

CACC

NEWSLETTER

November 15, 1981

Dear Friend,

GEORGE WESTCOTT M.D. 1903-1981

The phone rang about 9:00 p.m. Tuesday, October 27. The caller was Bob Westcott, son of Dr. George Westcott, who informed me that his father was sinking rapidly and that he was asking for me. I caught the next plane for Indianapolis, where George had been living since his return from Africa earlier this year, but my arrival there was too late. The earthly journey of George Westcott, M.D., terminated about noon on Wednesday, October 28. He was 77 years old.

Long-time supporters of the Crusade are familiar with the name, life and work of George Westcott. I will restate some of the facts. He was born in Lake Orion, Michigan on November 4, 1903. After graduating from the University of Michigan Medical School, he, with his wife Ellen, served for 12 years as a medical missionary in the country then known as the Belgian Congo. They returned to the U.S.A. because Ellen's health had deteriorated, accompanied by their three children--Anne, Bob and Charlotte. George established a surgical practice in Ypsilanti, Michigan and became a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons in 1948. After the death of his beloved wife, Ellen, he returned to Zaire in 1973 to become a flying surgeon in cooperation with the Missionary Aviation Fellowship and the Africa Inland Mission. Between 1973 and 1981, when his own cancerous illness forced his return to this country, he performed 8,200 operations.

These facts provide only a bare outline of a uniquely talented, generous, warmhearted, and courageous Christian individual. As I survey the harvest of friendships gathered in an itinerant life, I can remember few individuals whose personalities were such that my first meeting with them is stamped indelibly on my memory. Yet, I can remember meeting George Westcott as though it were yesterday. The year was 1953. I had just come from Australia and had formed the Christian Anti-Communism Crusade. I had been invited to speak at the Detroit Bible Institute. While I was speaking in one room, George was in another endeavoring to teach a class of prospective missionaries some of the elements of tropical medicine. He finished first and crept into the rear of the room to hear the conclusion of my message, lured, as he sometimes stated, by the report that a visitor from a distant land, possessing a strange accent, was discussing communism, which, in those days was a strange subject for a Bible College. He immediately grasped the relevance of Communism to Christianity. After the meeting we talked and found we were kindred spirits. He invited me to his home, and our lifelong friendship and association commenced.

I did not get to know him at that time. No one could learn to know him in one visit. His personality was like a mine in which the vein increased in richness and diversity with the depth. There were always new riches to be revealed. As the days went by, I discovered his musical talent which he had passed on to their children; his love of theoretical and practical science; his deep interest in biblical prophecy; his enjoyment of physical labor; and his remarkable generosity.

The poet, Robert Browning, asks the question: "What brain and hand went ever paired?" I reply, "The brain and hand of George Westcott." He was both an intellectual and a manual laborer. During his first missionary service in the Belgian Congo, he dammed a stream and built a small hydro-electric plant to provide electric power to hospital and homes. During his service in Zaire, he would intersperse surgical operations with stints of bricklaying.

The home of George and Ellen became my home away from home. They welcomed me into the bosom of their family. As I criss-crossed the Midwest, I always knew that a bed, the use of a car, and tender loving care awaited me in Ypsilanti, and I often took advantage of it.

George became Vice-President of the Christian Anti-Communism Crusade and served with his customary full

measure of devotion. Whenever the Crusade held an anticommunism school or an antisubversive seminar, he would arrange for cooperating doctors to care for his patients and attend at his own expense so that he could serve as our electronic technician and tape-record all the messages given. He sat, concentrated, listened, and adjusted various controls from 7:00 a.m. till 10:00 p.m. each day. On those rare occasions when he could not be present, we found it impossible to hire anyone to do what he did, no matter what they were paid. As a result of his service, the Crusade now has a treasuretrove of hundreds of recorded messages.

I was privileged to deliver the eulogy at his funeral service which was an occasion of inspiration and rejoicing tinged with sadness. The central theme was the message of St. Paul to Timothy: "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing." (II Timothy 4: 7 and 8) It is appropriate that his first grandson is named Timothy.

After the eulogy, inspirational messages were given by his son, Bob, and Pastor Cowie. His granddaughters, Kara and Marissa, played the violin beautifully. The service was recorded and a cassette tape will be sent gladly to any who request it.

George knew his death was drawing near, and he faced it with serenity and expectation but lost none of his zest for living. He was eager to be given time and hoped to be well enough to introduce his successor, Dr. Ken McMillan to the field. The following poem, *Prospice*, written by Robert Browning, reminds me of George and his attitude to life and death:

Fear death????to feel the fog in my throat,
The mist in my face, When the snows begin, and the blasts denote I am
nearing the place,

The power of the night, the press of the storm, The post of the foe;

Where he stands, the Arch Fear in a visible form, Yet the strong man must go;

For the journey is done and the summit attained, And the barriers fall,

Though a battle's to fight ere the guerdon be gained. The reward of it all.

I was ever a fighter, so??one fight more, The best and the last!

I would hate that death bandaged my eyes and forbore,

And bade me creep past,

No! let me taste the whole of it, fare like my peers The heroes of old,

Bear the brunt, in a minute pay glad life's arrears Of pain, darkness and cold.

For sudden the worst turns and the best to the brave The black minute's at end,

And the elements' rage, the fiend?voices that rave, Shall dwindle, shall blend, Shall change, shall become first a peace
out of pain, Then a light, then thy breast,

O thou soul of my soul! I shall clasp thee again, And with God be the rest!

The Westcott family has asked that memorial gifts be devoted to the support of his successor as Flying Surgeon, Dr. Ken McMillan. We will forward to Dr. McMillan any such gift you may choose to make.

Hospitality and Service in Taiwan

From October 9 ? 19, my wife and I were the guests of the Christian community of the Republic of China, based in Taiwan. We participated in the national celebration of the 70th anniversary of the founding of the Republic of China and attended the incomparable parade with its superb pageantry and display of military strength on October 10. I spoke at schools, churches, and mass rallies, and consulted with national leaders. The quality of the loving hospitality which we received defies description and the visit will remain as one of the most memorable experiences of our lives.

The Chinese Christian leaders translated the booklet, "Why I Am Against Communism," into Chinese and distributed it at the meetings. They suggested that this book should be printed with English on one page and Chinese on the facing page for distribution to the students and the youth of Taiwan. In this way, the desire of the students to learn English will be used to convey the anticommunist message. It is probable that some of the booklets would reach the mainland.

Two things are necessary for the fulfillment of this project: 1) Official permission, and 2) Financial support. The first is being sought, and I ask Crusade friends and supporters to provide the second.

Time and again I heard the refrain: "We are anticommunist, but we don't really understand communism." It is possible to suffer from communism without understanding it. One can be hit and mangled by an automobile without becoming an efficient automotive engineer. That requires study.

We should follow the Chinese example and print "Why I Am Against Communism" with English and Spanish on facing pages. Myriads of Spanish students are eager to learn English and would read the message if presented in such a form.

Anticommunist Seminars in the Philippines

Anticommunist seminars are currently being conducted by a combined Australian?American team in the Philippines. The Australian contingent consists of Dr. John Whitehall, a prominent pediatrician of Sydney; Elton Wilson, former director of the Australian Christian Anti?Communism Crusade; and Mrs. Betty Shearman, a retired school principal. They have been joined by Rev. James Colbert, Chairman and Director of Missions of the U . S. Christian Anti?Communism Crusade.

The majority of those attending the seminars, which are being held in Manila and Iloilo, will be Baptist Ministers. They will come to the cities by ferry from the numerous surrounding islands where they minister. The Crusade is providing the cost of transportation, food, and lodging for hundreds of pastors.

The Philippine Government is currently fighting two guerrilla wars. One is against the New Peoples Army (NPA), created and led by the communists, and the other against the Moro National Liberation Front, created and led by the Moslems. These pastors live in the areas where the guerrillas operate, and it often requires great courage to speak and act against communism.

The Escape From Vietnam of Pham?Dinh?Tan

Now we can tell it. Our Vietnamese colleague, Mr. Pham?Dinh?Tan, who published, translated, and distributed the book "You Can Trust the Communists (to be Communists)" in Vietnam, fell into communist hands when South Vietnam fell. He suffered hideously. Many Crusade friends contributed generously with the hope and prayer that he would be released. That hope and prayer has been granted and Pham?Dinh?Tan has now reached Brussels, Belgium, where he is with his son. He is very ill and will need three months rest to recover so he has not yet been able to send us details of his ordeal.

The Ministry of Death

Evidence continues to accumulate that communism is the ministry of death. A Japanese team has reported its estimate of the casualties caused by the "Great Cultural Revolution" on mainland China. After investigation, they concluded that 20 million were killed and the lives of 600 million were grievously disrupted. Let us compare these staggering figures with a few of the great tragedies that have afflicted mankind.

1. Since the escape of President Bani Sadr from Iran, nearly 2,000 opponents of the Khomeini regime have been

executed. We should and do condemn this appalling destruction of human life.

2. The dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima took 92,000 lives while that on Nagasaki took 40,000 lives.

3. The World Book Encyclopedia reports that about 6 million Jews were slaughtered by the Nazis during the Holocaust.

The slaughter during the Great Cultural Revolution in China dwarfs all these.

The facts about communist tyranny and terror were never so available, indisputable and repulsive. They must be shouted till they are known in every corner of the earth. For this purpose we are pleading for a Million-dollar Truth Fund. In relation to the danger and the need, this request is modest indeed.

Our prospects of reaching our goal at present appear bleak. A sacrificial gift can transform failure into success and gloom into joy. We need substantial gifts ranging from \$10,000 to \$1 in order to reach our goal of \$1 million by the end of this year. With your help, we will prevail.

With Christian love,

Fred Schwarz

P.S. Send for the Christmas cards, bumper and envelope stickers containing the messages:

THE COMMUNIST PLAN FOR THE CONQUEST OF THE U.S.A. IS: "EXTERNAL ENCIRCLEMENT, PLUS INTERNAL DEMORALIZATION, PLUS THERMONUCLEAR BLACKMAIL, LEAD TO PROGRESSIVE SURRENDER;" and "COMMUNISM BRINGS LESS FOOD, MORE FEAR??ASK THE POLES;" tape recorded messages and literature to: CHRISTIAN ANTI-COMMUNISM CRUSADE, P.O. BOX 890, LONG BEACH, CALIF. 90801