

OUR TIMES

“For I trust to see you in my journey...” ROMANS 15:24

“Ambassador One” — airborne, cruising 18,000 feet above land at 345 miles per hour — a beautiful gold and sky-blue Convair 580. From the vantage of transportation, one realizes how easily God’s Word can move over the world today. Looking back, however, you realize traveling was not always so swift or efficient. In fact. . .

Acts 14:24–26:

And after they had passed throughout Pisidia, they came to Pamphylia. And when they had preached the word in Perga, they went down into Attalia: And thence sailed to Antioch, from whence they had been recommended to the grace of God for the work which they fulfilled.

In the first century Church, God’s Word spread from town to town and country to country by foot, by ship or by donkey. It was not until a few centuries later that—

1966 — Howard Allen, “Dr. Wierwille’s righthand man,” assumed the responsibility of escorting the President of The Way International from city to city in a ’64 Chevy truck with a 10-foot camper perched on top. “It included a sink, bathroom, bunk, table, closet, stove, refrigerator and sliding glass door,” Howard recalled, — “so he could hand me up a sandwich while I kept on driving.”

1972 — Dr. Wierwille’s travels expanded as did God’s Word in the hearts of believers around the world. He and Howard graduated to a 25-foot Banner motorcoach—a decided improvement with more space—which sported an air conditioner and generator. The following year they embarked on a seven-week tour in the motorcoach, stopped in almost every state and battled a nation-wide gas shortage by tacking an extra gas tank on back.

1975 — After much deliberation and consideration of the ministry’s needs, the Board of Trustees agreed to purchase a 40-foot custom coach, as well equipped for living as it was for traveling. On December 15, Howard Allen and Chuck Acker left Columbus, Ohio, driving the new blue and gold custom coach — with “God Bless You Abundantly” written in script lettering on the back — to Kansas City to rendezvous with Dr. Wierwille before moving on to The Way College of Emporia.

1976 — The Way International purchased its first airplane — a Rockwell Aero-Commander 685 — used to dispatch up to six passengers, usually International Staff members, to outlying areas of the ministry.

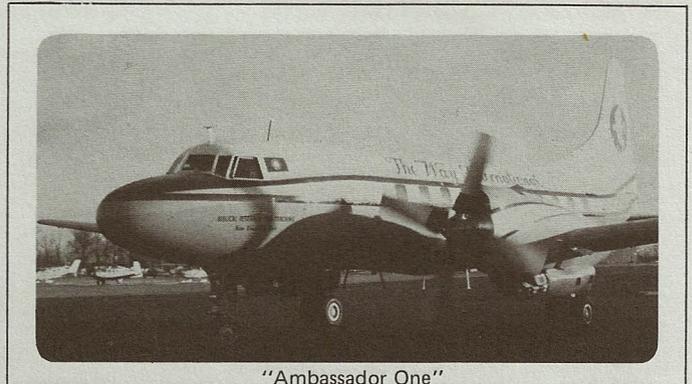
January 1977 — John Race, a believer from Michigan, joined The Way International Staff as our first full time pilot.

In the meantime, Word Over the World Ambassadors were moving God’s Word to outlying areas of the world. Graduates of Power For Abundant Living were now located in every state and more than 50 countries. Limb meetings and Regional Heartbeat Festivals — large gatherings of the saints — were held in widely scattered areas. Resident Way Corps members were spread between three teaching centers — New Knoxville, Ohio; Emporia, Kansas; and Rome City, Indiana. Leaders and teachers roved across the nation, and to brother and sister nations, to exhort and instruct God’s people.

December 1977 — “Ambassador One,” the Convair 580, with a Holy Spirit dove on its tail and John 10:10 written out on its

engine, arrived at its Dayton, Ohio airport hanger. Capable of transporting 21 passengers, “Ambassador One’s” fern green, antique gold and powder blue interior resembles in many ways that of the President’s custom coach. “This is what Orville and Wilbur invented the plane for,” observed John Race.

Stewardess Patty Heaney explained: “Acquiring a more spacious plane was inevitable as God’s Word moves over the world and travel becomes increasingly trans-continental. Dr. Wierwille’s time is at a premium. The less time he spends traveling, the more time he can spend with God’s people. Our people are the elite of the world,” Patty continued. “For Dr. Wierwille to fly on a commercial flight would be like taking a Greyhound bus instead of the President’s custom coach.”



“Ambassador One”

The invention that has helped to shrink the globe is now helping to shrink the traveling time for our leaders to visit and revisit believers in faraway places (one of the four keys to outreach that enabled the first century Church to flourish). One of “Ambassador One’s” added benefits is that when International Staff members fly to visit Limbs, Branches and Twigs, guests from those areas may be flown back to The Way International Headquarters to spend time at the Root of the ministry.

On January 15, following the conclusion of the Sunday evening service in the Biblical Research Center, Dr. Wierwille and companions were able to make a quick jaunt to Louisville, Kentucky where they spent two hours with local believers in fellowship before reboarding and returning home by midnight. Other such trips to cities within an hour’s flying time are planned for the future.

The use of “Ambassador One” and the President’s custom coach will be coordinated so that Dr. Wierwille may ride short distances or fly to destinations farther away than an overnight drive.

This recent autumn, by means of the custom coach alone, Dr. Wierwille made stops in Indiana, Colorado, Kansas, Illinois, Ohio, New Jersey, New York, Georgia and South Carolina. This spring and summer he will visit South America, Texas, California, Washington, Hawaii, Ireland, Colorado, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Kansas and Indiana.

“As Dr. Wierwille travels he acquires a spiritual overview of each area,” Chuck Acker explained. “He seems to know believers in each city at first encounter as well as if he had lived there with them for a year.” *Continued on page 29*

ORIENTALISMS

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Christian Quarter

Eastern cities have different quarters where people live according to their nation, religion or occupation. These quarters are named after the occupants, as "the Christian quarter," "the Jew's quarter," "the quarter of the water carriers" and the like. These people which had come from "every quarter" were set on causing trouble for the two messengers from God. These people had been inspired directly or indirectly by the Adversary to block God's salvation plan for Lot. *Genesis 19:5:*

And they called unto Lot, and said unto him, Where are the men which came in to thee this night? bring them out unto us, that we may know them.

The last part of this verse reveals the nefarious and wicked deeds anticipated by the mob outside Lot's home. Here the words "we may know them" indicates

the men of the city wanted to have homosexual relations with the messengers. Lot's response to these insane sex perverts is quite odd to the Western mind. *Genesis 19:6, 7, 8:*

And Lot went out at the door unto them, and shut the door after him, And said, I pray you, brethren, do not so wickedly.

Behold now, I have two daughters which have not known man; let me, I pray you, bring them out unto you, and do ye to them as is good in your eyes: only unto these men do nothing; for therefore came they under the shadow of my roof.

Protecting Guests

Lot offered his two virgin daughters to the vicious mob rather than break the Eastern custom of protecting guests in the home. The host is always willing to give up his life to protect guests in his home. This is fundamental to Oriental hospitality. Lot's faithfulness is rewarded

and he is saved from the wicked townspeople by the messengers as shown in verses 9 and 11. Later, Lot and his family are led away from Sodom just before the city is destroyed.

Oriental hospitality is based on serving God by serving others. As born-again believers it is our joy to be "especially" good to the household of faith. We need to minister to the needs of one another in the Body of Christ. We should do our utmost to be of service to one another in any way possible. By serving each other, God's love can abound in our lives. This is stated plainly for us in I John 4:19-21:

We love him, because he first loved us. If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.

Preaching Deliverance...

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baby. But I cut a little bit just to see how it felt. Then I looked up and said, 'God, don't you think you could give a little help?' I cut pretty far but only had to get stitches, and it was a good break from jail.

"Not long after that, I was standing in the yard talking to a black brother, and he told me about a Way meeting on Saturday morning. Well, I went, and I knew it was either everything I'd been looking for, or something that would look good to the parole board. They told me to get 20 guys and I could take the PFAL class. I brought everyone. I even brought a Devil worshipper. But we got the class.

"I sat on my bunk one night and thought about the verse, 'He sent his word and healed them. . . .' The words were clear in my mind, the thoughts weren't zipping around any more. Before, I could not talk without cussing. Then I started to be able to say whole sentences without using curse words. God said He'd heal me, and He did. He said He'd set me free, and that's what happened. I got released!"

Today Charlie lives and works in Ohio and is raising his family in freedom. His years in prison have become a thing of the past as he moves forward in the newness of life with Christ Jesus. He is one of many whom The Way International has reached with God's Word and helped free from spiritual and physical darkness.

A Believer Who Took The Time

Christmas morning 1977 in Dr. Victor Paul Wierwille's home started with a phone call. That first call on Christmas day was from an inmate in a correctional institution. What was his Christmas greeting? After nine years in prison, he was to be released in January. Why? Because of what God did for him through the Power for Abundant Living class and a believer who took the time to get involved with Correctional Outreach.

This year we have correctional work in over 30 states. The way to become involved or to learn more is to contact your Limb headquarters, addressing your questions to whomever is the Correctional Outreach coordinator for your city. Further questions may be addressed to Mr. Phil Yates, Correctional Outreach Department, The Way International Headquarters. You can learn how to open prison doors and set the captives free. Perhaps it's time to see what is available in your own community in this exciting form of the outreach of God's Word.

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Having watched many formal and informal meetings between Dr. Wierwille and his people, Howard and Chuck have seen how needs have been met simply as a result of the Man of God's presence. A few minutes in the same room with their "Father in the Word" may dispel a person's doubts or questions about the ministry and about Dr. Wierwille's genuine love for all of God's people.

"From the excitement generated at such meetings, we have seen an increase in abundant sharing as well as PFAL class registrations in those areas," Howard pointed out.

Concerning his extensive travels on behalf of the outreach of God's Word, Dr. Wierwille observed: "You don't bring the people to the mountain, you bring the mountain to the people. I never wanted to build a cathedral like those owned by other organizations because it is so much easier to take the knowledge of God's Word out to the people where they live. Out there I get to meet them and that's the greatest because they're God's best."

Acts 15:36:

And some days after Paul said unto Barnabas, Let us go again and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the Lord, and see how they do.

—Reporter: Cathy Port