



NEWS —BY YOU!

Vol. 3, No. 1

D.O.

Edited by Maria & The Zs.



HAPPY FRUIT OF FF'ING!—Jason Thomas, 6 months old with his mom Suzy Sunshine in Portugal. Photo by Bezaleel Sunshine.

FF'ing News!

FLORENCE, ITALY: 30-year-old Jewish-American saved & filled & witnessing! While visiting Florence, Hodiah and I went to a bar at a first-class hotel. We speak no Italian and didn't really expect to be used in FF'ing on this short visit. But the Lord knew! A 30-year-old Jewish cloth designer from New

York came up and said "Hi!" because he heard us speak English. He had to leave after a few minutes, but met us the next night at a club where Jeremy Spencer and some other Family musicians were playing. Soon he was falling under Hodiah's spell! He came back home with us and spent the night

with Hodiah. Almost to our surprise, he got wonderfully saved that very night!

After three days with us, he was a completely changed man!—Praising the Lord, praying in Jesus' name on his own and trusting God for his future. He received the Holy Spirit and was so thrilled to return to the States to witness to his wife and friends.

Before he left, he told Hodiah that he wanted to help us and pulled out a hundred-dollar bill, which he had folded up in his wallet. He said, "I've been carrying this for years in case of emergency. It's my security. But now that I have Jesus, I don't need it anymore. Now I have the Lord for my security!" Here are some excerpts from his first letter to us upon returning home:

Dearest Kenaz & Hodiah, Hello! I love you and I miss you! I couldn't even begin to tell you how you've changed my life! Last night Wendy (his wife) and I went to a party and everybody noticed the change in me. I told Wendy all about you and our experiences together and with the Family and my awakening to Jesus—just one week ago today!

Wendy and I read together MO's Letter "Is Love Against the Law?". Wendy understood and agreed with the Letter, as I did, and as I told you she would. I see our lives just blossoming from this point on, and I have you to thank for it.—You and the Lord! God bless you!

I don't know what the future holds in store for us. But I feel we will always be together spiritually and that the love I feel cannot be

bounded by seas or skies, mountains or valleys. We are very close! Your presence lives inside me and your strength will give me strength. I know it! May God bless you and may you know that you carry my love and my blessings wherever you may go. Your brother, H.

—by Kenaz.

HONG KONG: Fish now changing his part of the world—in Finland!

We first met T. last August at the Hilton in Hong Kong. He was on his way back to Europe from Japan, where he had been showing the latest fashions from his company, a top fashion company in Europe. He returned to Hong Kong in early December, when I had a chance to really minister to him, and he received both my love and the Lord's and asked Jesus into his heart!

Before he left, we gave him lots of Letters to take with him, as he was anxious to share his new-found happiness with family and friends who would be gathered at his house for Christmas. Here is part of his first letter to us after returning to Finland:

Dear Ruthie, Esther, Ho and all,

God bless you! I miss you every day and pray for you! I feel every morning and every evening that my life has changed since I came from Hong Kong, and I feel so happy now. And even though I miss you, it is different now.

My wife is also very happy about me and we have never been so happy together before. The whole Christmas-time was fantastic! My brother was so glad when I gave him your books and when I told him

what happened to me.

I'm reading MO's book ("The Basic MO Letters") and it's the best and most exciting thing I ever read! Soon I go to Copenhagen and call the brothers and sisters there.

I have told about you to so many of my friends who have been having difficulties. And three of them prayed for the first time in their lives! Fantastic! I have no difficulties in praying anymore, and I pray for you so often. We are so close together in the Spirit of God's Love. My wife also sends her love. Thanks so much. I miss all of you constantly. Yours, T.

—by Ruthie Atlanta.

THE CONTINUING STORY OF JEANINE & JINETTE FRENCH!

(Two French ladies who first met our Family of Love while on vacation in Tenerife!—See "Island of Love" in the Family News, Vol. 1, No. 3.)

My dear little Marianne,

My son Jean Claude talked to Pearl at Colombes (a Paris Home), and she prayed with him, and she tells me that he is now saved! It is 11:00 at night now. Jean Claude, before going to bed, came to read me Revelation 21 and 22. Pearl asked him to read it. He was so transformed! We are going to go—the three of us—on Sunday (Jeanine, Jinette and Jean Claude) instead of only Jeanine and myself. He has opened the door of his heart to Jesus with Pearl! He has found so much warmth and love at Colombes, that it made him think a lot.

My dear Paul, We just came back from Colombes. Tonight my sister-

in-law received Jesus in her heart!

You were right, Paul, to tell me that with Jesus, it is the only love that will never fail me!—The more I believe, the happier I am in my heart. Love, Jinette.

TOP GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS REACHED AS RESULT OF FF'ING!

(country & names withheld for security)

It all began when one of our fish asked what he could do to help the Family. I began discussing with him how he could help us with public relations, as most of us were foreigners and we need good friends.

Immediately he asked if I wanted to go to a party that night where there would be many men who work directly with the President. Naturally, I said yes. So my wife and I and one of the national girls who has been FF'ing our friend, accompanied him to the President's summer retreat, where a party was being given by an assistant to the President who one of our girls has also been FF'ing!

All the people at the party, about 15 in all, were people who worked closely with the President. It was a casual affair, with kids running all over the place, husbands and wives, etc. I started talking to one man, who I found out later from our friend, would be the man who would take the President's place if he died. We got along great the whole evening and he wanted to let me know that I was at a very important gathering.

Everyone was dancing and acting crazy, so we just joined in and became one, which they really liked, as all eyes were definitely on us

and everyone was wondering who we were. I have never seen a group of people so important who were so sweet, humble and unpretentious. They really received us and accepted us, so much so that the party's host invited us to stay and play cards with them til 5 a.m.

The next day our friend took us back to the place and we spent the whole afternoon there. Our host was taking all the kids on motorcycle rides around the grounds. He took my wife for one, during which he told her that we were such kind people and how happy we were that we had come to visit them.

That afternoon, we met another man who is one of the President's chief counsellors and advisors. Our friend told us that he is one of the most important men in the country. I had a fantastic 45-minute conversation with him in which he told me a lot about the country's history, etc. Then he got around to asking me what I did. I told him I was

with the Children of God and asked him if he had ever heard about us. He said that he had and seemed pleased. This man and I got along very well, and I really felt that the time we spent together talking was very important and made an impression on him. Everyone invited us back and kept saying how happy they were that we had come.

I really believe that it is the beginning of something big, as we were received by these people as friends. We really have the faith that we are going to be able to reach and help the top of this country and Lord willing, even the President himself! Our friend is definitely an angel, and we never imagined that he would lead us into situations like this. Hallelujah! One thing that we saw is how much these people value human relationships. It seemed that this was the first and most important thing, not who you are or what you do! PTL!

Send in your FF news today!



For Brave Pioneers

**THUMBNAIL SKETCHES OF
INDONESIA & THAILAND**

INDONESIA

1. **Litnessing**: In actuality, no one is allowed to distribute literature, as there is an unwritten law that no public distribution of literature is allowed. They never tell you that it is impossible, but they tell you it must be registered here or there, with letters of permission from po-

lice, etc., all of which are not possible to obtain! This is all due to the political situation. Nevertheless, we have been getting out lit for the past three years anyway. Although we have had several encounters, once they realised we are Christians, they have just tolerated us doing it and left us alone. We have not distributed any political or sex Letters for this reason.

2. Legal problems: We have had several confrontations with officials here, but never any serious legal problems. During 1974 we stopped lit distribution for quite a while due to these confrontations, but started again in April, 1975 and have been going strong ever since. There have been small encounters from time to time and they know about us, have our lit on file in the major cities where we have Homes, but they seem to feel we are not harmful and to have decided to leave us alone and let us continue our work. TYJ!

3. Carrying money: Although there is no set amount, it is advisable to have at least \$200US upon entering. They seldom ask to see it.

4. Round trip tickets: It is best to have one, but again, they don't always ask to see it. Sometimes the Embassy where you obtain your visa will ask to see it before granting you a visa.

5. Visas: The best visa is a Visitor's Visa. This can be obtained most easily from the Indonesian Embassy in Singapore. It can be extended for up to 6 months. Often, they will try to give a Tourist Visa, which can normally be extended for up to 3 months. The other kind of visa,

which 7 of us have, is a Semi-Permanent Resident Visa. This is very, very difficult to obtain. One must be a specialist or technician in some field and be sponsored by either a company, registered organisation or a Department of the government to get one. There has to be guarantee of support and a lot of legal papers. The visa has to be extended once a year, and you don't have to leave the country to do it. It took us about a year to get all the necessary papers and work done to get these visas, and it has tightened up considerably since then.

6. System jobs: A system job is not presently needed as a cover. Being nicely dressed, clean shaven and with nice luggage and all the proper shots, visa, tickets, carry money, etc. is sufficient. If asked, the brethren usually would say they are a social worker, etc., coming for a visit to Indonesia.

7. Selah conditions: We do not mention COG when coming into the country, but once inside it is fine to say we are from "Anak-anak Tuhan" (COG), as we are either unknown by most people, or fairly well thought of by those who know us.

8. Liberal or conservative? Conservative. The right-wing, military-backed government is radically anti-communist and Indonesia is considered a non-bloc country, but they lean very much toward America and the West.

9. Religions: 90% Islam. 10% Christian, Buddhist and Hindu. There seems to be a good mutual tolerance and mutual respect among the different beliefs.

10. No. of brethren: 23 full-time adult disciples to reach a country of 140 million, so the personnel is not sufficient.

11. Attitude towards tourists: The people are fond of tourists and students, but they do not like hippie travellers at all.

12. Languages: National language is Bahasa Indonesia, which most everyone speaks. It is fairly easy to learn. Many of the older generation speak Dutch, as Indonesia is a former Dutch colony. The schools are emphasising English now, so many learn English, although most don't speak it well. There are also about 160 ethnic dialects spoken throughout the country.

13. FF'ing: In short, we believe FF'ing is the answer for our outreach here. We have won several catacombers and kings with FF'ing already. The cities with the most FF'ing potential are Jakarta and Bali. Jakarta is where the elite, ruling class is. We want to send an FF'ing team to the international tourist spot of Bali, as soon as we get the personnel and funds to do it. Both Jakarta and Bali have many night clubs, hotels, etc.

14. Political situation: At present, the political situation is rather tense, as it is election time and there have been student demonstrations throughout the country against the present President. After the elections in March, things should cool down considerably.

15. Climate: Tropical, with two seasons: hot & wet and hot & dry. Temperatures in Jakarta average between 79-81 degrees F year-round, with very high humidity.

16. Clothing needed: Nice looking lightweight clothing. We try to stay away from jeans and t-shirts for litnessing as much as possible and encourage all the brethren to dress nicely. A coat and tie is not really needed or practical for men, as the Indonesian Batik shirt is considered to be formal dress. Nice-looking accessories, such as shoes and bags, do wonders for your appearance.

17. Health conditions: The main precaution to be taken is to be careful about where you eat while out in the field. Small roadside vendors and stalls are not sanitary and should be avoided. In this tropical climate, it is important to get enough rest.—You might need an afternoon nap, especially pregnant moms. Frequent bathing and changing of clothes is important. It is advisable to bathe twice daily or whenever coming in from being outside for very long, to prevent skin and other infections.

18. Other considerations: Since this is a pioneer situation, life is not always easy, and adaptability is the best ability. Any family praying about coming, might want to get a childcare worker to come along, as it can be a lot of work sometimes with children. Also useful is to get a sponsor to help with the expenses entailed each 6 months in having to leave to extend visas. This amounts to about \$150US per person for tickets, visa and landing fee. This amount is difficult to raise just by litnessing, so an outside sponsor (parents, etc.) would really help.

(Compiled by Miriam Newlove)

(For clearance to Indonesia, please write to: Maria Campos, Apdo. 46131, Madrid, Spain. attn: Clearance. Your request will be forwarded for consideration. Please don't put COG or FOL anywhere on the envelope.)

THAILAND

1. Litnessing: It is illegal to print or distribute literature that has not been approved by the govt. But the distribution of "religious" material is generally accepted without much problem. We have found that by keeping a low profile and selective litnessing, we have had no trouble at all during the past two years, since we changed our tactics to litnessing either in offices, shops or door-to-door. Usually, public soliciting of donations is very much frowned upon by both the public and authorities. But people are very happy to give, if you can catch them in their office or at home. In summary, this low profile method has supported us and allowed us to continue in this very unstable country for over 4 years, distributing a total of over 800,000 MO Letters in Thai so far!

2. Legal problems: We have had almost no legal problems other than that of visas, which is a problem that every foreigner here faces. Four years ago we did have a legal investigation relating to the death of a reporter who wrote a very unfavorable article about us just before she was murdered. We were fully cleared by the police. This was about the only bad publicity we ever had. The only other problems resulted from police detention

of a few brethren for receiving donations in public for our lit.

3. Carrying money: We have never been required to show any money when entering the country, but it is advisable to have around \$250 US, since neighbouring countries (Malaysia) sometimes require it.

4. Round trip tickets are not required to enter the country.

5. Visas: The regulations are always changing. But in general, anyone coming to Thailand should try to obtain a "Non-Immigrant, triple entry visa" or, if not obtainable, a "tourist visa" would be quite ok. A tourist visa is good for 60-90 days including extensions. After this, you must leave and go to Malaysia. After one week, you can obtain a new tourist visa for Thailand and re-enter for another 60-90 days. "Resident" or "Immigrant" status is very difficult and expensive to obtain. But if a non-national girl marries a Thai man, she can become a national much easier, but this does not apply to men marrying Thai girls. When entering, avoid the shabby, hippie look—no backpacks, etc.

6. Housing: Apartments are around \$200-250 a month for 2 bedrooms. It may also require a deposit, so try to bring a good chunk of cash with you.

7. System jobs: Not really necessary as a cover yet, since the Family is still well accepted, although having a little job on the side can help a lot with family support or as a help in visas.

8. Selah conditions: We have always been known, even legally, as

COG, but under Dad's advice we have recently shifted over to the name "Family of Love", which the public seems to respond to better, rather than our former "religious" name.

9. Political climate: During the past 4 years, Thailand has had over 6 different governments and many more coup attempts. Right now, Thailand has military skirmishes on the borders of its four neighbouring countries, as well as its own internal boiling cauldron. So now, the attention of government, press and public is very much on these things rather than a few families teaching the love of Jesus. So, as long as we don't resemble any of their external enemies, we should be able to continue in peace with the Lord's work.

10. Religions: Thailand is about the most Buddhist country in the world. Only about 1/2 of 1% of the population is Christian. There are some Muslims in the south.

11. No. of brethren there: As of March 1, we had 18 live-in disciples including 10 nationals in 3 Homes.

12. Attitude toward tourists: One of Thailand's main sources of income is tourism. The doors are now wide open for them. Right now, Thailand and Germany have a tourist agreement that doesn't require a visa for a German to visit Thailand. There are almost daily chartered flights of Germans, about 90% of them men who come to enjoy the Bangkok nightlife and girls.

13. Languages: The main language is Thai, which is difficult to speak as it is a tonal language which

takes some practice to speak clearly.

14. FF'ing conditions: FF'ing has really exploded here with lots of it going on every night. Many kings, friends, helpers and souls have already been won! Those Thai men really like Western girls! And those little Thai girls didn't get their reputation for nothing! The fishin's fine for both girls and guys. Come and throw in your line!

15. Climate & health: Very hot and humid with very bad air pollution in Bangkok, so it may take your body some time to get used to it and also to the new diet. Don't drink any water out of a faucet, only boiled. Most eating stalls have drinkable water, as well as hotels. Wash your feet, hands and face as often as possible to avoid rashes or infections.

16. Clothing needed: Nice, light, casual or sport wear, plenty of shirts, as you may wear two or more different ones a day. Nice evening wear can be made here very cheaply for both guys and girls. Bring a good supply of toiletries, make-up, cologne, etc. Some baby needs are also hard to get. A warm sweater may be needed one or two days a year!—Ha!

There are 40 million people in Thailand and over 4 million of them are in Bangkok! Right now, with only 18 live-in disciples, we need your help! **For clearance to Thailand, please write:**

The Family of Love
GPO Box 19
Bangkok, Thailand
Love, Jamin Ammon.

FAMILY NEWS compiled, typed & layed out by Zebedee & Zorah Rabbit.

*A World Services Publication.