I. Bibles Needed in Micronesia
II. MK's K Roughs It in Thailand
III. Work Among the Karens--Part 2 of 4

I. Bibles Needed in Micronesia
   Walter John <gwalterjohn@hotmail.com> March 24:
   My family and I from India have been living and working on one of the remote islands of the Pacific during the last seven years. We are on the islands of Chuuk in the Federated States of Micronesia. Our island has one SDA church and an academy. The local church here has requested me to conduct a series of evangelistic effort meetings during the months of April and May this year. For our crusade we need English Bibles which the local church is unable to afford. Hence I am making this appeal for some English Bibles. The Bibles do not have to be brand new. Even used Bibles will be alright.
   Whatever you could send will be of great benefit and encouragement to us in our evangelism. My mailing address is: Walter John, College of Micronesia, P. O. Box 879, Weno, Chuuk, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) 96942.
   Thank you so much for your kind consideration in this matter. God bless.

II. MK's K Roughs It in Thailand
   Barbara S. Wyman <barbwy26@gmail.com> March 22:
   Carl Canwell, son of Emily Wyman Canwell, grand son of Barbara Wyman, is a 2008 graduate of Walla Walla University with a degree in Video Production and Communications. He is currently working for Loma Linda University in recruiting etc. Carl has previously spent a couple weeks in Peru on a project there (before he worked for LLU) and during academy days went on a short mission to Africa.
   Carl e-mails from Thailand:
   "I finally get some time on the internet to let you know I am safe and sound. The place we're at is in the middle of the jungle. There is one computer that is used by everyone, and so that has made it hard to have extended time online. But this morning I stayed while the rest went and worked in the hot sun, gardening, so I can finish my homework for the week.
   "It has been quite an experience thus far. There has been some major culture shock for me. I was not prepared for brown rice and cooked vegetables 3 meals a day, with no fresh fruit or anything extra. And sleeping on thin mats on tile. Those two were the hardest to deal with. But luckily yesterday part of the group went to a town and bought fresh fruit, and bread, and cereal to give us some variety. We Americans are used to variety. So last night was an amazing meal with papaya and mango. Some of the best mango I've tasted. So things are looking up.
   "This morning about 5:30 a local diabetic patient went into shock and had to be given an IV by one of the guys on our trip, to stabilize her. I got the ordeal on video, and it was very exciting because I've never witnessed something like that in person.
   "Also last night I had a spider crawl over me inside my mosquito net. It was about the diameter of a tennis ball and it was black and hairy. Then a couple minutes later I found a small scorpion inside the net as well.
   Needless to say it took me a long time to go to sleep after that, and I will perform a more thorough search each night before going to sleep. Anyway, things are going ok, I'm getting some good footage. But I will be ready to be back. Thanks for your prayers."

III. Work Among the Karens of Thailand--Part 2 of 4
   Phamor Poopichitr pai (Aw Gaw Paul) <mmteop@yahoo.com> February 28:
   ****The Background story of EOP (Education Opportunity Program)
   My reason for starting our Education Opportunity Program was that a few years ago there were children in the villages in Chiang Mai, Tak and Mae Hong Son province that wanted further study after they finished grade school, fourth grade,
which was as far as they could progress at home. These boys and girls would be about twelve to fifteen years old. They would go into the cities so they could work and study at the same time. Many found a good boss and they would study and work hard and some finished high school and attended colleges and became teachers but quite a few of them found a bad boss who would make them work hard so that they would never get a chance to study. Some were even forced to become prostitutes. In one incident a young girl found a job in one of the towns and she was working there and also planned to study further but one day they found her dead and naked in the bathroom of one of the motels. Later on her family found out that she was forced to be a prostitute and when she refused she was murdered. I found her friend that went there at the same time and she relayed her story. This girl found a good boss and she finished her high school. Now she is studying in the college. When I found out about all of this I tried to bring some girls from the villages to the school close by here in Chiang Mai so they could study there and live in the dormitory at the school, but the nearby school is growing so big and the dormitories are so crowded with young people that it is hard to control them. That's why I thought of having our own smaller dormitory. We can keep them here and let them go to the academy close by. I had no funds but I prayed that the Lord would provide and by God's grace I received some funds to be able to build a dormitory for the girls. So now we have one dormitory and it is running well. We first started to just keep girls but recently I have been realizing that we also need a boys' dorm so that they can stay here and go to the school close by also.

In the dormitory we worship with them and in the school holiday we study the word of God together for a week. At least they can have worship every morning and evening and in the school holidays they get a chance to study the Word of God for a week. The school has a lot of activities so they don't have much time each day for their spiritual growth. We have also been thinking about having our own school but, for many reasons, this is not possible yet. We want these children to have the opportunity to study the present truth and during the time they stay with us we also have a program for taking them out to the villages so that they can do community work or outreach and have mission retreats for the villages and the refugee camps.

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New Boys Dorm and Dean's house is needed
Brothers and sisters, to build a dormitory it would cost us about 500,000 baht which is about US$15,000. We also need a dean's house which is an extra 500,000 baht. So together between the boys' dorm and the dean's house we will need about 1 million baht which is about over US$30,000. It is a lot of money but if it is the Lord's will we can reach our goal. Brothers and sisters, now that you can understand why we are doing this for these young people we need you to pray for us so that we can build the boys dorm and the dean's house to be able to have a safe Christian environment for our children and to train them up in the way they should go.

If you think you can help with giving means and God is laying this on your heart, please pray for His guidance. We also need good deans and Bible teachers so that we can teach these children the word of God and train them to do missionary work in the nearby villages and even in the cities. We have activities going on every year. We conduct EOP camps every year. Last year we had a camp where we studied the Bible for one week focusing on the book of Revelation. After the camp we took them to visit villages and also to the place where they could relax. This year because I'll be away during the time that the school is closed in March we will have the EOP Bible camp in April when I come back. After that we will be going to the villages for mission trips. We do this because we want them to have experience with the village life, reaching out to the community so that they can become missionaries in the near future. For those who are in the Education Opportunity Program, both boys and girls, we also have a plan for them to learn medical missionary work so that they can help others with natural remedies and also teach others a more healthful diet with cooking classes. They will also be able to teach people how to treat the sick. So we need a lot of prayer for this big plan which is aimed at hastening the coming of the Lord.

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Our Refugees camp schools in Thailand

We have talked to you about our work in No Man's Land in the article on the Macedonian call in No Man's Land. Those villagers who cannot tolerate living in No Man's Land under the current conditions cross the border and come into the refugee camps inside Thailand here. EOP has provided schools for their children so that they can learn how to read and write. We also have EOP sponsored children in the camps. Brothers and sisters, last month when I was looking back and I counted all the teachers, I have 209 teachers that I need to pay monthly. But even though we don't have a lump sum of money, through the donations that come in at a little at a time we can manage to pay all these 209 teachers. It can give a lot of stress to pay the teachers and to sponsor the children. We provide a place for the children to stay. We provide education for children in the refugee camps as well as for children in No Man's Land, the forbidden land on the Burma (Myanmar) side of the border. We also provide education for the village children in Thailand that want to study. Our goal is to educate these children so that they will be able to do missionary work in the nearby towns and villages so that we can all work toward hastening the soon coming of the Lord. Please pray for us, my brethren, for as we do this, Satan is also working hard to ruin and destroy our plans. We need a lot of prayer support from you.

[End of Part 2 of 4]
IV. Myanmar Frontier Mission Appeal

Saw Thein <sawthein2009@gmail.com> March 21:

Once again we would like to inform our friends of our needs. Our MFM office building contract expires in May 2011. This year we have accelerated our evangelism work for planting churches in Middle Myanmar where our nursery school projects are situated.

We appreciate how our friends have helped our ministry very much and in many ways in previous years. We believe and trust God has a great plan for the MFM. We would like to remind you to extend your gifts for the MFM ministry for this year. We really need to make an extension of the MFM office building. The building is also an evangelistic centre as well as providing a training center for our pioneers. We extend a hearty welcome and to all our friends and visitors from far and near to visit our school and also contribute towards our missionary work. May God bless you abundantly!

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V. Life Sketch of Victor Adelbert Armstrong

Kathy Coffin Phillips Marshall <colorcat3@comcast.net> [Part 2 of 4]

But life moves fast in the military and after a leave to visit his family who were on furlough in Oregon he reported to Cherry Point Marine base in North Carolina and before long moved to Paris Island, South Carolina.

During his time in North and South Carolina he became friends with and flew with Charles Lindbergh who was serving as a technical advisor to the Marines in the US and later in Okinawa.

In WWII he flew Corsairs in the Pacific with VMF-312, shooting down two Japanese aircraft.

When the war ended Vic was sent to Tiensin, China with the peace keeping forces as an intelligence officer and was soon promoted to Captain and for two and half years was in charge of the repatriation of over 270,000 Japanese troops in part because of his fluent Japanese and knowledge of China.

In 1948 he returned to the States. HMX-1, the Marine Corps brand new helicopter test squadron had been formed in 1946 and in 1948 Vic jumped at the chance to fly the newest and most challenging aircraft-- helicopters.

After helicopter school at Lakehurst, NJ, he became the 28th Marine to be officially qualified in rotary wing aircraft and joined VMO-6 attached to 1st Marine Division just as the US was going to war in Korea.

In 1950 Vic, 6 other pilots, with 6 helicopters and 26 support crew were on board the aircraft carrier Badoeng Strait enroute to Korea via Kobe, Japan. The carrier was loaded with 4 times the usual number of aircraft and personnel. The officers were crammed into 5 tiered bunks and the kitchen was feeding troops around the clock.

One helicopter remained assembled on deck and Vic as the squadron's executive officer was busy flying between the 18 ships in the convoy. He realized very quickly that he was in danger of crashing when his hoist was unhooked from a load and inadvertently attached to the pitching ship. He and his crew implemented an electric guillotine to cut the hoist wire if necessary. That same guillotine is still in use on today's helicopters.

Helicopters had seldom been used before in combat and Vic was on the cutting edge developing tactics and jobs for the new aircraft -- one of the 'Wright Brothers' of helicopters. Within a few days the value of helicopter medivacing was evident and 90% of their time was spent rescuing casualties from the front lines. In the first few months, several hundred Marines were saved because of the quick movement of the wounded Marines from front lines to hospital via helicopter.

They also flew officers and mail around the front lines and rescued downed aircraft pilots. But they were taking costly hits from enemy fire on the front lines so Vic persuaded the battle commanders to move their Aid Stations back 500 yards which greatly decreased the hits.

The command posts were continually moving, road maps were mostly non-existent or very poor. The flight instruments on helicopters were borrowed from fixed wing aircraft and of very limited accuracy on a helicopter. There was so much vibration on board that the instruments were often unreadable. The horizon on a helicopter varies during takeoff and flight compared to a fixed wing craft making a fixed wing horizon indicator quite useless in a helicopters.

There was no provision for litter carrying. Vic and his crews improvised by putting the litter crosswise through the fuselage with the ends sticking out the windows. Those early 'whirlybirds' were underpowered for the job and very sensitive to weight and balance issues. With just the pilot and a crew chief they were nearly overloaded and had very limited load carrying capability.

There was no cockpit heat and no instrument or cockpit lighting. The early flight controls required constant use of two hands to maintain control so the pilots improvised by holding a flashlight in their mouth in order to see the limited instruments on night rescues. The landings areas were illuminated with ground vehicle headlights as the copters had no landing lights. These early helicopters had no armament and were equipped with 4 landing wheels which were very unstable and dangerous on uneven ground. [End of Part 2 of 4] ~~~~~~~~~~

VI. A Mission Story from Taiwan

"Finding a Spiritual Home," by Jason Feng
"Jason Feng grew up in the mountains of Taiwan. His grandparents were Seventh-day Adventists, but most of the church's handful of members were elderly and Jason didn't feel that he belonged. His friends attended the larger Protestant church in his area, so he joined them. He became a Sunday School teacher and youth leader.

"When Jason was injured in an accident he spent time at home recovering. He was disappointed that no one from the Protestant church came to visit him as custom dictated. But the Adventist pastor came, and he brought Ken, a young ministerial intern. Jason and Ken became friends.

"Jason's grandmother noticed Jason's growing friendship with Ken and asked the pastor to hold meetings on Friday in her home. She invited Jason and his family. Out of respect for his grandmother, Jason attended. Even Jason's father attended the meetings, although he didn't go to church on Sabbath.

"Ken, the young intern, invited Jason to study the Bible with him, and Jason agreed. Jason's grandmother's Bible study grew, and soon a new congregation of believers formed in the area. Jason joined the new church and felt spiritually fed. He realized that wasn't a place to just have fun with friends, as he had with his friends in the Protestant church he had attended. He realized that the church provided an opportunity to worship God and study deeply into His Word.

"Jason felt a burden to reach out to other young people who had left the Seventh-day Adventist Church and invite them back. He encouraged these youth to become leaders in the church that they had once left. Several have returned to the church as a result of his influence.

"Today a new church stands in Jason's village, and the Adventist youth join the 30 or so worshipers in a lively service each Sabbath. During school holidays, the congregation grows as Adventists who have moved away from the area return to celebrate the holidays with their families. Jason and several other youth were baptized into new Adventist church that has been established in his village. At last he felt at home."

[Jason Feng is preparing to become a pastor or Global Mission worker among his indigenous group in the mountains of Taiwan.] -- from the current Senior Sabbath School Quarterly ~~~~~~~~~~~~ To remove your name from the mailing list of this newsletter, simply reply to this e-mail and put "REMOVE" in the Subject line.

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