**VOLUME 2** 



MIRACLES



**Duane McKey** 

# OLONGER REBELS

IT'S SHOCKING, BUT TRUE! FIVE hardened communist rebel soldiers surrendered to Jesus and laid down their machine guns and AK-47s because of God's power through AWR broadcasts!

It has been more than 49 years since the insurgence began high in the island mountains of the Philippines. The Philippine army colonel who met with us relayed horrific stories of times when guerillas had trapped the Philippine army in the thick, dense jungle, or on remote highways, then massacred the soldiers. In turn, residents in guerilla villages have lived in constant fear that anytime they step out into the open, military helicopters might 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!

Until early in 2017, AWR had zero outreach across these outlying mountains, and now we are working in 101 villages. Yes, 101! On a daily basis, one to two hours per day, we broadcast family life, health and Bible prophecy messages on 10 radio stations across the coastal cities and on the highest mountaintops. And now, 101 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 during a recent visit 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 forced to marry, and men can pay 400 Philippine pesos to swap wives. These people need Jesus and His life-saving principles.

Arriving 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 hiked up the side of the mountain for 7-10 hours, carrying their many medical supplies. Another 100 porters came from the mountains to bring in other supplies.

The young Philippine doctors and nurses were incredible. These determined men and women trekked up the mountain with heavy backpacks through knee-deep mud,



and 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 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.

It was an amazing sight 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."

### A REBEL WITH A NEW CAUSE

I must tell you about Efren.\* Get ready for this! A short while 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 AK-47 in exchange for a Bible and a new life in Christ. I had the wonderful privilege of baptizing Efren earlier this year in a small pool hidden high up in the mountains. He had surrendered his life to Jesus and he is now a solider of the Cross!

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

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 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.

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



Since God has propelled us into 101 new villages, that means 101 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 have an urgent need for Bible workers in these 101 villages.

And for a life-changing gift of \$500, we can assist funding a new trade like farming for a baptized former rebel 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 the midst of warfare—a war against evil! But as children around the world love to sing, 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!

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WHILE GROWING UP ON MY PARENTS' dairy farm in Oklahoma, I could always count on two things: hard work and my mother's prayers. My mother taught me the value of both. Even after I grew up and left home, I knew her prayers always followed me.

But years later, as a pastor with a family of my own, I still had one more lesson to learn from my mother about the power of prayer. It came from an experience I will never forget. It happened when Mother was 80 years old, just three years before my parents finally sold their dairy cows. I was home visiting for a few days, trying to help them with the heavy load of running the farm—something I did whenever I could. There was a little Jersey calf that



◆ A little Jersey calf very similar to the one on my parents' farm.

had been sick for days. Everything possible had been done to bring down the fever and stop her bloody stools, but now she lay immobile in her pen. The vet could do nothing more. Taking one look at the blood now staining the straw, he said, "This is a dead calf."

I agreed with him. If you've worked with cows on a farm, you know the signs. I'd had better calves than this one die in my arms. This calf was almost gone. She wouldn't last the night.

After my parents finished milking,

Mother called me to go inside the barn

with her and pray for the calf. I didn't want

to. Yes, I was a pastor, but I also knew farming—and this calf was dead. On the other hand, I wanted to be nice to my elderly mother who'd worked and prayed so hard all her life. So, without complaint, I followed her inside the barn.

Mom took the lead, but she didn't stand and pray. She knelt in the soiled, blood-stained pen and placed her hands on the head of the calf. She prayed with tears rolling down her cheeks, asking that God would perform a miracle and heal the calf!

I couldn't understand why this calf was so important. Mother had many other calves, so she didn't need this one. But the worst part of this sad situation was thinking how disappointed with God my poor mother would be when her prayer wasn't answered! I felt sick about it all evening.

The next morning, we got up early as usual. Mom asked me to get a bottle and go



feed the calf. I almost told her I was sure the calf was dead, but didn't want to speak discouragement and shake her faith. So I did as she asked.

I will never forget the sight that met my eyes as I approached the pen. The "dead" calf was standing up with her tail wagging, wanting her bottle!

Three years passed, and my parents decided to sell their cows. It was time to retire. At the sale, my father pointed to a beautiful Jersey cow. "See that cow?" he asked. "That's the calf Mom prayed for!"

## ◆ This is an actual photo of the "dead" calf, fully grown.

More years passed, and my mother was 92. I reminisced with my mother during a visit to the farm. She said, "Do you know why I prayed for that calf?"

"Sure," I replied, "you wanted to have another milk cow."

"Oh no," she said, "we had lots of cows. It wasn't that at all. The reason I prayed was because I wanted you, my son, to learn to believe in prayer."

Wow! That touched my heart. She wanted me—her preacher-missionary son—to believe in prayer! Her tears had not been for the sick calf as much as they had been for me to believe fully in the power of God.

My mother was a great influence in my life, and her lessons on faith—like the "dead" calf—shaped my ministry and enriched my prayer life. I praise God for praying mothers.

#### THE POWER BEHIND THE MINISTRY

This is why I love Adventist World Radio. It runs on prayers of faith and hard work—the two principles my mother taught me. Every day, the AWR staff gathers to pray, not only at our headquarters at the General Conference, but also around the world in our more than 1,000 radio stations and studios.

We pray for our listeners in hard-toreach countries—pleading that the Holy Spirit will touch their hearts—and He does!

We pray that doors will open for the preaching of the Gospel—and they do!

We pray that God will lead people to life-changing decisions for Jesus—and He does!

But we also pray over the thousands of letters we receive. People everywhere are hurting—struggling with health, family, economic and spiritual problems. Their needs often bring tears to our eyes. It is

our privilege to present these requests in prayer before God. His shoulders are broad enough to carry them all—and He does—just like He carried the needs of that little calf on my parents' farm so long ago.

And as we pray at AWR's headquarters, we also work. Incredible doors are opening right before our eyes. Things we were told could not be done, God is doing! Let me share just a few, because it's almost as if God is urging us to finish the work:

- We now have 40 new churches in Madagascar as a result of our AWR broadcasts—and are expanding!
- Within only a year's time, AWR is broadcasting on 26 new stations with many more in the pipeline.
- ➤ AWR is broadcasting in Tokyo, Japan, in preparation for a sweeping evangelistic series in many locations across that country—a first for Japan!

- Plans are underway to send 1,000 video projectors (one-third of which will be solar-powered) to Papua New Guinea. These tools will be critical in sharing the Good News with people across the country—including the mountains!
- ▶ A request has come in for 100,000 solar-powered radios to be shipped to the Middle East. We don't have funds for this right now, yet we are confident the Lord will provide a way—because He wants His work finished!
- ➤ During the next two years, AWR will assist with more than 45,000 evangelistic events across Africa, India, Japan and the Philippines, preparing the way with special AWR programming.

#### **UNIMAGINABLE!**

We could not have imagined any of these situations just a few years ago, but Jesus is coming soon! I recently read a quote from Ellen G.
White that hit home for me because it reaffirms the mission of AWR:

The third angel's message must go over the land, and awaken the people. . . . The light increases, and it shines out to all the nations of the earth. . . . It will be attended with great power, until its golden beams have fallen upon every tongue, every people and every nation upon the face of the whole earth. Let me ask you, what are you doing to prepare for this work? Are you building for eternity?

This angel represents the people that have this message to give to the world. Are you among that people? Do you really believe that this work in which we are engaged is truly the third angel's message? If so, then you understand that we have a mighty work to do, and that we ought to be about it. (Review & Herald, August 18, 1885)

Helping finish this "mighty work" is what AWR is all about. Our precious message is to reach every corner of the globe with the light of truth! But we cannot do it alone. We depend on your prayers and financial support. It is only as we work together that we can make a difference in countless lives for the kingdom of God.

My dear mother now rests in the blessed hope of the resurrection, as do so many before her. Yet they have passed on to us the torch of faith, and now they wait—waiting, as is all of heaven, for us to believe God's promises and finish the work. I want that to be very soon!

Thank you for joining us in this adventure of faith. Together, we can finish the work of saving souls for eternity!

# ADVENTIST WORLD RADIO





Duane McKey, D.Min. is president of Adventist World Radio. He has a passion for evangelism and soul-winning, which has been carried over into a new expanded vision for AWR with AWR360° Broadcast to Baptism. Duane has worked and organized Total Member Involvement/AWR360° projects and other major evangelistic projects on all inhabited continents, resulting in hundreds of thousands coming to know Jesus. His lifelong desire is to see the Lord's work finished so we can get

off this "old ball of mud" and go Home!

Duane grew up on a dairy farm in Oklahoma and met his wife, Kathy, at Union College in Lincoln, Nebraska. They have two wonderful married children and three grandsons.

Your tax-deductible support makes stories like these possible: <a href="mailto:awr.org/give">awr.org/give</a> Watch thrilling AWR360° Broadcast to Baptism videos: <a href="mailto:awr.org/videos">awr.org/videos</a>

