

October 2018

Dear Friends,



## 5 COMMUNIST REBEL COMMANDERS SURRENDER

Shocking, but true! Each of these hardened soldiers surrendered to Jesus and laid down their machine guns and AK47's because of God's power through AWR broadcasts!



*Duane and the AWR team prepare to visit the rebel villages in the mountains on the island of Mindoro in the Philippines.*

It has been more than 49 years since the insurgency began high in the island mountains of the Philippines. The Philippine army colonel who met with us relayed the horrific events that have occurred—a guerrilla-type warfare trapping the Philippine army in the thick dense jungle and on remote highways, massacring them. In turn, the residents of the guerrilla villages felt unsafe to be out in the open in case an army gunship (military helicopter) would catch them exposed on the mountainside and retaliate with their high-powered rifles.

The army colonel happily shared with us that they are so grateful for what AWR is doing because they are tired of the war, tired of being shot at and tired of killing their own people!

Almost a year and a half ago, AWR had ZERO outreach across these mountains, and now we are working in 88 villages.

Yes 88! We broadcast daily family life, and health and Bible prophecy messages on 10 radio stations across the coastal cities into the highest mountaintops 1-2 hours per day. And now, 15 months later, 88 villages have asked us to send Bible and medical workers to further teach them about Jesus and a new way of life.

These mountain natives have traditionally been pagans. We found out last month while visiting them that the communist leaders will only allow each family to have three children. If a fourth child is born, the child is immediately buried alive! Our Bible workers were able to save a newborn just before we got there. This is a culture where 13-year-old girls are given to marry, and men can pay 400 pesos to swap wives. These people need Jesus and His life-saving principles.

To arrive at the village is VERY difficult and can be treacherous. The day before we went in by mission helicopter, a group of 20 medical professionals were escorted to the drop-off zone by armed military soldiers for their assistance and safety. Just before they started their arduous climb, we gathered around and had a season of prayer.

They would hike up the side of the mountain for some 7-10 hours carrying their many medical supplies. Another 100 porters came from the mountains to bring in other supplies.

These young Philippine doctors and nurses were incredible. These determined men and women trekked up the mountain with heavy backpacks through knee-deep mud, over huge rocks, making their way through the thick jungle and forging mountain streams and rivers.

Once again, we were reminded of the importance of our medical professionals working alongside our Bible workers. Various villagers shared their testimonies of how their initial interest in Adventism was due to our radio broadcasts on health topics and Bible messages. Many of them suffer from a wide range of physical ailments so our health message piqued their curiosity.



Local volunteers, Bible workers and Philippine health workers combined efforts to transport supplies.



The villagers were excited to not only receive much-needed health care, but also to find out more about Bible truths.

It was an amazing site when our mission helicopter landed and villagers came running up the mountainside to greet us. As we entered the village, we witnessed the unfolding scene of how both health and gospel workers perfectly depict *AWR360° Broadcast to Baptism*. We can accomplish so much more when we “connect the dots”: AWR collaborating with Comprehensive Health Evangelism and Mission to the Cities. Adventist World Radio will use this strategic method next year as the General Conference focuses their outreach spotlight on India. Actually, I am traveling to Chennai, India, right now as I write this letter, to devise and orchestrate plans for next year.

As many of you are aware, I am also Elder Wilson’s assistant for **Total Member Involvement**. TMI is about involving everyone to work together to finish the Lord’s work, so Jesus can come. That is what *AWR360° Broadcast to Baptism* is all about!

As AWR supporters, you will be thrilled to learn that back in the valley of the coastal towns, there are 42 young adult Chinese from mainland China preaching their first Bible prophecy meetings—IN ENGLISH! Can you imagine that? After they witness the Holy Spirit working in tandem with their efforts, resulting in a mass baptism in the Philippines, they will return to China and lead out in evangelism there!







Filipino baptismal candidates—wearing red—lined the Mindoro beach waiting their turn to be baptized by the Chinese evangelists.

This is exactly what is needed! Thus, the Lord's work in China will charge forward more powerfully than ever before. One of these speakers just found out that the majority of his attendees hike more than 12 miles over rough terrain every night to reach his meeting place! He is overwhelmed with amazement and awe that God can use him to impact lives in this way.

Kathy and I were VERY excited when we met two beautiful young adult ladies who had just been baptized a few weeks before coming to the Philippines and now they were preaching their

first meetings. The evangelist who had led them to Jesus through a series of house meetings back in China was also there! You can't imagine the joy on her face when she introduced these two young "international evangelists" to us!

## A REBEL WITH A NEW CAUSE

Now back to the mountains, I must tell you about Efren.\* Get ready for this! A few weeks ago, this young man was an active communist rebel commander. He knew he was being watched carefully by the Philippine military, and he became increasingly concerned for his wife and three children. Providentially, one afternoon in the jungle, he tuned his radio to an AWR broadcast. Courage and hope welled up inside him from our Bible messages. He contacted our AWR broadcaster, Pastor Robert Dulay. Robert studied the Bible with Efren, then negotiated his surrender to our friend, the Philippine military colonel on the island. He laid down his AK47 in exchange for a Bible and for a new life in Christ. I had the wonderful privilege of baptizing Efren a few weeks ago in a small pool hidden high up in the mountains. He had surrendered his life to Jesus. He is now a soldier of the Cross!



Efren was a communist rebel fighter until he started listening to AWR broadcasts in his village. Today Efren fights the good fight of faith!

My friends, there is even more amazing news! Efren's witness inspired four other rebel communist generals to do the same, along with 60 other precious souls from their remote, isolated village. And about 200 more rebels will join their ex-rebel commanders and lay down their rifles and surrender to Jesus in the next few days!

Repeatedly I see how God cares for every human being tucked into the farthest corners of this earth, seemingly hidden out of sight—but not from God's loving gaze! This is why our Savior continues to

\*Efren is not his real name



reach the unreached through AWR! Just imagine: God sends AWR radio airwaves to find their way to His precious lost sheep!

Thank you for your support of our AWR broadcast and our AWR360° Broadcast to Baptism Projects. As our partnerships and projects continue to increase with Comprehensive Health Evangelism in hard-to-reach places like India next year and Papua New Guinea in 2020, we believe the Lord will supremely bless this work.

Please pray with us for more beautiful people of the Philippines to be reached with the plan of salvation.

Due to the powerful combination of broadcasting, evangelism, and health evangelism, we now have more than 5,749 new members!



*The Grand Chief of the mountain villages is baptized in the same remote pool where Duane baptized Efren, the rebel general.*



*Our AWR team and a few of the medical support team pause for a picture on the island of Mindoro.*

God has propelled us into 88 new villages! That means 88 new church buildings are desperately needed. Each costs about \$4,000 for the metal roofs. The resourceful villagers can build the rest out of trees from the forest. We also need immediate Bible workers for these 88 villages. They cost only \$100 per month.

Yes, for a life-changing gift of \$500 we can assist funding a new trade like farming for a former rebel baptized leader. When they are baptized their income from the communist community is completely cut off.

There are so many details I cannot share, but suffice it to say, we are in a warfare—a war against evil! But as they say in India, Jesus is the Winner Man and Satan is the loser man.

I am very excited to be on the winning side!

**This is what AWR360° Broadcast to Baptism is all about! Adventist World Radio broadcasts go where air goes, to reach people all around this “old ball of mud” for Jesus.**

We pray together, “Even so come Lord Jesus!”

Thank you for your support and for helping to make all of this possible!!

Yours in the Blessed Hope,

*Duane McKey*

Duane McKey  
President



#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

AWR staff salaries are paid by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and every dollar you give goes directly to AWR evangelistic projects worldwide!