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Compassion



EVERETT F. SWANSON, founder

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"... I have compassion on the multitude ... I will not send them away."
Matthew 15:32

Around
the
World
in
70
days...



Part of the reception committee for Mrs. Swanson at Kimpo Airport, Seoul, S. Korea. Beautiful bouquets of flowers, prepared by the children, were the order of the day at each reception.

AROUND THE WORLD IN 70 DAYS . . . with your Vice-President

Mrs. Miriam Swanson, second in command here at COMPASSION, INC., has just returned from a round-the-world tour of our work. Accompanying her was yours truly, editor of this magazine.

It has truly been an exhausting whirlwind trip, but an extremely fruitful and worthwhile one. Much magazine space will be required to tell you all about it. Consequently, we'll give it to you piecemeal, in each of several issues. Herein are summarized just a few highlights of the first part of the journey, as seen through the eyes of Mrs. Swanson. This note to our home staff in Chicago came from Hong Kong on October 14, 1970.

It's nearly midnight and I am quite tired. This has been another busy day — of the kind we're getting used to by now. Each day has been buzzing with activity. We wonder how we could possibly have done all that we did! One day in Korea we flew part

of the way to one of our homes, then took a boat, a bus, a train, and topped it off with a taxi ride and a long walk for good measure!

We met the provincial governors and mayors of almost every major South Korean city and province. Wally Erickson, our Korean Director, and others, had said that these meetings have been most important for our work in Korea. You would have been pleased to see how surprised and happy the officials were to receive our COMPASSION pin. (We presented each of them with a pin—just like the ones that our sponsors wear.)

Actually, two vice-mayors in the big city of Seoul (five million people) were not present when we visited there, and they were very envious because they had not received pins. In each office we told the officials that they now were honorary members of the COMPASSION team!

The government leaders also expressed their heartfelt thanks

to COMPASSION for all the help that we have given them in the past 18 years. Many were fearful that we would start to withdraw our help. But we reassured them that we would keep on helping as long as there is need and sponsors are willing to help. The Koreans, however, would like to go it on their own before too many years. We probably will gradually cut back our help to homes as such and go more into specialized help for the blind, the lame and other handicapped children.

Although we had a very busy time in Korea, we enjoyed every minute of it. I suppose I visited eight or ten homes all together. Ed Ronne visited more and took many pictures, both in black and white, color and movies. He also acquired many interviews with all sorts of people — especially in our homes — on tape recording for later use in our magazine and on radio and television.

My time was primarily occupied with talking to the superintendents of all our homes, auditioning children for tours, and visiting city officials, as already indicated. We also visited the city of Mokpo, in the southwest corner of Korea, plus the Island of Chejudo. It was my first visit to these two places, and I was glad for this opportunity to meet our faithful workers in these areas.

We think we have an especially fine group of children for the States tour. I feel sure that it's the best group we have ever had. We have Billy and Lisa, who are making a "return engagement," and four others. (You met them

all in the last issue of COMPASSION.)

Little Becki will really steal the show! Her records show that she was born in 1965, but she doesn't look a day over three! She's as fat as a butter-ball and the cutest little thing you ever saw . . . such a winning personality. She has her own unusual way of pantomiming and singing. The group is already getting their special training in Seoul. One girl sings in English, and her enunciation is beautiful.

As in the past, we try to pick children who are under 12, because of the expense in bringing them to the States. All children under 12 travel half fare, of course.

We sadly left Korea on the 9th of October. We had quite a group of home superintendents, Seoul office staff, and friends see us off at the airport. Since it was a Korean holiday (Armed Forces Day), most of our office staff was on hand. One cannot express the feeling that sweeps over oneself when a group such as this breaks into spontaneous song while we wave goodbye from the loading ramp. These dear people sang, "God be with you till we meet again" in their native tongue. It gives one a foretaste of what Heaven will be all about! I can still hear them in the distance . . . singing, waving their tear-stained handkerchiefs at us while we board the plane for the next leg of our trip.

Meanwhile, our next landing was at Taipei, Formosa — or as it's now called, the country of Taiwan. And a beautiful island it

The Governor's office at Pusan, South Korea displays sign of welcome for Miriam Swanson. Pusan, a busy seaport, is second largest city in Korea.



is! Lush green and quite tropical in its climate. Both of us wondered if there would be anyone at Taipei to meet us. As usual, it took a while to clear customs, but finally we made our way through the inspection and anxiously searched the airport waiting room for someone who looked as if they would like to greet someone! (COMPASSION at the present does not have any projects in Taiwan, but we decided to

stop there to visit officials of an outstanding children's choir that has expressed interest in touring the country on our behalf).

It turned out that our greeters were right on the spot — with fresh flowers and the whole bit! The following evening we were treated to a special concert by the children at one of the fine Christian churches in Taipei. We were also photographed from every direction.

COMPASSION CITED FOR KOREAN WELFARE WORK

More than a dozen mayors and provincial governors of South Korea have cited COMPASSION, Inc. for its continuing assistance to thousands of needy Korean children during the past eighteen years.

Miriam Swanson received a variety of certificates, plaques and gifts from officials during her recent visit to South Korea, where COMPASSION now cares for more than 16,000 Korean children in 158 homes.

Mrs. Swanson began her tour of South Korean children's homes at Seoul, a city of more than five million people. The mayor of Seoul, Mr. Taik Shik Yang, received Mrs. Swanson in his office and presented her with a bronze plaque and an engraved citation. The citation was typical of those bestowed not only in Seoul, but also in Pusan, Taegu, Masan, Kwang-Ju and other Korean



The mayor of Seoul, South Korea presents an engraved citation to Miriam Swanson. Wearing a pleased expression (far right background) is Wally Erickson, Compassion's Field Director for Korea. The two men in light-colored suits are aids to the mayor.

cities. The Seoul citation reads:

Presented to Miriam Swanson, and COMPASSION, INC., U.S.A., by the mayor of the city of Seoul to express our appreciation for your eighteen years of love and concern for the children of Korea. Your continuing efforts have spiritually blessed and physically helped thousands of needy children. In your life and work you have expressed true compassion.

*Taik Shik Yang
Mayor of Seoul*

The program was absolutely magnificent! It's hard to believe that such fine singing could come from children who are still in grade school. I was asked to say a few words at the end of the concert. I was at a loss to say anything — those youngsters are really something! No wonder the officials of Japan had personally

month is a very special day for the free Chinese. It's their "Double-Ten Day," the equivalent of our July Fourth. I took the easy way out and watched a gigantic colorful parade on TV. Ed fought the surging crowds and took movies and slides from a street corner. President Chiang Kai-shek made a speech . . . and



Miriam Swanson presents a special gift to Kim Tae Dong, South Korea's Minister of Health and Social Affairs. It was presented in appreciation for the good cooperation that COMPASSION has received from Korean city and provincial governments.

invited the group to sing at EXPO 70! These people would like to come to the United States and perform on behalf of COMPASSION. The details of such a concert tour remain to be worked out, but it would certainly be great if they could come! These children come from fine family homes in Formosa. Their leaders are dedicated Christian people and would like to bring a Christian witness wherever they go.

The tenth day of the tenth

everyone had a good time.

As a footnote to Mrs. Swanson's letter, we would like to add the following:

It seems that wherever we went, there was some sort of holiday in progress. In India it was the "Festival of Lights" — in Haiti, "Armed Forces Day." But we're getting ahead of our story. We'll have to cut this short for now and continue it next time. We just don't have the space for

more news right now.

Just a quick word in closing. We sensed the prayers of our friends and loved ones back home throughout the trip. There were times when we would become a bit ill and worn out, but somehow the Lord provided strength for each day's activities. We will agree — it's good to be back home! It was a long time to be away from our families. But we rest assured that our COMPASSION work is in good hands

around the globe. Your hard-earned money is getting "super mileage."

We praise God for dedicated people of many colors, who daily labor unsung in far-away places, away from civilization as we know it and enjoy it. Somehow, we are sleeping better at night, knowing all of this — and we are grateful to you for making it all possible for us to continue stretching forth helping hands to little ones in need.

THE TAIPEI CHILDREN'S CHORUS



Mr. F. Y. Ling, conductor of the Taipei Children's Chorus, prepares to lead the youngsters in a selection of music. They sang especially for Miriam Swanson and Ed Ronne during the COMPASSION team's visit to Taiwan.

The Taipei Children's Chorus performs for their COMPASSION visitors. Their fine talent and colorful presentation made the evening an extremely rewarding one. The chorus also performed at EXPO '70 in Osaka, Japan.



COMPASSION CONTINUES TO GROW ...CONTROLLER APPOINTED

Melvin J. Sorenson,
Controller



Another sign of the expanding ministry of COMPASSION — a Controller (some would spell it Comptroller) has just been appointed.

We welcome Melvin J. Sorenson of Wheaton, Illinois to our senior staff! In his new duties, Mel will coordinate administrative affairs and the finances of COMPASSION.

Mel came to us from Acme Press, Inc., Chicago, where he served as Vice-President for Finance. Prior to his position at Acme Press, he spent 13 years with CHRISTIAN LIFE Publications, Inc., Wheaton. In 1967 he was made Publisher and Vice-President of CHRISTIAN LIFE.

For some time, COMPASSION has felt the need for a man with Mel's qualifications to assist in handling our administrative affairs. As our ministry continues to grow, COMPASSION needs a capable Christian businessman to handle the many everyday details of management. Such details, up until now, have been taken care of primarily by President Henry Harvey.

Mel has had wide experience in management and finance. He graduated from the University of Illinois in 1948 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. He is a member of the American Management Association. He also serves as Director of Evangelical Literature Overseas, National Association for Christian Schools and Christian Life Missions.

He and his wife, Jane, reside in Wheaton. Jane is editor of TRAILS and REFLECTION magazines, published by the Pioneer Girls organization. The Sorensons have two children... 16 year old Linda and 19 year old Steve.

We extend a hearty welcome to Mel and wish him the Lord's best guidance as he begins his day-by-day tasks at our COMPASSION headquarters office.

COMPASSION CONTINUES TO HEAD FOR THE HILLS

... THE HILLS OF TRIBAL THAILAND



Boy from Bangkok on his way to school — one of Thailand's more fortunate youngsters.

Thanks to new COMPASSION sponsors, many more hill-tribe youngsters in northern Thailand will be extended the privilege of going to school. The facts of life are rather glum for these neglected Burmese refugees of the Karen (Kah-reen') Tribe.

It is quite unusual for any of them to ever attain any sort of education. Only a tiny percentage of the 200,000 Karens in Thailand ever attend school beyond the fourth grade.

Into this pathetic picture walked COMPASSION, about a year ago. At this point, we sponsor 30 children in three different areas of this rugged border coun-

try between Thailand and Burma. Living in dormitory-type buildings called "hostels," the thirty youngsters are now attending good government schools. They are being afforded an opportunity to grow up as responsible and fruitful adults.

Ed Kimball, our Field Director for South Asia, informs us that we are now in need of sponsors for children in two other Karen hostels. The new COMPASSION projects are the Fang Hostel (#273) and the Musikee Hostel (#274). Already receiving monthly support are the hostels at Chiang Mai, Namlat, and Mae Sariang.

Our funds are sent directly to Dick Worley, who is head of the American Baptist Mission in Thailand. From his headquarters in Bangkok, he transfers these funds to the mission treasurer for final dissemination to the hostels. A native of Chanute, Kansas, Dick has served in Thailand for more than 11 years.

Dick and his dedicated staff are doing an excellent job in a physically difficult work area. Much of Thailand is extremely rugged. Some hostels are inaccessible by Jeep or Land Rover. Some northern areas can be reached only by mule.

Thailand, of course, is mainly Buddhist in religion. However, there is religious freedom in the



Mrs. Swanson poses for a photograph at the Christian Children's Happy Home near Bangkok, Thailand. At her right is the Superintendent of the home, Mrs. Rosalind Lim. Note the marble pillars of the large room. The new structure is one of the finest buildings that we saw on our entire trip. COMPASSION supports 33 children at the home.

country — though that could change in short order. Some missionaries are already experiencing difficulty in obtaining long-term visas. New workers are receiving only two-month visas. Some are coming in as tourists on 30-day visas, and as tourists they can only come into the country twice. The mission is laboring hard to make it possible for workers to come in on a permanent residence basis.

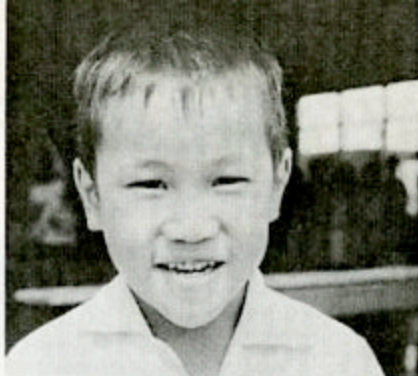
A country with a long history of wars faces a Communist threat. In some sections of northern Thailand there has been violence on numerous occasions. Only last

September, the Governor of the Chian Rei Province was murdered by the Communists. Which could all add up to one thing — Christian work in Thailand could very well be sealed off to outsiders.

Dick Worley and 38 other missionaries of the American Baptist Mission there are re-doubling their efforts to build up the national church. We await further developments from that nation. As Ed Kimball supplies information to us, we trust that COMPASSION will still have time to further assist the children of Thailand.



Dick Worley refers to a map of Thailand to pinpoint one of his mission's hostels that is receiving aid from COMPASSION sponsors. Thailand is now the home of 200,000 Burmese refugees (Karens). Thailand has a population of 34 million people, mostly farmers, and about 200,000 Burmese (Karen) refugees.



One of the well-cared-for youngsters in "Happy Home" . . . Bangkok.



School children of Thailand in their neat uniforms. Such matching clothes are popular in almost all Asian countries.

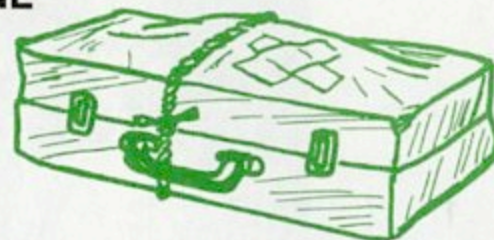


One of many Buddhist temples in Bangkok.

MORE— "AROUND THE WORLD IN 70 DAYS"

by your Editor (and Chief Baggage Handler)

ED RONNE



It seems strange to reach into a dresser drawer for a pair of socks. It recently has become almost second nature to open a huge over-abused suitcase and let cameras, tapes and film flop out, then reach for a pair of socks at the bottom of the pile! Such has been the daily routine for your editor for the past two-and-a-half months. Hopping from hotel to hotel, and from one COMPASSION home to another, makes one vulnerable to the "suitcase syndrome." We're not complaining, of course, but such a journey does take something out of one — and out of one's suitcase too!

Mrs. Swanson has filled you in on the first portion of our trip. As you know, we left in early September on our round-the-world trek to our COMPASSION projects. For the first time in our history, we covered in one trip all the major areas where sponsor money is being spent. We saw for ourselves the many and varied activities and projects which make COMPASSION what it is today.

Just to remind you, COMPASSION is now 18 years of age —

and when one becomes of age, a much greater load of responsibility is expected. Thus we are facing the new year with added responsibilities. We face the future with added confidence that our labors are not in vain, but it all is adding up to increased fruitfulness in the lives of thousands of little ones around the globe.

I do not wish to spend all my editorial effort in telling you all about the world. Let me take the trip apart, bit by bit, with each new edition of your magazine. Suffice it to say right now, this editor agrees with your Vice-President on one important aspect of our work. The projects that are going in South Korea, Indonesia, India and the Caribbean are in most capable hands.

The things we have seen and heard give us added incentive to perform even more efficiently in 1971. The Lord willing, we will unfold many encouraging real-life stories for you here in our magazine throughout the new year. May this be an even more meaningful living link with you, our loyal supporters.

HOW COMPASSION BEGAN



Dr. Peter van Lierop, professor at Yonsei University, Seoul, South Korea, at recent meeting with Miriam Swanson, Vice-President of COMPASSION, INC.

"And I shall see Him face to face, and tell the story, saved by grace . . ." These are indeed familiar words to many thousands of Christians around the world, and of course the melody is also easy to recognize.

An American missionary who was temporarily staying at the YMCA in Tokyo after being evacuated from South Korea in 1951, was whistling "Face to Face" in the men's room — but let's get the story direct from that missionary. His name is Dr. Peter van Lierop, Director of the Student Union and Counseling Center at Yonsei University, Seoul, South Korea.

We chanced to meet Dr. van Lierop after a Sunday morning worship service in Seoul, while we were touring Korea recently. In his words, this is how it all started.

The family and I were refugeeing from the Communists after they had invaded South Korea and we were evacuated by the American army. We were staying at the YMCA in Tokyo at the same time that the Reverend Everett Swanson also was there. We happened to be in the men's washroom at the same time and I was whistling "Face to Face." Everett said, "Hey, brother, that's my song too!" And so we started talking.

He found out that I was a missionary from Korea, and he said, "You know, is there any chance that I could get into Korea?"

I told him that there was such a possibility. I wrote a letter of logistics (procedure) and opened the way for Rev. Swanson to come to Korea with the intention of speaking to front-line troops, especially the ROK (Republic of

(A man was whistling a little tune!)

Korea) soldiers.

But of course, while he was there he noted the plight of all the homeless orphan children, and his heart went out to do something for them. This is the way in which the work of COMPASSION was started.

Dr. van Lierop comes from a dedicated family of missionary workers. His father graduated from Moody Bible Institute in Chicago in 1918, and was a missionary in Belgium for 15 years.

His oldest brother also graduated from Moody and worked under the Sudan Interior Mission in Africa.

And thus COMPASSION owes its small beginnings to a Christian missionary who strolled into a YMCA washroom — whistling a song that set things in motion for today's world-wide COMPASSION ministry to thousands of needy children. Truly "God works in mysterious ways, His wonders to perform."

MRS. SWANSON AND "HER" GIRLS



Mrs. Swanson received a royal welcome from Kim Hea Ja, left, age 12, and Kim In Sook, 14, when she arrived at Pusan. (Hea Ja lives at Hillside Orphanage and In Sook is at the Bluebird Home, both in Pusan.) Mrs. Swanson has been sponsoring Hea Ja for ten years and In Sook for about five.

COMPASSION ON TV

NEW SHOWINGS OF OUR SPECIAL

"The Children of Compassion," our half-hour television special, is scheduled to be shown in a number of areas of the country in the new year. You may recall that we produced the color program in August, 1970 for the purpose of acquainting more people with our work and with our sponsorship program. Dale Evans hosted the special.

Time was purchased on 11 stations during the month of December. At press time, we have firmed up two more showings:

KTNT-TV, Seattle, Washington, 8:30-9:00 P.M. on January 16;

WTCN-TV, Minneapolis, Min-

nesota, 7:30-8:00 P.M. on January 31.

Early results from the showings have not been overwhelming, but we do have some 150 new sponsors as a result of the initial airings of the program in the Ohio area and in Los Angeles.

More stations are expected to telecast the special later on during 1971 — as time becomes available and our advertising budget permits. We also expect to continue some magazine advertising in the new year. Compassion ads have appeared in a variety of publications ever since the organization was formed in 1952.

FREE LOAN — "Children of COMPASSION"

(NOW AVAILABLE ON FULL-COLOR FILM!)

We now have a limited number of filmed copies of our TV SPECIAL, which are being made available for group showings, such as Kiwanis, Rotary clubs, or in school classrooms and churches. We will be pleased to loan a

copy of the "Children of COMPASSION" (16 mm. sound — running time 28 minutes) to those who are interested in showing it.

Simply fill out this coupon, and we will see to it that you receive the film on the requested date.

() Please send me the film "Children of COMPASSION" for a showing on _____ (date)

To be shown to: _____ (Name of group or organization)

My name (Mr., Mrs., Miss) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

I understand that film is to be returned to COMPASSION as soon as possible after scheduled showing.

Send to: COMPASSION, INC., 7774 W. Irving Park Rd., Chicago, Ill. 60634

A FEW MORE . . .

LITTLE GEMS from our LITTLE ONES

In the November-December edition of our magazine, we printed a few select quotes from COMPASSION children living in Korea and Indonesia. We now offer a few more for your interest. Do you wonder that sponsors receive such a thrill when their children write them? No one can say it like little children. For example —

"At home I have more time to work than to play. I will become a good and serviceable woman." Jun Young Ja — Korea.

"I like to eat all food, and am taller than last year. I also am heavy of weight, but lighter than my mother." Pak Ho Keen — Korea.

"I can never express my happiness enough after having a new mom and dad. It feels as if my

heart will burst with love." Your new son in Korea, Kang Chun Suk.

"My hobby is reading the Bible — for that is the guidance that saves our souls." Maxon Ondang — Indonesia.

"We are working hard to win against the communists. They are war-makers and we don't like them. I pray for peace in our country." Cha Suk — Korea.

A GREETING FROM CHOI SOOK JA

This is 8-year-old Choi Sook Ja, who lives at Children's Charity Orphanage, Pusan, South Korea. Sook Ja presented this special bouquet of flowers to her sponsor, Ed Ronne, COMPASSION's Director of Communications. Ed had the privilege of visiting with her while touring Pusan, Korea last fall. Sook Ja's parents both are dead. Her father froze to death a number of years ago. She is a bright and alert little girl, well on the way to becoming a young lady who will be able to take her



place in her own society and make a worthwhile contribution.

Your editor is happy to be able to assist Sook Ja, and prays that God may direct and bless her little life.

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN INSURE TWO LIVES WITH YOUR OWN LIFE INSURANCE

by Donald J. Smith
Director of Stewardship and Promotion

Can this be done? It surely can. You can receive complete counseling in this matter if you will first seek out a life insurance agent in whom you have complete confidence. Explain to him your interest and circumstances in securing life insurance for yourself. There are many excellent plans available, some which will fit your needs perfectly.

Second, you should contract for a policy which will cover your needs for burial.

Third, in addition to the amount needed for your final expenses, you should increase the total amount of insurance coverage to include provisions for a better way of life for a destitute

child.

For instance, if you anticipate your final expenses to be \$1,500 to \$2,000, you could purchase a \$5,000 life insurance policy. The amount remaining after your funeral expenses have been paid could be designated to Compassion for the care of a needy child.

In this way your life insurance would have double significance.

There are also other ways to insure a better life for a helpless child through your life insurance. Would you like to know more?

For an informative explanation of how you may give through life insurance, fill out the following coupon and mail today.

COMPASSION, INC.
7774 West Irving Park Road
Chicago, Illinois 60634

Dear Mr. Smith,

Please send me information to assist in the preparation of my will, including —

- () Information on How to Give Through Life Insurance
() "37 Things People 'Know' About Wills That Aren't So"

NAME (Mr., Mrs., Miss) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____