

SOUTHEAST ASIA UNION

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ADRA: People Helping People



*ADRA workers distribute
bundles of clothing, food & personal hygiene items
to victims of a chemical warehouse explosion
& fire in Bangkok, Thailand.*

See story on page 11

Precious Moments with Prayer

Part 6 – Seeking God's Guidance

James 1:5 is probably the most famous Bible text on the topic of God's guidance. Many of us have claimed the promise, "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God who gives to all men generously and without reproaching, and it will be given him." (RSV)

Another beautiful promise is found in *Gospel Workers*, page 258:

"Ask for humility, wisdom, courage, increase of faith. To every sincere prayer an answer will come. It may not come just as you desire, or at the time you look for it; but it will come in the way and at the time that will best meet your need. The prayers you offer in loneliness, in weariness, in trial, God answers, not always according to your expectations, but always for your good."

Sometimes it isn't easy to wait on God. But that is where faith comes in. When we ask God for guidance, we need to trust Him. One pastor suggested several ways in which God can answer our prayers for guidance:

1. Through signs.
2. Through His will as revealed in His word.
3. Through providential circumstances.
4. Through open and closed doors.
5. Through conviction from the Holy Spirit, giving an inner sense of His will for us.
6. Through other Christians sharing with us the benefit of their experience, wisdom and understanding.

We must always remember that just because God gives us a direct answer and we know what His will is at that time, it does not mean that we won't still have difficulties.

In my own life, God has shown His will and

answered my prayers in various ways. Before accepting the call to work in Singapore, our family prayed earnestly for guidance. The answers came so clearly that we believed it would be wrong for us not to come. We came, but shortly after arriving in Singapore, my wife ruptured a disc in her lower back. She has now had two major operations. She

has been in the USA for nine months undergoing treatment, and won't return for still another month. This has been one of the hardest times in our lives. Yet the fact that God had so strongly told us that this is where He wants us has helped us both to keep holding on.

"While the world is progressing in wickedness, none of us need flatter ourselves that we shall have no difficulties. But it is these very difficulties that bring us into the audience chamber of the Most High. We may seek counsel of One who is infinite in wisdom.

"The Lord says, 'Call upon Me in the day of trouble.' Ps. 50:15. He invites us to present to Him our perplexities and necessities, and our need of divine help. He bids us be instant in prayer....

"If we surrender our lives to His service, we can never be placed in a position for which God has not made provision. Whatever may be our situation, we have a Guide to direct our way; whatever our perplexities, we have a sure Counselor...." (*Christ's Object Lessons*, pp. 172-173)

"In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy path."

The soul that turns to God for its help, its support, its power, by daily, earnest prayer, will have noble aspirations, clear perceptions of truth and duty, lofty purposes of action, and a continual hungering and thirsting after righteousness. By maintaining a connection with God, we shall be enabled to diffuse to others, through our association with them, the light, the peace, the serenity, that rule in our hearts. The strength acquired in prayer to God, united with persevering effort in training the mind in thoughtfulness and care-taking, prepares one for daily duties and keeps the spirit in peace under all circumstances.

*Thoughts from
the Mount of Blessing, p. 85*

— Rayburn Smith
Publishing Department Director, SAUM

ICPA Congress Scheduled for Kuala Lumpur

The Eighth World Prevention Congress of the ICPA (International Commission for the Prevention of Alcohol and Drug Dependency) will be held in Kuala Lumpur, Peninsular Malaysia, from September 1 to 5, 1991.

The congress will cover such topics as ministry to the chemically dependent, peer resistance education, community action, and the relationship of the media industry to individual behavior. Of particular interest to those in the legal profession will be the symposium on law and its relationship to prevention. Certificates will be available in each of several areas of instruction. Medical professionals may also gain continuing education credits for specific seminars.

Delegates will be attending from each mission and hospital in the Southeast Asia Union Mission (SAUM), as well as from many other countries around the world. Anyone interested in further information about the congress may contact Dr. Russell Standish, Health/Temperance Director of the SAUM.

— Russell Standish,
Health/Temperance Director, SAUM

V.O.P. Gets Much-Needed Volunteer Help

It is often difficult because of a shortage of man-power to give all the necessary individualized attention and follow-up to Voice of Prophecy students and graduates. Members in Singapore, however, have rallied to the needs.

Recently a cell group of the Balestier Road SDA Church has taken on the project of writing letters to many of the good interests whose names are supplied by the VOP headquarters. Both the Balestier Road and the Southeast Asia Union College Churches have groups helping on Sabbath afternoons to write addresses on enrollment cards.

During February and March, college student teams distributed over 5,000 VOP application cards in the city and housing areas. Other churches regularly distribute the cards on Sabbath afternoons.

In the VOP office, retired workers help with labeling, folding, and other manual work. During school holidays, children and college students help with folding, inserting and pasting.

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Many hands working together help to make the work lighter. They help to do a more thorough work. They also help to give young and old alike an opportunity to have a part in sharing the gospel with those in their community.

— Samuel Money, VOP Director, SAUM

Simon Sim Joins Auditing Service

On February 26, Mr. Simon Sim joined the SAUM staff as a member of the General Conference Auditing Service/Southeast Asia District, and is serving as assistant staff auditor. His predecessor, Mr. Alex Lan, recently left to pursue a master's degree in the United States.

Mr. Sim is from Kuching, Sarawak, and has just graduated from Avondale College in Australia. Besides having a distinction for his Bachelor of Business degree, he is also an accomplished musician in piano and violin.

The SAUM staff welcome Simon to the family of Christian workers.



— Steven Goh, District Auditing Director, SAUM

Pastors: Retreating or Advancing?

It has been said that in war the best offence may be a good defence. Is it possible, then, that for the church the best way to make progress is to retreat?

Certainly we should not retreat in response to opposition from Satan or the world. God will give us strength to stand up against these things.

But the testimony of Scripture is clear. We need to retreat frequently from our daily tasks and take time to think, reflect, and pray. This was the secret of Enoch's successful walk with God.

And when Jesus was ready to ordain His disciples to go and preach the gospel, He chose a quiet place away from the bustle of city life. "It was beneath the sheltering

trees of the mountain-side, but a little distance from the Sea of Galilee, that the twelve were called to the apostolate, and the Sermon on the Mount was given. The fields and hills were the favorite resorts of Jesus, and much of His teaching was given under the open sky, rather than in the temple or the synagogues. No synagogue could have received the throngs that followed Him; but not for this reason only did He choose to teach in the fields and groves. Jesus loved the scenes of nature. To Him each quiet retreat was a sacred temple." (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 290)

Recognizing the need of their pastoral staffs to have time to get away to a place where they can be spiritually nurtured, three of the missions in Southeast Asia have scheduled pastors' retreats in recent months. Some SAUM missions plan retreats every year, while others can only do so on alternate years.

The pastors from the Peninsular Malaysia Mission (PEM) gathered at the Methodist Retreat Center in Fraser's Hill from January 15 through 17 for a time of planning, praying, and preparing for the work of the coming year.

The cool, cloudy weather at this mountain retreat kept the group inside much of the time rather than permitting much outdoor activity. But hikes up and down the hills between rainstorms provided good physical exercise.

Spiritual food and exercise were provided by devotional messages brought by SAUM President George

Johnson and the newly arrived SAUM Ministerial Secretary, Kenneth Wade.

The PEM ministerial staff also devoted much of their retreat time to discussions and learning about topics such as the professional pastor, planning for united evangelism campaigns, and Global Mission.

In the Sarawak Mission, pastors and their families stayed in bungalows at Bako National Park from February 25 to 27. They devoted their mornings to devotions and study under the direction of Health Department Director Dr. Ted Chew and SAUM Ministerial Secretary Kenneth Wade. Afternoons were reserved for activities such as hiking, swimming, and communing with God in the beautiful natural surroundings. Evenings were well occupied, too, with discussions of business matters relevant to the pastors' work in the mission.

The most recent pastoral retreat took place at Golden Sands Baptist Retreat Center near Port Dickson, Peninsular Malaysia. Pastors and their families from the Singapore Adventist Mission spent four days together. Pastor Wade also met with this group, and provided devotional messages as well as instruction in several topics requested by the pastors. Because this retreat was held just one week prior to the Singapore Mission triennial session, pastors and mission officers also spent much time in discussing items that would be presented at that session.

— Messenger Staff

■ PENINSULAR MALAYSIA ■

Three Baptized in Penang

February 2 was a high day for the Penang Indian Company. On that day, Mr. and Mrs. Marimuthu and their son were baptized into God's truth. On the same day, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Yesupatham was dedicated to the Lord.

Under the blessing of God and the leadership of Pastor and Mrs. Thevarajulu, the little company of believers is growing, and God's truth is spreading among the Tamil-speaking population of the city of Penang.

The group is also in close contact with the Indian believers in Bukit Mertajam and Nibong Tebal. God is surely blessing His work among the Indian believers.

— Russell Standish,
Health/Temperance Director, SAUM



Dr Russell Standish (left) and Pastor Thevarajulu (right) rejoice with Mr and Mrs Marimuthu and son on their baptismal day.

Kuantan Church Holds Special Sabbath Schools

A special children's Sabbath School, designed mainly for non-Adventist children, meets every Sabbath afternoon from 3:30 to 5:00 in the Kuantan church.



Joy is what these children, mostly from non-Adventist homes, find in the special Sabbath School programs in Kuantan.

For the past four years this program has been active, with an average of 32 children, ages 4 to 12, attending each week.

Leaders of the program are all young people who are active in the Pathfinder activities and other church programs. Miss Nancy Chan and Miss Rebekah Cho are the main leaders, while Mdm Ang Mei Kheng, wife of the church pastor, Brother Janssen New, has been helping to organize the program.

During the program, children have singing, stories, Bible games, and memorization of verses. When they divide into classes, the nine- to twelve-year-olds meet for a special Bible class. Those below nine years old have a separate class and color Bible pictures.

As the children reach Pathfinder age, they are recruited into the Pathfinder club, and some are later baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The leaders have been very inspired to see the children involved and actively participating in every activity.

The objective of the program is to help the children when they are young to know Christ, and to lead them to accept Him as their personal Saviour.

*-- Mdm Ang Mei Kheng,
wife of Kuantan Church Pastor*

Stewardship Seminar

From March 8 to 19, several churches in Peninsular Malaysia hosted stewardship seminars, conducted by Pastor Benjamin Paramian, PEM Stewardship Director, and Pastor Shupinar Koubong, director of stewardship in the SAUM.

In the state of Perak, in the northern part of Malaysia, the Taiping, Ipoh, and Teluk Intan churches had stewardship seminars. Similar programs were held in the Sungai Way, Banting, Kuala Lumpur Chinese, and Petaling Jaya churches in the state of Selangor in the central part of Malaysia; in Kota Baru and Kuantan in Kelantan State on the East coast; and in Muar, in Johore State in southwestern Malaysia.

In each church the speakers emphasized the principle of the Four T's: Temple, Talent, Treasure, and Time. They also distributed reading materials and commitment cards.

The members showed an eagerness to learn the new concept of stewardship, and expressed a determination to become faithful stewards for God. In at least one church the offering report has already shown a marked improvement in the members' understanding and practice of tithing and giving of offerings.

— Benjamin Paramian, Stewardship Director, PEM

Stress Seminar Held in Kuala Lumpur

The Kuala Lumpur SDA English Church conducted a Stress Management Seminar for professionals from February 1 to 3. Speakers for the seminar were personnel from Youngberg Adventist Hospital (YAH) in Singapore.

Held at the newly-renovated Seventh-day Adventist Community Services Center, the seminar was well attended by executives and professionals from the local churches and from the general public. The seminar is one of the pre-crusade programs designed to heighten awareness among the general public on various social issues, and aiming to enhance the quality of life in the community.

Dr. Fred Lam, YAH Vice President for Medical Affairs, and Pastor Jonathan Ng, YAH Director of Counselling Service and Community Relations, presented the lectures.

*-- George John, Pastor,
Kuala Lumpur SDA English Church*

PEM Holds Triennial

Representatives from the 25 churches and companies of the Peninsular Malaysia Mission met at Golden Sands Baptist Center near Port Dickson on March 24 to begin their triennial session.

To begin the session, two new companies—Banting Indian Company and Penang Indian Company—were welcomed into the sisterhood of churches. Later, the Kuantan Group also received company status, and as such also had a representative seated as a delegate to the session, giving a total of 28 church groups in the PEM.

The session began at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday with a welcoming message from the Mission President, Pastor David Leoh. After the seating of delegates and adoption of the schedule for the daily program, various committees were appointed and Mission departmental leaders presented their reports. Then delegates formed caucuses that would select representatives to the nominating committee.



Meetings on Monday commenced at 7:00 a.m. with a devotional message presented by SAUM President George Johnson. He stressed the importance of strengthening the unity of the church by working together in the bond of love. Delegates then met together in small prayer bands to ask God's special guidance on the proceedings of the day.

After breakfast, the committees got down to work. The plans committee's task was to suggest specific strategies that could be used in implementing Global Mission in Peninsular Malaysia.

The task of Global Mission is to establish the work of the church in many areas where we do not yet have a presence. The Seventh-day Adventist Church has established work in only about 200 of the world's approximately 5,000 geographical units (one million or more people). This means that there are about 1,800 groups—representing more than 2,000,000,000 people—who have not yet had opportunity to hear the gospel

proclaimed as Adventists preach it.

Global Mission calls us to take up the challenge of Jesus, who promised that the gospel would be preached in all the world for a witness to all nations before He would return again (Matthew 24:14). To meet this challenge, the Seventh-day Adventist Church is striving to establish, before AD 2000, a presence in all of the geographical areas where we do not yet have a work established.

Peninsular Malaysia has 19 geographical units of one million or more that have no Adventist Church in their area. While Christian churches cannot reach out with direct evangelism to Muslims in Malaysia, the PEM hopes to help them appreciate the Adventist Church in their area. The plans committee recommended that greater cooperation be established between Penang Adventist Hospital and the Mission to make available health-related programs, and it called for the appointment of a full-time Health-Services Coordinator who is fluent in Bahasa Malaysia.

Following the work of the nominating committee, there were several new appointments in the various departments of the PEM. The departmental leaders for 1991 to 1993 include:

Ministerial Association Director	P. Benjamin
Associate	Leong Fai
Education (Honorary)	Edmund Siagian
Church Ministries	P. Benjamin
Sabbath School	P. Benjamin
Child Evangelism	Robyn Hardesty
Personal Ministries	P. Benjamin
Youth	Terrance Sim
Assistant	Janssen New
Stewardship	P. Benjamin
Family Life	Shirley Chapman
Temperance/Health	David Leoh
Associate	Shirley Chapman
Trust Services (Honorary)	Robert Lee
Religious Liberty/Public	
Affairs (Honorary)	Robert Lee
Communication	David Leoh
Publishing	Sam Govindasamy
Assistant	Loh Kam Kee
Assistant	Peter Chong
Spirit of Prophecy	Leong Fai
HHS/ABC Manager	Robert Benjamin

May the Lord guide each of these leaders in service for Him during the coming years.

-- Kenneth Wade,
Ministerial Secretary, SAUM

■ SARAWAK ■

Mission President Injured in Accident

Pastor Daniel Walter, President of the Sarawak Mission, was injured in a freak accident while visiting a longhouse in the Julau District early in March. Pastor Walter and his wife, Dorothy, and Pastors Edmund Liah and Anyau Kinchang had gone to the village of Naga Lijan to conduct a campmeeting.

On Sabbath morning, Pastor Walter was using the toilet in the longhouse. Starting to lose his balance, he tried to steady himself against the back wall. The rotten bamboo of the wall gave way, and Pastor Walter fell through, crashing more than 15 feet to the ground. Fortunately, he never lost consciousness, and his cries for help were heard by an old lady about ten minutes after he fell.

The nearest medical care was many painful hours away by stretcher, longboat and van. From there he was flown the following day to Kuching, the capital city of Sarawak, for orthopedic care at the Normah Specialist Center.

X-rays revealed that he had broken the upper end of his left femur (upper leg), which had to be repaired surgically with a steel plate and screws. His left arm was also broken near the shoulder. His right forearm was dislocated at the wrist, and both bones were badly broken, but all have been repaired. The doctor expects him to regain the use of his arms within two months and to be able to begin walking after approximately four months.

The Walters are especially thankful to the Lord for sparing his life. The nature of the fall could easily have snapped life out, but he was spared grievous injuries and suffered only the broken limbs and is not experiencing any pain at this time.

Pastor Walter wants to thank each one of his fellow workers and believers for the hundreds of prayers that have ascended heavenward on his behalf. The Lord has heard every one and has responded favorably to them.

— Pastor Saul Nyunga,
Communication Director, Sarawak Mission

Two New Churches Dedicated

As churches grow and memberships outgrow the original jungle chapels built in many villages, congregations are putting forth great effort to replace the jungle chapels with new and permanent buildings in which to congregate for worshipping God.


February 9 was the dedication for the church group at Simpang Bokah, located about 35 miles west of Kuching. Sarawak Mission officers met with the congregation to dedicate the new church building, which had been completed just a few months before.

Then on February 16, Mission President Daniel Walter, led out in the dedication of a new church building in Sungei Alitin in the Simunjan District. Also present for the service was Pastor James Sagit, district pastor of Simunjan District. The members themselves had built the church and painted it nicely for the occasion.

— Daniel Walter, President, Sarawak Mission




GLOBAL MISSION

 **CARRIES THE GOSPEL**

 **TO THE UNREACHED**

YOU CAN HAVE A PART:

- Reach A Rural Village
- Change A City Slum
- Convert A Non-Christian Tribal Leader
- Support A Lay Evangelist



**Give to Global Mission
on
SABBATH
June 8 and August 10, 1991**

Editors' note: The editors of *MESSENGER* especially appreciate having news from the Sarawak Mission this issue—all the news articles from Sarawak have been prepared by Pastor Walter since his accident.

Witnessing through Literature Evangelism



"In this closing work of the gospel, there is a vast field to be occupied; and, more than ever before, the work is to enlist helpers from the common people. Both the youth and those older in years will be called from the field, from the vineyard, and from the workshop, and sent forth by the Master to give His message. Many of these have had little opportunity for education; but Christ sees in them qualifications that will enable them to fulfill His purpose. If they put their hearts into the work, and continue to be learners, He will fit them to labor for Him." *Colporteur Ministry*, p. 21.

God has been able to use two of the literature evangelists in Sarawak in a mighty way. Vincent Amer, now an Assistant Publishing Director, used to be a coco-bean farmer, and Joseph Phe was looking for his niche in life when he became an LE. In 1990, Joseph was the top in sales in the Sarawak Mission. Both have had rewarding experiences in their years of colporteurship.



In 1987, Joseph and Vincent were canvassing house to house when they met Flomida Rani. She bought some magazines and a copy of the *Great Controversy*. Joseph started sharing the love of God with her. Then they followed up with Bible studies in the home of another Seventh-day Adventist family, since Flomida couldn't study in her home. After about six months of study, Flomida was baptized in August 1988.

Before her baptism, Flomida quit her job and started going out to watch Joseph canvass. In October 1988, she also became a literature evangelist. She has been sharing the gospel message as an LE ever since.

The Literature Ministry Department of your Mission is always looking for dedicated church members who would like to know more about the literature ministry. You, too, can be trained to be a soul winner through sharing the printed page.

If you feel the Holy Spirit speaking to your heart, please contact one of our Literature Ministry leaders for more information.

-- Rayburn Smith, Publishing Department Director, SAUM

New H.H.E.S. Manager Joins Mission Staff

On March 4, Miss Saira ak Jeffrey Ahit joined the Sarawak Mission staff as manager of the HHES. She replaces Mr. Daniel Wong, who resigned late last year. Miss Saira comes from Sg. Pinang Church, where her father is one of the church officers.

Her duties are to keep the literature evangelists supplied with books and to keep the Mission HHES store well stocked. It is planned that she will also manage the Adventist Supply Center when it opens in the near future.

-- Pastor Daniel Walter, President, Sarawak Mission

Volunteers Build Churches in Sarawak

A group of 52 volunteers, mostly academy students from the Upper Columbia Conference in the northwestern USA, led by their Youth Director, Pastor Gordon Pifher, arrived in Sarawak on March 27 to build two churches in Sarawak.

The group had asked if they could build two churches in the remote villages, where there would be no lights or conveniences. The Sarawak Mission Committee voted to have them build churches in Kedumpai and Ibol, both in quite isolated areas of the Simunjan and Pantu Districts.

In addition to the students and their leader, the group includes a doctor, a dentist, and three professional builders. The building sites were prepared and construction materials were gathered prior to the group's arrival. They erected the Kedumpai Church in less than seven working days,

and then walked through the jungle for approximately six hours to Ibol, where they are replacing an old jungle chapel built in 1967.

The group returned home in mid-April, but are already talking of returning again next year. The Sarawak

Mission has greatly appreciated the enthusiasm and the contribution of these young people, and welcomes them to return at any time.

-- Daniel Walter, President, Sarawak Mission

■ SINGAPORE ■

Triennial Session Brings Changes

The Singapore Adventist Mission (SAM) held its second triennial session at the Far Eastern Division headquarters in Singapore on March 30 and 31.

The session started on Sabbath afternoon with a singspiration followed by the keynote message by Pastor George Johnson, President of the Southeast Asia Union Mission. "It is not enough to merely change our *beliefs* to become God's children," he stressed, "but a copy of His character must shine out in our lives." The theme for the session centered on the quotation from *Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 69, "When the character of Christ shall be perfectly reproduced in His people, then He will come to claim them as His own."

Through the remainder of the afternoon, various SAM leaders reported on activities and progress during the previous triennial period. At the end of 1990, the church membership in Singapore was 2,754. Two areas in which considerable progress has been evident are the Pathfinder clubs and the small group ministry.

With eight churches and two schools (besides Southeast Asia Union College), there are now six Pathfinder clubs, whereas there was only one at the beginning of the triennium. Small groups worshipping in the homes were just beginning to catch on at the beginning of 1988, but now there are approximately 30, with more beginning all the time.

While the nominating committee was in session, the other delegates separated into planning groups to suggest and discuss how the church might make even greater progress this triennium in various areas including education, publishing, health/temperance, and church ministries.

Among the major items for discussion at the session was the ordination of women elders in the Singapore churches. After considerable discussion on both sides, the delegates voted to defer any decision on the issue until all church groups had more time to study it in more detail and pray about the matter.

When the nominating committee finished its work,

there were numerous changes in SAM departmental leadership. Pastor Sim Chor Kiat continues as SAM President. Mr. John Ho had joined the SAM as Secretary-Treasurer in February, replacing Mr. Peter Wong, who had been called to the Southeast Asia Union Mission headquarters. Mission officers are chosen at the Union session and mid-quiennial session annual committee. New departmental leaders include:

Church Ministries	Ng Kah Seng
Family Life	Sim Chor Kiat
Music Ministries	Wann Fanwar
Personal Ministries	Ng Sui Koon
Sabbath School	Michael Ho
Stewardship	Danson Ng
Youth	Chan Shee Wai
Communication/VOP	Ng Sui Koon
Editor	—
Education	—
Health/Temperance (Honorary)	David McFadden
Literature Ministries	Samuel Siew
Trust Services	Robert Lee
Legal Services	John Poh
Religious Liberty/ SANSO/Public Affairs	Koh Kang Song
Ministerial Association Secretary	Ng Kah Seng

As Dr. Ottis Edwards, Far Eastern Division President, quoted in his Sunday morning devotional message, "There is no limit to the usefulness of one, who putting self aside, makes room for the Holy Spirit." (*Christian Service*, p. 254) May each one of the new leaders, the delegates, and every church member truly have that love for one another (John 13:35), working together in complete unity, that all who see may know that we are Christ's disciples.

-- Marilyn Johnson,
Managing Editor, MESSENGER

Television Interviews with YAH Staff

Youngberg Adventist Hospital (YAH) dietitian Diana David appeared recently on "Newswatch," a television program of the Singapore Broadcasting Corporation, where she spoke on the importance of breakfast for teenagers.

During an earlier program, YAH Director of Counselling Service Jonathan Ng was interviewed on his experience in helping parents build a positive relationship

with their teenagers. Dr. Fred Lam, YAH Vice President, also participated in a television program called "Contact Y."

During the month of March, on two separate occasions, on-site filming of a television drama series was done at the hospital right after the completion of the total renovation of the hospital building and facilities.

All these opportunities for exposure on television certainly helped to create a favorable public image of the hospital in the community.

-- Jonathan Ng, Community Relations Director, YAH

■ THAILAND ■

M.F.H. Manager Arrives



Mr. Ken Myers, the newly appointed developer/manager for Mission Health Food Company, Thailand (MHF), arrived in Bangkok on March 20.

An Australian, Mr. Myers comes to

MHF with 15 years of experience with Sanitarium Health Food Company in Australia and New Zealand. He is accompanied by his wife, Coralie, who is a registered nurse, and two children, Elizabeth, 8, and Neill, 6.

The Southeast Asia Union Mission welcomes the Myers family to MHF.

-- Tom Staples, Treasurer, SAUM

Chiangmai School Wins Government Awards

Once again the Thailand Mission personnel have had their faith confirmed in the Seventh-day Adventist educational system, whose blueprint is of divine origin. When the church conscientiously follows the guidelines for running Christian schools, as outlined in the Spirit of Prophecy, the schools will be of a higher moral and scholastic standard than those bigger, better equipped, and richer schools in the area.

This fundamental principle was once again confirmed in the case of the Chiangmai Adventist Educational Center. The Educational Center is composed of a boarding academy and an adult training school located in Chiangmai, northern Thailand. The school received four special awards this year. Two teachers, Mr. Piroon Junrawungyod and Mrs. Wanlapa Kuansirisaringkarn, were selected to receive Outstanding Teacher awards for the province of Chiangmai.

The Education Department of Chiangmai Province also selected Chiangmai Adventist Educational Center as the school with the highest standard of moral and ethical conduct with respect to the student body as a whole. The presenter of the award explained that the judges had been observing the school and the conduct of the students for a period of three years. They were highly impressed with



School principal Mr. Tawarn (center), along with teachers Mrs. Wanlapa and Mr. Piroon, received awards of excellence from the provincial government.

the integrity, manners, and moral conduct of the Adventist academy students.

The third award was given in Bangkok at a Conference for National Recognition. Chiangmai Adventist Educational Center was selected as a model school, and was designated the Best Example of a Private School in the Country of Thailand.

Truly God has blessed the school, under the direction of Dr. Charles Tidwell, interim administrator, and principals Mr. Tawarn and Miss Buaket. He has fulfilled His promise that if we follow His guidance, our schools will be shining examples of what true education should be.

— W. S. Bassham, President, TAM

Thailand Mission Triennial



Two pastors were ordained to the ministry at the Thailand Mission triennial session, held January 10-12. Pictured here with their wives, and being welcomed to the gospel ministry by TAM President W. S. Bassham and SAUM President George Johnson, are Pastor Boonrat Moolkeo (left) and Pastor Siroj Sorrajakool. Pastor Boonrat is the editor at the Thailand Publishing House, and Pastor Siroj is head of the Bible department at Mission College, Muak Lek campus.

Disasters Strike Thailand

At about 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 2, a chemical warehouse in Bangkok's Khlong Toey district caught fire and exploded. Burning debris from the explosion fell on the neighboring slum housing area. Within less than two hours, the entire neighborhood of wooden houses had been burned to the ground. A few charred boards and the tin roofs of the houses are all that remain of the Khlong Toey slum district.



Much of the Khlong Toey district was flattened by the chemical warehouse explosion and fire.

Miraculously, only about five deaths were reported, but the devastation left five thousand people without housing, food, clothes, or personal belongings.

ADRA/Thailand immediately responded to the situation, and ADRA has so far provided aid valued at Bhat 300,000 (approximately S\$22,500) to some 800 families. ADRA supplied these families with food, personal hygiene items, and relief clothing, including school uniforms for children.

The Khlong Toey fire is just one of four that have occurred in Bangkok during the past two months. In these situations, ADRA has been able to play a significant part in providing relief to the inhabitants of the devastated areas.



Relief packages wait for distribution by ADRA personnel.

Various SDA institutions, including Bangkok Adventist Hospital, Adventist English School, Thailand Publishing House, and Thailand Adventist Mission, along with many individuals, have provided considerable time, money and other support to the relief efforts of ADRA/Thailand.

— Jeff Wright, ADRA/Thailand

■ VIETNAM ■

Church Reopens after 15 Years

Ever since 1975, the government has maintained control of the church building in the city of Can-tho, South Vietnam. It came as a happy surprise on Christmas day, 1990, that the government agreed to allow the Seventh-day Adventist Church of Vietnam to legally reoccupy the building and use it as a house of worship. On the following Sabbath, about 70 grateful people attended services in the church.

During the years, all of the church furnishings—pulpit, pews, chairs, amplifier, and even the signboard—have disappeared and must be replaced. The building itself, which was used as part of a school during the past 15 years, also needs repair. Although officially the church building has been given back to the Seventh-day Adventists, the church is expected to voluntarily contribute one million dong (only about \$290, but equal to nearly a year's wages for one person) to the construction of a new government school. The parsonage is currently being used as a government school.

Can-tho is the second largest city in South Vietnam, and has a population of nearly three million. Although Seventh-day Adventist churches in other cities are not in the best parts of the city, the church in Can-tho is in a very suitable location.

While there are still difficulties in the work there, the church in Vietnam rejoices over the 22 new members baptized during the fourth quarter of 1990.

— George C. Johnson,
President, SAUM

ADRA Conducts Health Workshop in Vietnam

An important milestone in the contribution of ADRA to the people of Vietnam transpired March 5-7, with the first ADRA workshop for the Primary Health Care Project in Long An Province.

The guest speaker for the workshop was Dr. Laurie Zivetz, an Australian expert in community development. Dr. Zivetz worked to train Vietnamese physicians in charge of community health in Long An Province so that they could make similar presentations and direct discussions and interactions.

ADRA felt it necessary to conduct the first workshop for leaders in the provincial, district, and commune levels so that they would be acquainted with the significance of primary health care, and thus be supportive of the programs which are to be implemented.

Long An Province, located west of Ho Chi Minh City, has a population of 1,120,000, and is divided into ten districts. Each district has between eight and twenty communes.

The senior provincial physician, Dr. Dung, and his associate, Dr. Huu, are outstanding professional leaders who are working vigorously to improve the health standards of the community.

The project has captured the interest of the Australian government to the extent that they have contributed A\$300,000 (\$390,000) through ADRA/South Pacific to fund this project.

— Russell Standish,
Health/Temperance Director, SAUM

■ SOUTHEAST ASIA UNION COLLEGE ■

Field Evangelism in Kuala Lumpur

Seven undergraduate theology students of Southeast Asia Union College (SAUC), together with their team instructor, Dr. Phoon Chek Yat, spent their March school holidays in field evangelism training in Kuala Lumpur, the capital city of Peninsular Malaysia.

The main objectives of the trip were to establish good rapport with the local church members, to conduct a seminar, and to help with ground work for the family

life evangelistic effort to be held in June by the SAUC team.

During the holidays, the group met with the local Seventh-day Adventist pastors and leaders to discuss plans for the programs in June and in September. They prayed together that the seminar might be instrumental in leading lost souls to Christ.

The team visited several missing members and enrolled them for the Positive Parenting Seminar, conducted by Dr. Phoon Chek Yat and his wife, Dr. Sally Phoon, also a teacher at SAUC. The three-session parenting seminar,

held at the newly-renovated Peninsular Malaysia Mission headquarters, drew an average attendance of 60 each evening.

Also attending the seminar were several pastors of other denominations, with whom rapport had already been established through professional growth seminars in previous years.

In June, a marriage enrichment seminar will be conducted prior to the family life crusade. In September, the team will again go to Kuala Lumpur for follow-up work with interests from the evangelistic meetings. The group will also assist the local church members in leading a series of meetings on how to make Christianity real in one's life.

— Johnny Kan, Theology student, SAUC

Choirs Perform Easter Cantata

"Behold the Lamb, the perfect Lamb, the Lamb of God to me. He paid the price, the perfect price; and set the sinner free."

The words rang melodiously through the cool evening air, as Pastor Shupinar Koubong sang his solo during the Adventist Youth meeting at the SAUC auditorium on March 29. The message was repeated the next morning during the divine worship service at Balestier Road Church, as the combined choirs of SAUC and Balestier Road Church sang John W. Peterson's Easter cantata, "The Last Week."

The program was planned by two SAUC faculty members who have worked together in the past planning choir trips and musical programs for the SAUC Singers, the SAUC Church-cum-college choir. Mrs. Ann Ng, music teacher at SAUC, previously shared the direction of the SAUC Singers with Mr. Matthew Hutabarat, a college business teacher. Since moving to Balestier Road Church, however, she has re-started a choir there, and the two decided to combine their respective choirs in a fund-raising project.

The 50-member combined choir expressed the thrill of singing in a large choir. Some felt the emotional experience of almost being there in Jerusalem during the last week before Christ's death on the cruel cross, as they sang of a quickly-changing atmosphere—that of praising Him during His entry into Jerusalem with "Hail to the King," to a murderous cry of "Crucify Him," and then back again to love and appreciation for Him and relief that "Jesus Lives, never more to die."

Hopefully the program reminded both singers and listeners that "He was wounded for our transgressions...and

bruised for our iniquities," that we might reaffirm our faith, love, and trust in Christ, and that each one may be able to say with conviction, "Jesus lives, and so too shall I!"

— Matthew Hutabarat, Director, SAUC Singers

SAUC Loses Registrar



Does a vacancy result in a vacuum or a hole? How great a hole or vacancy can be caused by the loss of one individual? Questions like these are somewhat unanswerable. Yet, it is true that the loss of some individuals has a greater effect than does the loss of others.

Southeast Asia Union College (SAUC) is also affected by the departure of important people. It is with regret and sadness that the college administration reports to the field that Mrs. Doreen Ng has left SAUC. Her loss leaves a vacuum which cannot be easily filled.

Mrs. Ng served as Registrar of the college for the past nine years. She also held the ranking of Assistant Professor, and taught regularly in the Office Administration Department.

She was known among the faculty as a "walking encyclopedia," and her knowledge of past and present students made it easier to ask her for such information than to look in the records. Those who are in good health receive satisfaction only when they are challenged. After serving nine years in the same office, Mrs. Ng looked for greater challenges. The college hopes that she will find her new job to be challenging as well as enjoyable.

Until such time as a replacement is found, Dr. Gary Brendel will be in charge of the Registrar's office. All correspondence directed to the Registrar's office may be sent to Dr. Brendel. Hopefully a replacement will be found before second quarter ends in early June, when Dr. Brendel will take over the post of Academic Dean.

— Ralph H. Jones, Academic Dean, SAUC

■ ADVENTIST WORLD RADIO-ASIA ■

200 in One Day

A Chinese-American Adventist recently returned to China for a long-awaited visit to relatives in his homeland. Although they were not Seventh-day Adventists, they thought they knew where an Adventist church was, and agreed to take him there on Sabbath.

Arriving at the church, they found the doors locked. A neighbor said that church services were held only on Sundays. Disappointed, the group turned to leave, but saw a large group of people approaching. Noticing that the group leader had a Bible under his arm, they asked, "Are you Christians?"

"Yes! We're Seventh-day Adventist Christians," they replied. "Our church doesn't have a baptistry, so we arranged to have our AWR baptism in this church."

The visiting American and his relatives joined the group inside, and watched as nearly 200 people were baptized—all as a result of the outreach of Adventist World Radio-Asia.

Truly God is blessing the work of AWR-Asia. But the station depends on donations to cover fuel costs for operating the transmitters. Because of the Gulf crisis, electrical costs rose as much as \$3,000 from one month to the next. As you have opportunity, continue to give for Adventist World Radio.

AWR-Asia has recently extended its broadcasts. Although the station was designed to cover the Asian subcontinent, many letters have come in from listeners in Moscow and other cities of the Soviet Union. One young man wrote from Leningrad that he had learned about God through AWR-Asia. After four years of planning, Russian language programs are finally being beamed into Russia. In addition, Swahili broadcasts have just been added, since more than 400 letters came in to the AWR office from Africa during 1990. The Swahili broadcasts are beamed to both Africa and India.

AWR-ASIA BROADCAST SCHEDULE (Z-91)
March 31, 1991 through September 29, 1991

S'PORE	LANGUAGE	FREQ (kHz)	M.B.	S'PORE	LANGUAGE	FREQ (kHz)	M.B.
0800	English	15610	19	2300	Korean	9650	31
0900	Mandarin	15225	19	2200	Japanese	11980	25
0830	Burmese	15610	19	2130	Burmese	13720	22
1000	Mandarin	15225	19	2300	Mandarin	11980	25
1100	English	13720*	22	2130	Indian	13720@	22
1100	Mandarin	15225*	19	2400	Mandarin	11980	25
1200	Mandarin	13720*	22	2230	Indian	13720&	22
1200	Mandarin	15225*	19	2230	English	11980	25
1300	Mandarin	13720*	22	2330	English	13720*	22
1300	Mandarin	15225*	19	2200	Swahili	13720*	22
1400	Mandarin	13720*	22	0400	Russian	13720*	22
1400	Mandarin	15225*	19	0600	Korean	15310	19
1500	Mandarin	13720*	22	0500	Mandarin	15225	19
1500	Mandarin	15225*	19	0700	Japanese	15310	19
1600	Mandarin	13720*	22	0600	Mandarin	15225	19
1600	Mandarin	15225*	19	0700	Indonesia	15610	19
1700	Minnan, Hakka	13729	22	0700	Mandarin	15225	19
1700	Mandarin	15225*	19	0700	English	15610	19
1800	Canton, Shanghai	13720	22	0800	Mandarin	15225	19
1800	Mandarin	11980	25				
1900	Russian	13720	22				
1900	Mandarin	11980	25				
2000	Indonesian	13720	22				
2000	Mandarin	11980	25				
2100	Filipino	13720#	22				
2100	Mandarin	11980	25				

Key to symbols:

* Broadcasts on Saturday & Sunday only

@ Sun, Wed, Sat-Tamil; Mon, Thur-Malayalam; Tue, Fri-Marathi

& Sun, Tue, Thur, Sat-Hindi; Mon, Wed, Fri-Telugu

Sat, Tue, Fri-Tagalog; Sun, Thur-Ilonggo Mon, Wed-Cebuano

"IS THIS ALL THAT WE CAN DO...?"

Fighting to keep awake on the nearly-1000-km. journey to the disaster site, I thought to myself, "I hope these people appreciate the help that ADRA is going to give...They probably don't realize the sacrifice of a long, tiring drive."



When the truck blew up, with its cargo of 20 tons of explosives, the force of the blast – equal to about 10 Scud missiles – destroyed everything within a 300-meter radius.



Bits and pieces of bodies, most beyond recognition, were collected – from the mud, from the trees, from here and there – and placed in wooden coffins.



Little remains of the ten-wheel truck which exploded near Phang-Nga in January, killing nearly 200 people and seriously injuring another 100. The truck chassis landed about 50 meters away.



ADRA is helping to rebuild 30 of the destroyed homes. Sadly, some houses don't need to be rebuilt – whole families were killed. In other homes, only the babies and orphans were left alive.

It was 3:00 a.m. as I began my long journey home from Phang-Nga, exhausted from the lack of sleep. But I recalled my earlier selfish thoughts, and began to think, "Lord, how much I have. Is this all that we can do to help these people?"

As we get closer to Jesus' coming, we realize that the Holy Spirit will gradually be withdrawn from the earth, and there will be many more disasters. May each one of us be aware of the signs of the times, and prepare while we can to meet Jesus when He returns.

– Warren Scale, Director, ADRA/Thailand

ADRA is doing all that it can do. Are you?

Help ADRA do all that it can do – Give for Disaster & Famine Relief.

■ DEVOTIONAL ■

Union or Division?

Many of us as workers and laymen identify ourselves as members of the Southeast Asia Union Mission. Yet so often our lives indicate that we are actually not in a state of union but rather in one of *division*.

Just before Christ died, He prayed in the Garden—not for Himself, but for His disciples. "Sanctify them through Thy truth: Thy word is truth....Neither pray I for these alone but for them also which shall believe on Me through their word; that they all may be one as Thou, Father, art in Me, and I in Thee, that they also may be one in Us, *that the world may believe that Thou hast sent Me.*" (John 17:17-21)

Jesus wanted His work on earth to be carried forward to a successful conclusion. Yet He saw that the greatest danger to His work would be from "a spirit of bitterness and division" among the disciples. Thus he said, "I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind, and in the same judgment." (I Cor. 1:10)

The success of God's church depends on unity among its members. Carefully examine your life and heart today. Is the prayer of Jesus for His disciples being fulfilled in your Christian experience? Are you, am I, in a spirit of unity with Christ every day?

Recently a leader in Southeast Asia stated, "Throughout my childhood and youth, I wanted to be a pastor. Today I wouldn't be a pastor if you paid me all the money in the world. I love winning souls, and I can work with the sheep, but I can't stand working with the hard-headed goats in the church." This individual has found his ministry in serving others outside the church rather than struggle with the disunity among the workers and the members in the church.

It is difficult for human beings to achieve true oneness. Coming from different backgrounds, we each perceive events differently. We communicate imperfectly. We misunderstand each other. Whether in the marriage relationship, which the Bible states, should involve a blending of two lives so as to make them "one," or in the church fellowship, self needs to be subjugated before perfect union can be achieved. As Paul said in Phil. 2:3, "Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than themselves."

Only as the love of Christ fills our lives do we see each other with the tolerance and Christ-like love with which God views each of us. Only then can we see the potential of the other instead of seeing the faults which at first appear so obvious.

The credibility of God's church is at stake today! Only as we daily draw near to Christ, can His prayer be fulfilled. "Union is strength; division is weakness. When believers are united, they exert a telling influence. Satan well understands this. Never was he more determined than now to make of none effect the truth of God by causing bitterness and dissension among the Lord's people.

"The world is against us, the popular churches are against us, the laws of the land will soon be against us. If there was ever a time when the people of God should press together, it is now....We cannot afford now to give place to Satan by cherishing disunion, discord, and strife." (*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 236)

As we live in earth's final moments, let us all live and work together as one in Christ's love.

— George C. Johnson, President, SAUM

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Editor	C. Y. Wu
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Circulation Manager	C. Y. Wu

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