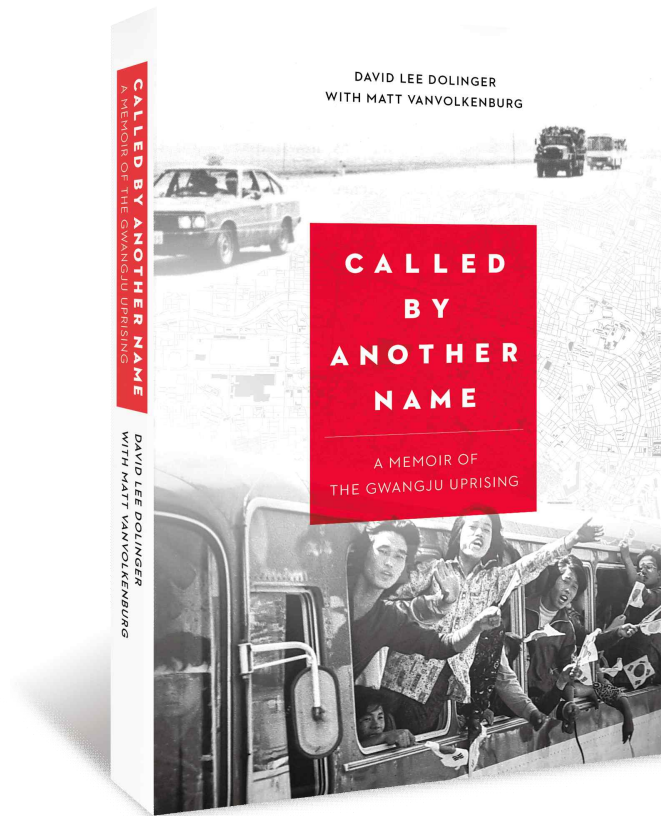


## PRESS RELEASE

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# Called by Another Name

A Memoir of the Gwangju Uprising



■ Author: David Lee Dolinger |  
Co-author: Matt VanVolkenburg

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## **Book Description**

### **The American who walked into the turmoil of Korean history**

After graduating from university, David wanted to make a positive change in the world. He joined the Peace Corps and arrived in South Korea in 1978. He was bestowed with a Korean name, Im Dae-oon and it was his name throughout his time in Korea. He was assigned to serve as a tuberculosis worker in Yeongam, a town in Korea's southwest. He came to fall in love with the country's food, scenery, and people.

On May 18, 1980, David arrived in Gwangju to transfer buses to his home, Yeongam. Tim Warnberg, his friend and fellow Peace Corps Volunteer, told him that there was brutal violence against any young people seen in the streets. He came back home but he continued to hear that the violence was getting worse and the phone lines to Gwangju had been cut. David set out for the city to check on Tim and his Korean friends.

### **Bearing Witness of the Gwangju Uprising**

On the road to Gwangju, David encountered a military truck and a bus with protesters. David took a photo of them. He had a confrontation with KCIA agent who was demanding his camera. When he reached the city, he witnessed gunfire from helicopter, results of brutal violence, and the wailing from the deads' family members. He was shocked by what human can do to other humans. David and 3 other Peace Corps Volunteers helped the wounds and interpreted for foreign journalists.

David was invited to the Provincial Office building, which was the center of the uprising. He got to know students leaders and bore witness to the aftermath of the last stand against the dictatorship. When the 10 days of uprising ended in tragedy, David and other Peace Corps Volunteer were called to the head office. Only David was forced to resign for violating its rules on political noninterference. Even after he lost his status as a Peace Corps Volunteer, he decided to stay in Korea. He got even involved deeper to Korean history working with the dissident.

### **What is the Gwangju Uprising?**

The 1980 Gwangju Uprising was a people's uprising by the citizens of Gwangju in response to the brutal and harsh suppression of student protests carried out by the Korean military after their leaders declared martial law and took over the country. It began on May 18 and ended the early morning of May 27, 1980. It began in Gwangju, the capital of South Jeolla province, but also expanded beyond the city to involve the southern half of the province.



Photo © David Dolinger, On the road walking to Gwangju, David met a truck with excited young protesters and a taxi with a Korean Central Intelligence Agency (KCIA). KCIA threaten David to take the camera.

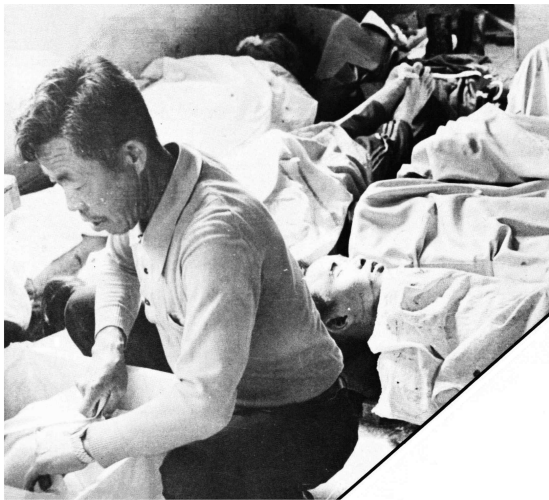


Photo © David Dolinger, Preparing bodies outside of the morgue(left) and patients in the hospital (right). These two photos were managed to leave the country and reported in AFP and Covert Action by other Peace Corps volunteers, Carol and Steven.

## Peace Corp Volunteers and the Gwangju Uprising



Photo © Jürgen Hinzpeter, May 18 Memorial Foundation, Four Peace Corps Volunteers preparing interview with German journalist Jürgen Hinzpeter on the roof of Chonnam University Hospital. From left to right Jürgen Hinzpeter, Henning Rumohr, Judi Chamberlin, Tim Warnberg, Paul Courtright, and David Dolinger. Tim Warnberg gave an interview. Journalist Jürgen Hinzpeter's story was later made into Korean film 'Taxi Driver'. These four Peace Corps Volunteers interpreted for foreign journalists and helped the wounds during the uprising.

Part 4 of *Called by Another Name* is dedicated to Tim Warnberg, who is past. It has his full article <The Kwangju Uprising: An Inside View>(Korean Studies, 1987) and his personal life story.



Photo © Na Kyung-taek, May 18 Memorial Foundation, The iconic photo of the previously-unknown foreigner, Tim Warnberg, carrying a wounded citizen to Chonnam University Hospital on May 19, 1980.

## **About the Authors**



## David Lee Dolinger, author

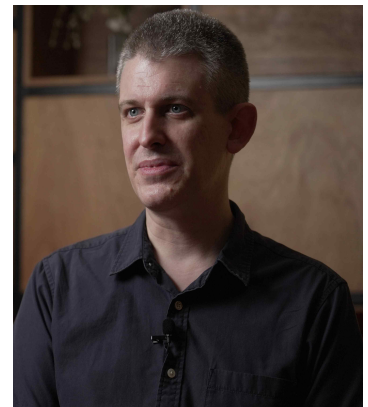
David has a Ph D in Microbiology and Immunology from Temple University Medical School. For more than thirty-five years he has been developing tests for human diseases, particularly infectious diseases. He has worked for multiple companies, large and small, in various positions and has developed extensive knowledge concerning the design, development and commercialization of in vitro diagnostic tests and instrumentation.

David first arrived in Korea in April of 1978 as a Peace Corps volunteer. His Korean name is Im Dae-oon, which was given by his Korean teachers when he first came to Korea. In Korean, his family name, Im, means 'Forest,' and his given name, Dae-oon, means 'big cloud.' David was forced to resign from Peace Corps the very next day of the Gwangju Uprising. However, after he witnessed the Gwangju Uprising, it opened up to a new path and shaped him into who he is now.



## Matt VanVolkenburg, co-author

Originally hailing from Canada, Matt VanVolkenburg first arrived in Korea in 2001. Fascinated by Korea's modern history, in 2005 he began writing about Korean history, society, and culture on his blog, [Gusts of Popular Feeling](#). More recently, he supplemented his history degree with an MA in Korean Studies from the University of Washington and is currently researching 1970s Korean youth culture. Having read voraciously about the Gwangju Uprising since 2001, Matt immediately recognized David's name when they met in an online forum in 2006, and the seeds of this book were first planted when they finally met in person seven years later.



### ☐ Watch the authors' interviews

[Eng/Kor] <https://youtu.be/8f3UAOzEtKM>

### ☐ Book Trailer

[Eng] <https://youtu.be/j8Um8fQtX3I>

[Kor] <https://youtu.be/DUp7uMPwc40>

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**The American who walked into the turmoil of Korean history**

After graduating from university, David wanted to make a positive change in the world. He joined the Peace Corps and arrived in South Korea in 1978. He was bestowed with a Korean name, Im Dae-oon and it was his name throughout his time in Korea. He was assigned to serve as a tuberculosis worker in Yeongam, a town in Korea's southwest. He came to fall in love with the country's food. [Read more](#)

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### -Part 1: There's always a beginning

Peace Corps recruiting and training. David underwent training to learn the Korean language and culture and received his Korean name, Im Dae-oon. He fell in love with the country's food, scenery, and people.

### -Part 2: The Gwangju Uprising

On May 18, 1980, David was on his way home to Yeongam from another Peace Corps volunteer's wedding ceremony when he arrived in Gwangju to transfer buses. He could smell tear gas and immediately knew that something terrible was happening. Luckily, David was able to make it back to Yeongam, but he continued to worry for his fellow Peace Corps volunteer and good friend Tim and his Korean friends. He heard that the violence was getting worse, and then discovered that the phone lines to Gwangju had been cut.

On May 21, he set out for the city to check on his friends, he did not know he was walking into the turmoil of Korean history. David stayed at the city with other Peace Corps volunteers and Gwangju citizens until the end of the uprising. He tried to witness as much as possible, helped the citizens, and translated to international journalists.

**-Part 3: Life after Gwangju** The consequences of being at the uprising was harsh. He was the only one to be forced to resign from Peace Corps. When one door closes, another opens. It led to meet different people and different paths.

### -Part 4: Remembering Tim Warnberg

Tim was loved by many people both Koreans and Americans. He was living in Gwangju when the uprising occurred. Tim was living in Gwangju when the uprising occurred and, due to his upbringing and his knowledge of both Gwangju and the Korean language, he became the leader of the Peace Corps volunteers and an inspiration to many. Poised in the following years to become a prominent Korean studies scholar, his life was tragically cut short as his academic journey was just beginning.

## □ Inside the book

*"How did I get here? I asked myself that question many times during the events of May 1980. I had asked it on May 16 as I listened to plans for the student-led torchlight march that night, I asked it on May 21 as I walked into the city, I asked it that early morning on May 25, and I will probably ask it until the end of my life. I never realized where it would all take me, or how it would all fit into a journey of a lifetime."*

-From the Preface-

*"There was a finality to this day unlike any of the other days I had spent in the Provincial Capital. Running through my mind were worries about the final outcome, and how high the death toll might be. I could not figure out how I would be able to cope with it all. How do you deal with the possibility of a large number of people you know all dying in a short period of time?"*

-From Funerals and farewells

*"As I walked farther into the building, I discovered one body after another. I couldn't bear the sight of it. They were all young, likely students. I didn't want to look close enough to see if I knew anyone. (...) Tim finally asked, "Did you go inside?" "Yes. It wasn't pretty," I answered. I couldn't say much more. When I tried to describe what I had seen, I was overcome by a flood of emotion and had to stop."*

-From Bearing Witness

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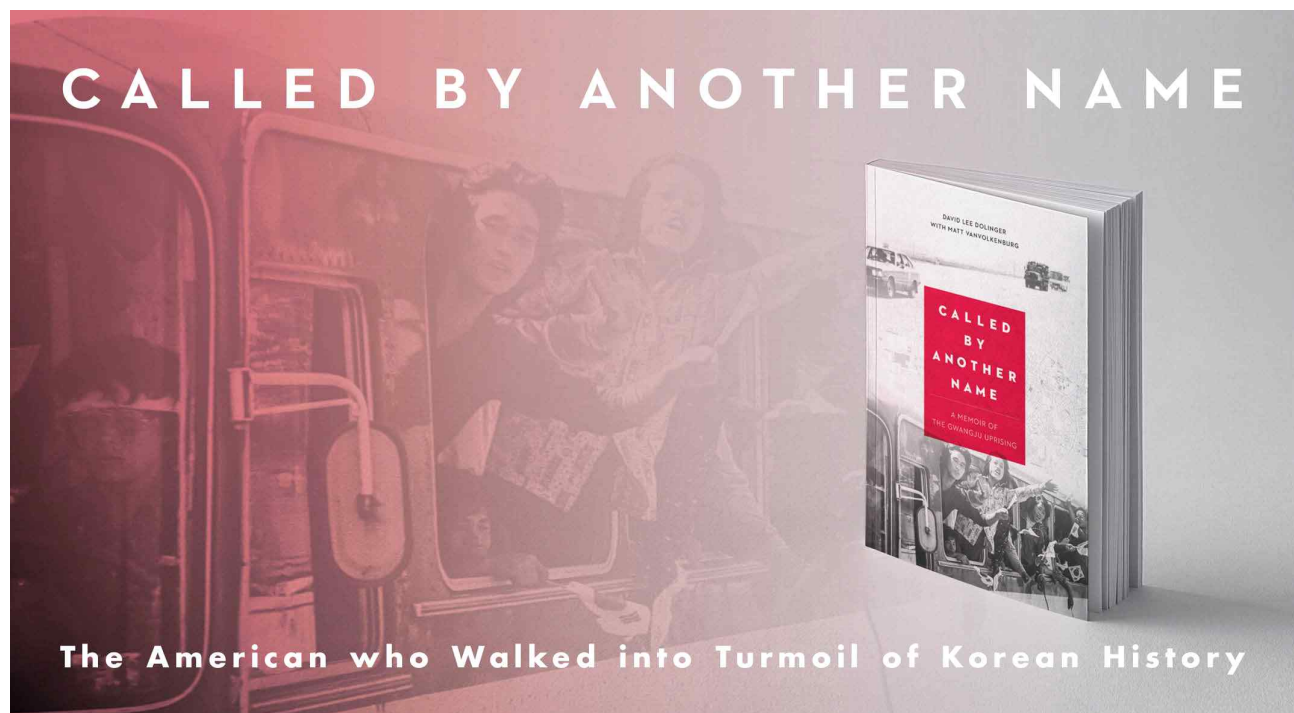
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Acknowledgements



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