

FLIGHT LOG

MARCH/JUNE 1999

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 5 No. 2

FOR THE FRIENDS OF ADVENTIST WORLD AVIATION



LIFE ON WINGS

Melchizedek M. Ponniah

I am grateful to the Lord for sparing the life of my only daughter," recounted a mother in the interior jungles of Guyana. "If it were not for the mission plane, my daughter might not be alive today" she explained. The little

died for them and that He is inviting them to become His children. As there are no roads, these villages are not easily accessible. Project AirPower will make a marked

In building the tabernacle, God involved His people for a sacred task. "Then everyone came whose heart was stirred, and everyone whose spirit was willing, and they brought the Lord's offering for the work of the tabernacle of congregation..." (Ex 35:21)

girl, seriously ill, would have died on the way if she were transported in the traditional jungle hammock. Trekking the treacherous jungle trail to the nearest medical facility would have taken at least three days.

The mission aircraft took less than twenty five minutes to fly to Kamarang where the medical personnel worked feverishly to save the life of this little girl. Her grateful mother appreciated the little aircraft. It became an effective tool in the hand of the Lord.

In the jungles of Guyana, highlands of Philippines, and savannahs of southern Sudan hundreds of people are longing for a better quality of life. Fifty villages in southern Guyana have little or no knowledge that Jesus

difference in their lifestyle. In addition to providing much needed health care, these villagers will have opportunities to learn of the true God and experience His saving grace. In brief, the Project AirPower aircraft will be life on wings for hundreds of people in southern Guyana.

Pathfinders are very excited to have a part in sponsoring this aircraft. Pathfinder clubs have come to Berrien Springs to work on the aircraft. Other Pathfinders have approached area businesses, service clubs and corporations to raise funds to help refurbish this mission plane.

(Continued on page 2)

Around the World in 60 Seconds

AWA ON 3ABN

An interview with AWA personnel was aired on "3ABN Presents," April 10. Please enquire of 3ABN for rebroadcast dates.

AWA-ALASKA

The Alaska Conference of SDA's and AWA have entered into an agreement that will place a Cessna 206 on-line for use by Conference personnel in Native Ministries, general administrative needs and ADRA projects. Jim Kincaid, also chief pilot for the Alaska Conference, has been named AWA-Alaska Project Manager.

The bulk of the flying will facilitate a very ambitious goal of visiting every Native American household in the state.

The plane is a wreck and will be rebuilt by volunteer aviation personnel. Anyone interested in helping with either time or funding please contact AWA. Donations may be made out to "AWA" and marked "Alaska Project."

PERU

Alberto and Amalia Marin have shared with AWA evidences that the Lord continues His work through mission aviation. Volunteer missionaries, supported with aviation service, have entered ten new villages and aim to reach another twenty five districts by the end of this year. God's protection has been evident. Some of the villages were so unfriendly to the missionaries, that the lives of the volunteers were in danger, but the Lord sent His angel to preserve their lives.



AWA-WESTERN GUYANA

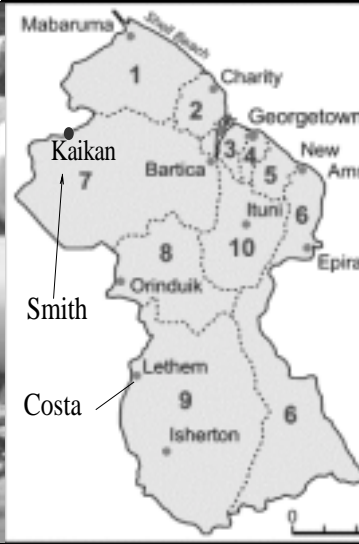
In the absence of roads, aviation has proven to be the only practical form of transportation within the interior of Guyana. Since July 1997, David Gates has provided aviation services to the villages on the Venezuelan border. He has

AWA's objectives for this area include:

- transporting layworkers to pioneer work among unreached people groups
- facilitating medical ministry to inaccessible jungle villages



Wayne Smith, RN and pilot will reside in Kaikan, Guyana, and provide mission aviation services to the villages in the region.



Wayne Smith - Region 7.
Marcio Costa - Region 9.

flown a highly modified Cessna 150 nearly 1000 flight hours. This workload was too heavy to be sustained by one person, but God was preparing reinforcements.

At GO 97, a young adult mission conference held over the 1997 New Year's holiday in Berrien Springs, Michigan, the concept of Adventist World Aviation was presented to a packed room during a seminar. As a registered nurse who held a Private Pilot license from Tennessee, I was one of the people who responded to the opportunity. I am a part of the AWA student training program at Andrews University preparing to serve as a mission pilot in Guyana.

The involvement of AWA in the region makes it possible for the pilot already working in the area to expand the ministry to other areas in Guyana.

Project AirPower, slated to be launched in the fall of 1999, will facilitate pioneering Adventist work in the southern part of Guyana. An additional aircraft, also a Cessna 182, will be placed in the western part of Guyana.

- providing transportation for pastors and educational personnel
- facilitate training of local Adventists to be church planters.

Wayne Smith,
Missionary-Pilot designate,
Western Guyana

WEBSITE

<http://www.tagnet.org/awa>
Updated every week!

ENTER

LIFE ON WINGS

(Continued from page 1)

At present, the aircraft has been disassembled, and the old paint stripped in preparation for painting. During the second week of June, a new engine will be fitted and landing gear replaced making it more usable in the jungle. Can it all be done? I have no doubt that He who has begun this good work will complete it (Phil 1:6). So the question is not, "can it be done?" Rather, would I have the privilege of being a partner in this mission with God?

In building the tabernacle, God involved His people for a sacred task. "Then everyone came whose heart was stirred, and everyone whose spirit was willing, and they brought the Lord's offering for the work of the tabernacle of congregation. . ." (Ex 35:21). Pilots can push test buttons to see if their equipment is functioning properly. God has a quick test button he can push to see the level of our commitment—our pocketbooks. Generous people aren't necessarily faithful to God. But faithful people are always generous.

Pathfinder or not, God is inviting you to have a part in this mission project. I know of families, churches and individuals who are committed to seeing this mission aircraft project completed on time for its final assembly and dedication at "Discover the Power" camporee, August 10-14, at Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

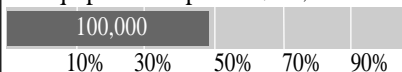
My response: "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" to provide life on wings for the 50 villages in southern Guyana; so that, these villagers "may have life; and have it more abundantly." How about you?

Melchizedek M. Ponniah, Ph. D,
Vice President, Development

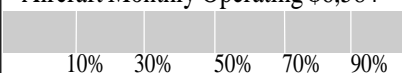
GUYANA-SMITH PROJECT

AIRCRAFT FUND

Equipment Expenses \$217,750

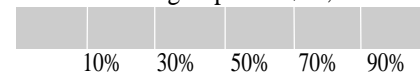


Aircraft Monthly Operating \$6,584

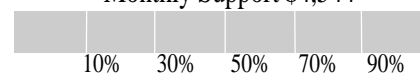


MISSIONARY FUND

Launching Expenses \$79,267



Monthly Support \$4,544



The Republic of the Philippines is an island country located east of Vietnam between the Philippine Sea and the South China Sea. The 7,107 islands create a landmass slightly larger than the state of Arizona.

It is estimated by missiologists that 120 people groups of 100,000 persons or more exist in the Philippines untouched by the Gospel. Many of these people live in remote areas in the interiors of these islands. Life is difficult at subsistence-level for these native peoples. Needs are basic: medical, dental, sanitary, agricultural, and spiritual. Although Christianity (mostly Catholicism) has been present in the Philippines for over 400 years, the majority of its influence has remained along the coastlines and in the larger towns. Relatively few missionaries have tried to penetrate the interiors, hindered by the harsh realities of jungle survival.

Adventist Frontier Missions (AFM) missionaries had been praying that God would provide them with aviation support while, unknown to them, Adventist World Aviation was designing a program to fit their needs. In September of 1997, AFM management presented AWA with a request for aviation support for missionary teams working in the frontiers of the Philippines. It had become evident to AFM that their missionaries in the region desperately needed help with transportation.

AWA's plans to begin with one aircraft based in Puerto Princessa, Palawan. Its job will be to support the needs of four frontier mission teams on the island of Palawan, one team on Mindoro, and four teams on the island of Luzon. With God's blessing, this aircraft can open up new regions to frontier missionaries where they can potentially reach millions who have never heard the gospel.

I am currently a Senior Aircraft Engineering Technology student at Andrews University and plan to graduate in June. I have been enrolled in the AWA student-training program for the past two years and will continue flight and mission training with AWA throughout the summer and fall. My fiancé, Cynthia Parker is studying Nursing at Lake Michigan College. Her medical skills will be a major asset to the flexibility of the AWA mission team.

Adventist-laymen's Services and Industries (ASI) have already provided funds for the purchase of the aircraft.

PHILIPPINES PROJECT

Clifton Brooks joined the AWA student training program in the fall of '97 with a vision for reaching the unreached people groups of the Pacific.



Your generous monthly financial assistance will help:

- refurbish/rebuild the aircraft for use in the jungle
- to provide for aircraft launching, operation and maintenance
- finance the launching of the missionary-pilot family and support them in Philippines.

You may make your check payable to Adventist World Aviation and check the

appropriate boxes on the contribution envelope.

If God is placing a burden on your heart to join us in reaching the unreached in the Philippines, please respond to the Spirit's prompting. Thank you for your response to God's call to finish His work.

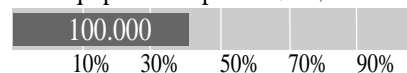
Clifton Brooks,
Missionary-Pilot designate,
Philippines



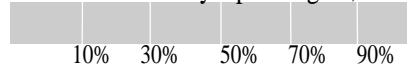
PHILIPPINES-BROOKS PROJECT

AIRCRAFT FUND

Equipment Expenses \$283,766

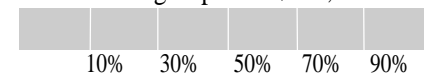


Aircraft Monthly Operating \$6,455

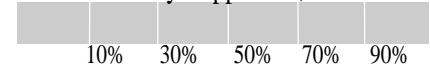


MISSIONARY FUND

Launching Expenses \$133,455



Monthly Support \$4,544



MEMORIALS

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GEORGE SMITH
CHARLENE STARLIN
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IN MEMORY OF

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CLAYTON POOLE
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CACELIA KUEBBISS
BEULAH E. HALVORSEN



LISTENING? OR NOT?

Are you a good listener? I thought I was. I grew up in a good Christian home, knowing the right things, knowing the importance of listening to the Holy Spirit, thinking that I knew His voice. I thought.

Well, so much for thinking!

In the spring of 1998 I was reading my Sabbath School lesson when the Holy Spirit spoke to me. It wasn't out loud, but He told me to do something. He said, "I want you to go to school at Andrews and train to be a mission pilot."

All my life I had wanted to be a mission pilot. So why didn't I call Andrews and get an information pack? Because I wasn't listening. I was too busy trying to figure out what I could do for God and not listening to what He wanted me to do. June came and I went to Campmeeting. Again He said "I want you to be a missionary". But I still wasn't listening. He did get me thinking of making changes in my life, however. My wife and I realized that we would be making some adjustments and so we made the decision to sell our house.

August came and I still hadn't done anything; so God decided to do something more dramatic. We were talking on the phone with a cousin

when his wife mentioned an organization that was involved in mission aviation. Imagine our surprise when, that evening, we received a letter in the mail with a brochure featuring Adventist World Aviation. Finally I listened! I called the number in the brochure. Again God confirmed what He had been saying all along: I really needed to be at Andrews in the fall. The course I wanted to take was starting then.

My wife and I started packing right away and were able to get moved in time to start school. But we had to hurry. God has continued to guide me in my walk with Him. I haven't reached the mark yet, but I know that the God who started a work in my life will complete it for His glory. God finally convinced me to do what He wanted, but it was a whole lot more stressful and uncomfortable to do it at the last minute than if I had listened when He first spoke and had followed His instructions! I am glad that He loved me enough to give me a third chance!

Now I am asking Him to teach me to listen the first time.

Daniel Roos,
AWA Student

AWA Mail Box

Latest Activities in Peru

Alberto Marín returned to the air base after completing 34 days of travel throughout the jungles of the East Peruvian Mission (MOP). Alberto was accompanied by MOP President, Samuel Sandoval, and Stewardship Department Head, Pr. Raúl Tello, as they held district meetings with ministers and laity alike.

In addition to the district meetings, Alberto was able to transport a volunteer missionary to Jeberos to work for the next two months. Alberto also transported about 100 sheets of tin roofing material to San Ramon de Sinar for the completion of a jungle chapel. This chapel was constructed with Jungle Chapel Funds and supervised by two of the volunteer missionaries. Dedication of the chapel and several baptisms have taken place in March.

We are experiencing an incredible rainy season! All of the roads leading out of our air base are under water, and some of our buildings are also, we are high and dry, praise be to God! As a result of this high water, both of our Missionary neighbors, the Wycliffe Bible Translators and South American Mission (SAM AIR) are using our air base for take off, landing, some cases, storage until the flood waters recede.

Our airplane hangar is looking much better and is much more secure since the completion of a new fence and gates. Thank you MARANATHA '99 for your generous gift! We praise God for the many blessings that this ministry has received since its inception.

Thank you so much for your prayers and support. We lack words to express our profound gratitude. May God richly bless you!

In His Service, Beto & Mali Marín

Editors Note: AWA is collecting Jungle Chapel funds to put a roof on a new chapel in Jeberos. Donations may be made out to "AWA" and marked "Peru Project: Jungle Chapel Fund."

Sudan, the largest country in Africa, has been at war since 1955, with a brief cease-fire during the 70's. There is also a famine in South Sudan. Over two million people have died in Sudan since 1983 as a result of either war or famine with four million at risk of starvation in 1999. Five million Sudanese people have lost their homes and are internal refugees within the borders of Sudan.

PRAYER FOR SUDAN

Three and half years ago ADRA came to AWA with a petition for air transport in northern Kenya. The purpose was to facilitate

Hundreds!!!!

Christianity is growing at an incredible rate in Southern Sudan. Twenty years ago, Christians



A Cessna Caravan, operated in Sudan by "Love in Action" landing loaded with Bibles, food, and other supplies.

**This is the type of aircraft we are praying for!
Please join us in prayer!**

the timely delivery of personnel and supplies to southern Sudan.

As the months went by the requests continued. AWA's reply was always the same - we had interest but couldn't tackle a project of this scale yet.

A year ago Randy Purviance, ADRA Senior Grants Administrator, told of a pastor who volunteered to help distribute food and other things on a United Nations flight. Once in the village, a crowd began to gather. Somehow word got out that an SDA pastor was among the aid workers and they sought him out for baptism. Proselytizing is not allowed under UN sanctioned flights. There was nothing he could do. By afternoon a crowd approaching 80 souls had gathered - all asking for baptism. They came from villages far and near. The pastor inquired as to the number of people requesting baptism in villages within walking distance...

in Sudan made up 5% of the total population. Today Christians make up over 20% of Sudan overall, and over 80% of Southern Sudan! Many Muslims are also coming to Christ, even though they too will likely face immediate persecution! In many areas the Christians, notwithstanding savage persecution, gather together "seven days a week" for prayer, worship, sharing their food etc, like the early Church in Acts.

UN funded flights were terminated on December 31, 1998. This leaves ADRA without air transportation. ADRA lost a worker to cerebral malaria last year due to lack of air transport. Literally hundreds of thousands of people

will suffer if ADRA can't work. Some will die still waiting for baptism. Some will die never having had the chance to know the Saviour.

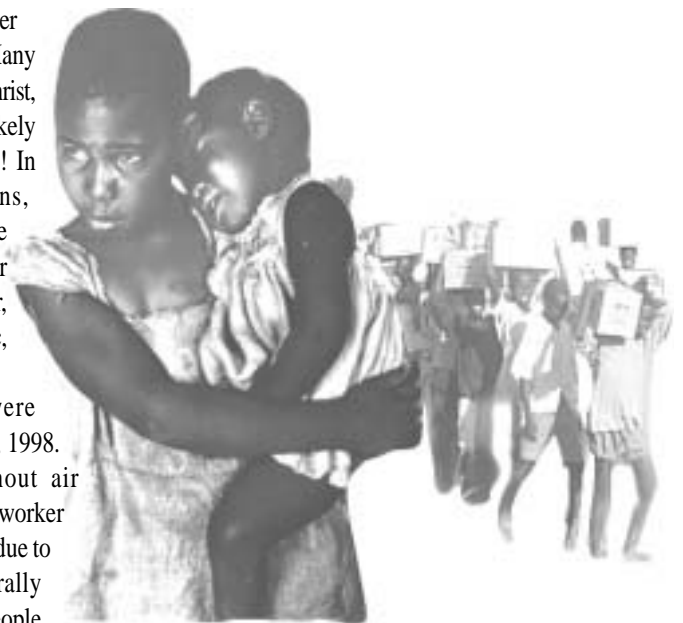
The UN's leaving opens a big window for God to work in.

How? - through AWA flights.

As an independant air transport agency, with God supplying the means, the limitations that came with government funding will no longer prohibit the spread of the gospel. This is an opportunity that may never come again! God has shown us a need. He has commissioned us to take care of His children and preach the everlasting Gospel. God has given us a willing bush pilot with 1800 hours in Cessna Caravans.

One last thing remains... funding! Delivered to Sudan, the aircraft, pilot and one year of operations will cost approximately \$ 2 million. This is God-sized work. Only He can do it. We feel He is inviting AWA to join Him where He is already at work in saving the lost of Sudan. Pray that God's power might be unleashed to make this a reality in His way and in His time. Then, "stand still and watch the salvation of the Lord."

*Don Starlin,
President*



PROJECT AIRPOWER UPDATE

Pathfinders are hands-on people! As this article goes to press, one hundred Pathfinders from nine different clubs have already cleaned, sanded, or stripped paint from the Project AirPower Cessna 182.

Pathfinders may be wondering: "How can I get involved?"

Good news - there is room for everyone to sponsor part of the airplane that will carry the Gospel via medical ministry to 50 unreached Amerindian villages in Southern Guyana.

Five thousand shares are available for sponsorship at \$100 per share. Shareholders will receive a certificate authenticating their involvement

A hanger is needed in which to keep the plane, to perform maintenance, and to store supplies for work in the villages. Hand and shop tools are needed to keep the plane in airworthy condition.

The final, but very important category is the village sponsorship. One hundred shares will support medical missionary work in an unreached village for an entire year. Following Christ's example, native Amerindian workers will move among the villages building relationships. Their work will be augmented by regular visits from the Project AirPower mission plane as Marcio and Jane Costa bring supplies and much-needed medical and health expertise.

Pathfinders from sponsoring clubs will receive a special commemorative patch. A certificate will be issued to hang on your wall or be displayed in your trophy cabinet. Sponsors will have their names engraved on a plaque that will go with the plane. When the villagers ask who sent the mission plane, Marcio can point to your name and tell them that you helped make it possible.

What can you do to get involved?

Don Starlin,
President



LEVELS OF SPONSORSHIP

1-3 Shares - Landing Gear
4-7 Shares - Propeller
8-10 Shares - Instrument Panel

in this historic event.

Clubs, businesses, civic groups, and individuals young and old are involved in a host of efforts and activities to raise funds to purchase shares.

One to three shares will help sponsor heavy-duty landing gear to allow the plane handle unimproved airstrips.

Four to seven shares will make it possible to equip the plane with a three-blade propeller that helps to improve ground clearance and reduce vibration.

Eight to ten shares purchases an avionics panel that will allow long distance communication and GPS navigation over the trackless jungles.

An eleven to thirteen share level will install a new 280HP 2500-hour engine to reduce maintenance and increase reliability while operating out of short runways.

A fourteen to nineteen share commitment repairs the airframe structure, installs new high-lift wing devices including a NASA designed leading edge cuff, and wing extensions. These funds will also replace control cables, other worn parts and provide the plane with a new coat of paint and interior.

Twenty to ninety nine shares are categorized as an airbase sponsor. Without an airbase there will be no place to operate from.



11-13 Shares - New Powerful Engine

14-19 Shares - Airframe

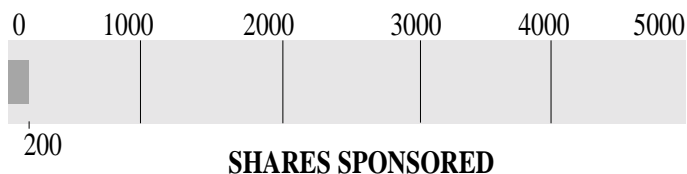
20-99 Shares - Airbase

100 Shares - Sponsor Medical Evangelism to a Village for one year

PROJECT: AIRPOWER

5000 SHARES TOTAL

\$ 100 / share





“I CAN’T WAIT”

This plane is a real mess right now, but I know that it going to be done very soon. By faith, I can see it completed, and the project funded. The pilot will take it to the jungles of Guyana. I know that many people will be touched by the love of Jesus Christ.

This is a great opportunity for the Pathfinders to be involved. The refurbishing of this aircraft will allow us to take the gospel to Guyana where it will be able to reach 50 villages for Jesus Christ.

Pathfinders are reaching out, touching human beings and making a difference in our world. I want Pathfinders to know that you can get

involved into this project so that we could make a difference for the kingdom of Jesus and to hasten His coming.

Won’t you participate? We are going to be inaugurating this aircraft in Oshkosh at our Discover the Power Camporee and I can’t wait. Many of you can’t wait either, so just get involved—this is what Pathfinders are all about. I’m looking forward to seeing you at Oshkosh and at the coming of the Kingdom of Jesus.

William Oliver,
Director, Pathfinder Ministries,
North American Division
of Seventh-day Adventists



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MARCH/JUNE 1999

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*Send all inquiries or
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Adventist World Aviation

Griggs Drive, Berrien Springs, MI 49104

Phone: (616) 473-0135

Fax: (616) 471-4049

E-mail: awa@andrews.edu

Web page: <http://www.tagnet.org/awa>

President:

Donald Starlin

Vice President, Development:

Melchizedek M. Ponniah

Vice President, Operations:

Bill Norton

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Melchizedek Ponniah

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Bruce Wickwire

Editor:

Donald Starlin

Director of Publications:

Oleg Zhigankov

Mission Statement:

Adventist World Aviation exists to provide aviation, communications, and logistical support to those serving the physical, mental and spiritual needs of the forgotten peoples of the earth.

Adventist World Aviation

is a missionary-sending agency. Funded by private contributions, AWA enables missionaries to reach the unreached around the world.

PROJECT AIRPOWER VIDEO



Project AirPower features an unprecedented missions project.

This story unfolds the combined efforts of Pathfinder clubs and Adventist World Aviation (AWA) to rebuild a mission aircraft.

This eight minute video is highly recommended as a missions feature for your Church, school or home. If you need more information, please contact AWA office.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

With only a word, God could cause the whole earth to suddenly come to knowledge of His plan of salvation and thus bring humanity, in one instant, to a crisis of decision for or against His kingdom.

With wisdom, which only accompanies Divine perspective, God has chosen to utilize a seemingly much more inefficient means for sharing this amazing truth. He knows that relationships grow over time and out of experience. It is for this reason God employs humans to reach humans.

Missiologists estimate 40 percent of the world's population will require cross-cultural outreach if the Gospel is to be carried to everyone. Important as mass media is the fact remains that vast numbers of people will never hear unless personal contact takes place.

Providing the transportation infrastructure necessary to reach these people is the only reason AWA exists.

In this issue of Flight Log you will hear the call of millions on the verge of starvation in Sudan. You will witness the response of Christian young people to the needs of the forgotten souls of southern Guyana.

Is there something you could do to facilitate an eternal relationship?

Don Starlin,
President



FLIGHT LOG ➔

Adventist World Aviation
Griggs Drive
Berrien Springs, MI 49104

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

