will be constructed at a better location.

TRAFFIC. The Saigon Adventist Hospital is located on one of the busiest street corners in all of South Vietnam. Military vehicles, mostly loaded with war materials, combine with civilian automobiles, motorcycles, and pedicabs as helicopters whirl overhead and mortars can be heard in the background. The only "fire escape" at the hospital is the lofty palm tree on the left.



One Of Our Greatest Needs!



A New Hospital

In the past two years over 150,000 children and adults have been inoculated against common diseases. Under the direction of Miss Joy Tolson, student missionary from Columbia Union College, Washington, D.C., hundreds and thousands of contacts are being made in the name of our hospital and our SAWS (Seventh-day Adventist Welfare Service.)



THE VIETNAM MISSION

IS MEETING THE CHALLENGE

OF AN UNFINISHED WORK



We Have Made Good Progress in the Last Few Years
but Time Is Running Out . . .

- 1969 -

- * In 1969, we renovated and reopened the Bien Hoa church at the cost of VN\$205,000.00. The Mission Evangelist Pastor Pham Truong Thanh and church pastor Nguyen Quoc Thai held meetings with ten precious souls baptized as first fruits in our new program at Bien Hoa.
- * The Vam Nhon school and church was repaired and reopened. More than 300 children were present to enroll on opening day. In ten months time, 104 souls were baptized by our 70-year old pastor Le Van Ut. Total cost VN\$400,000.00 for repair.
- * The Phu Hoa church, located near Danang, built a new 3-room school, and a new parsonage, plus major painting and repair of the church building. Cost was more than VN\$4,000,000.00 in value.
- * In Can Tho a new 3-room school was built at a value of over VN\$2,000,000.00. It was necessary to haul 90-loads of fill dirt to bring our property to proper ground level. This help was donated.
- * At Rochai, in the Dalat District, our mountain people dismantled their 2-room school and moved it from its former location on a military hilltop outpost, to a position near our church, a more secure and quieter area.
- * Darahoa, another mountain church, enlarged the sanctuary to accommodate the large attendance that comes faithfully every Sabbath.
- * Lamb Shelters were built at Ganh Reo, and Kadun.
- * A mission evangelist was chosen at a mid-year committee.



A Word from Mission President

In this issue of the Messenger we are reviewing briefly the development and growth of God's work in war-torn Vietnam. As we gratefully acknowledge His miraculous leadings in our past history, we also realize some what the tremendous challenge that lies ahead. Our hearts are thrilled as we have witnessed the new souls that have been brought to Jesus in recent months.

Our baptismal record for 1969 was the best in the history of our work in Vietnam. A harvest of 242 precious souls! But this is only a fraction of what God can do, if we will only let Him use us as He desires to do. In 1970, He has blessed His work with over 400 baptisms thus far.

In 1971, our faithful laymen, together with the working force of our institutions and mission, plan to cooperate with God in the "greatest evangelistic thrust" ever attempted in Vietnam! We ask for an interest in your prayers as we accept the challenge of the '70's.

—V. L. Bretsch, President

17 Million People Must Hear the 3rd Angel's Message Yet!

— 1970 —

- * Tam Ky church opened welfare center and mission school teaching the first four grades.
- * Saigon Adventist Training school graduated eleven young men who plan further training for the ministry.
- * Saigon Adventist Hospital launched full scale plans for a new hospital building. A 70-144 foot steel building was erected and will be shared by the hospital and school, housing a chapel and two classrooms for the school; a laundry room and other facilities for the hospital.
- * The Mission Office was renovated and repaired with many new changes. We thank the Southeast Asia Union for its generous contribution of VN\$750,000.00. We now have an office we can all be very proud of.
- * A child evangelism secretary was chosen at our biennial session in March.
- * Three young men were chosen as interns and have been assigned work in churches at Phu Hoa, Cholon and Sadec.
- * Cholon Chinese Church opened new school program and launched major evangelist thrust mainly through its young people.



Pictures 1 and 2 were taken in mid-1969. Picture 3 shows the new look of 1970. Pictures 4 and 5 show the congregation and exterior of the Phnom Penh, Cambodia SDA church, at present soldiers and they're families occupy the church. 6. Members of the Tam Ky SDA church. 7. First fruits of the branch Sabbath School at Cho Dem near Saigon, which began after the release of a converted VC prisoner at Bien Hoa's Tan Hiep prison. 8. Graduation took place in April of 1970 for eleven ministerial students. A number of them are now in mission employ. 9. Students of the Dame Montagnard school near Dalat. 10. Students and members of the Cholon Chinese Church and school. 11. Over 400 VOP students are seen at Tan Hiep rehabilitation prison near Bien Hoa. 12. This is the Duc My SDA church which has been in communist controlled area until recently. As soon as matters can be arranged this church will be repaired and reopened. 13. An American servicemen's church is held every Sabbath at the Saigon Servicemen's center. After each worship service, a noon meal is served the visitors. 14. At Quang Ngai, our SDA church needs larger quarters to house an increased membership and higher ground to be safe from flood waters. 15. At Phu Hoa near Danang, our church members enjoy a new 3-room school and parsonage for the pastor. 16. At Danang, on the South China sea, our church is expanding its facilities and also its school.





105 Souls In 1970

His first contact with Seventh-day Adventists was through his brother, and it made him bitterly opposed to his brother's actions. Later, he and many members of his family accepted this message. He became a champion preacher for the cause of Christ. Today, we honor Pastor Le Van Ut, the first Adventist preacher in the history of the Vietnam Mission to have the experience of baptizing more than one hundred souls in one year. The actual count is one hundred and five in ten month's time.

Vietnam for Christ! This Is Our Goal

HERE ARE OUR PLANS FOR THE NEXT 12 MONTHS:



- Begin the establishment of a 260-acre academy-style school for our mountain young people at Rochai, near Dalat.
- Add two floors and teachers apartments to our school building at Cholon Chinese Church.
- Build a four-room school in the city of Dalat.
- Build additional classrooms and teacher's housing at Danang.
- Build a three-room school at Tam Ky.
- Repair Quang Ngai Church building and build welfare-youth center.
- Hold evangelistic crusades in every church, utilizing the talents of young and old, laymen and workers alike.
- Increase the follow-up and lesson grading for the V.O.P.
- To enlist every member's support in the challenge of entering and opening new work in dark villages and cities.

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SAIGON BETTER-LIVING CRUSADE

October 10 - 31



1. Despite a continued rain each night of the crusade, grew to around 550 near the end of the meetings. 2. Many stopped to shake hands with Pastor Bruce Johnston and Dr. Clarence Ekvall to express personal appreciation for the inspiration received. 3. Pastor Johnston and Pastor Le Huu, interpreter, are shown as they prepared for the nightly presentations. 4. About mid-way through the series, a special VOP graduation service was conducted with many of our faithful Saigon students in attendance. 5. On the closing Friday evening, Pastor Pham Trung Thanh, evangelist of the Vietnam Mission and program coordinator for the Saigon Better Living Crusade, baptized fifteen souls, the first fruits of the crusade. 6. Saigon has no public transportation, and so many came by Honda and Lambretta. 7. On the last two Sabbaths of the Crusade, a unique 3-speaker-system was used at the eleven o'clock worship hour. People understood the sermon in Chinese, English, and Vietnamese. 8. A very special part of the program and one that many expressed a great deal of interest in, was Dr. Ekvall's nightly presentation of health talks. Here he is seen with his friend Smoking Sam, who is being steadied in position by Tom Gammon, newly arrived Adventist Volunteer Corps worker from Portland, Oregon.

