



OUR MISSION:

To assist in the development of Christian leaders in the armed forces of the world and in the establishment and growth of military Christian fellowships.

**MINISTERING TOGETHER IN CHRIST'S CALLING:
QUINQUENNIAL 2019 REPORT**



The ACCTS-hosted October gathering of military Christian leaders from 17 nations was not only a time of prayer and planning, but a “concentrated time of getting to know each other face-to-face, deepening relationships, and seeking God’s will for continued military ministry,” states Executive Director Phil Exner.

The leaders who gathered included the president and regional vice presidents of the Association of Military Christian Fellowships and leaders from ACCTS, Mission Support Organisation (South Korea), and Military Ministries International (UK).

The AMCF president and vice presidents reported that, since the 2014 Quinquennial, 16 new military

Christian fellowships (MCFs) have started because of the enthusiasm of indigenous believers. MCFs worldwide hosted 31 regional conferences which built up the spiritual health of their members, and they held 22 training events with AMCF partners (ACCTS, MMI, and MSO). MCFs, with the vice presidents’ involvement and encouragement, hosted 13 chaplain training courses, organized two regional retreats, and started one regional military Christian newspaper.

The vice presidents themselves traveled to 42 countries in order to minister to these military Christians and encourage MCF leaders. They carried out their ministries despite limited resources (all serve as volunteers only, without pay), political instabil

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ity, government laws limiting religious expression, and difficulty obtaining visas for some countries. Some of them have survived terrorist attacks in their lifetimes, and many have traveled in dangerous places in order to encourage military men and women.

“This gathering was about much more than just going through an agenda of things that needed to be discussed,” Phil Exner remarks. “While we heard wonderful stories of God working around the world and spent much time in prayer, seeking God’s will for future military ministry, on a deeper level you could sense what the Holy Spirit was doing: the Spirit was deepening personal relationships between all participants.”

“These military ministry leaders and their spouses were taking the time and effort to focus on each other as brothers and sisters in Christ. They saw each other, not as vice presidents or as high-ranking retired military leaders, but as people who love Jesus and who are all called to the common cause of making Christ known to military men and women around the world. So, although we had agenda items and plans to discuss, that was almost incidental to the underlying theme of fellowship. It reminded me

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Fellowship and discussion time

“We can only say, ‘Thank God for ACCTS.’ We personally got to know the ACCTS staff workers better and the Quinquennial brought together the long-awaited fellowship between the VPs, which I know has built lasting relationships... It is my prayer that the friendships and the camaraderie built during these gatherings will further strengthen and build the spirit of ‘All one in Jesus Christ’ for His glory.” -- Gen. (Ret.) Srilal Weerasooriya, AMCF President

Vice presidential discussions



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that the things we list as ministry goals actually become the by-products of fellowship. As we fellowship, and as we get to know each other and love each other in Christ, the outcome will be the very things that lead to more effective ministry and drawing more people to Christ. Jesus said that non-believers will know we are His disciples because of our love for one another. So, as we love each other and fellowship together, others are drawn to our work and our ministries and ultimately to Christ.



ACCTS staff Bob Reifsnnyder greeting the Cabrals

“As I think about the Quin-

quennial, Ephesians chapter three comes to mind,” Phil continues. “The Apostle Paul talks about the ‘mystery of Christ’ -- that ‘Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus

through the gospel.’ We get to be part of bringing to light what Paul calls ‘the mystery hidden for the ages.’ As I looked around the table where we were gathered in prayer and discussions, I was struck by how noteworthy our gathering was. There were military Christians from 17 nations there who embodied so many different backgrounds, with varied military careers, individual ministry goals, and unique family experiences. Some of them have faced challenges that are much harder than most of us have ever faced,

“The five-day Quinquennial was a powerful manifestation of what God is doing all around the world to bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the men and women of the uniformed services of all of the nations of the world. The fellowship with other military believers from 17 nations was a blessing beyond description. Praise His mighty and holy Name.” -- MGen (USA, Ret.) Clay Buckingham, former AMCF President



Nestor & Monsie Ogilvie (Grenada) & VP Terry (UK)

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including religious oppression. And yet there was a deep sense of a shared identity and brotherly love, because despite all our different life experiences, we had all experienced the same Christ. We'd all received a call to serve Him, and that call came from the same source: Christ."

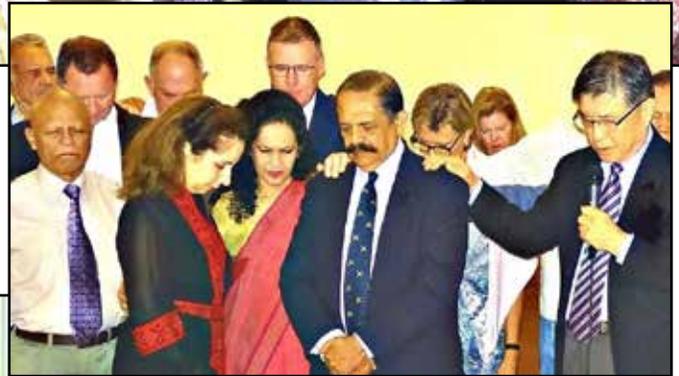
Thank you to all who prayed for this meeting and who financially helped ACCTS host it, including our two partner organizations – Mission Support Organisation in South Korea and Military Ministries International in the UK.

The Quinquennial was "such blessed time of praise and worship, fellowship, prayer walks, informal chit chat, discussions and times of prayer in a unity of spirit. It was indeed refreshing and strengthening of faith and trust in our good God." -- Comm. (Ret.) Saleem Mathew, South Asia VP

Primrose & Saleem Mathew (Pakistan) with Mike & Nicki Sue Terry (UK)



Gen. Lee (former AMCF president) & MSO director Gen. Yoon



Prayer for AMCF President Weerasooriya

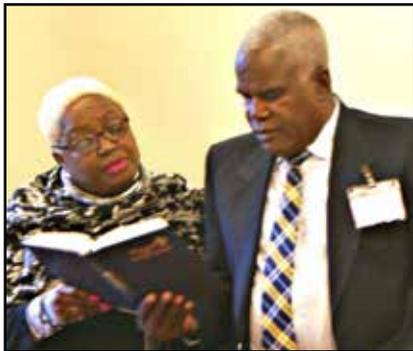


ACCTS director Phil Exner & Cabrals sharing phone call

QUINQUENNIAL 2019

AMCF President and Vice Presidents in Attendance:

AMCF President: General (Ret.) Srilal Weerasooriya (Sri Lanka)
French-speaking Africa VP: Colonel Daniel Njoya (Cameroon)
Southern Africa VP: Captain (Ret.) Peter Louwrens (South Africa)
West Africa VP: Group Capt. (Ret.) Sunday Igwe (Nigeria)
North America VP: Cdr (Ret.) Wilbert Kirton (Barbados)
Outgoing North America VP: LTC (ret.) Nestor Ogilvie (Grenada)
Central America VP: Colonel Jose Rodriguez (Honduras)
South America VP: Colonel (Ret.) Juan Cabral (Paraguay)
South Asia VP: Comm. (Ret.) Saleem Mathew (Pakistan)
South East Asia VP: MG (Ret.) Essel Soriano (Philippines)
East Asia VP: Lt. Col. (Ret.) Andrew Tzeng (Taiwan)
Outgoing North East Europe VP: Col. (Ret.) Torbjorn Bostrom (Sweden)
South Central Europe VP: Cdr. (Ret., Royal Navy) Mike Terry (UK)
Middle East VP: Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Isam Oumeish (Jordan)
Pacific Region VP: LtCol (Ret.) Jamie Van Heel (Australia)



VP & Mrs. Kirton (Barbados)

“...it was the reports in particular from the Vice Presidents who live in regions where there is not freedom of worship that impacted me most. Coming from a region where there is freedom of worship, I left the Conference encouraged and more committed to the realisation of the AMCF vision.”
--Cdr. (Ret.) Wilbert Kirton, North America VP



Prayer for new VP Tzeng of Taiwan



Jo van Heel, ACCTS staff Cheryl Kaltenbach, & Ann Bostrom

Give the Best Gift: Jesus

Christmas is a season to remember the gift that God gives us in Christ Jesus, and to share that redemption with others. At ACCTS, our mission is to share the news of Christ Jesus' sacrifice with the world's military men and women and help indigenous Christians do the same in their nations. Next year we have multiple ministry opportunities, such as International Chaplains Training in San Antonio; a strategic and important gathering of European military Christian fellowship leaders in Czech Republic; English language programs in Moldova, Mongolia and Ukraine; Interaction-Rocky Mountain High in Colorado; and battlefield tours for cadets and others. Would you consider a year-end gift to ACCTS to help us fund these and other strategically important ministries in 2020? You can mail a gift to PO Box 27239, Denver, CO 80227 or donate online at www.accts.org (Click the donate tab at top, and select your method of giving. Then, in the "Category & Funds" section, chose "ACCTS Fund."). If you have any questions, please give us a call at 303-985-8808. Thank you for your continued prayer for and support of ministry to military personnel in over 150 nations!

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Teaching and Service

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