

'Sunny,' The Korean Girl, Promotes Friendly Relations

By FAY O'CONNOR

The United Nations on a local scale was the recent visit of Sunja Im (pronounced "Em") in Klamath Falls.

"Sunny," as she became known shortly after arriving in the United States, is trying in her own way to promote friendly relations between her home country, Korea, and her temporary home, America. Her hope for a world united in peace is the hope of all—and her aspirations encourage the faith of all.

Sunny is well named. Her attractive, ever-ready smile is matched by a truly sunny personality. The glow is increased by her personal achievements: she dances, sings, plays tennis and basketball and sews many of her own clothes. Her life's endeavor is to be educated in the U.S. to go back to Korea and teach, especially children in rural communities.

Sunny formerly lived in Seoul with her retired banker father, her mother, an older sister and brother and three younger brothers. With the first Red invasion the family fled and took refuge in Pusan. By now they are probably moving back to Seoul.

In August of 1950, however, her father and older brother, Im Chong Bin (since in Korea, as in China, the surname is given first; the first name last), were taken by the Communists. On a forced march, her father saw his chance to escape, made use of the opportunity and one year later rejoined his family, Im Chang Bin, who had studied to be a lawyer. Sunny believes was given an inside job with the Communists and so guarded too closely to escape.

DETERMINED
Sunny had been for many years determined to be educated in America and sought every possible chance. In Pusan, most of the college professors were taken by the Communists, almost halting education for two years. Sunny was fortunate enough to be employed in the American Embassy where she did translation work in the radio department. She had learned typing by herself, and since English is a required subject in Korean schools now, she had few language difficulties.

While there she met a Dr. Link from Pennsylvania University. He from time to time gave lectures for employees, 50 per cent of whom were college students. Sunny told Dr. Link about her desire to study

in America and about a friend at Washington University whose brother, a graduate of Oregon University, had recommended she go to a small college as so friendly and the country is so beautiful. Dr. Link wrote Emilio Stevenson, president of Southern Oregon College of Education in Ashland, who offered Sunny a partial scholarship.

An example is a Korean wedding:

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The wedding gown in the rural sections is a native costume with a long skirt and blouse with long flowing sleeves, embroidered with designs symbolizing long life and happiness. The bride wears a crown on her head and cloths that touch the floor cover her hands. (It is considered rude in Korea to expose the hands.)

SEES NO ONE
The bride makes a formal bow to all her husband's relatives. This means placing her hands palms down before her face, covering her eyes, and gracefully assuming position on the floor, head bent. She sees no one on her wedding day.

The bride receives gifts from the husband's house—dresses, rings, etc., according to economic conditions. A priest or old respected friend of the father performs the ceremony.

Friends, neighbors and relatives are invited to the big celebration in the husband's home—not the bride's! If the celebration lasts several days, as it sometimes does, the men friends are honored the first day; women friends the second.

After the wedding, the couple spends three days in his house and three days in hers before going to their own home.

DANCES DESCRIBED
Sunny, who danced in native costume for the International Relations workshop at SOCE, described the art as it is in her home country.

"In ancient times, when dynasties ruled, a king or lord had many maids who took care of his palace and entertained him with music or dancing. The peculiar folk dances and native orchestra music originally came from China. Almost non-existent in China now, they are preserved in Korea."

"Court music was founded about 500 years ago, at the beginning of the Lee dynasty, and thrived in the golden days of Korea's history, when language characters were established and modern civilization was introduced."

"Court music is played on flutes."

While in the cities it follows the traditional American satin and lace routine, a rural wedding is more colorful than a rainbow.

Although in ancient times Korean girls married quite young, with the present economic conditions, every member of a family is needed for work at home. Average marrying age is 23.

When a girl child is born in Korea, it is the mother's obligation

to put away material for her to use after she is married. This custom was dispensed with, however, when the war broke out.

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SUNJA IM

Area Anthrax Toll Three

Anthrax, dreaded disease among cattle has taken a toll of three bovine lives recently, according to Veterinarian Dr. Harris, of Klamath Agency.

The three animals lost were from a herd of California beef cattle which have been on pasture in the Klamath Marsh area this summer, none of the herd had been vaccinated.

No loss of animals from vaccinated herds has been reported this year, Dr. Harris stated.

Family Off To Meet Penny

Mrs. Elizabeth Penny and two children, David Charles, 2½, and Barbara, 1, left this morning by plane for San Francisco where they will meet Capt. David Penny, husband and father who is a returning POW.

Capt. Penny is aboard the General Howe which is due to do in the bay city Wednesday. The reunited family will return here by plane Thursday evening unless Government plans differ from those of the family.

Penny's plane was hit by flack over North Korea on June 7, 1952 and the crew of four were forced to bail out. All four were captured by the Reds and were among the last of the POWs to be released at Freedom Village.

Three Small Fires Reported

Three small fires were started by lightning during the storm Monday afternoon, according to KFFA officials.

The first was reported on Parker Mountain south of the highway and two were reported in the Swan Lake District—one on the ridge to the east of Swan Lake and the other on the east side of the lake about two miles west of Hildebrand.

All three blazes were controlled before covering any amount of ground and were being watched this morning.

Civil Service Status Explained to Vets

The United States Civil Service Commission announced today that the recently enacted Public Law 121 provides for restoration on eligible registers for priority in certification and probational appointment of veterans who served in the armed forces after June 30, 1950, and whose names were on registers after that date. Veterans must have been discharged under honorable conditions and meet other provisions of the law.

Application must be made before Oct. 14, 1953, or 80 days after discharge which ever is later.

Further information may be obtained from Civil Service Representative, at the post office here.

FACT SAVED
STRASBOURG, France (AP)—Proponents of the European army pact Tuesday won a narrow victory in the Council of Europe's consultative assembly. The assembly adopted, 47 to 6 with 18 abstentions, a resolution which incorporated an appeal to the six nations to ratify EDC as quickly as possible.

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drums and a stringed instrument known as the Kayagum, stronger than a violin. No horns are used. The dancers, who perform individually, wear long dresses with flowing sleeves and white "sacks" to cover their hands. On their heads they wear beaded crowns. Traditionally the dances are performed before kings or lords.

COMPARES COUNTRIES
Comparing her own country with America, Sunny says she is most

impressed with American's interest in foreign students. "In Korea," she says, "they are wary of foreigners and have little interest in foreign affairs. Even close association with Americans at the Embassy is frowned upon." Economic conditions are most critical in Korea now. Most of the young people were drafted and many killed. Farms were destroyed and it is hard now to raise food-stuffs in the country.

"Without U.N. relief grain, I don't know how we would have managed to live," she says, "but even with help, rice, which is the principal food product, was so high last year one could buy only two bushels with a month's salary." The high level of living in America is a sharp contrast to conditions in Korea according to Sunny. Although she misses home and family, Sunny loves the United

States and would like some day her younger brothers to come here to study.

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Joe Harley, Jr.
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Serve the
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"Cheerful as its Name"

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make it the world's most
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