



ACCTS *in action*

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.

THE UNCOMFORTABLE TOPIC

Col. (USMC, Ret.) Phil Exner

Giving is such an uncomfortable topic for most of us that one of my former pastors even made it a point that he preached about giving just once a year. But Jesus talked about money and stewardship more than nearly any other subject. So, having just passed ten years as ACCTS' executive director, I figure it's time for me to finally address the subject.

For almost fifty years, God has used ACCTS' financial supporters to reach the world for Christ through Christians in other countries' military forces. Thanks to our generous donors, ACCTS engages in many diverse ministries that disciple, equip, and encourage military Christian leaders and build strong military Christian fellowships (MCFs) around the world. Since ACCTS' founding, the number of countries with MCFs has grown from about 12 to more than 150. Recently, COVID has validated ACCTS' unique approach as national and regional MCFs have continued to minister and grow despite travel restrictions that would have stunted conventional ministry that relied solely on U.S.-based ministry.

We are extremely grateful to all those who are vital partners with us through their continued financial support that has made this possible.

As we move into the next half-century, ACCTS is adapting to many significant changes in the military ministry environment. Spiritual warfare has intensified, with opposition to Christianity more varied, open, and widespread, yet we also see new oppor-



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tunities for outreach and growth that we can exploit.

One key area where additional financial support would greatly expand our impact is increased use of international military as ACCTS staff members.

In the beginning, ACCTS relied chiefly on retired U.S. military as staff members who raised their own support through friends and their local churches. But over the years, ACCTS has worked with an ever-increasing number of courageous, committed, and mature military Christians in every region of the world. Many of these heroes of the faith who first encountered ACCTS as cadets or junior officers have risen to positions of authority and influence.

Thanks to the testimony of lives that integrate their faith and military calling, these brothers and sisters in Christ are able to reach their fellow military members much more quickly and effectively than someone from another country. They don't need to relocate to a foreign country or learn its language, customs, and laws, as traditional missionaries do. They have earned professional rank and respect and developed abundant military contacts, close personal relationships, physical access, and cultural understanding that would take a missionary from the U.S. a lifetime to develop.

Therefore, as we move into the future, we are prayerfully planning to bring more indigenous military Christian leaders onto ACCTS staff. Where we have done this in the past, our indigenous ACCTS staff members have had a tremendous impact within their entire regions at a fraction of the cost of U.S. based staff.

We have already identified several MCF leaders in Latin America, Europe, and Asia who have been instrumental in building up MCFs in their regions.

These military Christians often live on miniscule salaries or pensions, and most other cultures do not have the same tradition that exists in the U.S. of providing financial support to missionaries. Therefore, they will need financial support to cover some living and ministry expenses. Would you please consider joining us in



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regular giving to support these uniformed brothers and sisters in faith as they live out their calling to share Christ as military professionals?

In 2022 ACCTS will celebrate its first 50 years and prayerfully prepare for the next 50. **I thank you who share our vision and support ACCTS' ministry financially, and invite all those who see how God can use strategically placed military leaders to start giving regularly so that ACCTS can support and encourage more indigenous military Christian leaders and young Christians in their outreach to their fellow country's military and families.** Whether you can increase your current donation or begin donating to our international military ministry, we believe God will use your gift to make ACCTS' next 50 years a period of tremendous growth.

Serving Our Ever-Faithful Savior,



Philip J. Exner
Col, USMC (Ret)



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– Executive Director Phil Exner

How to Donate:

1. Autopay through your bank. Go to your bank's website or go in person to set up monthly automatic payments to ACCTS at PO Box 27239 Denver CO 80227. Choose the amount, date, and frequency of your donation, on the memo line add the ministry you would like to support. This is the most cost-efficient for ACCTS and time-saving for donors.
2. Donate by electronic fund transfer by going to www.aplos.com/aws/give/ACCTS/donate and filling out the form. This allows funds to be transferred from your bank to ours on the dates and in the amount you choose. Your bank will not charge you for this service.
3. Mail in a check to ACCTS, PO Box 27239, Denver, CO 80227-0239.
4. Talk to your financial advisor about contributing stocks or mutual funds to ACCTS.
5. Include ACCTS in your will – your pre-planned estate giving can have an enormous impact on international military ministry.

"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."

Galatians 6:2



Join the ACCTS Minutemen!

ACCTS' Minuteman program allows you to help with international, and sometimes unexpected, ministry needs as they arise. We often get requests from indigenous military Christian fellowships for immediate ministry needs but don't have the funds to help. When these needs arise, ACCTS Minutemen have pledged to help by sending in \$50 toward the need (and ACCTS pledges to ask for Minuteman donations no more than four times a year).

Minuteman requests in the past have helped fund specific and urgent needs of military Christian fellowships, ACCTS in-office needs such as updated computers, military families in need of food assistance, and travel needed by staff when an unexpected ministry opportunity presents itself. Would you join us? Please email us at accts@accts.org or call us at 303-985-8808 to let us know you'll join this important ministry program!



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Teaching and Service

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A higher purpose.*