

Northern Asia-Pacific Division



NEWS & VIEWS

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NSD Midyear Committee in Okinawa, Japan

The Midyear Committee of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) was held in a resort hotel, Okinawa Zanpamisaki Royal Hotel, on May 10-11, 2000 under the theme of "Experience of the Certainty of His Coming." This was the first time to conduct the NSD Midyear Committee in Okinawa, Japan. There were 35 participants from the division territory including U.S.A., Thailand and the Philippines. Since the meeting was conducted in the area of the Japan Union Conference, union secretary and treasurer, and three local conference/mission presidents were invited.



The officers presiding the Midyear Committee, Martin Moores, P.D. Chun, Richard Liu from left

One of the main discussions during the committee was ACTS 2000. ACTS stands for "Adventist Commission Through Satellite." Elder Roy C. Williams, director of Global Television of the *It Is Written*, came to Okinawa to confirm this program conducted in the NSD territory on September 29 - October 8, 2000. Presenting the necessity and importance of the program, he urged us to prepare it seriously and faithfully. Then each union gave the report of the past and future preparation to make ACTS 2000 succeed. Williams appreciated so much the NSD leaders because they showed a keen interest and strong support for the sake of the project.



Roy C. Williams presenting ACTS 2000

The business session could vote all prepared agenda within the scheduled dates. Among 40 actions half of them were the policy amendments. Some of the significant actions were "Tithe sharing - Contribution Percentage Revision" and "Tithe sharing - Adjustment." This was due to the situation of the North American Division. Those actions say, "Divisions other than the North American Division will increase their tithe percentage contributions in and equal amount from 1% to 2% over a five-year period, ..." "The North American Division will decrease its tithe percentage from 10.72% to 8% over a five-year period, ..." and "That the additional tithe percentage to be sent to the General Conference, starting January 1, 2001, be provided from the NSD and not be passed on to the unions."



The participants in front of the hotel

Tadaomi Shinmyo, *Communication/PARL Director*

Okinawa Mission 50th Anniversary *after the NSD Midyear Committee*

The Okinawa Mission celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the church work in the islands on May 13 (Sabbath), 2000 at the Ginowan City Hall. Since this special program was scheduled right after the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) Midyear Committee, many delegates of the committee could attend the services on the Sabbath. In other words, this event might be one of the reasons why the NSD Midyear Committee was conducted in Okinawa. Okinawa is composed of many islands and belongs to a semitropical zone. Its beautiful coral beach is well known and attracts tourists more than 3 million annually. Therefore, overseas participants appreciated so much that they could step foot in this land once prospered as the Ryukyu Kingdom.



The attendants of the 50th Anniversary

Around 1,200 people gathered to the Sabbath church service when Elder P. D. Chun, president of the NSD, delivered a powerful message under the theme of the anniversary, "Filled with the Holy Spirit, Go Forward." Using many Bible texts and quotations from Ellen G. White, he challenged the audience to have strong and bold faith guided by the Holy Spirit and to accomplish the Lord's work. He concluded, "Our forerunners have laid good foundation. It is our task to accelerate, in courage and in total dedication, and the Lord of harvest will bless us with great harvest of souls."

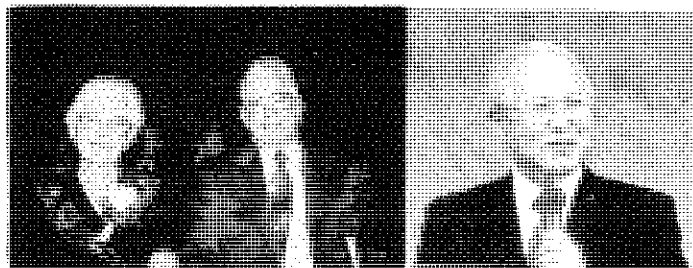
The Okinawa Mission produced an excellent video film of a brief history of the Adventist church in Okinawa. E. E. Jensen and his family were the first missionaries from the U.S.A. Since he did not understand the Japanese language, he hired a translator, a student of the Ryukyu University.

It was really God's providence to choose him, because later on the interpreter, Kouei Aka, became the first native Adventist pastor in Okinawa.



Preacher P.D. Chun (left) & Translator T. Shinmyo during the Sabbath Church Service

Through the faithful and hard working missionaries and national workers, the Adventist church in Okinawa has grown rapidly in comparing with the work of the mainland Japan. Currently the Okinawa Mission has 2,059 members with 16 organized churches and 6 companies. Since the population of the islands is about 1.4 million, there is one Adventist for every 680 people. This ratio is very good. Furthermore, there are one hospital, one elementary school, and one junior-high school. (As of January 1, 2000.)



C.B. Watts (2nd mission president) & his wife and Kenyu Kinjo (current mission president)

There were excellent music programs prepared by the school students and church members both in the morning and afternoon on the Sabbath.

During the NSD Midyear Committee the Okinawa Mission was granted "conference candidacy status." This was a good news and very timely action for the mission as she celebrated the anniversary. In the end of the afternoon programs, Elder Kenyu Kinjo, president of the Okinawa Mission, with the church leaders vowed their commitment to go forward and to proclaim the gospel in front of the audience of the celebration.

Tadaomi Shinmyo, *Communication/PARL Director*

KUC Constituency Meeting

at the Seoul Adventist Hospital Church, Korea

Under the theme of "Come, Lord Jesus!" (Revelation 22:20), the 31st Constituency Meeting of the Korean Union Conference (KUC) was held at the Seoul Adventist Hospital Church on May 16-19, 2000.

Originally it was scheduled on December 5-9, but it was hastened because of the leadership situation of the KUC. The Korean church members have believed in the promise, "But man's extremity is God's opportunity," (The Acts of the Apostles, p.146.) and prayed for this special session with fasting.

The huge chapel of the church was filled with the delegates on the first floor and observers on the balcony. The number of the official delegates was 443 and additionally there were visitors including 38 retired ministers and 2 representatives from the Korean churches in the U.S.A. according to the KUC report.

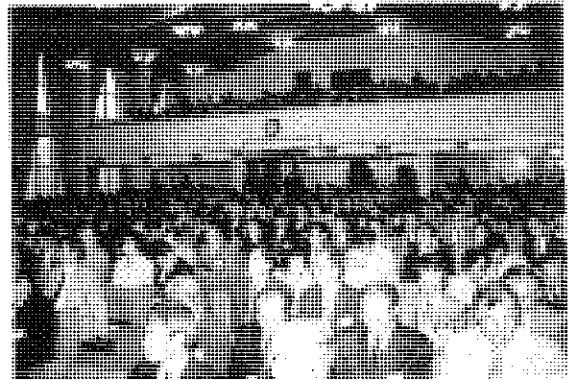


The attendants of the KUC general session

The bulletin of the session was well prepared. All reports including the officers and departmental directors of the past term were printed and bound. Even each delegate's seat was designated in the chapel. Special music was performed from time to time, and they were truly appreciated by the attendants.

Since the agenda of the KUC bylaws amendment took a great amount of time, the time schedule of the session was delayed badly. Consequently the nominating committee began to function from the night of the third day, namely on May 18 (Thursday), though the session was planned to end at noon on May 19 (Friday).

There was not enough time, so the business meeting continued through the whole night on Thursday and finally the first announcement from the nominating committee was brought to the whole body at 3:00 a.m. on Friday. It was the recommendation that Dr. Shin, Kei Hoon (president of Sahmyook University) would be the new president of the KUC and was immediately approved.



The delegates actively involved in the session

After taking a rest for 4 hours, the session began again from 8:00 a.m. on Friday and continued till 5:00 p.m. As the result, Elder Chun, Jung Kwon (chaplain of Sahmyook University) and Elder Kim, Jong Moon (associate treasurer of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division) were elected as the KUC new secretary and treasurer respectively.

In the meantime, the KUC report in the past 4 years showed a significant growth in many ways in spite of the internal problem of the union. For example, the number of baptisms in 1999 was 6,746 and it was next to 6,801 in 1990 in the history of the KUC. The tithe income in 1999 was 30,257,423,285 won and it was also next to 30,799,280,635 won in 1997. Additionally the reports from the various institutions were marvellous. The publishing house, university and colleges, language institutes, and food factories indicated a great advancement in the past years.



A special music by a choir composed of ladies

Thus, although the session itself had some exceptional happenings, God's care and blessings were evidently revealed through the session by the earnest intercessory prayer of the faithful workers and church members. We pray that the same Lord will surely guide and bless the KUC new leadership to create the unity among pastors and laymen and to fulfil the solemn responsibility of the great commission given by Him.



The KUC officers: Chun, Jung Kwon (secretary), Shin, Kei Hoon (president), Kim, Jong Moon (treasurer) from left

The following names are newly elected and appointed officers and departmental directors:

President	Shin, Kei Hoon
Secretary	Chun, Jung Kwon
Treasurer	Kim, Jong Moon
Ministerial	Im, Dong Won
Education	Park, Dong Seung
SS/PM/VOH	Lee, Hark Bong
Communication/ADRA	Koo, Hyun Suh
Publishing/SOP	Park, Kyung Sook
Health/Social Welfare	Cho, Won Ung
Children's Ministries	Park, Rae Gu
Youth/NSO	Bang, Nak Jin
Women's Ministries/FM	Lee, Seon Mi
Overseas Mission/Stew./Trust S.	Kwon, Johng Haeng
Legal	Lee, Myung Kyu
Media Center	Park, Sung Ha

Tadaomi Shinmyo, *Communication/PARL Director*

Death of Bob Jacobs

Former secretary of the Far Eastern Division passed away according to "FED Newsletter, May 22, 2000." If you need more information, please contact "Charles H. Tidwell, Sr." <charles.h.tidwell@fte.net>. (Editor)

Northern Asia-Pacific Division Officers & Departmental Directors

President	Pyung Duk Chun
Secretary	Richard Liu
Associate	Tadaomi Shinmyo
Treasurer	Robert Martin Moores
Associate	Jong Moon Kim
Assistant	Young Chin Kim

Communication, PARL	Tadaomi Shinmyo
Education, Language Schools	Masaji Uyeda
Family, Women's, Children's, Shepherdess	Mary Wong
Health Ministries, Ministerial Ass. Global Mission, AGCN	Carlos Martin
International Health Food	Robert Martin Moores
Corporate Affairs, Trust Services	Jong Moon Kim
Publishing (Acting)	Richard Liu
Sabbath School & Personal Min., ASI, Stewardship Myung Kwan Hong	
Youth, Adventist Chaplaincy	David Wong

NEWS & VIEWS

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