

## The World Student's Conference for Victory Over Communism

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For the first time in history, students from around the world held a month-long international conference and seminar for Victory over Communism from April 22 through May 23 in Japan and Korea. Twenty-five students from ten nations visited 23 universities, conducted 2 conferences, 12 seminars, 7 rallies, 7 symposiums, reaching an estimated 15,000 people, not to mention national and international radio, television, and press coverage. These activities made a big impact, particularly in Korea, and laid the basis for an international ideological offensive against communism on campuses throughout the world.

The foreign students, all members of IFVC or sister organizations, responded sacrificially to the call of IFVC at their own expense. They numbered: ten from Japan; three from USA; two each from Free China, Holland, Germany, and United Kingdom; and one each from Austria, Canada, France, and Italy.

We gathered in Tokyo on April 23, and wasted no time in planning VOC activities. The next day we hit the streets of Tokyo, handing out leaflets and speaking from the tops of microbuses equipped with loudspeakers. The citizens of Tokyo were treated to speeches and shouts of "Kyosan shugi-wa machigatteiru -- Communism is wrong!" in ten different foreign accents.

On April 25, we participated in the VOC rally and demonstration held in Hibiya Public Hall. Distinguished speakers from Free China and Korea, as well as a junior member of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party of Japan, addressed the capacity crowd, estimated at over 3,000, which jammed the 2,500 seat auditorium. After the rally, more than 2,500 people marched through downtown Tokyo, holding banners, singing, shouting slogans for victory over Communism, and waving green flags and balloons, which is the official color of the VOC movement. The orderly ranks of marchers with their colorful banners stretched a full ten or fifteen city blocks; but not a word was mentioned about it in the press or television. Those of us who had run up against a biased media in our own countries saw that the leftist press is an international problem.

The next day, we visited four universities, talking with students and professors, and then on April 27, we gathered at the Liberal Democratic Party headquarters in Tokyo for the First World Student Conference. The delegates from China, France, Italy, Germany, Japan, Korea, England, and America gave reports on the situation on campuses in their own countries. We were struck by the similarities of student problems, particularly between Japan and the west, and were made more aware of the international nature of the Communist threat. We adopted a communique and resolution stressing the formation of an international student organization to promote world peace and unification. A steering committee was elected to organize it and prepare future meetings and exchanges in the near future.

We arrived in Seoul April 29 for the beginning of what was to be a whirlwind speaking tour of universities all across Korea. Our first event was a mass rally of 5,000 people at Seoul Citizen's Hall on May 1. Then we held a more extensive world student conference, under the auspices of Kon-Kuk University, sponsored by the Ministry of Education, WACL, IFVC and the "Collegiate Association for the Research of Principles" (CARP), a young organization, one of whose purposes is to mobilize scholars to develop and perfect a unifying ideology for the Free World.

We stayed at the youth hostel of Walker Hill, a famous resort just outside of Seoul. The conference itself was held on May 2 in the Cosmos Room of Walker Hill, equipped for simultaneous translation in six languages.

The keynote speech was given by Prof. Dong-Wook Shinn of Kon-Kuk University on the subject of "the Role of University Students in the Changing International Environment." After the lecture, we had free discussion on the main theme. The points raised during the discussion were: the need for an international ideological offensive against communism; the importance of unity between the United States and free Asian nations; and the need for an international peace-keeping force to replace the now-defunct UN. A committee was elected from among the Korean and foreign delegates to work out the final communique. After much lively discussion and good-humored debate, we adopted a communique which brought cheers of appreciation from the conferences. The main points were:

1. To begin research on a new ideology to overcome the contradiction between communism and Free World, and to create a harmonious world civilization for all Mankind;
2. To promote the Victory Over Communism movement all over the world and develop international exchanges and communication between universities on that basis;
3. To urge the formation of a cooperative system between all nations of the Free World, to end the tragedy of the divided nations and divided world;
4. To designate May 2 as "World Peace Day";
5. To spread this communique to all governments and relevant organizations, and;
6. To begin preparations for the next World Peace Day conference, to be held in Tokyo, Japan, on May 2, 1973.

After saying farewell to the Kon-Kuk officials and students, we began our marathon tour of Korean campuses. We stayed at the IFVC Training Center outside of Seoul, but often we found ourselves practically living out of our rickety touring bus. We visited 19 universities in as many days, holding a total of 23 meetings in six cities, namely Seoul, Cheungju, Taejon, Taegu, Jeonju, and Pusan. At some cities we would hold a seminar in the morning, a rally at noon and symposium in the evening.

Practically every meeting was jammed with enthusiastic students, and well supported by university and city officials. We learned to introduce ourselves in Korean, which was greeted alternately with gales of laughter or cheers of appreciation, depending upon our ability. After congratulatory addresses by student or university leaders, three or more foreign students would speak on the theme, or give a report of their activities; then a question and answer session, exchange of pennants and gifts. At the closing, we would sing a then few Korean songs we'd learned, among them a current pop tune called "Sarang Hae" (I love you) which always brought down the house.

We were all amazed by the high quality of Korean universities, and the energy and wholesomeness of Korean students. Korea is a developing nation with an ancient tradition of respect for scholarship, so education is a national passion in Korea. All of the universities had large, modern buildings and well-tended grounds; some were garden spots of spectacular beauty. Korean schools seemed to have escaped the malaise that infects practically all other campuses in Japan and the west. We felt it significant that the first major international student activity for world peace and unification began in Korea, because Korea holds the key to solving the moral and spiritual sickness that young people face every day in the "developed" countries. As our CARP leader said, "The Communists try to infiltrate their own students on campus, but our ideology is stronger." How different the world would be if we could say the same in the West!"

The foreign members left Korea on May 22nd, and held one final symposium at Tokyo University. However, six members stayed behind in Seoul: Lynne Doerfler and Hal McKenzie for two years, to work on international English language publications, and Joe Tulley from the US, Katharine Bell from Canada, John Price and Marjorie Hill from the United Kingdom are staying for two months, to study the Theory for Victory Over Communism to teach it in Europe and America. In this way, a permanent bond has been established between freedom fighters in Asia and throughout the world which will never be shaken, but grow and expand until the day of liberation for all mankind.

The other participants: Michel Beauvais from France, Klaus Werner and Rainer Look from West Germany, Rudolf Dangl from Austria, Franco Ravaglioli from Italy. Yaap van Rossum and Erik Jan van der Stok from Holland, Ai-Lei Cheng and Wen-Bao Wang from Free China, Kayo Inoue, Kazuko Yuge, Michioh Fujii, Masuo Ohe, Takefumi Miyagi, Yuji Yokoyama, Makoto Matui, Yasushi Ohonoya, Naoto Nishida, and Kazuyoshi Ikeno from Japan.