

Harvest failures
hit Upper Volta

Black Americans'
famine response

Notes from an
Ethiopia visit

October-November 1984

World Vision®

Parsonage Nursery School children in the West African nation of the Gambia



NOT JUST ANOTHER RECORD

by Carolyn A. Burns

Americans know him as a tuxedoed prince of inspirational piano. But on the muggy Calcutta morning when Dino Kartsonakis rose before dawn to travel across the hot countryside to visit villages in India, he was not wearing tie and tails.

It's six years now since Dino took that long walk, but his memory of

starving people has not faded; it's intensified. But instead of nightmares filled with helpless horrors, Dino's recollections have become a ministerial vision.

The vision is to help feed the world's hungry. But how does one solitary man—a professional pianist with concerts to perform and records

to cut—accomplish such a goal? Dino is doing it through a special arrangement with Light Records and World Vision.

Dino's new album, *Great is the Lord*, is dedicated to the sick, homeless and hungry of the world. Its proceeds go directly to World Vision for use in its worldwide efforts to reduce starvation among helpless victims.

"I'm not just putting out another record," says Dino. "This one's not for me; it's for the needy."

In addition to the album, Dino has planned a tour of his popular Pianorama concert to benefit the hungry through World Vision. In Pianorama, Dino and six other pianists play grand pianos together on one stage. The World Vision Pianorama tour begins in November and runs through June in six major cities.

Dino went to England to record the background music for his new album with the London National Orchestra. He chose familiar hymns for much of the album "because instrumental music needs to be easily recognized by listeners in order for them to relate to the messages. Well-known songs also allow listeners to sit back and meditate on the lyrics within their own inner-voices."

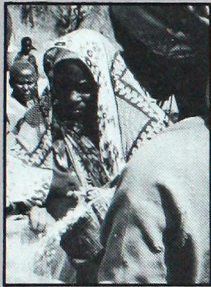
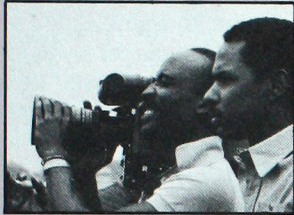
World Vision is equally excited about *Great is the Lord*. Says Ted Engstrom, "The sale of this popular album is not only bringing listeners real pleasure and inspiration, it's bringing desperately hungry people food, water and a witness for Jesus Christ." □

Just back from recording sessions in London, Dino plays in World Vision's chapel.



Carolyn Burns is music editor for Contemporary Christian Music Magazine in Laguna Beach, California.

World Vision



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Through caring eyes

In **this issue** you'll see Africans through several different pairs of eyes. In "Will They Eat Tomorrow?" you'll observe them through the eyes of a Spaniard who has wide experience in ministries to the poor of Latin American countries, and through the eyes of a Californian getting her first glimpse of Africa's famine victims.

In "Love Returns" you'll behold the hungry through the eyes of nine travelers whose forebears lived in those same countries. In the center-spread's Ethiopia article and in "Corn and Beans" you'll view brave sufferers as seen by two other American first-time visitors. And in all the Africa articles you'll get something of the perspectives of Africans themselves.

Although each comprehends the situation in a slightly different way, each expresses deepening compassion for the helpless-but-not-hopeless men, women and children into whose eyes they've peered.

As *you* peer into African eyes through the words and pictures on these pages, your own compassion will be deepened. If you find yourself impelled to pray or to help in some practical way, your eyesight will have become that much more like Jesus'.

David Olson

PHOTOS: Cover, pp. 6-9: Terri Owens. P. 2: Larry Nichols. P. 4: Paul Jones. P. 5 (left): Sanjay Sojwal. P. 10: Sheri Jean Byers. P. 11: Joe Hickman (top), Doug Kelly (middle), Larry Nichols (bottom). Pp. 12, 13, 14 (bottom), 15, 16 (bottom): Steve Reynolds. P. 14 (top): Doug Kelly. Pp. 14 (middle), 16 (top): Jacob Akol. P. 17: World Vision of Sri Lanka. Pp. 18, 19: Rory Starks. P. 20: Marilyn B. Allien. P. 21: Jose Maria Blanch.

What's been happening

IN KAMPUCHEA

Kampuchean authorities and the World Vision-supported National Pediatric Hospital in Phnom Penh are ready in case the incidences of dengue hemorrhagic fever reach the same epidemic level as last year. Aid agencies and the government are closely monitoring the situation. UNICEF is planning to import insecticide to kill the disease-carrying mosquitos. Men trained last year to spray are ready to begin work when it arrives.

"The situation looks 100 percent better this year than last," said World Vision's Program Director Milton

Amayun. "In our hospital, we are well-stocked with needed supplies."

New cases of dengue hemorrhagic fever have been treated at the National Pediatric Hospital, but not in the same numbers as last year. It also appears to be a different type. During June, the hospital saw an increase in the number of patients complaining of fever who were found to have low blood platelet counts. However, there were fewer than in a similar period last year. In May and June of 1983, there were 24 and 97 hemorrhagic fever cases respectively, compared with 3 and 7 cases this year. During May and June of last year, nine children died, compared with three during those two months in 1984.

Because word has spread that there might be another epidemic, concerned parents are bringing their

children to the hospital for diagnosis. This is putting great pressure on the hospital's laboratory staff.

The major health problem among children appears to be malnutrition. Kampuchea's food production has not returned to pre-1975 levels, and some aid agencies are withdrawing food assistance.

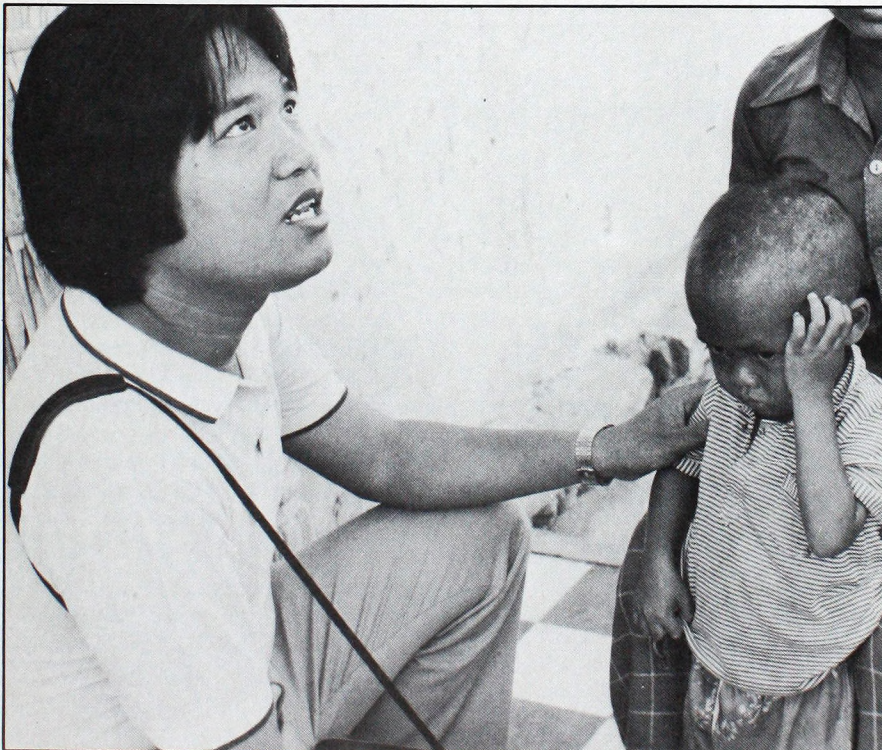
"Let us hope that the present situation does not deteriorate. Let us also pray that there would be no more suffering of the children the rest of this year," said Dr. Amayun. □

IN INDIA

Among the 31,575 children in India who are being helped by World Vision, many live in orphanages. While orphanage programs are directed primarily toward the youngsters, villagers from surrounding communities often benefit, too, because of the schools, hospitals and other services provided by these facilities.

One example of this is the CMML Home, established in 1913 in a parched area of southern India's Tirunelveli district. Gradually, the land was cleared of shrubs, and a small school and hospital were built. Children come to the school from neighboring villages within a radius of 15 miles. More than 800 children attend the school; 110 of them live at the orphanage. The children are educated, fed three nutritious meals a day, and participate in organized sports and recreation. They are also helped to choose careers.

The hospital is a boon to villagers who would otherwise be neglected, as the nearest hospital is 25 miles away. Inadequate diets, consisting mostly of boiled rice, often lead to



Dr. Milton Amayun examines a young Kampuchean orphan.



Being an orphan is never easy, but life for this youngster at the CMML Home is made at least a little easier with three nutritious meals provided daily.

health problems brought on by poor nutrition. The hospital is a great help to many of these villagers, in addition to the orphans.

Orphanages in India often provide training in community living. At the CBM Boarding School for girls in Bobbili, girls form teams for work as well as for sports. There are teams for cooking, serving meals, grinding pulse (one of the foods in that area), powdering spices, fetching well water and cleaning up.

World Vision has stepped into the hearts of these children and villagers in India to show God's love by meeting some of the personal needs of children, and the simple, immediate needs of communities.

IN SRI LANKA

In partnership with the Methodist church, World Vision Sri Lanka will assist in the rehabilitation of 100 Tamil families displaced 12 months ago during ethnic disturbances.

The Tamil Assistance project will

provide the families—all living in the Murunkan district—with the necessary facilities to begin or resume self-employment. The \$2000 project will provide tools and equipment, and will offer training in agriculture, animal husbandry and office work. The church will direct evangelism activities.

World Vision Sri Lanka officers distribute relief goods to plantation workers.



IN LEBANON

Orchans in Theopolis, Lebanon, are among many in this Upper Matn village who will benefit from a new generator purchased recently with help from World Vision supporters. Contributing toward the purchase of the generator is the latest of several ways World Vision has been able to assist this village.

Theopolis is a small Christian

community located in the mountains east of Beirut. The villagers historically have been able to maintain friendly relationships with nearby Druze villages, Syrian troops, Christian militias and the Lebanese army.

With the inconsistency of electrical power throughout the country, this generator will help the Church of God maintain its strategic ministry to surrounding communities and to the orphans living in Theopolis. The generator will be vital in heating the orphanage during the coming winter.



(above) Children in Sa omre, a community near Ouagadougou where grain is being distributed.
(right) Loading wheat onto trucks for distribution to families in the Ouagadougou area.



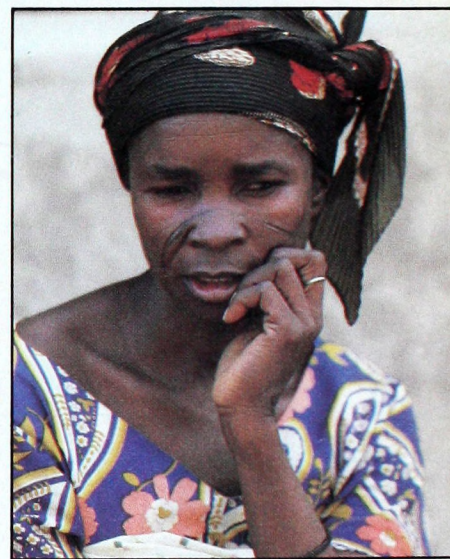
After yet another harvest failure last year in Upper Volta . . .

WILL THEY EAT TOMORROW?

By José María Blanch and Terri Owens

Everywhere we go, people want to tell us what it was like ten years ago—the year of their last good harvest.

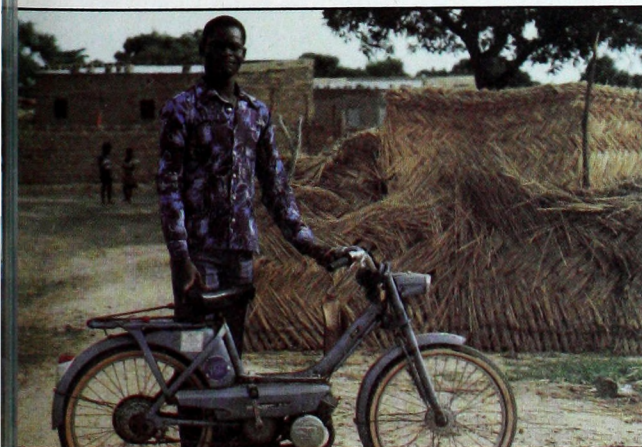
It's hard for us to imagine this dusty red land ever having yielded a good harvest, even with adequate rainfall. Upper Volta's isolation and its lack of natural resources have long made it a difficult place to live. Now with the drought, this nation where 90 percent of the people farm for a living is suffering even more.



Elizabeth Ouedraogo, abandoned by her husband, is one of many receiving food through the distribution project.

Twenty-one percent of the children die before they are a year old. Only three percent live past the age of 64. The

Mobilettes are a principle means of transportation in and around Ouagadougou.



average life expectancy is a mere 43 years—each year filled with hardship, disease and suffering.

Tiga Yanogo has already lived beyond the average lifespan, but not by much. As the oldest surviving male, he heads a Mossi family that farms a piece of land in Saomré, a community on the outskirts of Ouagadougou. He and his wife are animists, but their nine children have all become Christians as a result of attending the village church. Like so many others,

Mr. Yanogo is eager to talk about the last good harvest he saw.

"Ten years ago," he tells us, "my family reaped ten bags of 100 kilos each. With that amount, we could be very comfortable." Two years ago they harvested five bags and last year only one-and-a-half bags.

What have they been doing to survive? "We eat only one meal a day," Mr. Yanogo says. "My wife Issa tries to fix a little more than is needed for that meal so there will be something

left over to give the children the next morning." As he talks, his six-and-a-half-year-old son Robert sits at his side. Robert has had many health problems in his young life, including frequent bouts with malaria and diarrhea—not uncommon among children here. Now with even less to eat, his health is not likely to improve.

Mr. Yanogo's family has been trying to improve their chances for survival by raising some goats, pigs and chickens, but the many thieves in the area



Ten years ago, my family reaped ten bags. Last year we reaped only one-and-a-half."

have created a serious problem for them.

"My two oldest sons go into the forest and cut branches from trees to sell in the marketplace," he explains. "They use the money to buy millet." Unfortunately the sons are unknowingly contributing to west Africa's deforestation-linked drought problem—but how can one ask or expect a family to stop gathering wood when they have few alternatives for survival?

Stories like the Yanogos' are common among Upper Volta's suffering people.

Jean Charles Ouedraogo pastors an Assemblies of God church in Totenga, a community ten kilometers outside Ouagadougou. "Every year there is less rain than the year before," he notes sadly. "We ask ourselves, 'What is going to happen tomorrow?' Some say that people are not working hard enough, but it's not true. People are working twice as hard as before."

Prospère Kinda is among Totenga's hardworking people. He attends the church pastored by Ouedraogo. Like Mr. Yanogo he is a Mossi, and has been a Christian since 1975. He, his

(left) Volunteers load grain at a church in Ouagadougou for transport to outlying churches.



wife and children are part of a 37-member extended family headed by his father Guebenda Kinda. The family farms a piece of land some eight kilometers from Totenga.

"Last year our family's harvest was only half the 1500 kilos it would have been ten years ago," says Prospère. Like the Yanogo family, they are reduced to eating only one meal a day—millet paste served with a sauce prepared from peanuts and sesame—and they're looking for other means of survival. "Some of us have been supplementing the family income by scavenging iron and other metal and making things like farm tools to sell," Prospère explains. Even though it is the hottest time of the year, Prospère has been spending hours by his smithy fire.

Because of the desperate needs of people like the Yanogos and the Kindas, earlier this year Upper Volta's Fédération d'Eglises et Missions Evangéliques (FEME) issued an urgent appeal to international agencies for food.

World Vision responded by providing \$155,000 for the purchase of grain and the transport of 1000 metric tons of grain donated by Men-

(above) Tiga Yanogo sits in front of the family compound with his six-year-old son Robert. (above, right) Issa Yanogo, Robert's mother, prepares a fire for cooking.

nonites. World Relief and CIDA (Canadian International Development Agency) are among the other agencies that helped to gather grain in North America to help meet the need.

The grain was shipped from North American ports to the west African port of Abidjan. When it arrived by rail in Ouagadougou in early June, Prospère Kinda and other volunteers were waiting to load the sacks onto trucks for transport to individual villages.

FEME arranged for the major distribution to take place the first week in July through 1200 church pastors throughout Upper Volta. Each pastor received 3.6 metric tons. Committees in each community supervised the distribution, helping to ensure that



Facts about Upper Volta

Upper Volta, which officially changed its name to Bourkina Fasso in August, is one of the ten poorest countries in the world. Per capita income is \$160 a year. Most of its 6.7 million people live in rural villages where they are engaged in agriculture. Urban population is nine percent.

Area: 106,000 square miles

Ethnic composition: 99.9 percent Negroid African; 1 percent European and other

Official language: French, but the dominant tribal language is More.

Chief commercial products: Livestock, peanuts, shea nut products, cotton

Religion: 75 percent animist, 20 percent Muslim, 5 percent Christian. Roman Catholicism was introduced in 1896, and fundamentalist missionary groups began work in 1926. Protestant denominations claim more than 25,000 members.

the food got to the most needy, both Christian and non-Christian. Recipients were requested to pay a greatly subsidized price, but those who could not afford to received free grain. The money collected was used to help meet in-country transportation costs.

"Love should not be just an emotional feeling," notes FEME Executive Secretary and project manager Samuel Yaméogo. "True witness to the gospel requires that you show your love in practical ways, so that people can see your Christian love in action." □

José María Blanch is communications manager for World Vision in Latin America. Terri Owens is a writer for World Vision International Communications.

Nine black Americans witness Africa's drought firsthand

LOVE RETURNS TO AFRICA

by Randy Miller

Over a small doorway in one of the thick fortress walls a sign is posted bearing the words: "The door of no return." No mere slogan, it represented a life of permanent exile for all who walked beneath it.

The ancient fortress, perched on the tiny island of Gorée, just off the Senegal coast at Dakar, was the perfect site for channeling slaves to North America. Geographically, it is the nearest point on Africa to the distant continent. During the heavy slave trading years from 1534 to 1848, 20 million black Africans exited the fortress through that small doorway to be herded aboard ships bound for North America—the land of no return.

But in June of 1984, nine black Americans did return to that fortress, symbolically, as the progeny of their ancestors forced from their homeland. They came—pastors, business people and journalists—not just to the island of Gorée to form a spiritual bond with their exiled forebears, but to the continent of Africa to see firsthand and document the suffering being endured by drought victims throughout the land.

The sojourn grew out of discussions between a Los Angeles television news station and leaders of the Black American Response to the African Crisis (BARAC). Working closely with World Vision, BARAC is a movement among black clergy, media representatives and entertainers that formed early this year to heighten the awareness of black Americans in regard to the African drought and resulting famine, and to raise funds

for the victims. Larry Carroll, a reporter for KABC TV News in Los Angeles, had become alarmed over reports of thousands dying and millions being seriously affected in other ways by the continent's drought. He knew he had to do something to help.

Upon learning of each others' interests, the two joined forces: Carroll to create a documentary on the drought's affects and those suffering from them; BARAC leaders to observe the situation for themselves and plan ways to stimulate concern in the United States. Appropriately, the name chosen for the documentary, and for BARAC's push to raise funds and the collective consciousness of black Americans, is "Love Returns."

"Our purpose in filming 'Love Returns' was to put flesh on some

It was an opportunity to connect some things that had been disconnected for hundreds of years."

bones for some people who have historic ancestral roots in a place that is suffering," said Carroll. "It was our intent to go to Africa and create a document that would, for the first time in our experience at least, show Africa through the eyes of black Americans. It was a family excursion. It was an opportunity to reconnect some things that had been discon-



nected for hundreds of years."

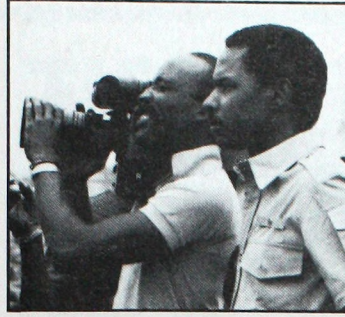
The Rev. Amos Brown of San Francisco's Third Baptist Church was a member of the fact-finding team. Echoing Carroll's claim that the trip provided an opportunity to reestablish cultural ties, Brown said, "This project represents brothers helping brothers. It is a step in the right direction. Africa is our homeland ethnically, culturally and historically, and we should honor it."

World Vision Ghana Field Director Philemon Quaye, who met with the travelers in Africa, said, "I am really thrilled to see the consciousness and awareness of black Americans. I would say you're just coming home."

Evidence of a deepening understanding among black Americans can be seen in the many fund-raising projects begun in churches and communities around the country. The Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Los Angeles has already begun 75 projects for the African crisis. Others rallying behind the cause at the grassroots level include Oakland's Allen Temple Baptist Church and the Third Baptist Church in San Francisco.



(below) KCBS camera operator Thomas Wright focuses on a subject as KABC reporter Larry Carroll looks on.



(upper left) Glandion Carney distributes corn and beans to drought victims in Senegal. (far right) The Rev. Chuck Singleton, (right) record producer Frank Wilson and (above) Gen. Ernest Bryant participate in a BARAC planning session at World Vision's Monrovia offices.

Part of the enthusiasm for "Love Returns" can be attributed to the vivid accounts of personal experiences shared by those who came face to face with African famine victims.

"The death of cattle—the carcasses I saw—as well as the helplessness of people, struck me at the bottom of my heart," said Ernest Bryant, retired U.S. Army general from Oakland. "It was sickening to

see these things, even though I'd heard of them. I'd seen photographs, slides and movies. But I just didn't think it could be true. I didn't think it could be that serious."

Record producer Frank Wilson felt a special bond with the Africans he met. "These are my people. They're black; I'm black. I wanted to throw my arms around all of them. Feeling that link was one of the most powerful things I experienced there. In the midst of all that hunger and devasta-

tion, I wanted to identify with their suffering. I wanted to say to them: 'I want to lend a helping hand. And I'm sure that we're going to learn some things from you as we tread this path together.'"

The BARAC journey to Africa represented a major step forward for the young organization. Conceived in the mind of Glandion Carney, World Vision's director of Christian leadership development for U.S. ministries, and nurtured through conversations with the Rev. Chuck Singleton of Fontana, California, and other Christian leaders, BARAC is experiencing rapid growth, due largely to the responsiveness of black Christians nationwide. The outcome is more than Carney had hoped for.

"We never anticipated that this would become a national movement," said Carney. "We just wanted to find some way to sensitize the black church to needs and concerns throughout the world."

Stressing that this new effort in no way decreases the concern for needs at home, Carney added, "It's because we're committed to Jesus Christ, who was committed to meeting both the spiritual and physical needs of people, that we are committed to our brothers and sisters in Africa. This in no way diminishes the black church's concern for social problems at home. In times past, the black church in America has rallied to the suffering of humanity and led the fight against injustice and discrimination."

Through the documentary and other special projects, BARAC hopes to raise three million dollars to channel to Africa through World Vision.

The nine travelers who embarked on this recent pilgrimage to Africa went to personally witness the desolation and suffering brought on by the drought. But what they came away with was more than they had expected to find.

"Although this was mostly a fact-finding mission," said Larry Carroll, "intended to reestablish the historic, cultural and spiritual links within a people, we found more than just facts. We found love, acceptance and hope." □

Confronted with the reality of suffering

ON MY FIRST VISIT TO ETHIOPIA . . .

by Steve Reynolds

I can't forget their faces. And I don't *want* to forget them.

Their oversized eyes. The old-man look in the face of a four-year-old child. The despair in the face of a mother who has already lost her three children to starvation. These images I carry with me. Perhaps for the rest of my life, I'll remember my

first trip to a World Vision project area—my first trip to Ethiopia.

It seemed as though Tanshane's eyes reflected all the suffering and human injustice in the world. Tanshane, one year old, has probably never had enough to eat. He lives in the southern Shewa region of Ethiopia. When I arrived he was sitting patiently on his father's lap waiting for a cup of dried skim milk or a handful of wheat from which his father would try to make a meal. It was as if he had given up all hope of ever being happy again.

I wanted to tell little Tanshane about other parts of the world where children laugh and play and eat candy until they get sick. But all I could do was watch him, take his picture, and hope that the supplementary food World Vision provided would be enough until his family could raise crops again.

My assignment seemed straightforward enough. Accompany a World Vision relief survey team into the drought-affected areas of Ethiopia and photograph the situation. But I wasn't prepared for what I was to see. How can anyone prepare for suffering

An old man too weak to work waits for food in Parsuma.

"Please don't forget about us," pled a field worker.

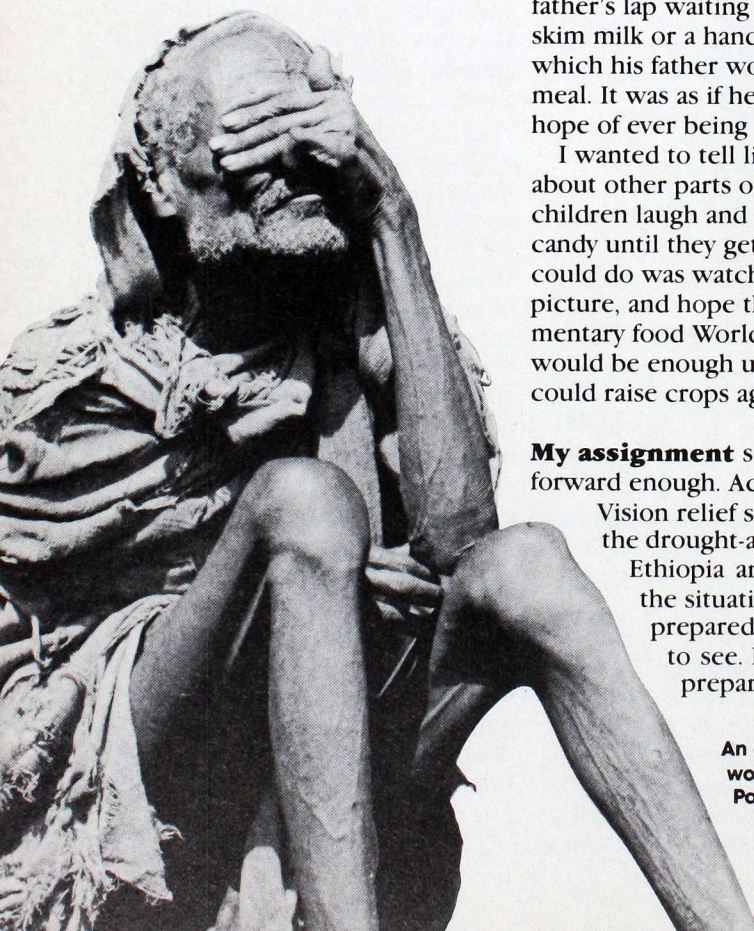
on such a large scale?

Our team arrived in the area on a Monday evening. Russ Kerr represented World Vision's Relief and Rehabilitation Division. There to document the situation along with me was Jacob Akol, World Vision's Africa regional communications director. Ian Curtis, from World Vision Australia, completed the team.

Our first task was to meet with Haile Michael, the local administrator for the Ethiopian Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC). His area of responsibility was the district called Kembata-Hadiya in the southern part of the Shewa region.

Mr. Michael (*Ato* Michael is the Ethiopian way to speak of him) began by welcoming us and thanking World Vision for the food grain which had already been delivered. He also thanked us for the soil and water conservation projects which were being carried out in that region with the help of World Vision funds. But as he began to brief us on the current conditions in his district, his smile faded into a look of grave concern.

"The problem," he said, "is the



lack of consistent rains." Then he began to quote statistics on the victims of the drought.

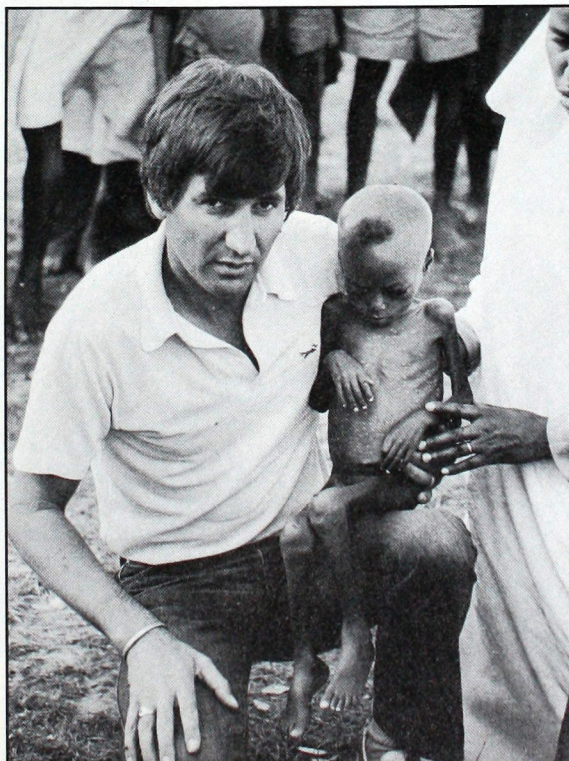
The statistics were hard to believe. "Three hundred thousand people affected in this district alone . . . hundreds have already starved to death . . . no decent crop in the last two years."

The staple foods of this area, he said, are maize and "inset." Inset is a type of fruit which is high in calories and low in protein. Local villagers call it "false banana" because of the plant's resemblance to a banana tree.

He went on to explain that there are two rainy seasons in Ethiopia. One, beginning in February, lasts for about two months. The second starts in May or June and lasts until September. "In normal years the people are barely able to gather enough food to get them through to



Waiting for food and medical care at the Bombe clinic and feeding center



(top) Mothers wait patiently for grain. (above) Little Tanshane, whose "eyes reflected all the suffering in the world." (left) Russ Kerr holds a child whose front bears scars left by her parents touching her skin with a hot needle. They believe this practice will thwart the evil of disease caused by malnutrition.

the next harvest," said Michael. "But when the rains fail, even for a short time, they go hungry; it's as simple as that."

The next day, as we drove to the first of five feeding centers we were to visit, I was amazed by how green and lush the Ethiopian countryside looked. There can't possibly be famine in a place like this, I thought.

Well, looks can be deceiving. I soon found out for myself *how* deceiving. An hour and a half of driving brought us to the village of

(right) Author Reynolds (left, in photo) and Russ Kerr review the site of their Ethiopia tour (circled area). (below) Sister Collete of the Catholic Mission, now supervising the feeding of more than 600 severely malnourished children, swears she has never seen anything like this drought and resulting famine in her 25 years in and around the village of Bombe.



Parsuma in the area called Omo Sheleke. Here I caught my first glimpse of real hunger.

Two RRC feeding centers stood within five miles of each other. At each feeding center were about 300 people, mostly women and children. As I walked among them I saw family after family sitting in the glaring sun. Some mothers had walked for hours carrying children too weak to walk

themselves. Most of the children were extremely emaciated, not much more than skeletons covered with skin. Their stomachs protruded grotesquely, signaling severe protein deficiency and worm infestation. Some of the children had skin infections that made them look like burn victims.

The sight, of course, was powerful.

Drought saps endurance from hundreds like this man in Parsuma.



"I was very impressed with this man's great sense of dignity and self-respect," author Reynolds remarked of this Ethiopian farmer in the southern Shewa region.



feeding center to feeding center, all of them critically under-staffed. Each center contained the same chronic problems: diarrhea, pneumonia, eye infections, worms, anemia, skin infection. In village after village the effects of malnutrition showed themselves in the lives least capable of fighting them.

Like a lion hunting its prey, malnutrition seeks out the weakest and most vulnerable of the group. In this case it was the children who were the most vulnerable. The younger the child, the more serious were the effects of malnutrition. Again and again I saw the frightened look in a parent's eyes. Mothers, fathers, grandparents were frightened not for their own lives but for the life of a child.

We continued on, leaving behind what we could: a smile, a word of encouragement, and a promise to

help . . . somehow. As we left, one of the RRC field workers, probably a volunteer, stopped Russ and said in his best English, "Please don't forget about us." Russ responded with a deep sincerity that we all shared, "We won't, my friend, we won't."

We spent the night in the town of Soddo in the area of Wolayita. There we met with the deputy director of the RRC in the Gamo Gofa region. He introduced himself simply as Ato Bishop. He had the tired look of an overburdened worker who had seen too much suffering. It was the same look that we had seen before in most of those who were close to the situation.

Ato Bishop was well prepared for our arrival. He had stayed up late the night before preparing for our brief-

A metal drum serves as a kettle for these workers preparing food for the seriously malnourished at Chakishone.

But the sound and the smell made it almost overwhelming.

My mind drifted back. I couldn't help thinking that all this looked very familiar to me. I remembered myself as a college student staying up late one night in my dorm watching a World Vision television special. There on the screen were these same emaciated bodies, these same skeleton-like limbs, these same distorted bellies, the same fly-infested faces.

"Great," I said to myself then, "Another famine in Africa. Just what we need on television." I turned off the TV in disgust and went to bed. Suddenly I was aware again of the

I couldn't help thinking that all this looked familiar to me.

scene around me. I couldn't turn this off and go to bed. I couldn't turn around and pretend it wasn't there. These children were now as real as my own niece or nephew.

The trip did not end there, though I wished later that it had. We continued over the pothole-covered road from town to town, from



ing. "Wolayita," he said, "comprises only three percent of the area of the Sidamo region, yet it contains 30 percent of the population." He explained that with more than one million people occupying 2343 square miles, Wolayita is the most densely populated area in Ethiopia.

Another outpouring of statistics followed. In all, about 400,000 people, mostly farmers, were severely affected by the drought. He showed us a map and broke the numbers down into groups and subgroups. "Two hundred fifty thousand up here, 150,000 down there, 100,000 over here." The numbers were staggering and almost totally void of meaning. But I knew that before the day was over, the numbers would have their meaning indelibly printed in my mind.

Again that day we saw hunger's victims—the young, the old, men, women, but mostly children. We visited three centers of which the worst was Chakashone in Northern Sidamo region.

Most of the crowds had left Chakashone when we arrived. Sister

Lines of concern crease the face of this man as he awaits food at a distribution center in Girara.



Good food and returning health have helped brighten the faces of these boys in Woyallita.

Margaret, a Catholic nun working there with a German relief organization, greeted us with a big Ethiopian smile. "This afternoon, nearly 500 people were here waiting for food," she told us. Then she showed us the shelter where nearly 150 families were living. "These are the worst cases," she explained, "the ones who are too weak to go back home."

I walked through the mass of people, mostly women and babies, trying my best to smile, bowing respectfully to those whose eyes met mine. They bowed in return, respectfully, also trying their best to smile.

As I was about to leave, I noticed a mother sitting near the door with her infant girl. The baby was healthy, or relatively so compared with those around us. I put my finger in her hand and she squeezed it. "A strong grip for such a little one," I said in English, knowing she didn't understand. Then the little girl smiled. It

was the biggest smile I'd seen in two days. It seemed to be the biggest smile in Ethiopia.

I smiled back at her, and for the first time since I had come to her country I felt a sense of

hope. Even here in this relief shelter, I thought, there is hope.

As we drove away, I prayed silently for the little girl with the big smile. I prayed for myself, too. I prayed that I would never lose that feeling of unity I shared with those people—the sense of compassion which compels one to act. And finally I prayed that the little girl with the big smile would never lose the look of hope in her eyes.

Hope for a future with enough food. □

To help supply food to hungry Africans before it is too late, please use the return envelope supplied with this magazine. Thank you!

Steve Reynolds is media producer for World Vision International Communications.



Finding water after a four-hour walk brings a smile to this girl's face.



A holiday to forget

THE DAY THE EARTH SLIPPED

by B.E. Fernando

It was a Sri Lankan holiday (May 22), and the entire family had finished their lunch together at home in a section of Matugama. For some, that was their last meal together! An unexpected earthslip wiped out of existence parts of several villages. At least 38 people lost their lives. Some were buried alive in their own homes. Thousands were rendered homeless. The dead



included the very old, the middle-aged, the young and infants. In one family four children died instantly. While the area had long been subject

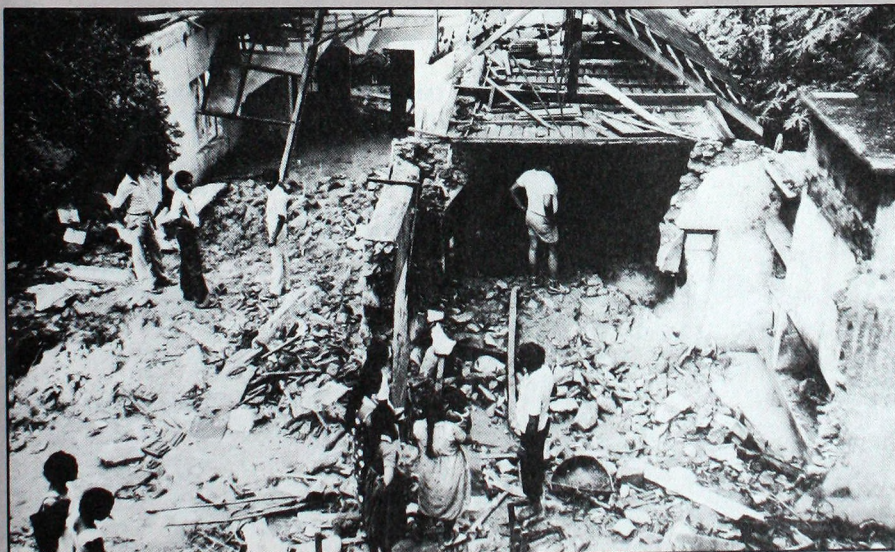
to floods, there were no records of earthslips previously.

The Sri Lankan government used its army for rescue operations and to recover dead bodies. Food assistance was also given to some, but others received none.

World Vision, with the knowledge of the area's government agent, sent seven workers and three vehicles with rice, dhal (a traditional high-protein vegetable food), flour, sugar, kitchen utensils, milk products for children, plates and clothing. The local rural development officer and the colonization officer assisted in the distribution after those in need were identified. One hundred thirty-two families were assisted, draining the field office's cash balance.

The money could not have been better used. Once again we were able to fill in the gaps in the government's program and save those who, but for us, would have received no other help. Once again we were reminded that this is the kind of action Jesus referred to in Matthew 25—and that these 132 families represented Jesus himself at that time. □

World Vision relief officers distribute utensils (above) and food (left) to earthslip victims in Matugama. (below) Relief officers survey damaged homes.



B.E. Fernando is World Vision's Sri Lanka field director.

A second chance for this drought-stricken family

CORN AND BEANS: INGREDIENTS OF HOPE

by Steve Woodworth



Teresa knew it would be a long day, and she knew she might come back with nothing. But she had to go even if the hope of getting food was small.

Teresa lives in a small village in the Kitui district of southeastern Kenya. For the last two seasons, rain simply has not fallen in her area. Crops have failed—people and livestock must walk miles for water. Many animals have died; the surviving animals are weak and emaciated.

Since her husband had left months earlier to look for employment, Teresa had grown desperate. She felt there was no hope left for her children, who had already become weaker and weaker.

But this day Teresa heard that food was being distributed in the village

(left) Teresa watches gratefully as corn is poured into her bag. (below) With five-month-old Makau nestled contentedly in her lap, Teresa patiently waits for food with other residents of her small village.





On her way to receive beans in the distribution shed

of Zombe, about three miles from her home.

She set out in the early morning to walk the three hot, dusty miles. In spite of her weakness brought on by prolonged hunger, she carried her five-month-old child, Makau. The other four children stayed home hoping their mother would return with food.

By the time Teresa arrived at the village, hundreds of men and women

I know it's because of God's love that you do this."

had gathered. She took her place with the others, finding shade under a tree. It was very hot, and everyone was obviously weak and tired.

Meanwhile, the World Vision workers and local church leaders were facing an agonizing choice. Twice as many people had come as expected. There was too little food to give each family the intended amount. Should they tell some of the people to wait until next week, when more food would be available? Or should they give everyone only half as much food?

Because food would be distributed the following week in other areas, they made the difficult decision to

send home empty-handed any of the people who had come from areas which would be reached the next week.

Remarkably, no one grumbled. Teresa and the others sat patiently, seeming to hope that some food would be left over after all. Even so, there were so many people from the immediate area that the food rations for each family had to be cut substantially.

While Teresa sat watching others emerge from the shelter with bags of corn and beans, she thought of the long walk back in the heat of the day. She thought of the children and what

she would tell them.

Just then, three project workers approached her. They wanted to talk to her about her situation. After they



Soon Makau's siblings will enjoy dinner, too.

learned of her children, they decided she would get food! Teresa's surprise and joy were immeasurable. There would be a good meal tonight for her and the five children! And for at least the next few days, they would eat.

As Teresa got in line to receive her beans and corn, she said that she thought World Vision and the church were doing a tremendous thing in giving food. "Without World Vision food, we would have no hope," she said. "I know it is because of God's love that you do this."

The Zombe Drought Relief Project began in January of this year to help 1500 starving families. In partnership with the African Inland Church and the Presbyterian Church of East Africa, World Vision of Kenya is attempting to assist those most in need. □

Steve Woodworth is World Vision's manager of television and pledge programs.

Holsting her bag filled with beans, Teresa knows her children will soon be fed.



People you're helping

Learning to read at 59

When she registered at World Vision's Adult Literacy Class in Haiti last year, Mme. Hortensia Sertil began fulfilling one of her lifelong dreams. She is learning to read. Orphaned at age ten, she lived in poverty and did not learn to read and write. As she became an adult she vowed to do whatever work she could to make sure her children attended school. Now she radiates motherly pride as she tells people that all her children can read.

Today, thanks to support from World Vision donors, the innovative Adult Literacy Class is providing new educational opportunities for people like Mme. Sertil who use the program while their children are looked after in day care facilities. Mme. Sertil belongs to a women's co-op at her local church, where she helps other women sell their handcrafts and passes on her new reading skills.

Starting with a bridge

Change is finally coming to the village of Lapaera in western Honduras. This isolated community has one grammar school (450 students), one evangelical church and 70 bars. The village suffers from high unemployment, malnutrition, alcoholism and the problems of unwed mothers. Needs include new sources of income, proper sewage disposal methods, improved housing, adult literacy, small bridges, better health care and nutrition.

When villagers learned that help was available, they requested it immediately. In partnership with the local church, World Vision donors are reaching out to assist the 3000 residents. Building a bridge to gain access to other communities is one of the first projects. Also starting are sewing classes and home improvement work on houses belonging to 15 of the poorest families.

Relief in Ethiopia

Fifty people were dying *each day* in a settlement of 200,000 famine victims near the town of Korem in Ethiopia's Welo region. That was the situation until last June. Since then, the daily death count has dropped to ten, thanks to the presence of medical personnel from two European voluntary agencies and food provided by the Ethiopian Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC).

In several drought-stricken areas of Ethiopia, World Vision is teaming up with the RRC as part of the African Drought Project. In the community of Latsa, some 20,000 drought victims are receiving medical attention and clothing. Five hundred children there are benefiting from an intensive therapeutic feeding program.

Farmers make progress together

The people of Gehandu in Tanzania have made great progress with the help provided by World Vision donors. Even though the drought has dried up a river that ran through the village, agricultural production has increased. Quality seeds along with insect powder they have received enable them to grow maize and beans. The powder is not harmful to human beings or to the soil.

As part of the program, a cooperative of 70 acres is owned by 510 families. The men work there three days each week, spending the rest of their time on three acres of privately owned land. Agricultural aid includes the planting of 1800 trees per year for five years, helping the villagers start to grow bananas, onions and vegetables, and providing them with more pigs and chickens.

Co-laboring

"Co-labor" describes the way men and women built a water system in Palugsha, Ecuador. It also describes the partnership between World Vision (which supplied needed materials and contributed to a revolving fund), the Indian Evangelical Association (which

Mme. Sertil practices her writing at the Adult Literacy Class.



Mini-message

DO YOU KNOW THE SAVIOR?

Not everyone who supports World Vision is certain about his or her relationship with God. Some hunger for such assurance but don't know how to approach God or the Savior He has sent.

For these, each issue of this magazine carries a brief instructive word from the Bible, along with an offer of further help for any who are seeking the Savior.

This month's word is a statement made by the Lord Jesus Christ Himself:

"I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me—just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep" (John 10:14, 15 NIV).

Coming to God, Jesus taught, involves recognizing one's sinfulness and claiming forgiveness and rebirth through His dying for us and His rising again.

If you are among those who long for a deep knowledge of the Savior Jesus Christ, we urge you to read, with open heart and open mind, the entire Gospel of John, and also to talk with a pastor or some other understanding Christian about your spiritual need.

We invite you also to write to WORLD VISION magazine, 919 W. Huntington Drive, Monrovia, CA 91016, for a free copy of the helpful little booklet called *Becoming a Christian*. □



Community members in Palugsha install pipe to bring well-water to homes. The women dig, and the men carry and install the pipes.

created cooperatives), and the Quichuas (who provided the labor).

"Co-labor" also describes the combined efforts of trained agricultural technicians and the people who are adapting the technology to their needs. The water system—along with improved food production, nutrition, sanitation and housing—is one of the impressive successes resulting from co-laboring and from learning new technology. Many homes in Palugsha benefit from this new water system.

Healing medicines and messages

A rehabilitation program in Sri Lanka recently played a major role in revitalizing several communities. World Vision donors helped finance the training of groups of 15 to 20 young people in basic health care through the Hospital Christian Fellowship. The young people also learned how to communicate the gospel to Buddhists and Hindus.

Carrying medicines, the volunteers went into the community to treat people where they live. In Badulla, two men and 13 women in the Assemblies of God church began the program. In less than six months 39 converts were baptized, and the previously antagonistic Buddhist public began commending the work of the church. The number of volunteers increased from 15 to 29. Even the local newspapers praised the program.

Please pray . . .

- **for crop-nourishing rains** in the still dry farmlands of Ethiopia, Senegal and 24 other African nations that have experienced prolonged drought.
- **for the African children** suffering malnourishment (and in many instances starvation) because of the famine caused in part by the drought.
- **for parents desperate** to feed their families but who are prevented from doing so both by the food shortage and their own weakness from hunger.
- **for the assistance efforts** of World Vision and other agencies motivated by Christ to do all they can to enable the famine victims to eat and to become able to care for their own future food needs.

Career opportunities

Is God calling you to work where your efforts will be directly related to saving lives and spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ? Consider joining the more than 500 employees in the Pasadena area who are helping to support World Vision's international ministries. Full-time salaried positions with good benefits are open in the following categories:

Administrative
Data processing
Finance
Public relations
Telemarketing
Travel counsel

For information please send your resume and a brief statement of your faith to the World Vision U.S. Employment Office, 919 W. Huntington Drive, Monrovia CA 91016.

Samaritan sampler

SOME WAYS PEOPLE ARE HELPING
OTHERS IN THE NAME OF CHRIST



Translator Wycliffe as played by Peter Howell in the Gateway film, "John Wycliffe: The Morning Star."

"Let Ethnic America Hear His Voice" is the theme set for a national convocation, April 15-18, 1985, to deal with evangelism among American Indians, Asians, Europeans, Hispanics, Middle Easterners, Caribbean Islanders and other ethnic groups living in the United States. The convocation will be called "Houston '85." For a free newsletter on the event and its purpose, phone Ken Moy at (818) 357-7979, or write him at P.O. Box 3137, Arcadia, CA 91006.

IIS, the Institute for International Studies, is helping students better understand world missions through an introductory course called "Perspectives on the World Christian Movement." Dedicated to motivating personal involvement, the course is offered for both graduate and undergraduate level credit. For more information contact IIS, U.S. Center for World Mission, 1605 Elizabeth St., Pasadena, CA 91104.

Go-Match, a service of the Overseas Counseling Service (OCS), helps Christians interested in becoming full-time lay missionaries find secular jobs overseas. The service provides personalized printouts of opportunities, detailed job descriptions, information on the countries, terms of commitment, salary ranges and specific job requirements. For more information contact Tentmaker Ministries, 1600 Elizabeth St., Pasadena, CA 91104.

Best Christian film of the year, according to CFDA (Christian Film Distributors Assn.) award judges, is *John Wycliffe: The Morning Star*

(by Gateway Films). The year's best missionary film, said the judges, is John Schmidt/Gospel Films' *The Greatest Story Never Told*. For information on renting these and other Christian films from distributors in your area, write CFDA, P.O. Box 10404, Phoenix, AZ 85064 or phone (602) 955-8910.

Medical care accessibility in the Two-Thirds World was the special concern of some 400 people who attended the tenth triennial International Convention on Missionary Medicine, at MAP International this summer. Participants aim to increase health care substantially in numerous poverty areas of the world before the 1987 convention. For information write MAP International, P.O. Box 50, Wheaton, IL 60189.

Christian colleges across America are identified in a free brochure describing the distinctives of a Christian liberal arts education on a campus which stresses Christ as the center of all life and learning. For a copy, write the Christian College Coalition, an association of approximately 70 member colleges, each regionally accredited and each committed to making the Christian faith relevant to academics and campus life. The Coalition's address is 1776 Massachusetts Avenue N.W., Washington, DC 20036. Ask for the brochure, "Have You Considered a Christian College?"

Bible school in Mozambique! A group of Mozambique churches has invited the Africa Inland Mission to help them reach some of the four million people in the northern part of that country. A first step toward this goal will be the opening of an evening Bible school in the city of Beira. The recent granting of freedom to conduct such a school is an apparent recognition by the Marxist government that religious freedom contributes to the well-being of the country. Approximately 30 percent of the 12.6 million population are professing Christians; 10 percent are Muslim.

The International Bible Society published six new Scripture translations in 1983, including five languages in Guatemala and one in the Philippines. In language groups that already had translations of portions of the Bible, the Bible Society made 13 more Scripture portions available for the first time, and published the first New Testament for four additional language groups. For more information write the International Bible Society, 144 Tices Lane, East Brunswick, NJ 08816.

Health and Development is a stimulating and informative newsletter on effective ministries with the poor in rural and other parts of the United States. You can receive it for the suggested voluntary contribution of \$5 or more to Christian Community Health Fellowship (affiliated with Voice of Calvary Ministries), Box 28, New Hebron, MS 39140.

"Waiting on the Outside," a Bridgework Theater drama that presents the burdens and struggles of prisoners' families, is now available on videotape. Based on the true story of a woman whose husband was imprisoned, it helps prisoners and their families work through their problems. The videotape may be rented in 1/2" or 3/4" VHS format for \$50 a week or purchased for \$200. To order, contact Bridgework Theater, 113 1/2 E. Lincoln, Goshen, IN 46526, or call (219) 534-1085.

Campus Crusade for Christ is proceeding with plans for its 1985 Worldwide Student Congress, which is designed to motivate and train students to reach the world for Christ. Some 100,000 students around the world will participate in evangelism and discipleship training using a massive satellite video hook-up. Further details are available from Campus Crusade, Arrowhead Springs, San Bernardino, CA 92414.

Jesus Then and Now, a new 12-part film series produced by Gateway Films, presents the person and gospel of Christ and His clear calling to discipleship. Through a variety of approaches (including drama, documentary, humor and interpretive dance), each 30-minute film also addresses modern issues in a direct and uncompromising way. A book edition and workbook are available for in-depth study. Rent either 16 mm or video cassette films for \$36 each from Gateway Films, Box 540, Worcester, PA 19490.

YOU CAN BE AN INTERNATIONAL INTERCESSOR

The greatest thing anyone can do for God and for man is *to pray*." So wrote the beloved Bible expositor S.D. Gordon, who added: "You can do more than pray *after* you have prayed, but you cannot do more than pray *until* you have prayed."

In January 1972, World Vision staff member Frank Ineson started for us what he then called "Global Prayer Associates." The name was later changed to "International Intercessors." This is a group of dedicated Christians whose prayer is united around concerns presented in our monthly newsletter titled "International Intercessors."

This prayer letter carries a profile of three different countries each month, indicating the particular needs in each country. Our intercessor partners are given seven prayer requests for each country, along with a variety of other requests, totaling one prayer burden for each day of the month. Additionally, each letter contains an inspirational article to stimulate prayer. Armin Gesswein, who contributed greatly to the Norwegian spiritual revival of the 1930s and has been a revival prayer leader ever since, writes many of the articles. Sometimes copy is gleaned from one of the great prayer leaders of the past.

It occurred to me that many who read this magazine may not know they can be a part of this body of special intercessors. All you need to do is write International Intercessors at World Vision and ask to be enrolled. You will receive the prayer material free of charge each month. There are now nearly 17,000 prayer partners enrolled, but there is need for thousands more. International

Intercessors Director Norval Hadley and his staff handle up to 1800 requests for back articles each year. Partly as a result of this ministry, thousands of prayer requests come to World Vision each year and are dealt with in one of our daily morning devotional groups.

In introducing International Intercessors in the March 1972 issue of this magazine, former World Vision

Seventeen thousand Christians are united in this powerful ministry.

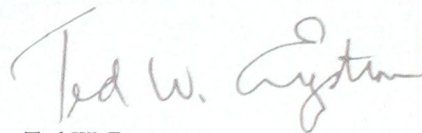
International President Stan Mooneyham wrote, "Two factors indicate to me that it is especially timely to launch this ministry: (1) We are seeing an increase in the number of people affected by disasters. These days could be the times prophesied by our Lord in the Olivet Discourse. (2) I also sense that the prayer life of many Christians is at a low ebb and in need of encouragement and challenge." These two factors still pertain. I cannot think of another time, at least in my ministry, with more turmoil and suffering in the world—due to both natural and human-caused disasters.

A recent prayer survey indicates that the average layperson spends four minutes a day in prayer; the average pastor spends seven minutes. Only one percent of husbands and wives have any meaningful prayer together. Yet, as Leonard Ravenhill writes, "Prayer is as vast as God because He is behind it. Prayer is as mighty as God because He has committed Himself to answer it."

Let me give you just one illustration of the power of prayer in the

experience of International Intercessors. In the July 1979 prayer letter we issued a special prayer alert for Southeast Asia's "boat people." Soon afterwards there was a conference on refugees in Geneva, Switzerland, and the eyes of the world began to focus more keenly on the plight of those desperate people. Then President Carter dispatched some U.S. Navy ships to help rescue the boat people. Neighboring nations quit towing them back out to sea. Airlifts began to bring larger numbers of them for processing into a new life in the United States. Land was made available where refugees could go while waiting to be received by friendly nations. And World Vision's ship *Seasweep* was able to provide life support for many while they waited. This, we believe, was in direct answer to the prayers of God's people, many of whom were encouraged to pray through our International Intercessors.

Since so much is accomplished for God by prayer, and so little without it, wouldn't you like to be an International Intercessor?



Ted W. Engstrom
President



This label is to be used on the enclosed envelope.

Say Merry Christmas to a Friend

...when you send your love to a hungry world.

Christmas isn't joyful for everyone.

Thousands and thousands will be starving this Christmas. Hungry children shivering in the cold. Whole families stricken with disease. Forgotten. Lonely. Helpless.

You see, there's a great gap between the love we share with our families and friends at home and the love we could share with a hungry world.

This Christmas, Dino, one of Christian music's outstanding artists, is helping World Vision bridge that gap. He has donated his time and talent to record an inspirational album with the London National Orchestra called *Great Is the Lord*.

For every \$20 donation you send to help care for hungry people through World Vision, you will receive a copy of *Great Is the Lord* to give to a friend as a special Christmas gift from you. You will also receive a card for your friend explaining how the album gift has helped share the spirit of Christmas with a hungry world.

Among the stirring favorites included in the album are "How Majestic Is Thy Name," "Holy, Holy, Holy," "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring/Fairest Lord Jesus," "How Great Thou Art" — all arranged by Ralph Carmichael.

This Christmas, let Dino and World Vision help you share Christ's love with a hungry world. To give *Great Is the Lord* to a friend, just fill in the attached coupon and mail it today with your contribution to World Vision.



YES... I want to help fight world hunger this Christmas... and give my friend(s) a copy of *Great Is the Lord*.

Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____. (One album or cassette for each \$20.)

Please send me: _____ Record(s) _____ Cassette(s)
Qty. Z71E20/Q Qty. Z71E20/7

Allow 6-8 weeks for delivery. Must be received by December 1 to assure Christmas delivery.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Mail today to: **WORLD VISION**, Box O, Pasadena, CA 91109