

world vision

JANUARY 1979



1979 International Year of the Child

- 3 **The Future Is Suffering Now**
*Twenty years after a UN declaration,
children are still being denied basic rights.*
- 14 **You Just Do It**
Getting close to children in need.
- 17 **I Dream of Tomorrow**
*The anguish and hope of a 10-year-old
refugee in Bangladesh.*
- 19 **Marta**
*New dignity for one of God's
neediest children.*
- 20 **People and Projects**
- 22 **Globe at a Glance**
Christians seek simpler lifestyles.
- 23 **Words on the Way**
*Stan Mooneyham reports from Malaysia
on the boat people crisis.*

PHOTO CREDITS: Cover, Phil Smith; pp. 6,8, Eric Mooneyham; pp. 15 (lower right), 17, Dan Stearns; p. 15 (upper right), Robert C. Larson; p. 21, Milton Kohut; p. 22, W. Stanley Mooneyham.

world vision®

Volume 23, Number 1/January 1979

W. Stanley Mooneyham, president
Ted W. Engstrom, publisher
Richard L. Watson, director, communications division
David Olson, editor
Ray Seldomridge, associate editor
Paul S. Rees, editor at large
Don Aylard, art director
Richard J. Watson, assistant art director
Carl F. H. Henry, special correspondent
Kenneth L. Wilson, consulting editor

Published by World Vision International, a nonprofit religious organization with business offices at 919 West Huntington Drive, Monrovia, California 91016. Subscription is free. Founded by Dr. Bob Pierce in 1950, the humanitarian organization is an interdenominational outreach of Christians concerned for the physical and spiritual needs of people throughout the world. It is dedicated to serving God by ministering to children and families, providing emergency aid, developing self-reliance, furthering evangelism, strengthening Christian leadership and challenging Christians to become involved in missions.

Submissions of informative, biographical and humorous material related to Christian missions are welcome. The editors assume no responsibility for return of unsolicited manuscripts or photos unless accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

While the editors are responsible for the contents of *World Vision*, viewpoints of authors are not necessarily those of World Vision International.

World Vision is a member of the Evangelical Press Association.

Send all editorial correspondence and changes of address to *World Vision* magazine, 919 West Huntington Drive, Monrovia, California 91016. Please send change of address at least 30 days in advance of your moving date. Enclose the address label from a current copy along with your new address.

Contents of this publication may be reprinted or excerpted freely unless otherwise noted, but credit to *World Vision* is requested. © 1979 by World Vision, Inc.

Hello

Are you surprised by the amount of nonChristian participation in Year of the Child activity? Don't be. Secular and pagan philosophies respect many of the rights that the United Nations lists for attention in 1979.

More surprising than the nonChristian activity is the amount of Christian *in*activity. Should not more Christians be action leaders where so much suffering is involved?

Not that our action can consist of UN bandwagoning. It can't. But certainly if anyone must minister holistically to the young, we who are disciples of Jesus Christ must. It was our Christ who forsook heaven to experience human childhood, youth and an early death for the sake of the least of Earth's inhabitants. And it was our Christ who instructed His disciples: "See that you do not look down on one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven" (Matthew 18:10, NIV).

For us Christians, every year must be a year of the child. But having fallen far short of fulfilling this responsibility, should we not make this year *the* year of the child? Should we not evangelize and also fight injustices with at least as much intelligence and intensity as that of those who disbelieve the One we wholly trust?

Credit for the editorial preparation of this issue, not to mention the preceding half dozen issues, belongs to Dick Watson, Ray Seldomridge and others who have traveled many a second mile to maintain this periodical's significance throughout the vacancy of the editor's chair. Clambering aboard just in time to handle next month's issue, I'm delighted with the privilege of serving Christ alongside these people in an organization headed by such spirits as W. Stanley Mooneyham and Ted W. Engstrom. In response to their "Welcome aboard" I pledge both continuity and change. And I solicit the input of readers everywhere who share World Vision leaders' passion for biblical ministries suited to these times.

DAVID OLSON

International Year of the Child

THE FUTURE IS SUFFERING NOW

by **Mary Janss-Clary**
Research Assistant
World Vision International

CHILDREN! More than 1.5 billion children under age 15 now make up 36 percent of the world's population. They are the world's future. And at least 600 million of them suffer from some form of malnutrition caused by poverty.

The United Nations has declared 1979 the International Year of the Child. The purpose of this year's activities is to make all citizens of the world more aware of the plight of children in poverty situations and to urge them to help these children.

The United Nations "Declaration of the Rights of the Child," adopted 20 years ago, has been reissued as a part of this program. The declaration sets forth ten principles or fundamental rights.

1. Rights without discrimination. Anywhere that people are discriminated against because of race, color, nationality, religion or sex, children are among the victims. These children suffer

without cause and with little ability to cope, to strike back or to resolve the conflicts. They are denied citizenship, freedom of choice of residence, protection by national laws and law enforcement, access to education and health facilities, and a host of other rights that we view as basic.

One group of people suffering from a denial of basic rights is the Indian Tamils living in Sri Lanka. They are discriminated against not only because they are from India, but because they are Hindus in a Buddhist nation.

This situation is just one of many instances of the denial of rights. According to both Freedom House and Amnesty International (organizations concerned with the extension and protection of human rights for all citizens of the world),

PRINCIPLE 1
The child shall enjoy all the rights set forth in this Declaration. All children, without any exception whatsoever, shall be entitled to these rights, without distinction or discrimination on account of race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status, whether of himself or of his family.



an appalling two-thirds of all nations do not allow basic rights for all those living within their borders.

In less developed countries, male offspring are commonly preferred over female, even though the female children and adults spend more hours in productive work than do males. Girls and women suffer the most severe malnutrition, since male members of the family eat first, and only after they are full do the girls, and finally the women, receive the leftovers.

Recently, fraternal twin two-year-olds were brought to a hospital in India after having been raised those two years at home. The boy, always

fed first, was obviously a healthy, alert child while the girl, suffering from malnutrition, could hardly hold her head erect.

PRINCIPLE 2
The child shall enjoy special protection, and shall be given opportunities and facilities, by law and by other means, to enable him to develop physically, mentally, morally, spiritually and socially in a healthy and normal manner and in conditions of freedom and dignity. In the enactment of laws for this purpose the best interests of the child shall be the paramount consideration.

2. Special protection. At the beginning of the "Year of the Child," well over 100 national commissions are working to insure that this year will see the initiation "of a higher global priority and greater outreach for children, and measurable improvements in their situa-

tion"—the words of Dr. Estefania Aldaba-Lim, special representative for the International Year of the Child.

Dr. Aldaba-Lim has encouraged all those interested in these goals by her positive reports of "beginning efforts at self-help and self-reliance on the part of governments in developing countries" to make

PRINCIPLE 3
The child shall be entitled from his birth to a name and a nationality.

these "Rights of the Child" become a reality.

3. A name. The number of abandoned children in the world is increasing in direct proportion to the number of families who migrate to the already overcrowded cities of developing nations. These children grow up, in most cases, with little or no sense of family identity or family name.

There are also now more than 13 million refu-

gees worldwide; of these an estimated one-half are children. These people are being denied nationality, the right to live in their native land.

4. Health. More than one-half of the world's people go without adequate food. The diet of the poorer families usually contains only half as many calories as the diet of an upper-income family. About 250,000 children could go blind this year from the lack of vitamin A in their diets. Of the 1.5 billion children in the world, 350 million (20 percent) have no access to essential health, nutrition or education facilities.

In 34 nations with low per-capita incomes, there is an average of one doctor for every 21,200 people, one nurse for every 6700 people. Over the next 40 years, while the population of our world doubles to reach eight billion, 25 billion of the 41 billion babies to be born will not survive infancy. This year alone, death in infancy will claim one out of every ten babies born in the world. Seventy-four nations have even higher infant mortality rates than this.

Five million children in developing nations will die this year from such easily immunizable diseases as diphtheria, measles, polio, tuberculosis and whooping cough. The leading causes of death in early childhood, however, are respiratory diseases, accidents and gastrointestinal diseases. The latter can usually be linked to unsafe water supplies.

Of those living in poor nations, about half of the people have no access to safe, clean water.

Basic health education and preventive care have long been neglected in favor of modern medicine, which few have access to. Robert S. McNamara recently stated that in most developing countries health expenditures are mostly for elaborate hospitals and skilled doctors whose services are available to only 10 percent of the people.

Inadequate housing also adversely affects the health of children in low-income families.

PRINCIPLE 4
The child shall enjoy the benefits of social security. He shall be entitled to grow and develop in health; to this end special care and protection shall be provided both to him and to his mother, including adequate pre-natal and post-natal care. The child shall have the right to adequate nutrition, housing, recreation and medical services.



Housing needs in Asia have been estimated at six square yards per person, but a third of the 2.4 million people living there have even less living space than that. In Asia alone, more than nine million children live in grossly inadequate housing. The housing problem is aggravated by the increased migration of people within developing countries, especially by the flight to the cities.

Recreation is either unknown or entirely self-generated by children in developing nations. Many of the children in the poorest families must begin helping in the family business

(whether it is farming, light industry or a service industry) as soon as they are physically able. These children are deprived of the time and energy they need for recreation and play, which stimulates happiness and development.

5. Special care for the handicapped. Eight percent of all children who annually survive infectious diseases such as measles, diphtheria, polio and tuberculosis are nevertheless permanently disabled. In addition, about 60 percent of the children born in developing nations will develop physical or mental handicaps due to poor nutrition.

6. Loving parents. Thirty-nine percent of the people in developing nations live in the cities. And this figure is increasing by four percent every year. People are being drawn to cities because of the greatest number of job opportunities. In many cases, however, the actual cost of living is much higher

than the newcomers had anticipated.

Many desperate parents, finding themselves caught with no education, no job and no food to feed their children, have chosen simply to abandon their children rather than watch them suffer without hope. Brazil alone has two million such cases of abandonment, and Mexico has more than 700,000 "street children."

7. Education. More than half of the school-aged children in developing nations do not attend school. Today more than 100 million children are educationally deprived while almost half of those who do attend school are able to do so only for a few years. Then they lapse into illiteracy.

In many of the developing nations, a small monthly or quarterly fee is charged by schools. This fee is sometimes no more than a dollar, but this, added to the cost of pencils, paper and a uniform (which is generally required in these schools), is more than many families can afford to pay. Contrast: in October 1977, President Carter told the UN General Assembly: "The amount the world spent equipping each soldier in 1976 was 60 times the amount spent educating each child."

An essential ingredient in a child's education is his or her ability to learn. If the child has not received proper nutrition during the early, crucial years of brain development, the opportunity for growing to full potential is lost forever. Sociologists estimate that 60 to 75 of every 100 children in the world do not receive the care they need to develop into productive adults.

8. First in relief. As already noted, almost one-half of the world's refugees from war and economic disaster are children. And of the 462 million

PRINCIPLE 5

The child who is physically, mentally or socially handicapped shall be given the special treatment, education and care required by his particular condition.

PRINCIPLE 6

The child, for the full and harmonious development of his personality, needs love and understanding. He shall, wherever possible, grow up in the care and under the responsibility of his parents, and in any case in an atmosphere of affection and of moral and material security; a child of tender years shall not, save in exceptional circumstances, be separated from his mother. Society and the public authorities shall have the duty to extend particular care to children without a family and to those without adequate means of support. Payment of State and other assistance towards the maintenance of children of large families is desirable.

PRINCIPLE 7

The child is entitled to receive education, which shall be free and compulsory, at least in the elementary stages. He shall be given an education which will promote his general culture, and enable him on a basis of equal opportunity to develop his abilities, his individual judgement, and his sense of moral and social responsibility, and to become a useful member of society.

The best interests of the child shall be the guiding principle of those responsible for his education and guidance; that responsibility lies in the first place with his parents.

The child shall have full opportunity for play and recreation, which should be directed to the same purposes as education; society and the public authorities shall endeavour to promote the enjoyment of his right.



people starving today, one-half are children under five. Children should be the first to receive relief because they are unable to help themselves. The preamble to the UN "Rights of the Child" states: "The child, by reason of his physical and mental immaturity, needs special safeguards and care. . . ."

PRINCIPLE 8
The child shall in all circumstances be among the first to receive protection and relief.

developed nations where no laws prohibit it. Children from seven years of age on up are forced, through economic necessity, to work in quarries, mines, factories and farms. Children compose more than 10 percent of the labor force in the Middle East and two percent to ten percent in most of Latin America and parts of Asia.

Currently 53 million children are working at

PRINCIPLE 9
The child shall be protected against all forms of neglect, cruelty and exploitation. He shall not be the subject of traffic, in any form.

The child shall not be admitted to employment before an appropriate minimum age; he shall in no case be caused or permitted to engage in any occupation or employment which would prejudice his health or education, or interfere with his physical, mental or moral development.

babies are rented out to adult beggars for about \$1 a day. Girls are often considered valuable since they can be sold, if necessary, to prostitution rings.

10. Raised in a spirit of understanding. Racial and religious strife is a hateful thing wherever it is found, but one thing seems even worse: to see

9. Protection from cruelty.

Child abuse, so prevalent in our own country, takes other forms elsewhere. Child labor is common in less

developed nations where no laws prohibit it. Children from seven years of age on up are forced, through economic necessity, to work in quarries, mines, factories and farms. Children compose more than 10 percent of the labor force in the Middle East and two percent to ten percent in most of Latin America and parts of Asia.

Currently 53 million children are working at menial, back-breaking jobs throughout the world. Some of the working conditions amount to slavery, since the children work long hours and receive little or no pay. Thirty-eight million children are working under these conditions in Asia alone.

In other forms of exploitation, children are systematically kidnapped and forced to join beggar gangs. Sometimes they are deliberately mutilated to make them appear more pathetic and thus bring in more alms.

In Egypt, children and

that same discriminatory attitude deliberately fostered in children by their elders. The gun-toting child in the streets of Belfast will be tomorrow's leader. This last principle in the "Rights of the Child" expresses the wish that children would nowhere be exposed to such attitudes, but would instead learn tolerance, peace and service to others.

Our future is suffering now. The statistics describing the state of children in our world seem overwhelming. However, through the efforts of many agencies, governmental and private, an increasing amount of relief is now being given to needy children, to help them until they are able to help themselves.

The children's greatest need, not mentioned in the "Rights of the Child," is for an experience of the Savior, Jesus Christ, whose love can carry them through these insufferable days. This need, along with the ten discussed, is being met increasingly by organizations (such as World Vision) that extend care in the name of the One who said, "As you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me" (Matthew 25:40, RSV).



PRINCIPLE 10
The child shall be protected from practices which may foster racial, religious and any other form of discrimination. He shall be brought up in a spirit of understanding, tolerance, friendship among peoples, peace and universal brotherhood and in full consciousness that his energy and talents should be devoted to the service of his fellow men.

Forecasts for the 1980s

What direction will missions take during the next decade? In what socio-political-religious climates must we serve? With what economic realities must we reckon? What spiritual breakthroughs can we reasonably anticipate? What levels of achievement might churches of developing nations reach? How can both Western and Third World churches best prepare for the mix of opportunity and adversity which the 1980s will bring?

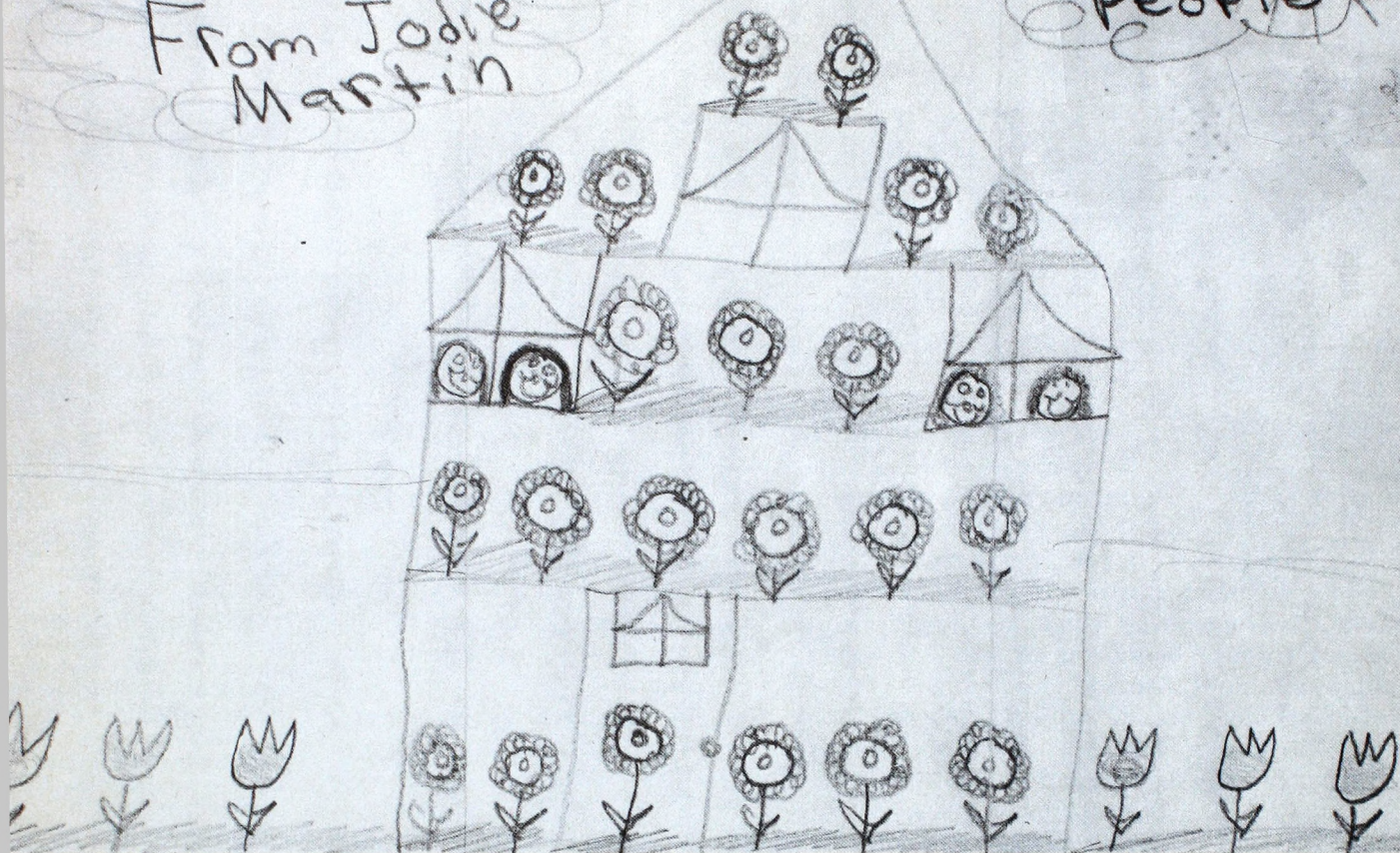
If you ponder such questions, you'll appreciate the February issue of this magazine. In it several knowledgeable Christian leaders will venture predictions.

for the

HUNGRY

People

From Jodie
Martin



Dear Friend,

Hi. How are you? I hope you all are doing good. How is your weather? I hope your weather is good. I am so sorry that I could not send 10.00 doler's. I feel so sorry for all the people. I am adopted. I have an sister and she is adopted to. She was one of thows [hungry] people to. She has got a really bad problem. She has to take $5\frac{1}{2}$ pills in the morning and $6\frac{1}{2}$ pills at night becaus of starving. She is getting better each day. I know you can see why I feel soo sorry for all the other people. I wished I could be there with all the other people. I love them all and I hope this 5.00 dolers help. I know that 5.00 dolers don't go far but that is all I can aford. Keep smiling for me.

Love,
Jodie Ann Martin

When World Vision asked supporters to donate \$10 a month for hungry children worldwide, this letter was among those that came in response.

A CHILD'S THOUGHT OF GOD

by Elizabeth Barrett Browning

*They say that God lives very high;
But if you look above the pines
You cannot see our God; and why?*

*And if you dig down in the mines
You never see Him in the gold;
Though from Him all that's glory shines.*

*God is so good, He wears a fold
Of heaven and earth across His face—
Like secrets kept, for love, untold.*

*But still I feel that His embrace
Slides down by thrills, through all things made,
Through sight and sound of every place.*

*As if my tender mother laid
On my shut lips her kisses' pressure,
Half-waking me at night, and said,
'Who kissed you through the dark, dear guesser?'*

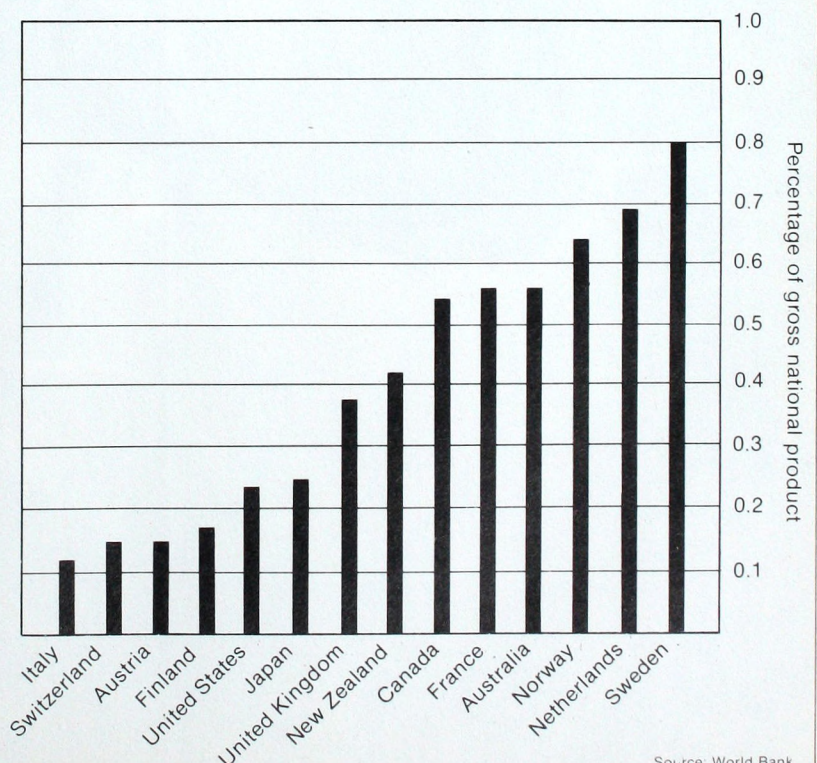
facts about hunger

Did you know that the United States is not the most generous country in helping the needy through foreign aid?

Far from it. If we exclude military assistance and look only at development aid, the United States ranks fifth *from the bottom* among the major Western donors of foreign aid.


Following World War II, at the height of the Marshall Plan, the United States gave 2.79 percent annually of its gross national product for development aid. Today, the figure is approximately 0.25 percent. As America has become richer (per capita income has doubled since 1949) our sharing with the needy has decreased.

Estimated Development Aid
(1975)



Source: World Bank





**Set the
children
free . . .
from
disease**

One of a series of posters celebrating
the International Year of the Child.


WORLD VISION INTERNATIONAL
Setting children free

You Just Do It

by Graeme Irvine

Vice-President/Field Ministries
World Vision International

When World Vision's Don Scott reached the small Hmong village high in the mountains of Laos, the Christians there began asking him for a miracle. They wanted life for a dying boy.

The lad had cerebral malaria, an extremely serious complication of this dreaded disease. Without urgent medical attention it is invariably fatal. Don had seen this killer before. He knew the symptoms—very high fever, the loss of muscular control, the progressive loss of consciousness, the enlarged spleen.

The nearest help was a six-hour walk away, over rugged mountain trails that crossed two 6000-foot ranges. Worse still, the rain had made trails slippery and leech-infested. Flimsy suspension bridges of bamboo and vines were all that spanned the swollen river torrents. It seemed hopeless.

The little group of Christians prayed, and prayed again, but the fever grew worse. They would have to get help. Don decided to go himself because he knew his powers of persuasion would be needed at the other end. The boy's father and the local pastor

accompanied Don to guide him on the perilous journey.

They completed the grueling hike safely. Then a helicopter whisked them back to the mountain village. The boy was tenderly transferred to the helicopter and flown to a regional hospital where doctors gave immediate treatment.

For three days the life of the little stranger hung in the balance. Then the scales tipped

**Some kids
just never
grow up.
They die of
hunger.**

in his favor. He was out of danger. Eventually, he regained complete health with no aftereffects. The people received their miracle!

Don Scott, now World Vision's regional director for Latin America, related this memorable experience as we

talked recently about children. I said, "Don, why did you do it? Why this great effort for a child you didn't know, who seemed to have so little chance?"

My question took Don by surprise.

"You just do it," he said. "You are there . . . the people count on you . . . and you just do it!"

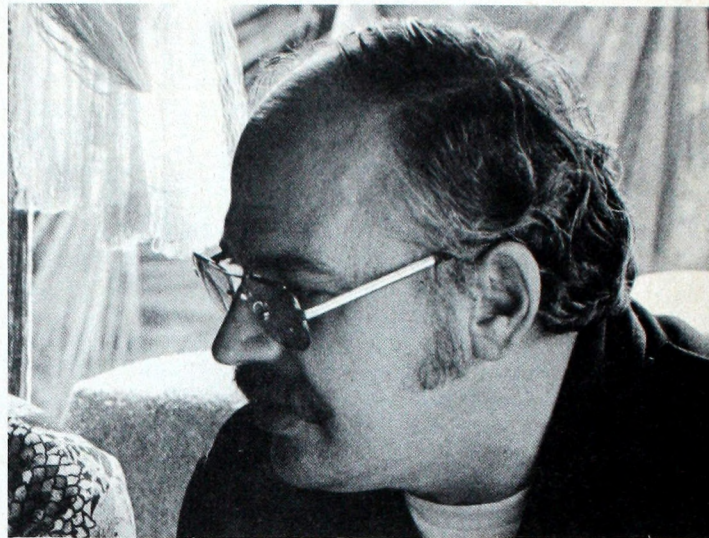
I've seen many of God's servants doing the same.

A British doctor, Penelope Key, battling for the life of a child dying of bronchial pneumonia in a refugee camp; bringing all her compassion, her medical skill, her physical and emotional energy to bear on saving that little, obscure life; taking great risks with her own health and putting aside personal qualms to suck the choking phlegm from the child's throat; then standing up, exhausted and distressed, as the child's life slipped away; finally, while watching the anguished mother push out through the crowd with the dead child in her arms, saying to an assistant, "Go with her and help her." Then immediately turning to the next patient—with 300 more waiting outside.

Or Mrs. Oh in Korea, taking into her arms a tiny bundle



(left) Oh Mee Soon: "pure voice and radiant Christian testimony." (below) Don Scott and Penelope Key.



found outside in the snow; gathering her skirts around it for warmth; giving it her own name; snuggling it against her on the warm floor at night; nourishing it back to health and strength; bringing the child up as one of her own, a little one whom nobody else wanted. The child was to become a beautiful young girl who would thrill audiences in the world's great concert halls with her pure voice and radiant Christian testimony.

Or Barbara Ferguson in Vietnam, coming to the bedside of a 12-year-old lad whose legs had been blown off by a land mine; hearing him ask for poison to end his misery; encouraging him to live; praying for him; asking friends in Australia to donate air fare, surgery and rehabilitation fees; taking him on the long journey; rejoicing in the successful fitting of artificial limbs; seeing his first, painful, tentative steps become more certain until,

after many weeks of struggle, he is able to walk almost normally; returning with him to Vietnam where he began a new life. Once facing no future but the wretched life of a beggar on the street, he now had mobility, faith and the hope, at least, of realizing his dream of becoming a doctor who could help others in need.

But is it worth it? Is it not a vain struggle? Considering the staggering statistics of the world's afflicted children, can

we do anything that really counts?

A mother in America once said to me sincerely, "Wouldn't it be better to let these children die? Aren't they better off in the end?" You can say that when you are a long way from their suffering. Could I say it if I had been in Don Scott's shoes? Or Penelope Key's? Or Mrs. Oh's? Or Barbara Ferguson's? Could I stand by while a beautiful young life was extinguished slowly, agonizingly, needlessly?

By contrast, an African mother, helplessly watching her children starve in the midst of famine, cried in anguish to a World Vision team, "Don't let my children die!" Which mother will we heed?

The designation of 1979 as the International Year of the Child is a call by the United Nations to awaken the conscience of the world to the plight of children. I suggest four reasons why each of us should hear and respond to that call.

First, *because children are so vulnerable*. They are the first to suffer in national disasters. They are the chief victims of underdevelopment, the easiest prey to disease, and the innocent casualties of war. They come into the world needing protection, care, love and opportunity to grow. Instead, half of the world's children face hostility, brutality or deprivation—often through no fault of their parents, and certainly through no fault of their own. As someone put it, "Some kids just never grow up. They die of hunger."

Secondly, *because children are the hope of tomorrow*. They are the world's most valuable resource. One World Vision worker said, "The children of today can achieve the dreams of their parents."

Alternatively, they can be a wasted generation, "a massive social scandal."

Don Scott knows this to be true. He grew up in privation. He lost his father when he was five, his mother when he was sixteen. Unable to care for her children, Don's mother placed them temporarily in the care of others until she could fulfill her hopes for them. Don knew hunger and cold. "What kept you going through those terrible

But is it worth it? Is it not a vain struggle? . . . can we do anything that really counts?

years?" I asked. He said, "The love my mother had for me. Also, the support of my two brothers. We needed each other and helped each other." Someone stood alongside this family in their time of need, and today Don leads a ministry throughout Latin America that brings help and hope to 60,000 needy children and reaches hundreds of communities with a program of self-development.

Third, *because every life is precious*. It is God-breathed. It is a sacred trust. In one sense, all the children in the world belong to all the people of the world. Caring for them is a privilege we may all share.

"Anyone who welcomes one child for my sake," said Jesus, "is welcoming me. . . . You can understand that it is never the will of your Father in heaven that a single one of these little ones should be lost." Jesus underscored His words indelibly, for all time, when

He told His hearers about the search for the one lost sheep, even though ninety-nine were safe in the fold.

Fourth, *because we can do something about the plight of children*. None of us needs to feel powerless. We can't do everything, but we can do something. Your action or mine may not change the world, but it can change a life.

Don Scott hit upon it when he said, "You are there . . . and you just do it." But perhaps that's our problem: we are not there, we don't get close enough. We are separated by an ocean, by a national boundary, or by a frame of mind.

World Vision can help us get close—so close that our lives can touch the lives of children 10,000 miles away. Our love can enfold a child, providing a way of lasting help where there wasn't one before.


For most of my life, I've been involved with children, from the inner-city streets of Sydney to remote villages of Haiti. I've been with them in juvenile courts and in refugee camps. I've held them in my arms as the sleep of death overtook them in the most wretched corners of the earth. It is my conviction that whatever we do and whatever we give, it can never be too much compared with what we have.

Poet Gabriela Mistral has captured the urgency of the responsibility before us:

We are guilty of many errors and many faults, but our worst crime is abandoning the children, neglecting the fountain of life.

Many of the things we need can wait . . . the child cannot.

Right now is the time his bones are being formed, his blood is being made and his senses are being developed.

To him we cannot answer "tomorrow." His name is "today." 

I Dream of Tomorrow

I was born in a Bihari refugee camp.
My mother lay down on the dirt floor
of a one room shack.
There in the filth and stifling heat is where
I came screaming into the world.

Too quickly I learned the truth about life.
The painful fact of hunger when mother's milk
ran dry.
Now I wear poverty's rags and walk the streets.

The people who live here are refugees.
That name *refugee*—I've learned to hate it.
That name means tiny shacks with thatched walls
and tin roofs—where families sleep in dirt.

It means a ragged blanket over part of me at night.
It means one toilet for fifteen families.
It means open sewers that breed malaria,
typhoid, and death.
It means an endless struggle, day to day.
It means suffering for the old and for the young.

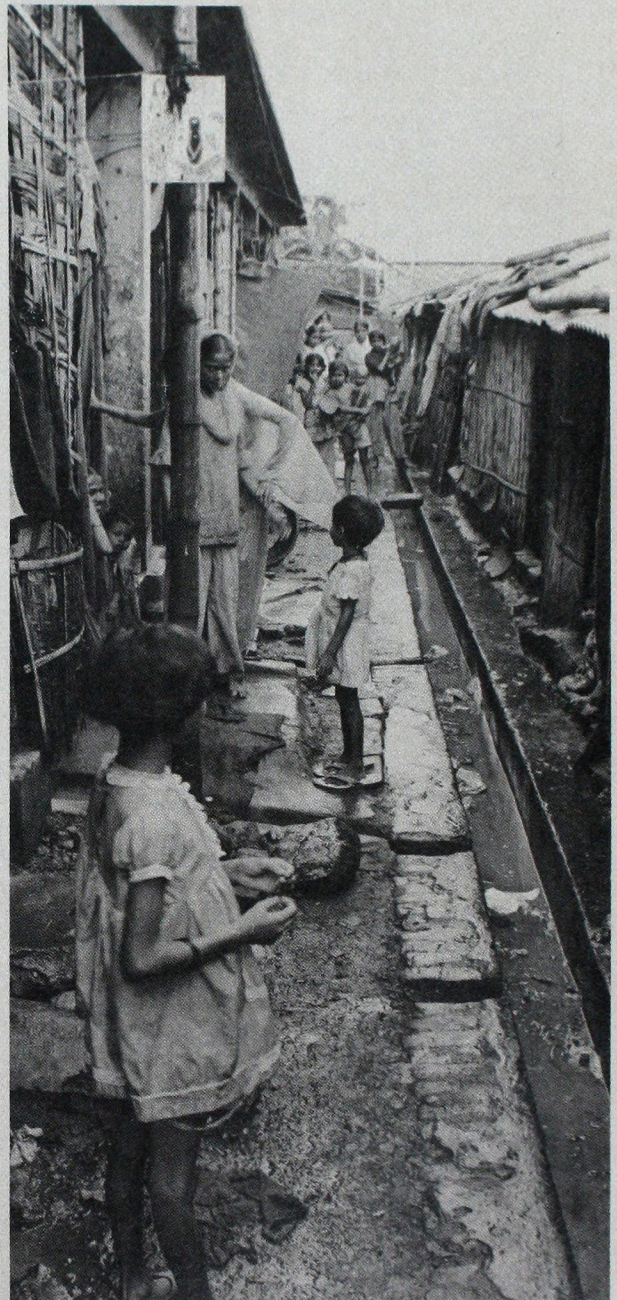
"Laughter," the people say, "comes as often
to our lips as meat to our table."
I don't go to school. Very few children here
go to school.
Our mothers and fathers cannot read or write.
Neither can I.

My school room is this camp.
It has taught me too well and too soon
that life is hard—a wild animal
that can be tamed only by the brave.

I want to be brave. But I'm frightened.

The people say that we will all die in this place.
But not my father. My father says,
"One day it will be different;
one day we will have enough to eat,
a better place to live.
And my children will have an education."

My father has taught me the most,
though he doesn't know it.
He has taught me how to dream.
His words give me hope.
Tomorrow will be better!
That dream is all I have.



Sixty thousand Bihari refugees live in Bangladesh. For ten years the Bihari people have been beaten by floods, famine and war. But because they are a minority, their suffering has gone unnoticed. James Greenelsh of the World Vision staff wrote this poem to express the feelings of ten-year-old Monsur Ali, whom he interviewed during a recent trip to Bangladesh.

monthly memo



A high percentage of the pastors ministering in Hong Kong shared in the recent 126th World Vision Pastors' Conference held in the 1000-seat Hong Kong City Baptist Church. These pastors and Christian workers, 320 of them, represented 30 denominations.

What an encouragement it was to our team—Dr. Sam Kamaleson, Dr. Paul Rees and myself—to sense the burden these men and women have for China, where most have relatives and close friends.

Developing a strategy for reaching the more than 800 million Chinese with the message of the gospel was of high priority to these Chinese Christian leaders in the Crown Colony. This was evident in so many of the workshop seminars, which addressed such topics as "Planting New Churches," "Establishing Holistic Preaching Ministries" and "Balancing the Evangelistic and Discipling Ministry."

Reports from refugees coming out of China through

Hong Kong clearly indicate that the church is very much alive in China today. And the door that has been closed to Christian ministries for three decades is slowly but steadily opening to the Chinese of the diaspora. We need to pray earnestly and continually for our Christian brothers and sisters in the world's largest nation.

Your prayers and financial support made this most recent Pastors' Conference the blessing it was. On behalf of the pastors who would testify to their being so enriched in this fellowship, thank you—and God bless you.

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Ted W. Engstrom".

Ted W. Engstrom
Executive Vice-President

UNREACHED PEOPLES

Spain's Unmoved Gypsies

"Many people who earn money try to save it. But when we earn a thousand pesetas [\$10], we just spend it. We do not worry about tomorrow. We enjoy life in a way different from yours. That's the way we are—different from you. That life satisfies us; that's why we are Gypsies."

Gypsies constitute one of the largest ethnic groups in the world without a homeland. A nomadic people, they are found on every continent, with some two million in Europe and another two million in the United States. Gypsies call themselves Rom ("Man"), but they are known to others by many names including Bohemians, Tartars and (in Spain) Gitanos. Tradition has it that they came from Egypt (hence the name *Gypsies*), but their native language and

history seem to say they originated as itinerant musicians from India. In Spain they speak either Spanish or the Gypsy language called Romany.

The 200,000 Gitanos of Spain are organized into bands of from 10 to a few hundred. Each is led by a chieftain who acts as treasurer for the group, decides on patterns of migration and acts as spokesman to local authorities. They usually travel by horse-drawn or motorized caravan.

Discrimination, with resultant ill-treatment, is so common to the Gitanos that it is borne like bad weather. Typically, they have engaged in seasonal occupations—circuses or fairs—and other pursuits too menial or otherwise distasteful to the majority of the population. Many work as undertakers, executioners, entertainers, horse dealers and fortune-tellers.

Their religion is a mixture of Gypsy mythology, monotheism and homage to patron saints,

somewhat similar to the dominant Roman Catholicism that surrounds them. Especially important has been homage to Sara, the legendary Gypsy Black Virgin. Very few Gitanos practice Christianity without various syncretistic elements.

Caravan churches have sprung up as the result of a revival that began in 1952, stimulated by Pentecostal evangelists of the Assemblies of God. But the majority is still unmoved and uncommitted. At present, a major hindrance to Gitano evangelism is the lack of a good Bible translation.

Christ can become a vital part of their camps and caravans if Christians will care, learn about Gypsies and pray for them. In order that you may understand the needs of the Gypsies, World Vision has prepared a brief prayer folder. This folder includes data from the World Vision/MARC Unreached Peoples Program, and is available to you for the asking. The logo for World Vision, consisting of the letters "WV" in a stylized, bold font.

Marta

by Barbara Weisbrod

What's happening today in Mexico?" I asked the World Vision team there.

No simple answers.

"How many projects do you have going?"

Numbers and more numbers.

"Can you tell me about a person who has been helped?"

Oh, yes! Marta!

Marta Orihuela. Without having actually seen her sit on the ground and propel herself forward with her arms, you cannot imagine the indignity and humiliation she suffered when she did even the simplest errands in the town.

Marta was condemned to spend her life this way because of a congenital malformation of her legs. No fancy operations, no recuperative care at the Mayo Clinic or at the Boston Children's Hospital. Just awkward movement through the dust in the dry season and through the mud when it rained.

When Marta was six, she went to enroll in the local school. She lasted a week. Her classmates' teasing and her teacher's intolerance of her handicap made that week a nightmare. Back to the streets she went, for the next 15 years of her life.

Her family? An alcoholic father made her life especially miserable. Any idea she had for study or work he squelched without offering any alternative. Her mother and six siblings were busy surviving themselves. They never had enough to go around, and Marta was not considered high priority. She spent many of those days hungry as well.

Her town? Located about 80 miles west of Mexico City,

Joquicingo (ho-kee-seen-go) did not offer much to its 800 families. Mountainous, cold, with an unpredictable rainfall, the town offered no jobs. When the men were not planting or harvesting their small plots, they migrated to the city to find work as bricklayers or construction workers.

World Vision began work in Joquicingo two years ago. That is when Marta's life began to change. Project leaders started a class in knitting—a skill that, once learned, could become a paying job.


Marta went to the class. Her classmates, now adults, laughed when she came in. How could she possibly work a machine while sitting on the ground? She didn't know either.

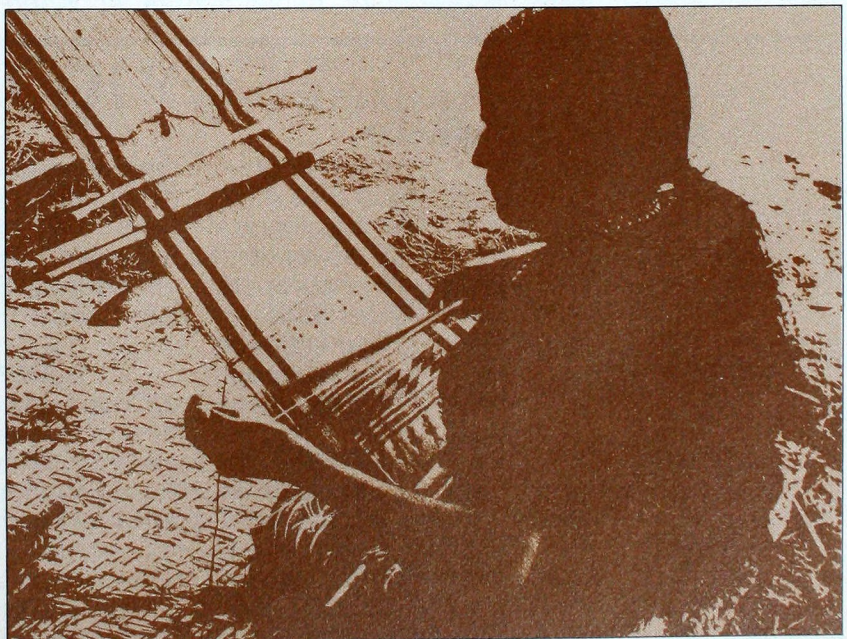
Discouraged, she went to talk with the Presbyterian pastor, Joaquin Jimenez. He invited her to the nutrition center that World Vision had set up for the children. A flexible, understanding man, he recognized in 22-year-

old Marta one of God's neediest children.

About this time, Marta's father died. Now she was free to do what she wanted without constant interference. She went back to the knitting class. Somehow, through the pastor's influence, her classmates caught a vision of the life that could be Marta's. They built her a special chair so that she could use the knitting machine. And they constructed a cart with wheels, which she rides in as they pull her to class.

Now, instead of being covered with mud or dust, Marta arrives clean and nicely dressed. A fast learner, she supports her family on the four sweaters she makes and sells each day. She has dignity and self-assurance. And, not incidentally, she has been transformed from an object of the community's ridicule into an attractive woman.

Numbers, statistics . . . they have their place in our work. So does all the jargon and complex planning used in any program of community development. But whenever we hear the story of one changed life, one person who has been dramatically helped, then our job seems suddenly very simple. 



Barbara Weisbrod works with her husband, Don, who is World Vision's field director in Guatemala.

The cry of a hurting world...



I'm Hungry

Consult your local listings for time and channel

Boise, ID—Jan. 15
 Jonesboro, AR—Jan. 15
 Traverse City/
 Cadillac, MI—Jan. 15
 La Crosse/
 Eau Claire, WI—Jan. 16
 Jackson, TN—Jan. 20
 Washington, D.C.—Jan. 23
 Grand Junction, CO—Jan. 28
 Alexandria, MN—Jan. 28
 Quincy, IL/
 Hannibal, MO—Jan. 30

The National Television Special on World Hunger presented by World Vision International

ARGENTINA

Children in and around the slum areas of Buenos Aires will be able to attend summer camps in 1979, thanks to a World Vision grant. For several years the camps have had a strong social and spiritual impact on the lives of many deprived children. Five hundred children will attend the upcoming camps through World Vision's aid.

ENGLAND

A new World Vision office opens this month in London under the direction of Mr. James Tysoe, an experienced British Christian lay executive. European operations, formerly located in Bonn, West Germany, will be handled by the London office. New support functions will also be initiated in London. Communications will be directed by Mr. David Longe, who for several years has been Director of Communications with World Vision of Australia.

UNITED STATES

A highly dramatic six-page color photo feature of World

Vision's ministry to the Vietnamese boat people appeared in the December issue of Life magazine.

The photos were taken during the latest Operation Seasweep voyage by a photographer for Stern magazine, the largest-circulating news magazine in Europe. Stern published a similar photo feature in November.

A visiting delegation of several Vietnamese students recently presented \$800 in cash to World Vision in support of Operation Seasweep, the relief ministry to the boat people of Vietnam.

The students, representing about 400 Vietnamese at Fullerton Junior College, had themselves escaped by boat from Vietnam. They presented a long list of donors, each of whom gave from one dollar to a \$100 check, which came from the father of an American girl who befriended many of the Vietnamese students.

Speaking for the group was An Nguyen, a journalism major and temporary president of the Vietnamese Club of Fullerton College. An escaped Vietnam in 1976, one year after the

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

SYSTEMS PROGRAMMER

Experienced software support person to provide technical assistance and support for a dual DECSYSTEM-2050 installation. You should have an aptitude for solving problems within a complex operating environment. Experience on a DEC-10/20 is desired, but similar experience on other systems will be considered. Good opportunity for career growth. Send resume and salary history to Fin Danley, Director of Data Processing.

SENIOR ANALYST PROGRAMMER

Experienced D.P. professional to participate in development of applications in an on-line Data Base environment. You will be working with the latest hardware and software from DEC, including dual DECSYSTEM 2050s, over 50 CRTs for applications and interactive development, and

the nation's largest DEC-20 Data Base. COBOL experience is required, and on-line experience is helpful. With our expanding growth through television ministries, this is an excellent career opportunity. Send resume and salary history to Don Schager, Manager of Systems Development.

EMPLOYMENT SPECIALIST

Coordinate all phases of employment for headquarters staffing. Prefer college graduate with a minimum of two years experience in Personnel Administration. Send resume and salary history to Carol Ricchio, Personnel Administrator.

World Vision International
 919 W. Huntington Drive
 Monrovia, California 91016



MANAGING YOUR TIME

A TWO-DAY SEMINAR

- Jan. 18-19, Atlanta, GA
- Feb. 8-9, Seattle, WA
- May 3-4, Los Angeles, CA



An Nguyen (second from left) and other students present donation to Dr. Booth.

communist takeover. A commercial freighter picked her up after she had spent several days adrift in a small fishing boat. She told Dr. Carlton Booth, secretary-treasurer of World Vision, who welcomed the delegation, that she would have died within an hour if she had not been rescued.

In the center of this magazine is a reproduction of one of four

posters developed by World Vision and available at no cost to churches that wish to display them during the International Year of the Child. Three others continue the theme "Set the Children Free . . . from Hunger . . . to Know God . . . to Learn." The 15" X 21" posters may be ordered from your World Vision area office or directly from Church Relations, World Vision, Box O, Pasadena, CA 91109.



Dr. Engstrom and Mr. Dayton invite pastors and Christian leaders to attend this seminar.



Ted Engstrom
Executive Vice-President,
World Vision International



Ed Dayton
Director,
Research and
MARC Division,
World Vision International

Books by Engstrom and/or Dayton:

- *Managing Your Time*
- *Managing Your Time Seminar Notebook*
- *Tools for Time Management*
- *Art of Management for Christian Leaders*
- *Strategy for Living*
- *Making of a Christian Leader*

Mail the coupon to:
Managing Your Time
World Vision International
919 W. Huntington Drive
Monrovia, California 91016

Prayer Requests

Please pray for:

■ **children everywhere** whose critical needs are not being met. Pray that the efforts of many organizations and individuals will bring dramatic improvements to the lives of needy children during this special year. Ask God how you can help.

■ **reconciliation among warring factions** in Lebanon, Namibia and many other tension spots in the world. All of World Vision's childcare projects in Lebanon have been seriously affected by the

heavy fighting; three received direct hits.

■ **a solution to the boat people resettlement problem.** While the flow of refugees out of Vietnam has increased in recent months, government leaders have still not established any satisfactory procedure for the resettlement of refugees encamped in Thailand and Malaysia. Pray that God may provide a way to help these refugees survive under present hostile conditions.

MANAGING YOUR TIME

- Atlanta, GA
 Seattle, WA Los Angeles, CA

(Check one. \$125 covers all costs. Make checks payable to **Managing Your Time**.)

- Send complete details.
 I enclose \$25 now, the balance of \$100 to be paid at the seminar.
 I enclose the entire \$125.

WV

Name _____

Church or Org. _____

Org. address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Telephone () _____

globe at a glance

NEWS BRIEFS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN SCENE FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND INTERCESSION

CHRISTIANS SEEKING SIMPLER LIFESTYLES

A growing number of Christians in affluent nations are reconsidering their standards of living. In light of the needs of deprived people around the world, several movements now emphasize the need for simpler lifestyles.

The Lausanne Covenant, adopted in 1974 at the International Congress on World Evangelization, declared, "Those of us who live in affluent circumstances accept our duty to develop a simple lifestyle in order to contribute both to relief and evangelism."

The Mennonite Central Committee has long been a prominent advocate of lifestyle simplicity. Christian publications such as *Sojourners* and *The Other Side* regularly present alternative lifestyles for reader consideration. The *Alternative Celebrations Catalogue* (Alternatives Inc.: 1978) offers creative ways for individuals to simplify their lifestyles.

A Southern Baptist convocation recently declared that simpler lifestyles are essential to provide more money and energy for hunger relief and food development. Guest speaker Rep. John B. Anderson (R-Ill.) said Americans "are victims of their own affluence. As a humanitarian nation, we must increase our share of giving so the world will not go hungry, fomenting unrest and making a ripe field for those who would spread anarchy and discord." Ron Sider, author of *Rich Christians in an Age of Hunger* (InterVarsity Press: 1977), told the Baptists that government hunger relief must be backed by private integrity. "It's a farce to ask Washington to legislate what Christians refuse to live," he said.

World Evangelical Fellowship will help sponsor an International Consultation on Simple Lifestyles in London, England, in 1980. In preparation for that gathering, local study groups will grapple with the challenges of lifestyle, evangelism, relief and justice.

Asia

SINGAPORE—Evangelization of two billion Asian nonChristians was the topic of the Asian Leadership Conference on Evangelism held at the University of Singapore in November. Many of the 300 participating church leaders from 25 nations called for the abandonment of Western-imported denominationalism in the task of evangelizing Asia. They also expressed concern for relating Christianity to existing cultures so that communication could occur with the least possible hindrance. For example, Agith Fernando from Sri Lanka said, "Christians have generally avoided celebrating the Sinhala New Year, a festival that Buddhists observe. Could we not celebrate it as a harvest festival—which is exactly what it is?"

For 10 days, conferees discussed approaches to communicating the gospel in Buddhist, Marxist, Hindu, Islamic and secular societies.

Europe

LONDON, England—The United Bible Societies reports difficulty in securing more than \$1 million owed the agency from within Africa. The funds (for Scriptures imported by Bible societies in several countries, including Ghana, Uganda, Zaire and Zambia) are apparently being blocked by currency regulations.

North America

WASHINGTON, D.C.—As many as 90,000 boat people will have left Vietnam during 1978, according to predictions released by the U.S. State Department in November. This number is five times that of earlier predictions. A shift in the wind direction during the present monsoon season is causing most of the escaping boats to now land on the east coast of Malaysia.



All 153 refugees on this boat were saved after it capsized off the Malaysian coast. (inset) This 80-year-old man is one of the refugees helped by a Malaysian police superintendent. See story on opposite page.

Jesus Slept on a Beach Last Night

Kuala Trengganu, Malaysia—Waves of Vietnamese refugees drenching these shores have caught the world unprepared. Headlines tell the shocking and shameful story. Boats pushed away. Capsizings. Many lost at sea. Thousands dead. From my vantage point here at the scene, the spectacle is both awesome and frightening. I am awestruck both by the sheer numbers and by the raw courage of the refugees. And I am appalled and scared by the world's manifest indifference to their plight. Civilized savagery is more frightening than the primeval kind, to my mind, for it cannot plead ignorance.

I do not find it hard to sympathize with the Malaysian government. Until 1978 the nation was dealing with a manageable few thousand refugees. Now they face more than 50,000, over half of whom have come in the past two months.

The burden has become intolerable. Both Malaysia and Thailand have said, "Enough! No more!" The tortoise-like pace at which we in the Western nations are resettling the refugees gives the Asians justifiable reason to question our commitment. Our record of promises kept in Southeast Asia does not inspire trust.

As a result, the government here at one point called on its people to send the boats back to sea. More reasoned statements have since softened some of the earlier hostility, but the mood is still ugly here on the east coast of Malaysia. A few days ago a boat carrying about 250 refugees was pushed away by local residents. As it tried to navigate through the treacherous estuary to the open sea, the boat struck a sandbar and capsized. Nearly 200 drowned.

My heart, chilled by the episode, was warmed today. A fragile boat, battered for more than 24 hours by 10- to 12-foot waves while it was anchored about 2000 yards offshore, finally was washed toward the beach. It, too, capsized, but all 153 victims were saved. A local man told me that he and two friends nearly drowned in the turbulent sea while trying to take a line to the boat. He said, "I kept remembering what Christ said: 'Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.'"

Such selflessness greatly moved me.

Earlier I had met another gentle and compassionate man. He was a police superintendent who personally escorted us to some new refugee arrivals, permitted us to buy them food and other basic items, and then delivered the \$250 worth of supplies in his own shiny Mercedes.

Life is tougher in the camps. They are not, after

all, tourist resorts. Most of them are on barren offshore islands. Adequate facilities are almost nonexistent on these stretches of coral. The most notorious is Pulau Bidong, about 25 miles from here. Uninhabited until a few months ago, it now overflows with more than 25,000 refugees. The food supply is tenuous because of stormy seas. The only water is that which falls with the daily monsoon rains. Sanitation is a major problem.

Some newly arrived mothers with babies sleep on the beach with no blankets and nothing but a thin sheet of plastic to protect them from the cold rains.

For this international scandal there is plenty of blame to go around. And Malaysia is not the chief culprit. That opprobrium goes to Vietnam itself. Any government which is so repressive that it drives away scores of thousands of its citizens can make no pretense at being democratic or free.

The Western nations with their dillydallying about resettlement policies must certainly shoulder some major responsibility.

Nor can the international political and bureaucratic systems go blameless. I have searched through their mazes for a full year, looking for some compassion that would put the plight of these desperate people above politics. It is, I found, a rare and precious commodity. A few expressed sympathy, others were merely insensitive, some bordered on barbarism. And I cannot avoid the conclusion that the whole cynical attitude is laced through with more than a little racism, for I cannot imagine Jews from Russia or white-skinned Caucasians being treated with the same indifference and disdain.

Yesterday I saw the world in microcosm. A small boat with about 10 refugees anchored 200 yards from the main harbor here. A man jumped into the sea and waded ashore. Waiting for him was a local vigilante who slapped him and pointed toward the boat. The Vietnamese fell, picked himself up and waded back to the boat.

I was filled with a terrible sadness. After 20 centuries, there is still no room in the inn. The night before last, Jesus slept on a leaky boat in the South China Sea. And last night He slept on a nearby rain-swept beach.

Stan Mooneyhan

world vision

Published by

World Vision International

P.O. Box 0

Pasadena, California 91109

Nonprofit Organization

U.S. Postage

PAID

Monrovia, California

Permit No. 30

Address Correction Requested

This label is to be used on the enclosed envelope.

When hunger is slowly killing you, just 39¢ worth of food means everything in the world!

That's right—39¢ a day. Just \$12 a month. It's a small price to pay for something that can do so much.

Right now—somewhere in the world—a child is dying for want of 39¢ worth of food. In Bangladesh alone, one child dies every 30 seconds. Two every minute. Twenty thousand a week. Eighty-six thousand a month.

Then there's Africa, India, Latin America, Indonesia. Helpless children die . . . one by one.

Experts say that one-third of all the children born in the world today will die before the age of five. Most of them, from hunger and related diseases.



There are hungry, hurting children all over the world waiting for someone like you to care.

As a member of World Vision's Hungry Children's Fund, your gift of just \$12 a month will travel the world, providing food, vitamins and medical care for hungry children wherever the need is most urgent. And you will let them experience God's love in a way they can easily understand.

Just \$12 a month. Thirty-nine cents a day. The price of a cup of coffee or a soft drink.

If you can part with 39¢ a day to help save a hungry child's life, mail this coupon today.

Dr. Stan Mooneyham

WORLD VISION INTERNATIONAL/Hungry Children's Fund

P.O. Box 0 • Pasadena, CA 91109

YES, I want to help bring health and strength to the hungry children of the world. I understand this is not a sponsorship of one specific child, but that I will be helping many children all over the world.

I understand that my commitment is for \$12 a month, and I have enclosed my first monthly gift of \$12.

I prefer to pay _____ months in advance at \$12 a month, so I have enclosed a total of \$_____.

Enclosed is my gift of \$_____ to be used as needed to help hungry children around the world. 1000

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____



A19-W22