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#10

the Ministry of  
**COMPASSION**  
in  
**KOREA**





Dear Friend,

This booklet contains a thrilling story in word and picture. The Bible tells us repeatedly that when Jesus looked upon the people who were so needy spiritually and physically that "He was moved with COMPASSION." I must say, humbly but truthfully, that is what happened to me when I saw what words could not describe in war-torn Korea.

The success and blessing of God upon COMPASSION, INC. are the result of so many others throughout America, Canada and other countries being "moved with COMPASSION."

Darling little Hae Ja, pictured with her arms about her "American Father's" neck, was thrown away as a tiny baby. COMPASSION saved her, and now she sweetly sings "Jesus Loves Me," and other Christian songs as she walks to school with others each day in Pusan, Korea.

As you read these pages, I trust that you will be "moved with COMPASSION." The joy that will come to you will be your reward.

Cordially in Christ,

*Everett F. Swanson*

Everett F. Swanson  
Founder-Director

## HISTORY AND BACKGROUND

This is the story of how God literally took a man at his word. On July 22, 1950, the man, Everett Swanson, promised God that he would obey His call to full time evangelistic service wherever He would lead in this "whole wide world."

Everett Swanson was a successful pastor, happy in his ministry in a well-known Chicago church, but God had laid an unresolved burden on his heart. As a committed Christian he continued to seek God's guidance, and on this day, after earnest prayer, he was moved to a decision which was to change the direction of his life. This was not a vague, indefinite promise that he made to God, to be acted on in some distant unspecified future. Rising from his knees, he reached for a card and wrote:

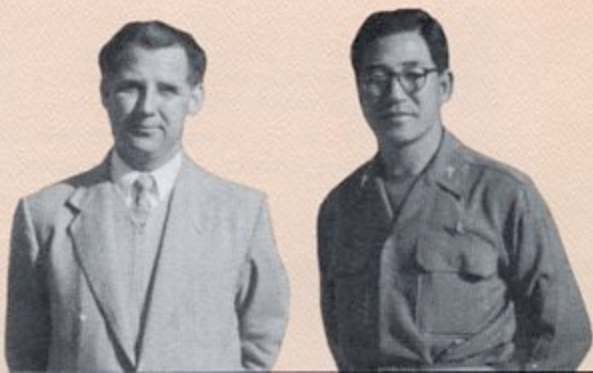
- (1) To obey God's call to full-time evangelistic work wherever He may lead in this whole wide world —
- (2) To resign my pastorate September 10, to take effect January 1, 1951 —
- (3) To trust God to provide for my every need as He has promised (Phil. 4:19) —
- (4) To trust God to take care of my family spiritually, physically and materially —
- (5) To redouble my efforts now to win others to Christ and to pray and work for revival.

Mr. Swanson resigned his pastorate and within a year God had sent him around the world to preach the gospel and win many to Christ in many foreign countries.

But God not only expanded his ministry of preaching. He enlarged his vision, burning deep into his heart a need that had never before challenged him. On his first six months' evangelistic tour he visited Korea, so recently the battleground for a bloody and devastating war. This war left millions dead — both soldiers and civilians — from bombings, exposure, sickness and starvation. It also left tens of thousands of orphans and widows. On this preaching mission, Everett Swanson saw these orphaned, homeless, ragged and starving children everywhere. His heart was touched, but he resumed his evangelistic work in the United States and Canada, doing nothing for the needs of these children. Perhaps it seemed a responsibility too staggering, too awesome for any man to contemplate.

The next year Mr. Swanson was invited back to Korea to conduct an evangelistic tour among the Korean armed forces. Again the unspeakable miseries of the helpless children crowded into his heart and mind. The challenge came with thunderous impact when a missionary said to him, "Now that you have seen the tremendous needs and opportunities in this land, what do you intend to do about

1952—Rev. Everett Swanson and the Rev. Kim Hyung Do, chief chaplain of the Ministry of National Defense, Korea. It was this Korean chaplain who invited Rev. Swanson for a tour of Korea's armed forces. "Had I not gone," says Rev. Swanson, "doubtless I would never have gotten into this work."





them?" The question was inescapable because it was personal. Personal indeed, for Everett Swanson was just one man, without the resources of an organization which obviously would be required to contend with such an overwhelming need.

Nevertheless the question remained, searing its way into Mr. Swanson's heart until he promised God that, by His grace, he would do something about it.

So — under God — was born the Everett Swanson Evangelistic Association. God used the enlightened and inspired leadership of Everett Swanson to evolve the unique plan which would invite thousands of men and women, church and Sunday school groups, and others, to become sponsors and share in providing a home and caring for these many thousands of orphaned children.

The needs were urgent and could not be put off. Therefore, in order to meet them quickly, effectively and economically, Rev. Swanson proceeded, with the help of resident missionaries, to establish orphan homes and to assume support of many destitute orphanages started by big-hearted Korean Christians. He also raised funds to send out and support many native Korean Christian workers.

Today, COMPASSION maintains over 175 orphanage Homes with more than 20,000 children being lovingly cared for, given educational opportunity and brought up in a Christian atmosphere.

**PROGRESS THROUGH THE YEARS**  
**Korean Orphanages Supported by COMPASSION**

	Gain	Total			
1952, Fall .....	1st Home	1	1959.....	26 More Homes	42
1953, Spring .....	2nd Home	2	1960.....	29 More Homes	71
1953, Fall .....	3rd Home	3	1961.....	42 More Homes	113
1953-1957.....	9 More Homes	12	1962.....	44 More Homes	157
1958.....	4 More Homes	16	1963.....	18 More Homes	175

**Number of Children Sponsored**

**Jan. 1, 1964—Total Number Children in 175 Homes: 20,000**



(left) These rough, tough little strays worth saving? Yes, indeed!

(below) Beggar boys brought into one of the Homes.



Caring for these children are 1,700 Korean staff members with 1,500 children of their own. Support is given for more than 370 native evangelists, bringing the total of persons assisted to nearly 24,000.

Behind are years of hard, unremitting, pioneering work. Ahead, an unfinished task because there are still many thousands of destitute children and many in the orphan homes for whom there are no sponsors. Behind—more than a decade of dependence on God; trusting Him for every need and seeing His unfailing hand on the work; the joy of knowing that this ministry has been used to bring thousands of boys and girls to accept Jesus Christ as Saviour. Ahead—the responsibility to reach untold thousands who have no place to go; the opportunity to evangelize and train a generation of youth who in turn will take up the challenge to bring the Word of Truth to their own people.

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For over 10 years this challenge of caring for Korea's uncared-for children has been identified with the name of the man whose pledge God accepted literally, and at face value. During these years, however, a vast multitude have joined Rev. Swanson and his associates in this unique ministry. It was *compassion* which moved the Saviour when He saw the multitudes without a shepherd, and truly it is *compassion* which best describes the impulse to give Korean orphans a chance.

The Koreans have expressed their deep gratitude by presenting numerous medals, citations and honors from the President, Cabinet Members, Governors, Church leaders, educational institutions—plus the heartfelt gratitude of all orphanage staff members and children. Through the Minister of Education, a large university conferred the degree of Doctor of Laws upon Rev. Swanson in 1963.

Since *compassion*, in all its depth of meaning, most nearly speaks of the spirit and ministry of this mission, the name was changed, at Rev. Swanson's request, to COMPASSION, INC. in January 1963.



Typical orphanage compound. Note surroundings, buildings and equipment.

## ORPHANAGE LIFE AND ACTIVITIES

In a very real sense every orphanage supported by COMPASSION is a real Christian Home. All staff members are active Korean Christians whose lives have been committed to Jesus Christ. Utilizing Korean personnel provides the most sympathetic understanding of the children, their backgrounds and problems. They are also better able to deal with government regulations, economic and social matters. In addition it provides gainful employment for some 1,700 Koreans in a land suffering from 25% unemployment.

Orphanage staffs consist of superintendent, business manager, cook, laundry lady, sewing lady, and mothering ladies. Many orphanages also have a full-time Bible instructor, where the superintendent is not specifically qualified.

Each day the children are taught the Word of God, they sing hymns and pray together. On Sunday they attend Bible school and churches of various evangelical denominations, and thus their lives are constantly surrounded by Christian influence. Because of the training in COMPASSION Homes, many of these children have prepared themselves for leadership in the Korean churches.

This man was a Buddhist village chief. After his conversion to Christ he burned his heathen idols, and many others who with him had found salvation joined in the ceremony. They had already built their own church for worship of the one true God.





Beggar boys before they were admitted to orphanage.



Beggar boys cleaned up after admittance.

(below) The children are taught to be thankful.



(left) Interested! Their first contact with the Word of God.



From Buddha to Christ, literally! These children were once cared for by a Buddhist lady in her large home. Her daughter who became a Christian witnessed to the children and took them to Sunday school. This caused some of the children to rebel at the teachings of Buddhism, and finally in desperation the lady gave her home and children to one of our orphanages as a branch orphanage. Ray Johnson of Life Messengers heard that we had no sponsors for the children. He appealed to his supporters, and enough funds came in to sponsor the children and buy garden land from the lady. The lady went to live in the temple and when the priests learned that she had given the home to the orphanage, they drove her out. This is not the end of the story. We have learned that the lady herself has turned from Buddhism to faith in Jesus Christ.



At left, is one of the early orphanage dormitories. Yes, it provided the barest of necessities. The new building at right, which replaced it, is truly, a comfortable, modern structure which more nearly approaches the facilities of home.

Many foreign missionaries, sympathetic with our total program, give valuable assistance, but without salary from COMPASSION.

Rev. Swanson makes periodic inspection visits to the field. A responsibility which has recently been pressed upon COMPASSION is the care of hundreds of orphans who have been turned out of unlicensed orphanages, closed by the government. These orphanages are below standard, wholly inadequate and poorly managed. The government has appealed to COMPASSION to assume this added burden.

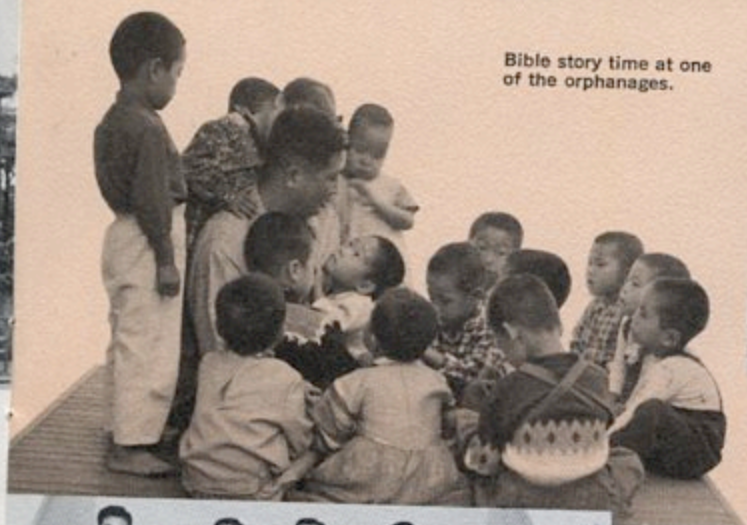
In COMPASSION orphanages, there are thousands of children without sponsors hungrily awaiting the loving concern of American supporters. Many more await admission to these Homes until funds are available.

We have been told, and we share this information with deep humility, that COMPASSION'S over-all program — physical facilities, food, clothing, education, training — is unmatched anywhere in Korea. For this we are grateful to God, and to the thousands of sponsors whose hearts and pocketbooks He has touched to make such a program possible.



Nursery of one of the homes. Into these homes may be brought the infants of unwed mothers. Other types of homes are for beggar boys and girls, homes for widows and children, and for children of lepers —also for deaf children.

Bible story time at one of the orphanages.



Playtime for girls.



(above) Some of the fortunate children able to continue into Junior High School. Skyrocketing tuition costs prevent many who are capable of finishing secondary schools.

(below) Marching to school! No busses for these youngsters, some of them walk 5 miles to school. They seem to enjoy it.



Rice field. Many orphans help tend COMPASSION farms and gain valuable practical experience. (insert) Millet stalks.

(below) Orphanage chapel service.





(top) Prayer and praise. Staff workers in their daily devotions.

(center) Orphans have problems, too. Staff worker gives personal counsel.

At the central office in Seoul, up to 750 letters per day are translated from Korean to English and vice versa. Careful records assure that children write regularly to their sponsors.



**SPONSORS' LETTERS THAT SHOW COMPASSION. A few excerpts:**

**Beggar boy commended:** "Your reports thrill us and we tell everybody about our orphans. They write such good letters. Our beggar boy in Bethany Home, who started from scratch just 3 or 4 years ago, won official commendation in school of 1000 students—second prize. Best of all he was saved a year ago. He wrote a good letter about it."

**Borrowed money for blankets:** "I'm sorry this is so long after receiving your letter, but we've been scraping along on low funds. Finally we decided to borrow some so we could send some money for blankets. Enclosed is a check for \$90 for 30 blankets."



(above) Health is important, and the homes have trained help and dispensaries with drugs and equipment to give the children good medical care.  
(upper left) Polio and rickets struck this little boy. He is being given specialized treatment, and braces have been made for him by a mission hospital.



**Malnutrition!**  
Brought in,  
but too late.  
She died.

COMPASSION also provides substantial financial subsidy for two large hospitals where many children receive treatment. In addition, there are four schools for deaf mutes, three schools for the blind, and seven homes and schools for the uninfected children of lepers. There are four other schools where children with leprosy are maintained.



Two orphans who have become chaplains in the Korean Marine Corps.

## DOES WORK WITH ORPHANS PAY?

The young men shown on this page are some of the many living answers to that question. Excepting the young American soldier, all were brought up in our Homes. Early they were taught the Word of God which confronted them with the need of a personal Savior. Now their life purpose is to serve Him and their people with the message of salvation. Christian orphanage work is truly fruitful evangelism. Sponsors have a real share in these blessings. They have helped make possible this God-honored ministry.

Among those we have cared for in our orphanages during the first 10 years — 5 have become pastors; 27 have become evangelists; 47 have become seminary students; 140 have been graduated from college; 750 are in military service; 1134 have married; 1433 have jobs.



Master-Sergeant (U.S.A.) Elmer Rund gloriously won to Christ during Rev. Swanson's meetings with armed forces. He has since brought hundreds to Christ through his personal witnessing.

(upper right) Three young men, shown with Rev. Swanson, were once beggar boys on the streets of Taegu. They are now students in the seminary, preparing for full-time Christian service. A fourth, from this same orphanage, was not present when this picture was taken.



(lower right) Four young men, all children of lepers. They grew up in one of our orphanages. All are students in a Christian college; they are the first children of lepers to go beyond high school in Korea.



## TO MAKE A CHILD'S HEART GLAD!

It is not difficult to visualize the joy which comes to the heart of a child — destitute, not knowing the comfort of a father or mother's love — when a gift comes from an overseas sponsor. Gifts from sponsors are not required, but when they come they do add up to unimagined delight. If your "adopted" child is old enough to write you will receive a heart-warming "thank you" note and a photo of your child with the gifts. If the child is too young to write, the note will come from one of our staff.



The pictures on this page convey the happiness which gifts have brought.



Children and staff in one of the homes, thanking God for the money sent by sponsors for the annual "Warm Program"—winter clothes, underwear, socks, and shoes.





Evangelist walking his circuit.



A few have bicycles.



Distributing tracts and personal witnessing.

## CONSECRATED EVANGELISTS

Since Rev. Swanson has a God-given vision for evangelism, it is quite natural that strong emphasis should be given to the gospel message in this land of Korea, in addition to the concentration given to the work among orphans.

As a consequence of this vision, COMPASSION has encouraged a large group of native evangelists to carry the salvation message to the rural areas of Korea, where otherwise it might never be heard. To continue, these evangelists too must have supporters. Some of them are married and have families. They are totally committed to the evangelistic message, and because of their consecrated work hundreds of Koreans, young and old, are being won to Christ. These pioneer evangelists preach in homes and small meeting places, pass out literature and hold Bible studies in an effort to reach men and women wherever they are to be found.

Thousands are won to Christ through the ministry of these nationals. They know the ways of their own people. They can live on a fraction of the amount required by Westerners — need little for travel expenses and never take a furlough.

COMPASSION is currently supporting more than 370 of these native evangelists. Many more are in need of help if they are to continue their work. Still others are prepared to go if we can find support for them.

In helping these evangelists, COMPASSION uses the sponsorship plan, patterned after that used for the orphan children. An interested and concerned individual or group agrees to underwrite assistance for a two-year period. Monthly assistance ranges from \$10 to \$20. The sponsor receives his photo, story, and a monthly report of his activities.

Our evangelists are getting things done for God that can be done in no other way — getting to the heart of the people in the villages where they live. As a sponsor, you become a partner in this work of evangelism. The need is great — the time is short.

We invite you to write for our booklet, *"Information About Supporting Your Own Native Korean Missionary,"* which gives full details of how you can be involved in a most worthwhile gospel effort.



Children's work is very important. Here native evangelist leads them in singing.

(right) Blind evangelist (with Rev. Swanson) led 241 to Christ in single month. God used him to bring revival to back-slidden church; 84 professed Christ during meetings. In his work, this evangelist frequently walks 5 miles in a day, in bad weather, crossing streams, "but," he writes in a letter, "it is wonderful to bring the Good News to the dying."



(left) Original meeting place of church.

(lower left) Completed church, pleasant, inviting.

Evangelist witnessing to small group in a home.



## KOREAN HEADQUARTERS STAFF

Our Korean staff, led by the Rev. Robert C. Morgan, Korea Field Director, is completely dedicated to the task of total evangelization of the Republic of Korea. Every staff member is a consecrated Christian. Most of them are also graduates of Korean colleges.

Rev. Robert Morgan, directs all of COMPASSION'S widespread work in Korea. Together with Mrs. Morgan, also a missionary, he carries great responsibilities.

Miss Sally Swanson is a registered nurse whose knowledge and background are of invaluable assistance in raising the health standards of our orphanages.



(front row—left to right) Miss Sally Swanson, Nurse; Mrs. Robert Morgan, Missionary; Rev. Robert C. Morgan, Korea Field Director.

(second and third rows) The Headquarters Staff shown here make up part of the dedicated team engaged in thousands of details necessary to back up the local orphanages. They are busy in disbursing funds, supervising purchases, keeping records, carrying on correspondence, translating, training orphanage personnel and the countless jobs needed to insure an efficient organization.



Rev. Everett F. Swanson  
Founder-Director



Robert E. Swaney  
Assistant  
Executive Director



## HOME STAFF

COMPASSION's program was started as the Everett Swanson Evangelistic Association in the evangelist's northside Chicago home. As the work grew and the appeal for help was answered, it soon overflowed into every nook and cranny of the basement. Here, with rigid economy in mind, the Association operated for a number of years. But the day came when this basement space could no longer effectively cope with the demands.

The need for a suitable building was made the matter of much prayer, and in 1962 God answered this prayer in a wonderful way. Ground was obtained at 7774 Irving Park Road, Chicago, and on Monday, August 13, a new modern one-story office building was dedicated for the exclusive use of the Association. In 1963 our operation was expanded to include a Canadian office: P.O. Box 880, Blenheim, Ontario, Canada.

Offices are modern, equipped with efficient machines and accounting systems to properly take care of the great mass of detail involved. Correspondence is promptly answered and great effort is made to maintain a continuing relationship between sponsors and orphans, sponsors and evangelists, and the hundreds of inquiries which pour into headquarters.

All financial records are regularly audited by a Certified Public Accountant and are available on request.

Personnel of the headquarters staff are Christians who share Rev. Swanson's purpose, dedication and program. Staff devotions are held daily.



Dr. G. A. Hemwall  
Treasurer



Elmer T. Olson, C.P.A.  
Auditor

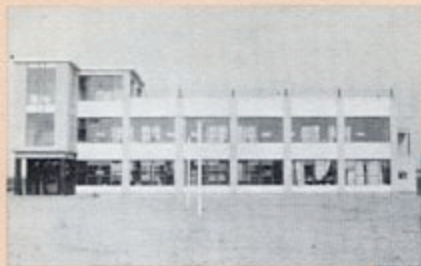
Partial view of the new  
Headquarters office.



Mrs. Everett Swanson checks and  
supervises all of the incoming mail.

Headquarters Building located at  
7774 Irving Park Road, Chicago.





Modern new concrete building houses classrooms, dormitories, dining facilities, chapel and offices at Yung Jin.

Young ladies use American typewriters to prepare themselves for jobs in offices using English for trade and commerce.



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## NEW VISTAS OPENED IN VOCATIONAL TRAINING

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To prepare these young people for useful lives, COMPASSION has built two new vocational schools to teach the older boys and girls a trade.

The *Compassion Farm School* for boys is located some 25 miles northwest of Seoul. Boys from all COMPASSION orphanages are eligible to go there to learn agricultural techniques on the 275 acres of farmland donated by the government. In a pioneering move to give these orphans a chance for financial independence, students will be given an acre of land, sufficient to support a family, when they have cleared it and secured a successful crop. Even though hillside land, it would easily command a \$1,000 an acre . . . a price that would make land ownership an impossible dream for most orphans.

The *Yung Jin Vocational Center* for girls is located just south of Seoul. A fine new concrete building provides housing, classrooms, offices and chapel. Here the girls are trained for one year in sewing, beauty culture, and typing (both Korean and English). These are skills much in demand in Korea and assure the girls of excellent job opportunities. Other courses will soon be added.

New brick administration building houses classrooms, dining hall, workshop, chapel and offices (less than one third is visible here). An ox to pull their cart and draw a plow provides the main power other than the boys' own labor in bringing the land under cultivation.



Boys are planting crops of melons, corn, potatoes, radishes, cabbage, peppers, barley and millet under the guidance of experienced farmers.

**TO GOD BE THE GLORY**  
**Doors of Opportunity Still Open —**  
**if the funds are available**

God's hand is unmistakably on the work of COMPASSION. It is to Him that we give all the glory. And even as we praise Him for His blessing, He shows us that there are countless pressing needs to be filled. Present homes and facilities require constant repair and oftentimes additions. We face constantly rising costs for both maintenance and construction.

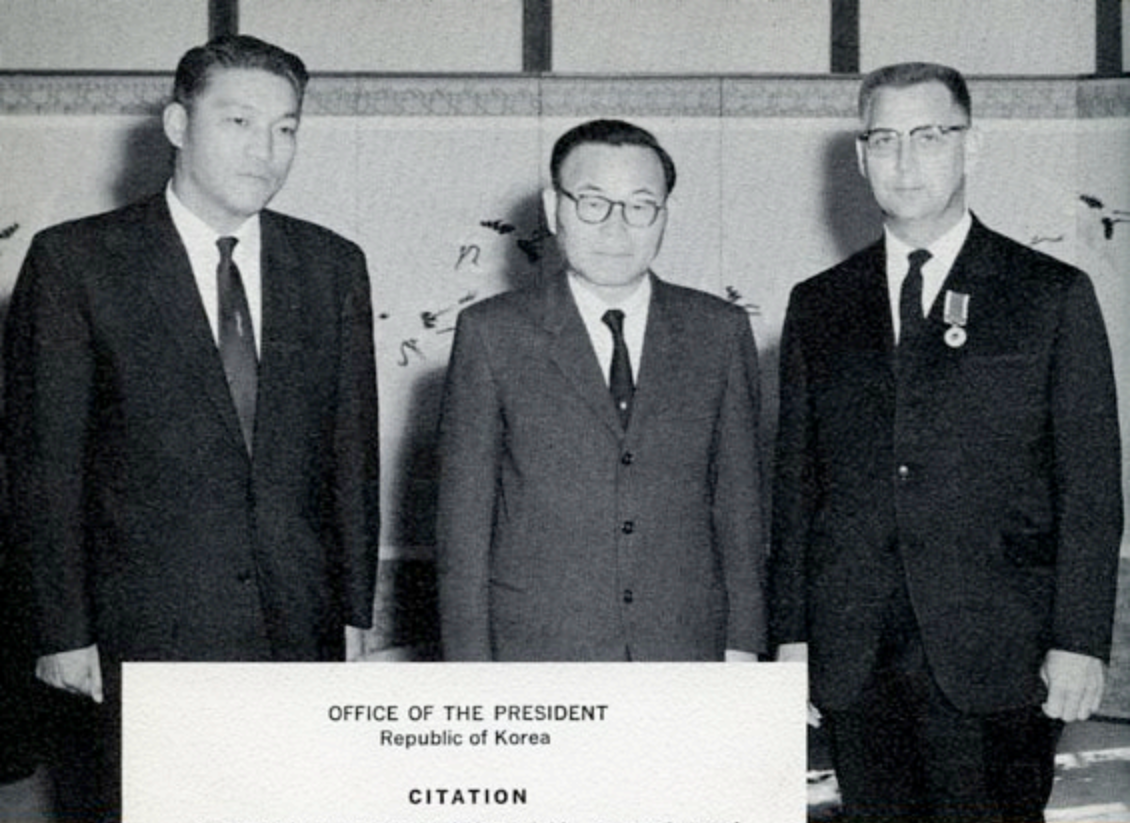
Already committed to us are more than a thousand orphans who have no sponsors. They pray daily for a "Mommy" or "Daddy," "Big Brother" or "Big Sister" to "adopt" them. The heartache becomes all the more poignant as they realize that some of the children have sponsors who are supporting them, writing to them and showing them many evidences of love, and they do not.

Will you be one to covenant with God to make an orphan happy? You can provide loving care, shelter, food, clothing and medical care for just \$10 a month. Perhaps you would like to share this privilege with someone; each of you sending \$5 a month in joint sponsorship. Or maybe there is a group in your church which might be interested in an orphan as a missionary project.

We are enlarging two vocational schools — one for boys and one for girls — that must be supported. Many more of our young people will want to go on to college, seminary, Bible institute, nurses' training, etc. We must not stop short of making true Christian leaders of these children whom God has spared and saved. In addition to faithful sponsors, we need substantial gifts, and bequests to meet these great challenges.

This booklet has sought to present the workings of God in founding and maintaining this unique orphanage ministry of evangelism. If you have shared in it, you know the blessings which have rewarded your prayers and your giving. Now we invite countless others to join us in this unfinished task.





OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
Republic of Korea

CITATION

In recognition and appreciation of his outstanding and meritorious service, I take great pleasure, in accordance with the powers delegated to me by the Constitution of the Republic of Korea, in awarding the PUBLIC WELFARE MEDAL to REV. EVERETT F. SWANSON. Rev. Swanson, evangelist and social worker, first visited our country during the Korean conflict in 1951 to observe and promote missionary work here.

Deeply touched by the plight of thousands of children, widows and wounded veterans who were innocent victims of this terrible war, he immediately appealed for help to the people of the United States of America. He also toured the front lines to preach the gospel to both Korean and United Nations' servicemen, giving them comfort and stimulating their morale.

For ten years, Rev. Swanson's devoted and unceasing activity on behalf of the Korean people has never wavered. He has not only exerted every effort in the construction of numerous welfare institutions and churches throughout the country but has provided the scholarship for needy students.

Rev. Swanson's warm-hearted humanitarianism and dedicated interest in the spiritual, social and physical welfare of our people, especially for our children, have earned our abiding appreciation, and his unselfish ministrations as a true apostle will never be forgotten.

*Signed,*  
PO SUN YUN

(above—left to right)  
Dr. Jung, former  
Minister of Health  
and Social Affairs;  
Po Sun Yun, former  
President of the  
Republic of Korea;  
Rev. Swanson.

(below) Po Sun Yun  
pinning Public  
Welfare Medal on  
Rev. Swanson. Only  
6 others outside  
of Korea have been  
awarded this citation.

ADDITIONAL COPIES AVAILABLE

If you wish to send copies of this Booklet  
to friends, they are available at 25c each.

