

8270 Denver Street
Ventura, California 93004
September 15, 1981

Dear Stephen,

It has come to my attention that you are now available to receive communications from your friends. Over the years we have received news concerning your welfare from various sources. I am very, very pleased that conditions have much improved for you. We thank the Almighty for this, and feel that our petitions have been answered. It is our understanding that you are now home with your wife. I would appreciate more information about you, your health, and the welfare of your family. What are you doing with your time these days? My reason for making these inquiries is the fact that I feel the same brotherly love toward you as I did when we knew each other during my residency in Tsingtao in 1945-46.

Let me tell you about myself. I am a high school (secondary) teacher. On January 30, 1949, I married Doris Rinell, the daughter of Oscar and Hellen Rinell of Kiaohsien, Perhaps you knew the Rinells. They were Swedish citizens. Doris and I dated in Tsingtao, and she worked in the Faber Hospital. She now is a registered nurse, working for a Christian physician. We have four children: two boys and two girls, all grown now. The older boy, Lennart, is thirty-one years old, engaged to be married, and lives near Amsterdam, The Netherlands. He is involved in Christian youth work. The younger boy, Carey, an automobile mechanic, is twenty-six years old, and is in charge of transportation at a Christian college in Los Angeles, California. Our older daughter, Meilynn (a Chinese name), is married to a computer scientist, who himself is a deacon in a Baptist church in Northern California. They have two boys, six and seven years old. Our younger daughter, Carolyn (Cookie), is married to a young man who works in the oil fields here. They have a lovely daughter who is nearly two years old and a baby boy who is just a couple of months old.

I went through college and seminary, and was a navy chaplain for over five years. While serving at sea, I visited Japan on numerous occasions, and also Hong Kong. Also I served on Taiwan for two years. Although I am now involved in public school education, I have been a principal and superintendent of a Christian school which included grades one through twelve.

I am still in contact with the family of Sgt. Earl Ireton, the director of music in Tsingtao who was killed in a train wreck shortly after leaving China. I visited his family only once many years ago, since they live near the east coast of the United States and I live on the west coast. He had a daughter, Sandra, who, with her husband and children, visited us here in California a few months ago. She is a lovely Christian woman, and sings in a professional Christian music group.

Years ago while studying at Wheaton College in Illinois, I met Dr. Bob Pierce shortly after he had spoken in Tsingtao. He told me many wonderful things about you and the work you were doing there. Your achievements and faithfulness has not gone unnoticed. "Well done, you good and faithful servant." Bob Pierce died of leukemia about three years ago. He had a great ministry, founding and directing a large Christian agency that cared for thousands of orphan children. He accomplished many other great things also, but always was a very humble man. The organization he founded is World Vision.

A lady whom you know visited us in Ventura about four years ago. Her name is Mary Wong. She knew you during the time Bob Pierce was in Tsingtao. She now is in charge of an organization that has Chinese Christian centers in Europe, and perhaps the United States too. Her headquarters is in London, England. *(MARY WONG WAS SAVED IN TAIPEI UNDER BOB PIERCE'S ORGANIZATION)*

Would you kindly convey my greetings to others I knew in Tsingtao, especially my dear friend Walter Wan, the music director, if he is still there.

If possible, I want very much to communicate with you. I have been faithful in remembering you in prayer ever since we parted, which was August of 1946. God bless you, my dear brother. Sincerely yours, "Budd" Bernard Holmquist

W. BENDONCE HIS FORTH "Budd" ...

8270 Denver Street
Ventura, CA 93004
January 22, 1986

Mrs. Mary Wang
4, Earlsfield
London, SW18 3DW
England

Dear Mrs. Wang:

A letter was received from Dr. Torrey Johnson, founder of Youth for Christ. He requested that I gather information about Youth for Christ as it existed in China and, more specifically, Tsingtao Youth for Christ. This information will be included with other documents about the Youth for Christ movement and placed in the Billy Graham Center at Wheaton College. Later this information is expected to be used in a book that is expected to be written about Youth for Christ. Since you were involved in Tsingtao Youth for Christ, would you kindly provide us with whatever information you can give.

When you visited us here a few years ago, you said that you were led to the Lord at a Youth for Christ meeting in Tsingtao under the ministry of Dr. Bob Pierce. Undoubtedly there is no one available who is better qualified to tell the story of Tsingtao Youth for Christ than yourself. Also it would be interesting to learn how Youth for Christ influenced your life.

Our elder son, Len, visited China last October and November, lecturing in Chinese universities for Apple Computer Company. Rev. Stephen Wang met him on the train at the station. Len was able to visit other Chinese friends, including my wife's best girl friend and Principal Wang of the Swedish Baptist school that was located at Kiaohsien. Principal Wang, who is over ninety years old, knew both my wife's father and grandfather. Stephen is very much back in the Lord's work. Len attended Sunday services at the old Christ (German Lutheran) Church, which has a Sunday attendance in excess of a thousand. He was able to visit Kiaohsien itself and met two dear friends of the Rinell family, Mr. and Mrs. Fong, both over ninety. Mr. Fong had been a teacher in the school.

Len had been doing Christian work in Europe for a number of years. Before that he had studied under Dr. Douglas Young at the American Institute of Holy Land Studies in Jerusalem and then obtained his M.A. in Old Testament and Hebrew at Wheaton. While visiting Len in Amsterdam, our son Carey and I stayed at your Chinese mission. I was quite ~~quite~~ proud of the fact that I had met Mary Wang.

I understand that you are acquainted with Alice (Rinell) Hermansson, who lives in Uppsala, Sweden. Lolli (Alice) and my wife, Doris, grew up together in Kiaohsien and are first cousins. We saw Lolli and her daughter Annli a year ago October in Säffle, Sweden. We were all there attending our son Carey's wedding. He is serving with Greater Europe Mission, but currently is spending a term at Letourneau College in Longview, Texas. I suppose you know that Lolli has lost both her husband, Ake, who was a professor at the university there, and her father, Rev. Egron Rinell.

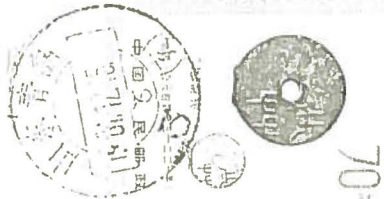
Doris expects to travel to Sweden this spring for her father's ninetyeth birthday. Both her father and mother (at eighty-seven) and doing quite well.

We are pleased that we are still on your mailing list. It is always a blessing to learn how the Lord is working through you and your mission.

"Bud" Sincerely yours,
Bernard Holmquist



Rev. Stephen Jang
 Tsingtao Christian Church
 15 Kiang Su Road
 Tsingtao China



Dear Bud,
 I have received your letter with
 thanks and joy, forty years just
 like yesterday.
 God bless you and the whole
 Church. please give my regards
 to Doris and your family.

Merry Christmas
 Happy New Year
 Stephen
 1944.12.15

Mr. + Mrs. Bernard Holmquist

8210 Denver street

Antona, California

U.S.A.



8270 Denver Street
Ventura, CA 93004
April 1, 1983

LEFT SAN DIEGO THE DAY

~~PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT DIED~~

Dear Oscar,

It was thirty-eight years ago today that I boarded a troop ship and left the port of San Diego, California, to sail for Guam, than landed on Okinawa on my birthday, May 27th, where I saw combat with the sixth Marine Division, then briefly back to Guam, and finally sailed to Tsingtao, China. I remained in China less than a year, but during that time I developed a lasting respect for the Chinese people, their culture, and their country. As you know, our home here in Ventura is filled with Chinese furniture and art. And, at least once a week we go to one of the many Chinese restaurants in town for Chinese food (Mandarin preferred). Most servicemen returned home with souvenirs, and I was the no exception. I was able to acquire the best China had to offer: a lovely Swedish bride.

My heart still is in China, although I know the day of foreign interference there is over. I personally think the Chinese are wise in their policy of controlling their foreign contacts. I am completely confident that they can do a far better job in running their own affairs than would be done with foreign intervention. Apparently the Chinese policy is one of accepting from the West what is good and what is applicable to their society, and rejecting Western ideas and ideals that are unacceptable. What complaint can anyone have with such a practical policy? We, in the West, want to offer assistance to our Chinese friends (considering China itself a friend), but we must accept China's prerogative of accepting what it wants and rejecting what it does not want. And where China does accept our assistance, it must be in the spirit of equals working together, brother to brother. China, too, has many things to offer the West. I am not only speaking of material items, but concepts from their rich cultural heritage.

I have heard reports that China is poor and, depending on how one looks at it, I suppose this is true. I have heard that China lacks medical expertise, and I suppose that it true too. I have heard that China is lacking in various technical skills, and apparently that is true also. But I do see many positive things in China. China is unified. There are not bandit armies overrunning the populous. All China is eating (and that is no little accomplishment for a billion people). I can remember a China that was starving and I can remember fine, respectable Chinese taking food out of the U.S. marine garbage cans. I understand China has an organized program of medical care, though not yet adequate to meet the needs of the people. But they do have medical care! When I entered China over thirty-seven years ago, most Chinese were just left to die. And who is to say that medicine in the West is so great? Sweden has had a brain-drain because it has not been able to hold its medical personnel. In the United States medical care is becoming too expensive for anyone but the very rich unless one is fortunate to have medical insurance (which is very expensive). But, most of all, the Chinese can now hold their heads high; they are respected by the world and, best of all, they have self-respect. This fact is not only true on mainland China, but among the Chinese the world-around. Say what we may choose to comment on the Chinese revolution and the things we have considered unacceptable about
(over)

it, China is in a better position today than it has been in hundreds of years. Besides, let's face it, it has been the Chinese people themselves who are the ones who have faced extremely difficult times. Yet, they have come through it; and done quite well at that, considering the fact they number a billion people.

I think friendly relations will increase as time passes. But we must be patient with each-other. And when China says, "No," we must accept their right to make their own decisions. We must respect China's laws even as we expect them to respect ours. I am speaking specifically of the smuggling of a million Bibles into South China. No matter how noble the intentions of those people were, they were breaking Chinese law. The United States would not stand for such a thing if China were to smuggle things into the States. I have spoken to many American Christians about that incident, and most thing it was a wrong thing to do (both pastors and laymen). As Christians, we above all people, should respect and keep the law. It is incidents like that that will cause distrust and suspicion between peoples and nations.

I am interested in becoming involved in something in relation to China. My thinking goes something like this: China is interested in obtaining technical expertise and technical books. My contacts and training relate to theological materials. Technical books include theological materials. Much in the area of theological materials is not worth bothering with. I would like to work through the official Chinese government to mail to Chinese pastors and theologians materials, but only materials they would request. It is understood that, due to the difference in our currency, they could not pay for this materials. But possibly I could approach churches to pick up the cost of this project. All this must be done legally, otherwise it would not be Christian in its methodology. As I understand the situation in China, I do not think the Chinese government is opposed to Christian technical materials. Christianity and the Bible teaches the support of the government powers that exist, and changes should be made by legal means. This is not to say that Christians always do the right things; they are human and subject to all the human frailties. But perhaps you will have opportunity to expose this idea of mine to some officials and pastors in China. I could obtain lists from publishers of books that are available, and they could choose what they want. But I believe we would have to have some sort of clearance from the Chinese government.

A few personal things. Please convey my greetings to Rev. Stephan Wang and other Chinese I know in Tsingtao. Tell Stephen I have phoned Mrs. Cherry Chang and we expect to attend her church this Sunday evening. Mrs. Chang's husband, now deceased, founded the Chinese Mandarin Baptist Church in Los Angeles. As for your books, some are on their way to Sweden, but it is doubtful they will arrive before you leave. But they will help you to write your reports about China for the Gothenberg newspaper and church periodicals (after you return to Sweden). Other books are ordered and will be mailed as soon as they arrive.

Many thanks; your book just arrived: "China, A Visual Adventure." Have not had a chance to do more than flip through its pages very briefly. We wish you a pleasant trip; our prayers go with you. Please express our good will to the Chinese people where ever you go.

Sincerely yours,

Bud '1
Bernard Holmquist