



TRAINED TO SAVE, TRAINED TO SURVIVE - MARK JOHNREY CABURAL

The Philippines' largest island in the southwest is called Palawan. It is long and thin, extending northeast to southwest between the seas of Sulu and South China. Its widest part is 24 miles (39 km), and its full length is 270 miles (434 km), with Mount Mantalingajan (6,840 feet [2,085 meters]) in the south serving as its highest peak. The entire length is covered by a hilly backbone. Because most medevac flights are over the water to transfer patients from one island to another, it is also imperative that one has received training in water survival and lifesaving. We completed our training on August 18, 2024, at 7:30 p.m. at

Kamuning Beach with the candidate pilots and Adventist World Aviation Foundation Inc. staff, thanks to Capt. Jed Nantes' initiative.

Some of us were concerned when we arrived because the electricity had gone out and the sea was pitch black. Following the briefing, we immediately head to the waters and begin training. We're challenged with staying afloat for a few minutes, keeping our heads underwater for as long as possible, properly inflating the life vest and knowing when and where to use it, and good swimming tactics with and without life vests and patients. Studying and training alongside

Adventist World Aviation Foundation Inc. was a fun and easy method.

Living in our contemporary, sinful world requires us to be schooled and equipped with God's word, just as it does in our spiritual lives. Recalling the account of Peter, who drowned due to his lack of faith when Jesus asked him to walk on water with Him. However, he walked with Jesus after asking for help, and as soon as they were in the boat, the sea storm subsided. The biggest storm a pilot and passenger will face in aviation is making an emergency landing. However, with the proper instruction, tools, and, most importantly, our faith in the pilot operating the aircraft, they will be saved, just as we place our faith in Jesus; in His soon return, we will walk with Him like Peter.

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