FROM REV. FRED BAYLISS, the donor of the collection

“...we were fortunate to meet a number of the women whose husbands were or had been in prison and with two of the men very recently released. Most of them we had known when we were in Korea. The appreciation they expressed for the solidarity work we had done in Canada more than compensated for any effort we had expended.”

FROM MARION E. CURRENT, a member of the Monday Night Group and author of “A Tract of Our Times” in More than Witnesses: How a Small Group of Missionaries Aided Korea’s Democratic Revolution

“I signed letters and petitions for prisoners’ conscience and human rights... Many support materials were sent to the prisoners of conscience in my name on behalf of the Group.”

For more information, please contact Hana Kim, the Korea Studies Librarian at hn.kim@utoronto.ca or at (416) 978-1570.

Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library
University of Toronto Libraries
130 St. George St., 8th Floor, Rm 8049
Toronto, Ontario  MSS 1A5

Brochure created in November 2010
ABOUT THE COLLECTION

BACKGROUND
In 1994, Reverend Fred Bayliss of the United Church entrusted the University of Toronto with the care of thousands of primary documents relating to human rights campaigns in the Republic of Korea. He was involved in the Monday Night Group which was composed of missionaries who provided information about human rights abuses to foreign correspondents.

For more information, read:

Call Number: BV3462 .A1 M6 2006

CONTENTS
The collection consists of personal letters, newspaper reports, publications from human rights groups, photographs, records of U.S. Congressional hearings, and pages of Hansard from Canadian legislatures. The earliest document can be dated back to the late 1970s and to the latest one in 1992.

Many of the publishers were Protestant missionaries and Roman Catholic clergy who lived in South Korea during the era of dictatorships from 1970 to 1987. The documents contain their petitions to various Canadian and American politicians about violations of human rights in South Korea. The collection attests to their dedication to disseminate information about human rights record in South Korea.

FUNCTIONS OF THE COLLECTION

1) Documentation: the purpose of certain material is to document and describe human rights related events. The collection features materials, such as photographs from 1980 Kwangju Uprising, reports of fact-finding missions by Amnesty International, transcript of Soh Brothers’ trials, and a record of meetings between advocacy groups.

2) Advocacy: advocacy exerts pressure on human rights violators to comply with an international norm. The collection houses documents which are petition drives about U.S. President Ford’s visit to South Korea and death sentence of Kim Dae-jung in 1980. News reports of student demonstrations and March 1, 1976 declarations are also available.

3) Information Dissemination: many materials are created in order to raise awareness of human rights issues. The entire collection of Korea Fact Sheets shed light on human rights issues that were often ignored in the portrayal of South Korea in international media.

4) Networking: some documents trace the progress of coalition-building and grass-root movement about human rights. Internal communiqué published by religious organizations intensified interaction between concerned citizens outside South Korea.

NOTABLE ARCHIVE CONTENTS

- Canadian Contributions
  - Canada Asia Currents
  - Submission to the Canadian Ambassador of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights
  - Report of the Canadian Council of Churches Delegation to North Korea

- Newspapers
  - Minjoong Sinmoon (민중 신문 / Minjung sinmun)
  - The New Korea Times (뉴 코리아 타임즈 / Nyu K’oria t’aimsū)

- Newsletters
  - Washington Notes
  - Korea Scope
  - AMPO: Japan-Asia
  - Korea Fact Sheets
  - Asian Rights Advocate
  - Japan Christian Activity News (JCAN)
  - Minju Tonggi (민주 동기 / Minju tonggi)

ACCESS CONDITIONS
The University of Toronto faculty, students, and researchers engaged in scholarly or publication projects may access the entire collection at Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library. The public may also obtain permission to browse the materials upon request. When the online database becomes available, users may search by the subject topic, keywords of names and events, document type, language, publication year (subject time period), title of the publication, publisher, and periodical title.