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Four Flats Correspondence

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FOUR FLATS NEWSLETTER

Written from Formosa
October 8, 1955

Dear Friends:

As we write our second Newsletter from this side of the ocean, we do so with a new sense of your importance in the task of world evangelization. Nearly every missionary agency we have encountered has been shamefully limited by lack of support from home.

The climax of our stay in Korea was the outdoor meeting of Korean Christians on South Mountain in Seoul. Newspapers estimated eighty thousand people attended, the largest Christian gathering in the history of Korea. At one time during the service the entire assemblage joined in unified, audible prayer--prayer for revival and the unification of Korea. This was a never-to-be-forgotten thrill to our hearts.

Highlights of our second stay in Japan were meetings at Numazu and Tokyo's Shimbashi railroad station. At Namazu, a city of 130,000 people with only 500 Christians, 1,500 attended our last night's service in the beautiful public hall. At least one third of the audience indicated a desire to take Christ as Saviour. Pray for these and the eleven pastors who have the major responsibility of followup. We had 14 services in schools, factories and hospitals during the three days in Numazu, in which many more responded to the Gospel. By the time we left Tokyo a number of letters from those desiring to learn more of Christianity had come to the Youth for Christ office, some of the letters from nurses.

At Shimbashi Station, where a million people pass through every day, we conducted two street meetings in succession, reaching an estimated 15,000 people of which 240 signed decision slips. Meetings like this could be held nearly every night if the nightly expense of \$20.00 were available.

Though we held several services for GI's and for high schools on Okinawa, the meeting we will remember most was in a small village just out of Naha. The crowd assembled as if from no where as we sang into the darkness at the intersection of two coral covered roads. The meeting was held in the town hall, a thatched roof hut, about 15 by 20 feet, with coal oil lamps. We all sat on the straw mat floor. About 50 to 75 young people crowded into the hut and the men stood around the outside. Few of them had ever heard of Jesus before, but nearly all the young people wanted to take Him into their hearts at the close of the service. The village chief also wanted to accept Christ.

Now for four days we have been holding meetings for the Friends Mission in Chiayi, Formosa, sponsored by Ohio Yearly Meeting of Friends. Speaking through two interpreters seemed a hindrance to us, but it was a thrill to see God honor His word as souls sought deliverance from sin and idolatry at every invitation.

We feel our responsibility in response to the privileges of these days is to urge all our Christian friends to do everything possible to further the spread of the Gospel to the lost masses of the world. Please continue to pray for this evangelistic tour. Also, the funds for the support of our families is not yet entirely raised. We know God will direct you to supply enough.

Gratefully yours,
The Four Flats
Harlow, Dick, Ron and Norv