

# Olive Branch International

Humanitarian Service to the International Military Community

July 2011

## English Camp Is Not Just For Kids

Recently COL(Ret) Valentyn Korenevich wrote:

**"Bruce, do you remember a male teacher in the summer camp from the town of Khmelnytsky? His name is Vasiliy Soyda. He works together with Andrei Bodrov (Ukrainian English Camp leader). He was in the camp three times. At last year's camp (July 2010), he asked God for forgiveness. When I was in Khmelnytsky recently I saw him. Now he is preparing for baptism! Vasiliy looked very happy. Praise God."**



Vasiliy Soyda with camper

Vasiliy Soyda is retired from the military and now teaches school. He is pictured here with Andrei and the campers they instruct.

Each year for the past ten years, Olive Branch International (OBI) has co-sponsored an English Camp for teenagers (14-17 yrs old) from Ukrainian military families. Other sponsors are the



Vasiliy Soyda (left)

Ukrainian Military Christian Fellowship (UMCF) and Olive Branch

Ukraine (OBU). **Over the ten years of English Camps we have had over 1,000 in attendance. Hundreds have made commitments to Christ** in this venue.

It is a week-long full immersion English Camp where we teach English and the Bible along with typical Christian summer camp activities to Ukrainian teenagers and some parents. **We know from the past that many parents have become Christians** as a result of the teenagers' commitment to faith in Jesus Christ and some parents, like Vasiliy, who have made their commitment at camp.

The 2011 camp is 14-21 July and **we still need scholarships for about forty teens**. Would you consider making a \$125 per camper contribution by July 15th to help more teens attend? Your gift would provide for teenagers to attend this potentially **life-changing summer camp**.

## OBI Partners with Evangelical Chaplains

*Sierra Leone*

In May, 14-30 May, **Michael Weiss** represented Olive Branch International (OBI) as a member of an International Association of Evangelical Chaplains (IAEC) training team in Liberia, West Africa. Other members of the team included MG(Ret) Bob Dees and Chaplain Bernie Windmiller. This trip was a first for IAEC. Since Michael was the first chaplain assistant to be a member of one of their training teams, he presented the first class designed specifically for chaplain assistants. **The team trained 90 Christian chaplains, chaplain assistants and local pastors** on how to minister to uniformed service personnel and their families. One of the many highlights for Michael was baptizing their hotel manager in the Atlantic Ocean the day prior to returning to the United States.



MG Bob Dees instructs



CH Windmiller and Michael Weiss with  
CH Allison

In the next few months Michael will be **visiting with two Liberian officers while they attend military training** here in the United States. Chaplain Allison, the Liberian Chief of Chaplains (pictured below), is currently attending the International English Language School at Lackland AFB, and in October he will be at Fort Meade attending a training course for two and a half months. LT Krah, one of the officers who attended the IAEC chaplaincy training, is currently at Camp Lejeune, NC, attending another training course.

Upon Michael's return from Liberia, Chaplain Moses Kargbo, Sierra Leone Chief of Chaplains, was on leave with his wife and daughters, who live in Norfolk. We were able to visit with them as well as discuss the best way OBI can help a few of the 300,000 war widow refugees in Sierra Leone, Liberia, Guinea, and Ivory Coast.

**Please consider JOINING THE TEAM by:**

- **Praying for the English Camp Team from 7 - 21 July**
- **Sponsoring a camper**
- **Sponsoring a widow for vocational training. You may donate online below.**



*Online donations will appear on your credit card statement as **GiveDirect**, our online donation service provider. OBI receives your entire online contribution as there are no service fees using **GiveDirect** for contributions made with Visa and MasterCard. All Olive Branch programs are underwritten by individual donors and donations are used as designated.*

Sincerely,

*Bruce G. Kittleson*

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Olive Branch International

Be sure to visit our website at: [www.olivebranchinternationalonline.com](http://www.olivebranchinternationalonline.com)