

SHIMMON OPENS EUROPEAN CONFERENCE



Above: Participants pose for group photo in front of Eko-Haus.

Right: Shimmon officiates at confirmation rite



During the discussion time for second session, especially, there were many comments concerning both the content and intent of the papers delivered. Issues raised included the occasionally muddled differentiation of "meditation" versus "contem-

ese refugees arrived in Germany, some of the Christian churches offered the use of their facilities so that the Vietnamese could conduct their own ethnic observances and rituals. Because of this, the observances held at *Pagode Vien Giac* are not all strictly Vietnamese, but include traditions from a variety of Buddhist, Taoist, and Confucian schools. The major observances held by the temple include the Lunar New Year in late January or early February, Vesak in May, and Ullambana in August.

On August 28, Shimmon departed Germany and returned to Kyoto in the late afternoon of August 29.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Autumn Equinox Services Set

The annual Autumn Equinox Services have been set for September 22 - 24. During this period, services will be conducted at Hongwanji's *Somido*, the main temple, followed by a special lecture each day. The speakers will be Rev. Kyoshin Kinoshita on Sept. 22nd, Rev. Masumi Fuji on the 23rd, and Rev. Kimyo Iwamoto on the 24th.

Shimmon Kojun Ohtani recently attended the 11th European Shin Buddhist Conference, which was held at *Eko-Haus der Japanischen Kultur* in Dusseldorf, Germany. His official tour was from Monday, August 21 through Tuesday, August 29.

ered his welcome message in English.

Fifteen delegates participated in the Confirmation Rite at which the Shimmon officiated. The format for the Confirmation Rite was very similar to that which is used at Honzan.