



MISSION FRONTIERS

We want to rejoice!

- not because we are again on the verge of foreclosure (see next page)

- but because we do need to stop and COUNT OUR MANY BLESSINGS

Would you like to see the list?

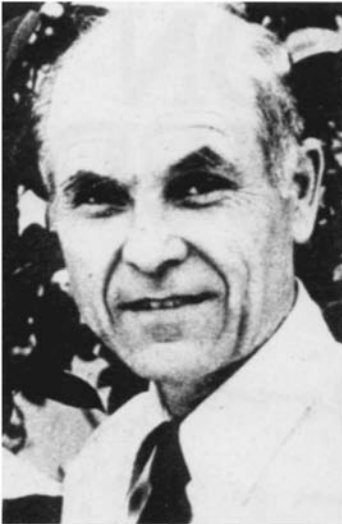
- a partial list anyhow, of many clear evidences of God's sparkling purposes being fulfilled before our eyes!

(see page four)

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- Why TIME gave 2 pages to a Frontier Missions book (Page 11)

FROM THE DIRECTOR:



Dear friends,

June 28, 1982

It is my solemn responsibility to face the facts. Then--you deserve to know the facts. You have undoubtedly given and prayed for this project.

Not again? Foreclosure in a few days?

That's what it looks like*--despite the lavish generosity of many last December.

These are tough times for everyone, of course, (and there are 20 foreclosures a day in Southern California.)

Honestly, though, have you ever wondered "Maybe this is one project that won't fly?"

"Won't fly?" WHO says?

DUE TO:

- Incredible hard work beyond hours
- dozens of unpaid volunteers
- everyone on the very same missionary salary--director along with the rest
- using nothing but second-hand furniture
- on and on

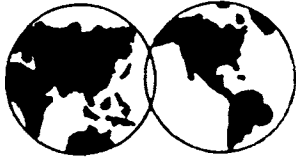
Result:

WE HAVE ALWAYS, FROM DAY ONE, BEEN SELF-SUPPORTING AS FAR AS OPERATIONAL COSTS ARE CONCERNED.

1. That's why we are not scrambling to build a donor base.
2. That's why we want to get this property paid off.

(Continued on Page 3)

*We expect this to happen on or about July 1st. This is written June 28th. If you would like to see what has happened while this bulletin is in the mail, phone Ginny (213) 791-1324.



Keen people from 42 mission agencies work together at the U. S. Center for World Mission to foster the growth of a "frontier missions" movement among Christians and churches in this country.

There are three major components of this movement:

First, there are the mission agencies which are willing to make the penetration of new people groups with the Gospel their highest priority.

Then, there are the students--the missionary volunteers of the new era of missionary outreach to frontier peoples.

Finally, there are the churches who make the establishment of churches in groups of people where the church has not existed their highest priority in prayer, in giving and in sharing this vision for the frontiers with others.

(Cont.)

Right now, June 28, HARD FACTS:

1. We have paid \$4,161,000 --with God's help, and yours.
2. That includes \$25,000 toward the June 1st payment of \$175,000.
3. That means we are in arrears \$150,000.
4. We can expect a "Notice of Default" on July 1st or shortly after.
5. That will initiate a 90-day foreclosure period.

We stalled this issue three weeks, hoping to tell you something more definite about the foreclosure possibility (by now more certain). Our Heavenly Father knows why the skies have seemed so silent.

Next issue will arrive in less than a month, we hope. We expect to give you the most complete financial report yet.

Please don't miss the wonderful list of God's blessings. . . .turn page.

And the many other good things of permanent value in this issue.

Cordially,

Ralph D Winter

MISSION FRONTIERS

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Volume IV, Number 5 July 1982



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MEMBER
epa

GOD'S GREAT BLESSINGS TO US AND THIS PROJECT

Does the cause of Christ in America need a single, major base, run by missionaries, focused exclusively upon advances into new fields, and concentrating on the completion of that initial penetration at least by the year 2000?

In any case, those of us who are here sense that God himself is concerned about this base. He is the One, after all, who has hovered over this project in a marvelous, indeed miraculous way for many, many months.

1. He is the One that brought a million and a half dollars out of nowhere during the first 18 months for the down payment on this campus, Sept. '78.

2. He's the One who put together (from all over the U.S.) a keen, young, loyal staff of the most highly committed, dedicated people you can find anywhere. Older people, too. We have 40 people over 40 but not yet retired, with 800 years of professional mission experience.

3. He is the One who moved the hearts of the leaders of other organizations to somehow help--Campus Crusade, World Literature Crusade, World Vision, Billy Graham, Pat Boone, Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary, Calvary Chapel. He also led Harold Ockenga, Harold Lindsell, Donald McGavran, Clyde Taylor and many other leaders to help.

4. God is the One who brought seasoned older leaders like Norm Lewis, Ernie Heimbach (formerly OMF Home Director), Ethel Ennenga (top bookkeeper at Fuller Seminary), Gene Davis (outstanding businessman) onto our staff and onto our Board in the early days.

5. He is the One who has brought to our campus keen organizations like International Films, Samuel Zwemer Institute, Overseas Counseling Service, North Africa Mission Associates, National Student Missions Coalition, Evangelical China Office, Today's Mission and dozens of others.

6. God is the One who has brought us a keen computer-technical staff. They are here on the same missionary salary level we all are on. Probably no Christian organization in the world could afford to pay people of their quality.

7. We're thankful to Him for simple things like the fact that this entire campus, 100 buildings and all, was already built. We could move right in and get started. No need to even discuss what the shape, size, partitions of any building should be!

8. And we thank God for a University corporation that allows us to do amazing things. We have our graduates in a half dozen countries I cannot even name. We have Ph.D. people in the pipeline who can stay where they are in 28 countries.

9. God touched the hearts of just the right people time after time to help us when we truly needed help.

10. Do you know? He is the One who holds the future! What an exciting, testing, challenging experience that will be!

11. Of all the things that have happened, we are most grateful and most completely indebted to the Lord for the concept of the Frontier Fellowship. That is a goal more important than the campus and this base itself. Oh, God, do not let that fail! We thank you, Lord, for that pastor from Burma who brought it to us!

Do rejoice with us!



FRONTIER FELLOWSHIP

Daily Prayer Guide

The Frontier Fellowship campaign continues to gain momentum as individuals, churches, denominations and mission agencies commit themselves to the priority of penetrating the final frontiers of the gospel with the Good News about Jesus Christ.

One of the most vital factors in the growth of the movement, according to the National Frontier Fellowship Coordinator Len Bartlott, has been the appearance of the Fellowship's Daily Prayer Guide.

"The prayer guide has helped many catch a vision for God's purpose beyond the areas where the Church already exists," he commented.

"The normal response of those who have caught the vision for unreached frontiers is to try to make this new concern a part of their daily lives. The best way to do this is through regular use of the Daily Prayer Guide."

An introductory guide was produced last fall by Bob Coleman, one of the bright, young innovators on the Center's staff.

Since April, John Shindeldecker has headed the Daily Prayer Guide team in researching and writing the monthly booklets.

Shindeldecker is a mission strategist and thinker who has combined a sense of urgency concerning the unfinished task with a deep appreciation for the pioneers of previous eras, and insight into the current efforts at penetration of new groups.

The growth of the Daily Prayer Guide is also reflected in the mounting distribution figures. Both the number of different organizations producing "custom" versions of the prayer guide for their own constituency and the total number of prayer guides printed has continued to climb.

"We have produced eleven different versions of the prayer guide," reports Don Mowry, production manager. "The monthly circulation is now 30,000 copies, and we expect to significantly increase that in September."

Many if not most of the prayer guides have been distributed by the various agencies participating in the Frontier Fellowship campaign. These agencies, like the Africa Inland Mission, North Africa Mission, RBMU International, and SEND International, are promoting the use of the prayer guide throughout their own constituencies.

The U. S. Center for World Mission mailed a free sample of the May issue of the prayer guide, featuring Eric Liddell (whose athletic career was featured in the hit movie "Chariots of Fire"). In the three weeks following the mailing, more than 5,000 additional copies were ordered by those who had received the free copy.

The response to the prayer guide has been most gratifying. Hundreds who have seen and used the guide have praised it as the most effective tool they have seen for building and spreading frontier mission vision.

Readers who have seen the Daily Prayer Guide and wish to receive it each month can ensure timely delivery by ordering a one-year subscription for \$6.00. If ten or more copies are

mailed to the same address, there is a substantial savings and the annual rate is only \$4.50 each.

Check the box on the back page if you wish to enter your subscription for 32-exciting new pages of frontier inspiration and education each month.

Thursday night Meeting

The Pasadena Frontier Fellowship meets each Thursday evening on the campus of the U. S. Center for World Mission.

"We believe that on Thursday nights, the Frontier Fellowship is the place to be in Pasadena," Dr. Ralph Winter said.

The schedule of July meetings would seem to confirm his judgment.

Ed Dayton, World Vision vice-president for Missions and Evangelism, will be the speaker on July 1.

The newly appointed executive director of the Association of Church Mission Committees, John Bennett, will speak July 8.

On July 15 Dr. Norm Lewis, staff member of the U. S. Center for World Mission will present a report from his recent ministry trip to Peru.

Each meeting will start at 7:00 in the large auditorium on the campus (corner of Howard and Sierra Bonita Streets). At 6:00 a fellowship dinner is available in the cafeteria for \$1.50 per person.

Groups desiring to take advantage of the dinner and meeting should call Betty Barnett, Director of Public Affairs at the Center, to make arrangements. Campus tours are also available on Thursdays.



Billy Graham and evangelicals in

RUSSIA

Admittedly, Billy Graham's recent trip to Moscow was not made for the purpose of studying or summarizing the conditions of religious organizations in Russia.

The American press, however, seemed more interested in that subject than in the conference he attended. Their interest was whetted by the fact that it was well known that the White House was not entirely happy about Billy's attendance at the conference in the first place.

What is astonishing, however, is the fact that the press for some reason was driven to systematically distort things Billy said in Russia and upon return. Billy said that he visited packed churches and that thousands of churches were open in Russia. He said he did not himself witness the evidence of religious persecution. He said that there was a degree of freedom of religion in Russia. The press deliberately distorted these statements to make him say that "there is no repression of religion in Russia," which obviously is something he did not say.

Apparently even some American evangelical leaders have been led astray by these distortions and also by the surprise that they felt regarding what degree of religious freedom there actually is in Russia today.

Please take note that neither Billy Graham nor the writer of these comments has any intention of praising Russia for the grim situation their hatred of Christ has created. Clearly, the Russian government has done everything within its power, beginning with impressionable children all

the way through school, to blast any possible general belief in God or in Christianity in particular. It is true that Billy hopes to be invited back to preach in various parts of Russia, and that he tried to avoid making inflammatory statements, but it was certainly not his intention to praise the Russians for the limited amount of freedom there is, because there is obviously very little and there continue to be alarming and tragic evidences of brutal repression.

Perhaps the most surprising thing of all, to the average American, even the average American evangelical believer, is the simple fact that there is so great an amount of true spiritual vitality in Russia. Neither the American press nor the American evangelical is prepared for the scope of what God is doing in Russia against all energies of the government to eliminate the work of the Holy Spirit.

One of the books that Billy Graham read before he went to Russia is a recent book entitled Soviet Evangelicals Since World War II, by Walter Sawat-sky, published by Herald Press in 1981. This book of over 500 pages is an astonishingly detailed scholarly work by a Mennonite European representative, formerly a research scholar at the famous English Keston College "Center for the Study of Religion and Communism," and a well respected scholar. This book is hard to believe. We are not prepared for it. Yet it is crammed with actual facts, statistics, places and specific details of what has got to be a far larger and more powerful Christian movement in Russia than most people in America have been able to imagine. Rare is the scholarly book studded with such pungent,

specific, quotable paragraphs about the sovereign power of the Holy Spirit at work in all kinds of strange places all across Russia.

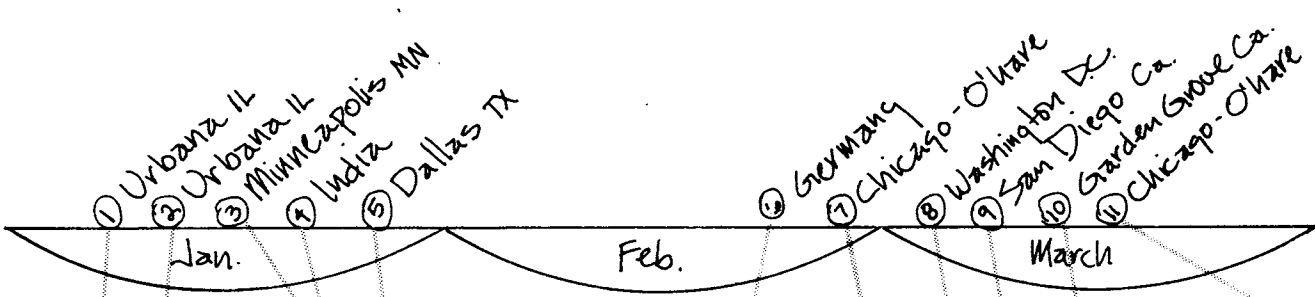
Thus it may well be because of reading this book that Billy had a much higher appreciation for the sheer quantity of spiritual vitality in this country which we normally consider a spiritual blackout area on the face of the earth.

Then of course there is David Barrett's World Christian Encyclopedia (see page) which indicates that there are 97 million Christians in Russia. This is an enormous number and an enormous percentage, over one-third of the people in that country! We are startled by this in view of the fact that for so many years (over 50 years) it has been in every way, shape or form a terrible handicap for individuals in Russia to admit any Christian faith or belief. What a shock to realize that there are more people who go to church in Moscow than in the western cities of Copenhagen, Stockholm, Hamburg, Berlin, or Paris. Obviously the power of God is not limited by Communist Czars. Obviously the ease and affluence of America does not guarantee continuing spiritual vitality.

And, obviously, Billy Graham was better equipped in actual knowledge about the country and the conditions in it than were the representatives of the American press. If you want to find out more about the power of the evangelical movement in Russia, buy the book he read! Circle item on back page. While you are at it, get a copy of Barrett's book for your church library!

Important Conferences in 1982

Rising Interest in the Final Frontiers



It is really exciting to see a new interest in frontiers popping up in conference after conference in 1982. Earlier issues of *Mission Frontiers* have given the highlights of past conferences across the years--such as the Berlin Conference in 1966, the Lausanne Conference in 1974, the Pattaya Conference in 1980, and the Edinburgh 1980 Conference (also called the World Consultation on Frontier Missions), plus the International Student Consultation on Frontier Missions at the same time and the same place.

Now, however, there are dozens of important conferences in a single year which have definite reflections of the rising tide of interest in the final frontiers. Here are some examples. (Take a special look at the ones that are still ahead of us--the ones that you can yourself attend, such as the meeting July 15 through 18 at Carbondale, Illinois. See No. 22.)

1. Inter-Varsity's "Urbana" Student Missionary Conference was actually in the last few days of 1981 but lends its flavor to the whole of this year. Never before had Urbana stressed the frontiers as at this meeting in which a series of high class audiovisuals (produced by Twenty-one Hundred Productions of IVCF) covered systematically the four major blocks to which this bulletin constantly refers--the Chinese, the Muslims, the Hindus, and the Tribals. Those audiovisuals are available to show in your own local church, Sunday School class or fellowship. Get in touch with Inter-Varsity.

2. The very first two days of January saw the creation of the National Student Mission Coalition. Close to a hundred young people from all over the United States (the nucleus, veterans from the Edin-

burgh 1980 conference) gathered immediately after the Urbana Conference at Urbana, but not representing Inter-Varsity officially any more than Campus Crusade or Navigators or ISI or any other student group. They now exist and operate as an outstanding new force on American campuses and in American churches. Recent issues of *Mission Frontiers* have gone into depth about this organization.

3. January 22-24 was the annual mission conference of what amounts to a small mission-minded denomination, so to speak--namely the Bethany Missionary Fellowship in the southern suburbs of Minneapolis. Bethany is also a mission board which sends over a hundred missionaries into many parts of the world. This year their theme was carried by a series of six addresses by the Director of the USCWM, highlighting of course the frontiers in mission today. These six addresses are available in a cassette album. Circle item on back page.

4. January 27-31 in Bangalore, India, the World Evangelical Fellowship's Mission Commission met with the major theme this year being Third World Missions, which are undoubtedly one of the great hopes for the tackling of the frontiers in missions today.

5. January 28 and 29, a small huddle of key people, invited together by the top leadership of Campus Crusade, discussed what must best be done about the literally millions of responses to the Jesus film all over the world. There is no question that this film is being shown in many frontier situations, and when the facts are in, probably thousands of new groups will have been penetrated.

6. February 16-18, in Germany,

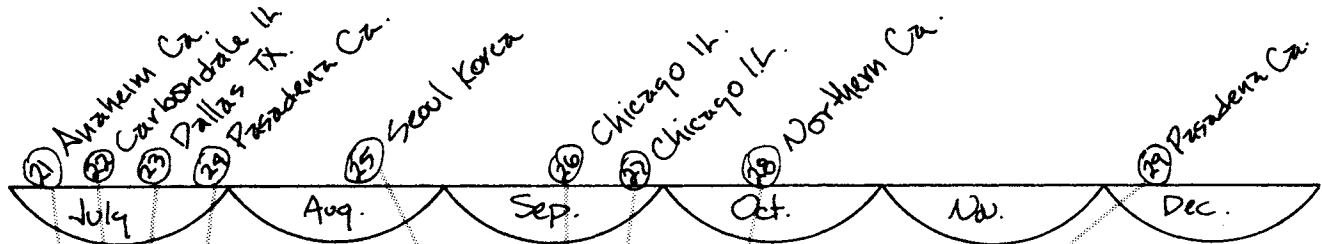
the Association of Evangelical Missions had their annual meeting, all in German, except that the main speaker, Ralph D. Winter, spoke in English and the theme itself was published in their literature in English--"Hidden Peoples." Ninety percent of all missionaries leaving Germany are under one or another of the three dozen or so mission agencies that are part of this group. (In the Fall of 1981 the United Kingdom Evangelical Missionary Alliance also had its theme on frontiers.)

7. The Interdenominational Foreign Mission Association formed a new committee entitled Frontier Peoples Committee. Its first meeting was February 24th. An outstanding group of top mission executives met at the O'Hare Airport to set things in motion for this new key committee.

8. The NAE and the EFMA (Evangelical Foreign Missions Association) met March 1-3. Every single address at the EFMA meeting contained the words "new missions thrust."

9. In San Diego, March 3-6, the Congress on the Bible was held. Close to 3,000 people met, with many workshops and many subjects. One of them was The Missions Imperative and was the basis of an emphasis by Dr. Ralph D. Winter on the new frontiers. The cassette of this address is available. Circle item on the back cover.

10. On March 6 the Crystal Cathedral (Garden Grove Community Church) held its first mission conference. Their new mission pastor, Pau' Hostetter, organized things superbly, and mission frontiers were definitely an element in the program. Many other local congregations around the country, of



21 July 6-10 the Full Gospel Businessmen's Fellowship Intl. will have its meeting in Anaheim, CA. While there is no reference to frontiers in any of their announced topics, this fellowship of businessmen is itself a frontier-penetrating organization to some extent because many pockets of leadership all across the world are constantly being breached through their 7,000 weekly meetings.

22 The national conference of the Association of Church Missions Committees will meet this year, July 16-18, at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, IL. The program is packed with leading people from all over the United States. At least two of the speakers are wedded to the frontier emphasis, including Jack Hayford of the Church on the Way in California and Dr. Ralph Winter from the USCWM. The ACMC has openly embraced this emphasis in their materials. This is an outstanding meeting for anyone who has not been to one of them before. Every church mission committee should be a member. Write for a brochure about this conference. Circle item on back page.

23 July 19-23 the Christian Booksellers Association has invited Don Richardson, author of Peace Child, Lords of the Earth, and Eternity in Their Hearts, to give the opening address of the whole convention. His third book was the sensation of the meeting last year, with lines more than 100 yards long waiting for an autographed copy. This year his emphasis on frontiers will be the opening point of departure.

24 July 31, a preliminary consultation on the challenge of India will take place on the campus of the USCWM. This is the first time in a long time that Christian leaders

have met around this particular subject. Pessimism about India is waning. Many opportunities are emerging in the 2,900 people groups in India which have no Christians within them at all.

25 August 16-21 in Seoul, Korea, the Asia Missions Association will have its meeting, attracting mission leaders from all over Asia. This outstanding organization has always stressed Third World missions by its very definition. This time the frontiers will be highlighted by an address by Ralph D. Winter of USCWM.

26 It is a significant fact that the theme of the annual meeting of the Interdenominational Foreign Mission Association is "Penetrating the Frontiers." We have already noted the meeting of their Frontier Peoples Committee (see No. 7 above). This time the 90 different member organizations will all concentrate on this subject for the entire executives retreat. The opening address will be on the challenge of the frontiers (R. D. Winter, USCWM).

27 Simultaneously, 2,000 miles away, the Evangelical Foreign Missions Association will have its annual executive retreat. It too, though not quite so prominently, has a strong frontier missions emphasis. This second association adds another hundred or so mission agencies.

28 Fifty-six Presbyterian churches are collaborating together annually in the Bay Area in a single joint missions conference, where 30-40 missionaries come from all over the world to speak in all these different churches on a round robin basis. This year one of the main themes is the United Presbyterian Frontier Fellowship (see No. 20 above).

29 Already scheduled for Dec. 16 and 17 is a follow-through larger consultation on the Hindu challenge (see No. 24 above). This will bring in a much larger group of people, seriously to examine the opportunities that exist.

30 Many other conferences could have been mentioned, but they are smaller groups, less than national level. Some conferences we already know about for 1983 stress frontier peoples. For example, March 24 and 25 in 1983 there is a follow-through meeting of the Reach-A-People group (see No. 11 above). Then March 8 the NAE meeting in Orlando, Florida, involves a major address in the plenary session of the NAE on the frontiers, and the accompanying EFMA meeting also has a similar note in it.

31 All in all, this quick survey indicates that 1982 reflects a greater awareness of frontiers and a greater interest in them than any previous year in the latter half of the century. What a cause for rejoicing.

Warning!

If you want to receive the World Christian Encyclopedia featured on pages 11-13 of this issue, we must have your order (with payment) before July 23.

The Anatomy of the Evangelical Movement

An interview with Mr. Bruce Nicholls, Chairman of the Theological Commission of the World Evangelical Fellowship and Dr. Ralph D. Winter, of the USCWM.

(A recent visitor to the campus of the U. S. Center for World Mission was Mr. Bruce Nicholls, veteran missionary from New Zealand to India. Mr. Nicholls is currently chairman of the Theological Commission of the World Evangelical Fellowship, and is the chairman of the world-level consultation on the Nature and Mission of the Church being convened by the WEF at Wheaton, Illinois in August of 1983. During his visit to the Center he participated in a discussion with Dr. Ralph Winter, General Director of the Center, and David Dougherty, Managing Editor of *Mission Frontiers*.)

David: Mr. Nicholls, what do our readers need to know about the World Evangelical Fellowship (WEF)?

Mr. Nicholls: You could say that the initial impetus was formed out of a meeting in 1846 in London between North American and European Christian leaders. However, it wasn't until the years following World War II that cooperation among evangelicals began in earnest. In 1951, in Holland, with wind in its sails from the newly formed NAE in the USA, the WEF was formed on the world level to bring together the various national evangelical alliances and fellowships. It had a slow beginning because of its part-time staff and limited budget, and because many of the national fellowships were quite small. But we have seen in the last ten years a steady expansion of the ministry and structure of the WEF, so that now there are 47 national associations or alliances representing about 50 countries.

David: What kind of membership does the WEF have?

Mr. Nicholls: We should probably think of the WEF not as an organization as such, though it is that. It is more a meeting-point for evangelicals and evangelical organizations world-wide. A number of national

and/or continental fellowships comprise the basic membership. The National Association of Evangelicals (NAE) is the member body from the USA. The Evangelical Alliance of England represents that country. The European Evangelical Alliance is the body from that continent and the Association of Evangelicals of Africa and Madagascar (AEAM) is the regional body for that continent. A number of national fellowships from throughout Asia belong to the WEF, and later this year, in Seoul, Korea, Asian evangelical leaders are meeting to form an all-Asian association of evangelical fellowships.

At the last general assembly of the WEF it was agreed to open the membership to church bodies, to councils, to institutions, to mission bodies, so that membership is no longer limited to national evangelical church associations.

"We have seen in the last 10 years a steady expansion of the WEF so that now there are 47 national associations."

-- Nicholls

David: How is the work of the WEF accomplished?

Mr. Nicholls: The strength of any movement is not so much in its organization or structure as it is in its people. Thus much of the work of the WEF is carried out through a number of commissions. For example, the Missions Commission is headed by

Theodore Williams of India. He is himself founder of the Indian Evangelical Mission which has more than 120 Indian missionaries. It is supported from India and controlled by Indian personnel.

"The strength of any movement is in its people."

A second commission, which it is my personal responsibility to chair, is the Theological Commission. There are 55 members of this commission, drawn equally from the major geographical areas represented within the WEF (North America, South America, Europe, Africa, Asia and the South Pacific).

Each of these commissions has responsibility for ongoing programs and concerns of the WEF membership as a whole. Other commissions focus on areas like communications and relief and development.

David: Both you and Dr. Winter are now involved in preparations for the Wheaton '83 meeting. I wonder if we could turn our attention to this meeting.

Dr. Winter: One of the things which attracts my attention to Wheaton '83 is the concern it has for awakening new interest in "finishing the job." It's what I have tried to designate as a "closure theology." But the special feature of this conference is that it is the first in over a half century that is both a world-level conference emphasizing frontiers (as did the Edinburgh Consultation) and yet at the same time formally brings associations of churches together, featuring churchmen as official representatives of their churches. Do you see it that way?

Mr. Nicholls: Yes, I see it as a

happy combination of individuals with personal concern and expertise on the one hand, balanced with representation from churches at local, denominational, and regional levels so that the churches will feel an official ownership in the conference.

Mr. Nicholls: My hope is that it will catalyze an ongoing renewal of the whole of the evangelical church in terms of its understanding of God's calling to mission for the church in the world, focusing on the unfinished task of world evangelization.

"One of the things which attracts my attention to the Wheaton meeting is the concern it has for awakening new interest in "finishing the job."

--Winter

I think this is important so that when these people go back from the consultation to report to their churches, they report officially, as participants, rather than as observers. Participants also will be able to deliberate and report more authoritatively.

David: What particular themes will be pursued by the consultation?

Mr. Nicholls: The overall theme of the meeting is "The Nature and Mission of the Church." Under that there are three separate consultations which share certain plenary sessions, and meet the rest of the time in individual meetings. These three specialized consultations focus on (1) The Nature and Mission of the Church in the Local Setting; (2) The Nature and Mission of the Church in New Frontiers in Mission; and (3) The Nature and Mission of the Church in Meeting Human Need.

Dr. Winter: Of course we here are particularly interested in the second consultation--The Church in New Frontiers. Would it be accurate to say that never in this century has there been a conference of church representatives that has seriously focused on mission frontiers? The 1910 conference at Edinburgh was an *ad hoc* conference; like Edinburgh 1980, it was Mission Agencies and not churches that were represented.

Mr. Nicholls: Yes, the only kind of inter-church conferences that have been held with official representation are those that have been sponsored by the World Council of Churches. And as far as I can remember, they have never focused on world evangelization or the reaching of the unreached or frontier peoples of the world.

Nor has there been a church-based, world-level conference that has begun with the clear assumption that those out of Christ are lost, and need to plainly hear the Gospel, receive the Gospel and be incorporated into living fellowships and groups of believers.

David: What do you anticipate might be the result of the Wheaton '83 meeting?

A second result ought to be the progressive fulfillment of the Great Commission in reaching every people group on the globe for Christ. It will probably also lead to the discovery of new kinds of unreached peoples--truly new frontiers. Some of these frontiers will be discovered to be more sociological--or vocational--groups, like the bullfighters in Mexico or the taxi drivers where I live in New Delhi.

David: So a major purpose of the Wheaton '83 meeting might be to make major church leaders aware of these frontiers?

Mr. Nicholls: Yes, church leaders as well as mission leaders. Even some mission bodies are not aware of these remaining frontiers.

David: How did you come to select Frontier Missions as one of three major topics to be the focus of the Wheaton meeting?

Mr. Nicholls: Missions belongs to the very nature of the church and you can't have the church if you don't have missions.

Dr. Winter: Was there any overflow of other events which you perceived as leading to this discussion of Frontier Missions in this forum?

Mr. Nicholls: Oh yes. The Wheaton meeting is certainly not starting from scratch. It is a conference that is one more speck in the long process of growing evangelical activity concerned with the church. This conference is building on both the Pattaya and Edinburgh conferences in 1980.

David: Mr. Nicholls, in closing, you have been here on the campus of the U. S. Center for the past several days. Do you have any reaction to what you see happening here?

Mr. Nicholls: Yes, I am encouraged by the work you are doing. I'm encouraged by your faith in going ahead when you still have great economic hurdles to overcome. This is a painful experience, but it may be a very fruitful one spiritually because God is testing your faith and strengthening your own sense of call and resolve.

TIME Features Missiologist's Masterpiece

Mission Frontiers has been granted permission to reprint the two-page spread from TIME magazine which featured the work of David Barrett on the World Christian Encyclopedia

FIRST we want to congratulate TIME for properly weighing the potent meaning of this new whopper of a book, "The World Christian Encyclopedia" (7 lbs., 1,000 huge pages).

SECONDLY because some people would not believe us as readily as they would TIME! (Shame on them!)

THIRDLY because we want to celebrate with our friend David Barrett, (the author) the fruit of his 14 years of dedicated labors.

FOURTHLY because YOU, dear reader, desperately need to know this book exists! Why? Otherwise you would not know there are 97 million Christians in Soviet Russia.

Now if you don't think that's a bombshell revelation just stop and think: the embarrassing inability of an all-powerful Communist major power to put down and knock out the Christian movement in that country is very, very good news.

But really, this huge book tells us more about God's power than it tells us about the Russian government's attitude toward Christ.

Have we wondered if Communism was more powerful than Christianity? Now we know. And now we dare to look at all the other pages to see in one massive, highly illustrated book the solid facts about the largest, most extensive, most influential, most irreversible movement in the world today.

Say, this book will go up to \$95.00 at the end of July. The present price is \$74.50. Mission Frontiers Book Service can get it for you for only \$59.95 (add \$3.60 for a California address). For your living room? For your church library? Act now. Circle the item on the back page.



Religion



Grand statistical tour: Missionary Barrett, right, in his office with an African church leader

Counting Every Soul on Earth

A miracle from Nairobi: the first census of all religions

Until the Rev. Dr. David B. Barrett realized his pioneering mission, many important questions about the world's religions could not be answered. Is Christianity really growing? What percentage of the world's population is atheistic? What percentage is Jewish? Muslim? Barrett believed that the answers to these and similar questions should no longer, in this age of telecommunications, jet travel and computer analysis, remain a matter of faith. Some 14 years ago, huddling with church demographers in Nairobi, Kenya,

Barrett launched a project that many churchmen around the world thought would take a virtual miracle to pull off: a nation-by-nation grand survey, complete with encyclopedic tables and computer-compiled statistics, of all the world's religions, minor and major—with no soul left uncounted.

The result, published in a fact-crammed, 1,010-page volume by Oxford University Press, is nothing less than a tour of considerable force: the *World Christian Encyclopedia*. Although the

bulk of Barrett's information concerns Christianity, it also provides a rich assortment of data on all of the world's great faiths. It has LIFE magazine-size pages, endless charts and graphs, numerous illustrations and enough credibility in its facts, conclusions and methodology to make it a bench mark in our understanding of the true religious state of the planet. Even for as zealous a researcher as Barrett, 54, an Anglican missionary, the project required the patience of Job. He trekked to 212 countries and territories, often lugging bulky statistical histories, occasionally confronting suspicious customs agents, frequently phoning his team of 21 editors and consultants around the world. He also tapped some 500 local experts in various countries (100 of whom required strict confidentiality, including a worried Roman Catholic monk stationed in a ferociously Muslim nation in the Middle East).

The volume opens with a global analysis of Christianity, a chronology of 1,300 key events in the spread of the Christian faith since A.D. 27, and a 66-page explanation of Barrett's methods and definitions. It also offers a dictionary of terms, a *Who's Who*, and a comprehensive list of names and addresses of religious agencies under 76 categories. Interspersed with all that are 31 tables of global statistics, some of which cover a time span from A.D. 30 to the year 2000. Here one can discover, for instance, the number of literate and nonliterate Christians in eight regions of the world or the fact that fully 605 million Christians must currently struggle against

The faithful of yesterday, today and tomorrow			Adherents in millions and as a % of world population			
Religion	1900	%	1980	%	2000	%
Christian	558	34.4	1,433	32.8	2,020	32.3
Roman Catholic	272	16.8	809	18.5	1,169	18.7
Protestant & Anglican	153	9.4	345	7.9	440	7.0
Eastern Orthodox	121	7.5	124	2.8	153	2.4
Other	12	.7	155	3.6	258	4.1
Non-religious & atheist	3	.2	911	20.8	1,334	21.3
Muslim	200	12.4	723	16.5	1,201	19.2
Hindu	203	12.5	583	13.3	859	13.7
Buddhist	127	7.8	274	6.3	359	5.7
Chinese Folk Religion	380	23.5	198	4.5	158	2.5
Tribal & Shamanist	118	7.3	103	2.4	110	1.8
"New Religions"	6	.4	96	2.2	138	2.2
Jewish	12	.8	17	.4	20	.3
Other*	13	.8	36	.8	61	1.0
World population	1,620		4,374		6,260	

*including Sikh, Confucian, Shinto, Baha'i, Jain, Spiritist, Parsi

Due to rounding off, percents may not equal 100

Source: World Christian Encyclopedia

political restrictions on their religious freedom. Nearly two-thirds of the book consists of detailed statistics on religions in countries from Afghanistan (where it is a capital crime for a Muslim to convert to Christianity) to Zimbabwe (where 40% of the people still practice tribal religions).

What Barrett and his demographers have discovered is sure to prove invaluable to churchmen and scholars everywhere. But it will also trigger new controversies. For example, Barrett concludes that Brazil, the world's biggest Catholic country, in fact has 11.4 million people on the Catholic rolls who are really Protestants, and 60 million who dabble in the worship of spirits.

But Christians will take heart from many of the findings. Indonesia has the biggest Muslim population, but gained 5.6 million Christians during the 1970s, more than one-third of them as converts rather than through natural population growth. In Saudi Arabia, Islam's epicenter, thousands of youths have covertly converted to Christianity through listening to radio preachers. In Nigeria, where as of 1900, 73% of the people followed tribal faiths and 26% Islam, the population today—Africa's largest—is 49% Christian and 45% Muslim. South Korea demonstrates the world's most dramatic Christian revival: the churches are growing by 6.6% a year, fully two-thirds through conversions rather than the birth rate. By the end of the century, Barrett projects, South Korea will be 42% Christian. The U.S. is the most disparate nation of all, Barrett concludes, with 2,050 denominations for its 161 million Christians, plus myriad non-Christians. It has the largest population of Jews in the world, 7.1 million. Between 1900 and 2000, classical Protestantism will have shrunk from two-thirds of the population to little more than one-third.

The English-born Barrett entered the Church of England ministry after his career as an aviation designer turned sour (he quit as a moral protest in 1951, when nuclear rocketry began taking over the field), and he made his way to Nairobi. There he served as a researcher for the Anglicans. "We are neither East nor West here," he says, "and Africa is also the continent where the religious ferment is one of the greatest in the world today."

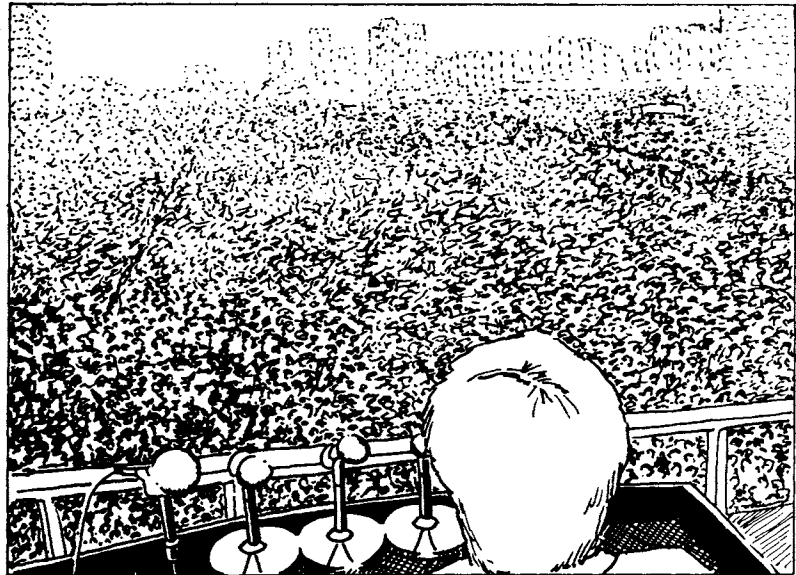
Barrett analyzes a globe that is experiencing major spiritual changes. The most dramatic changes have been the rise for the first time of atheistic and nonreligious masses (now 20.8% of the world population as compared with 2% in 1900) and the precipitous decline of Chinese folk religions and tribal faiths elsewhere. After centuries as the predominant faith of the Northern Hemisphere, especially Europe, Christianity, as of last year, had a non-white majority for the first time in 1,200 years. In 1900 two-thirds of Christians lived in Europe and Russia; by 2000, three-fifths of them will live in Africa, Asia and Latin America. While Western-

ers cease to be practicing Christians at a rate of 7,600 per day, Africa is gaining 4,000 Christians per day through conversion from other religions, and three times that many through the birth rate.

Christianity is also shifting in denominational terms. The fastest growing category is what Barrett labels nonwhite indigenous churches. Including Africans not tied to Western missions, these groups by the year 2000 will number 154 million. The biggest distinct category of Protestants today does not consist of traditional Reformation groups, such as the Lutherans, but the Pentecostals—at 51 million strong, a leading strain of the worldwide Evangelical movement. In addition, 11 million members of more traditional denominations follow Pentecostal practices. Barrett's astounding conclusion: the Evangelicals, taken all together, today command a healthy majority of Protes-

Christians and non-Christians realize.

There are, he insists, many more Christians in the world than meet the eye. He cites the example of the Soviet Union, where his project coincided with an official Kremlin survey on the spread of atheism. Surprisingly, he won top-level clearance to work closely with Communist Party researchers, who turned out to be scrupulously objective in collecting data. The resulting estimates: 137 million Soviets are irreligious, but an impressive 97 million remain Christian. There, as elsewhere, Barrett found masses of members known only to the churches. Worldwide there appear to be 70 million so-called crypto-Christians. Even the Vatican's count may be conservative. In Rome, though official church documents were impressive in their detail, one questionnaire on the number of baptisms in an African country was answered by the



Christianity en masse in Korea: an Evangelical rally in 1980 at Seoul's Yoido Plaza
A bench mark in our understanding of the true religious state of the planet.

tants in the world (157 million) as well as in the U.S. (59 million).

Barrett is obviously a missionary at heart, with a global strategy in view. He points out that during the present century, Christianity has become the first truly universal religion in world history, with indigenous outposts in all nations and among many inaccessible tribes. Bible translation is booming; church broadcasts reach 990 million people a month. Some 6,850 of the 8,990 ethnic or linguistic groups on earth have by now been penetrated to some extent with the gospel. Thus though the Christian proportion of the world population is declining a bit, "the outreach, impact and influence of Christianity have risen spectacularly," he maintains. If the church has not achieved its much touted turn-of-the-century goal of "the evangelization of the world in this generation," Barrett says, it has come closer than most

harried local bishop with the scrawl: "Deus scit" (God only knows).

Barrett's statistics and conclusions are bound to stir up debate, but they are, without doubt, the best available estimates, combined with impressively detailed run-downs on most of Christianity's 20,000 subgroups. All this establishes the Anglican missionary as the Linnaeus of religious taxonomy. In fact, the book was so eagerly awaited in church circles that ecclesiastics began to visit Barrett's modest, cluttered offices in Nairobi for years before completion to find out how the numbers were running. A few men of God could not resist the temptation to filch advance copies. Now that it has been officially published, the *World Christian Encyclopedia*, even at the retail price of \$74.50, will seem to many people concerned with the state of the world's religions like a real steal. —By Richard N. Ostling. Reported by Alistair Matheson/Nairobi

The Spain/Rome Connection

"Missions was never intended to be the work of a few specialists or an elite corps of bionic Christians..."

I could certainly empathize with the frustrated mission representative who said with a sigh, "Sometimes when I visit a church, they make me feel like a used-car salesman . . . competing with the guy down the block." Perhaps that may sound somewhat exaggerated, but it happens often enough to make me feel uncomfortable.

No doubt the multitude of mission agencies which have sprung into being throughout this century are evidence of the vitality of churches and their deep concern for the unreached of our world. But the proliferation of para-church organizations has produced problems as well. Constant requests for pulpit time and appeals for assistance have made some churches wonder if mission boards haven't overstepped their boundaries and intruded into the normal life of the church.

While not excusing the abuses or overlooking the unfortunate instances of competition for the evangelical mission dollar, we also need to keep in focus the role of the church in missions and the church's relationship to its supporting mission agencies. Perhaps a Biblical model will help us see the mission/church dynamic in better perspective:

The Apostle Paul had a burden. That burden was to reach the unreached, the "hidden peoples" of Spain. Paul could have launched the Iberian Inland Mission and left immediately. Instead he wrote a letter to the church at Rome, inviting himself for a visit. "Since I have been longing for many years to see you," he penned, "I plan to do so when I go to Spain. I hope to visit you while passing through and to have you assist me on my journey there, after I have enjoyed your company for a while" (Rom. 15:23b-24, NIV). Paul needed help in evangelizing Spain and was looking to the church at Rome for it. But he wasn't just coming to *get*—he was also coming to *give*. "I long to see you," he wrote, "so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong" (Rom. 1:11).

Here we see evolving a partnership in mission. This partnership between Paul's mission to Spain and the church at Rome models a pattern, I believe, that God intends for every church today. Missions

was never intended to be the work of a few specialists or an elite corps of bionic Christians, leaving the rest of us watching casually from the grandstands!

Rather missions is meant to be an extension of the church and part of its normal life. As Paul pleaded, "Now I urge you, brethren, by our Lord Jesus Christ, and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God for me" (Rom. 15:30), so today God would have every Christian a world Christian, striving together in God's world mission. Resources for mission should not have to be wrung out of reluctant churches, but should be instead a joyful and responsible act of their partnership in mission.

But Paul sought to generate more than finances for mission by writing and visiting the church at Rome. More importantly, he sought to instill a new vision and sense of responsibility for the unreached. He did not see it as a waste of valuable time to instruct the Roman Christians or "to impart . . . some spiritual gift." Rather Paul realized that the cause of frontier missions could be greatly enhanced by stimulating and mobilizing the church in Rome.

Today in Asia as well as in the West the OMF is seeking to follow the Spain/Rome pattern. Along with evangelism and church planting we are working with national churches to stimulate their interest and participation in frontier missions. In Korea, on which this issue focuses, it is a major objective. The setting up of sending councils in each of our fields in Asia reflects our concern to accelerate missions to the frontiers by extending the vision within national churches. Already—in addition to the formation of several national mission boards—we have seen over sixty Asians join OMF.

The Spain/Rome connection is still vital. The church worldwide needs to understand God's yearning over a lost world and enter into a dynamic partnership with those He calls to take His message to the ends of the earth. Missions is not a program to be foisted onto a church, but the vital link in a partnership of obedience to the Great Commission. □□□

by DANIEL W. BACON, U.S. Director

EDITOR'S NOTE: We are reprinting this article by Dan Bacon, U. S. Director of the Overseas Missionary Fellowship because we believe it has special significance for the penetration of the final frontiers with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and for the establishment of viable, indigenous evangelizing churches within people groups where no church presently exists. Whole-hearted cooperation between churches and mission agencies is absolutely essential in the coming years if we are to have any opportunity to see the establishment of "A Church for Every People by the Year 2000."



LETTERS

RECYCLING FOR MISSIONS!

Dear USCWM,

Our struggling little congregation continues to collect aluminum for recycling and sends the proceeds to the U. S. Center for World Mission.

We have our own denominational benevolent projects and responsibilities, but we are interested and concerned for the work the U. S. Center is doing.

I am retired and part-time pastor for our congregation.

May God bless you!

Sincerely,
(Rev.) Donald K. McGarrah
Pittsburgh, PA

PRAYER BOOK A CHALLENGE!

Dear USCWM,

God bless you for the wonderful work you are doing in His strength and for His glory.

Your May devotional prayer book presents a great challenge. This should greatly extend your vision of reaching the untold millions and stimulate a volume of prayer behind this burden.

The enclosed is to be used where needed most.

Sincerely and prayerfully,
Margaret Hart
Whittier, CA

EX-MISSIONARY WRITES

Dear USCWM,

As I am an invalid I do not go shopping and seldom have any loose change. In lieu of loose change I am sending my check.

I pray that the World Mission Center may be in time completely paid for. I think it is great and you are doing a great work. I appreciate the great burden the Winters are carrying for this cause.

Janet B. White
an ex-missionary in India
and Pakistan for 49 years

I WANT TO BE INCLUDED!

Dear USCWM,

After reading the book Once More Around Jericho, I wanted to be included in that group that has contributed to your organization.

Enclosed you will find a check for \$159.50. I realize this is 10 times the requested amount, but I feel it is what I can give freely to the Lord. Reading the book has also encouraged me to consider involvement in Christian work of some kind. Please keep striving toward your goal of reaching the "Hidden People" as you and I know that you are doing the Lord's work that is absolutely necessary and needed.

In Christ,
Bryan Wagler
Pekin, IL

FRONTIER FELLOWSHIP DYNAMIC!

Dear USCWM,

Our May Frontier Fellowship meeting was a dynamic service! But more than that, it is awesome what God is doing in our church among the young people. Sunday School teachers for the 2-3 year olds have a "loose change" jar. They are learning to give their coins to help the "hidden people" not only in their Sunday School classes, but in their homes. Eventually we hope to inspire the other Sunday School classes to have their jars.

Several children have their personal jars at home. One little 7 year old was quite upset when his father asked him if he could borrow some money from the boy's jar. He said, "Dad, but that money is for the hidden people!!" His dad had to reassure him that the money would be returned.

Teenagers in the youth group have testified before the congregation that they have been blessed by using the Prayer Guide in their devotions, and have exhorted the rest of the body to obtain their personal copies.

My women's prayer group (committed to pray for world needs) use the Prayer Guide. Today we prayed for the 20,000 Rendille people who do not know Jesus.

So, you can see that the concept of hidden peoples has touched hearts of not only our adults but our youth as well.

In the battle with you!

Fran Love
Oxnard, CA

THANK YOU!

Dear USCWM,

Enclosed is a check for my May offering. Thank you for continuing to send Mission Frontiers and the Daily Prayer Guide, and I hope soon that I'll be able to share them with other believers in my fellowship. Thank you, too, for personalizing each letter sent to me with prayer needs and thanksgivings! They are much appreciated and prayed over.

Also, if you could forward this note to the Personnel Dept., I would like more info concerning working opportunities (paid or unpaid--for we're always paid abundantly by God) at the Center.

Love in Christ,
Diane Turner
Germantown, NY

KIDDING OURSELVES?

Dear USCWM,

Please use this toward reducing the deficit for the property. We want to see the U. S. Center succeed. Unless Christians are in "mission," we are kidding ourselves. A cooperative effort makes sense to us.

Henry Hoftiezer
Rothschild, WI

TIPS PLEDGED

Dear USCWM,

This is a pledge I made of all the pennies and nickels from tips on my waiter job, to be used toward the campus payment. Savings continuing till the jar gets full again.

John Holst
Arlington, VA

Mission Frontiers Book Service

Our purpose in Mission Frontiers is to help you gain a vision of God's priority concern for penetrating frontier people groups with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to help you pass on this vision of God's priority concern to your Christian friends. Because of this, we offer you the opportunity to receive further information about many of the subjects covered in this magazine, and we do it at the lowest possible price--in many cases at a substantial discount over the retail price you might expect to pay.

In order to aid your selection of materials, we are listing them in order according to the page on which they are mentioned, or to which they apply. Please take the time to carefully consider these materials, not only for yourself, but also to pass along to others. We must request your payment to accompany your order, and regret that we are not able to "bill you" for your order.

PAGE 2

- Read the story of God's miraculous provision for the acquisition of the Pasadena campus and founding of the Center for World Mission in Once More Around Jericho by Roberta Winter. (\$1.00)

PAGE 5

- A subscription to the Daily Prayer Guide will bring 32 exciting pages of frontier vision and inspiration into your home each month for a year. (Single subscriptions \$6.00; ten or more \$4.50 each; Sample copy \$.50)

PAGE 6

- Read the thrilling story of the growth of the church in Russia in Soviet Evangelicals Since World War II. (\$14.06)

PAGE 7

- All six of Dr. Winter's messages at the Bethany Missionary Fellowship missions conference are available in an attractive vinyl case. (Regular price \$24.95--Your cost only \$14.95)
- Dr. Winter's workshop from the Congress on the Bible is available on cassette also. (\$2.00)

PAGE 8

- The exciting challenge to every local church to "Reach a People" is detailed in a strategy paper by the same name (\$.50)
- A copy of Dr. Winter's address to the Korean World Mission Congress highlights "The Challenge of the Year 2000." (\$.50)

PAGE 9

- Don Richardson's latest book is Eternity in their Hearts. It is an exciting look at God's power in bringing the light of the Gospel to peoples who lived in darkness, and an extraordinary presentation of the frontier missions focus of the entire Bible. (\$6.00)

PAGE 10

To keep up-to-date on the ministry of the World Evangelical Fellowship subscribe to their Global Report. Write them at Box 670, Colorado Springs, CO 80901.

PAGE 11

- Every church library should have a copy of David Barrett's World Christian Encyclopedia. It's also a great "coffee-table" book for alert, mission-minded

Christian homes. (Regular price \$74.95--\$94.95 after July; Your price only \$59.95!)

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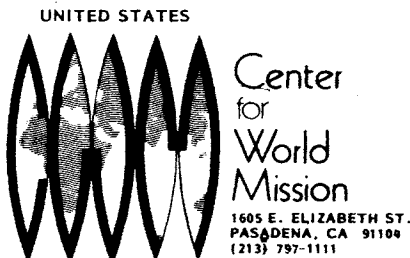
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