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Dear Floyd,

I received a letter from Dr. Torrey Johnson, founder of Youth for Christ. He asked me to gather information about Youth for Christ as it existed in China, especially Tsingtao. This information will be included with other written materials about Youth for Christ to be placed in the archives of the Billy Graham Center at Wheaton College.

Would it be possible for you to write about the things you remember concerning Youth for Christ in Tsingtao? What influence did Youth for Christ have upon your life and future ministry? How about the other sailors? Many of them did attend the Saturday night rallies. There were also several YFC Bible classes. I remember a few names of sailors: Raynard Wilson, Edgar Petty, and Herbert Colvin (the fantastic pianist). Three CB's were Raleigh Gordon, Darell Hall, and Richard King. I think the sailors were stationed aboard the Kermit Roosevelt. Unfortunately, I have lost contact with all of them. Eventually YFC was turned over to the Chinese Christians under the direction of a young pastor, Stephen Wang. Then we organized an English language YFC, which never became very large but did continue until troops were withdrawn from Tsingtao. Eugene Lee (who used to play the violine for YFC) became director. He now lives in Georgetown, Kentucky. Many months after Gene left for home, a navy chief, Clarence Rudd became director. I met Clarence by accident a few years ago. He lives here in Ventura where his family run several Christian book stores (in and around Ventura).

Shortly before the communists took over Tsingtao, the Chinese Youth for Christ apparently experienced a revival. Dr. Bob Pierce (founder of World Vision) told me that meetings continued night and day for some weeks. Loud speakers were installed so that the crowds outside could hear the Gospel. Bob Pierce visited Tsingtao Youth for Christ at that time with a Gospel team from YFC headquarters in Chicago. At the same time Billy Graham headed a YFC team to Europe (which included Dr. Bob Evans, founder of Greater Europe Mission). I think the above facts are accurate, but some details could be incorrect. At any rate, Rev. Stephen Wang was imprisoned for refusing to renounce his faith in Jesus Christ. Others did renounce their faith, namely the music director of YFC, my dear friend Walter Wan, and at least one other leader, Tommie Tong. I wonder what I would have done under the circum-

stances: It must be stated that many were sent to prison or gave up their lives because of their faith in Jesus Christ. We have a list of pastors and their wives from my father-in-law's mission (Swedish Baptist) who were shot. Stephen Wang spent twenty-seven years in communist jails, but never compromised. He was allowed to go home to his family only once a year for a week or two in the later years of his imprisonment.

Stephen met our son Len on the train at the Tsingtao station, and the two had good fellowship. Len had dinner with Stephen and Mrs. Wang at their small apartment. He is active in the Lord's work again and, ironically, is a bit of a celebrity. Both he and much of the present Chinese leadership had been imprisoned by "the gang-of-four," who are now out of power. Len attended the large former Christ German Lutheran Church, of which Stephen is one of the pastors. Over a thousand attend every Sunday. The Chinese pack the place and have services on Saturdays to accommodate the crowds.

I am assuming you have gotten through your pile of Christmas mail and have read our Christmas letter that tells about Len's business trip to China last October and November. He gave some twenty-eight lectures at Chinese universities, representing Apple Computer Company. He also delivered some choice books to appropriate places.

A bit about us here. Doris has quit her job of nursing. Says she has retired (at no retirement pay). We'll see! When she wants something I cannot provide, she could just go out of retirement temporarily. She has saved enough for a trip to Sweden next month (six to eight weeks) to help celebrate her father's ninetieth birthday. He still speaks at churches and seminars on the Far East, and writes for publication. Quite a guy! Doris's mother, at 87, is doing quite well, though her health is frail. Neither are senile. As for myself, my lot has been mostly supporting my two missionary sons. I have only twenty-two years in the California public school system, but could retire. It would be nice to return to Christian school administration. I have been teacher, counselor, principal, and superintendent of Christian schools. Most of my experience, however, is in the public school classroom. I am not really dissatisfied with my place in life. Under the circumstances, I think this is where the Lord wants me.

It was good to hear from you again at Christmas. Praise God that you, your wife, and your children are actively engaged in the Lord's work. I find pleasure in seeing your family living for the Lord and serving Him.

Sincerely yours,

"Bud"

Bernard Holmquist