

September 2017

MI&MI

FLIGHTRECORDER



Newsletter from
Mandy & Mathias Glass

Nr. 38



DEAR FRIENDS

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

The Bible. Matthew 6:21

What look like two table tennis racquets are signals that the ground crew use from the apron to give instructions to the pilot so that he can roll his aircraft safely and precisely to a certain parking position. With the above signal, both marshalling wands lying on top of each other, the pilot knows that he has reached his parking position and now can stop the engine.

At the end of September comes a stop signal for the two of us. We will turn off our PNG-engine, park and leave the MAF PNG operations and our lives here behind and travel to Germany to visit family and friends, churches and health facilities... It's going to be a full schedule with some holiday time squeezed in as well so we can return to PNG in early January encouraged and refreshed.

Recently this year's grade 9 students at Oksapmin High School at Tekin were asked by their English teacher, Miss Glenda Giles, to write a poem about aeroplanes. When sending everything through, Glenda wrote, "Enjoy the read. Nice to know that the students' hearts fly with the planes."

Just as our hearts beat for the work of MAF PNG, many remote communities and individuals depend for their daily necessities on the regular supply flights by our planes.

For us to be able to work and live in PNG we are dependent not only on God's grace and strength, but also on your prayers and gifts. Thank you, that your heart flies with us and enables us to do what God has called us to!

Lukim yu, Mathias & Mandy

Aeroplane
Who are you?



You are like a bird.
You're bigger than a bird.
You carry people and goods from one
place to another place.
You bring service to the country.

The only thing that I want to say is
how I feel when I see you.
When you fly over the sky
I see you and my heart flies with you.
Ohe my aeroplane,
ohe my aeroplane.

by HERMON

BRAVO, MIKE FOXTROT BRAVO! AND BRAVO, HOLGER AND MATHIAS!

Impressions from P2-MFB's last operational day flying in the Marawaka Valley for MAF



At the end of August, when Mathias, together with Holger Lasi, flew the Twin Otter P2-MFB from Goroka to some airstrips in the Marawaka Valley, Derene Els was on board. Derene is a friend and supporter of one of the MAF Goroka families. She shares some of her impressions of this morning flight into the Marawaka Valley:

I had the privilege of going on a MAF flight on Thursday, 24th August 2017 in the Marawaka Valley. What made this flight particularly significant, was that it was the last flight on the Twin Otter P2-MFB for MAF before this aircraft is leased elsewhere.

The pilots on this flight were Holger Lasi and Mathias Glass. From the outset, I was impressed by their kindness to everyone they came into contact with, their efficiency and thoroughness, their ability to multi-task and be flexible on the spot, and their strength to help people on and off the plane and to load the plane with produce, supplies and goods. Encompassing all this are their phenomenal flying skills.

The plane itself is an incredible piece of engineering. This was evident to me as we flew over rugged landscape and soaring mountains, and then landed on a variety of airstrips mowed into the most level area of a mountain-side. Take offs and landings in the Marawaka Valley are short and steep, ranging from a 485m long air strip at Ande, to a 560m strip at Sindeni. The steepest airstrip was at Andakombi which has a 9.1% slope. This resulted in the pilots executing a very quick and precise take off and landing.

In each village, MAF dropped people and supplies off, and picked up other

people and their supplies or produce. One of the most common types of produce is coffee, which people in the villages grow and harvest. They then bring their harvested beans to MAF planes to be transported to town to sell.

All people and items loaded onto the plane need to be weighed and distributed evenly to balance out the plane for effective take offs and landings. This requires the pilots to have attention to detail and to work out a lot of weights and amounts.

Pilots also need to account for the unexpected, as much as this is possible. A priority is a medevac, and in two of the three villages that P2-MFB flew into, there were three medevac cases - one child who had been badly burned, one young man with an unidentified illness which prevented him from walking or standing on his own, and one pregnant lady who had complications. All of these people needed to be accommodated on the flight in a timely manner. This plane was ideal to carry all the supplies and people for these particular areas of the valley, and be able to take off and land



on such difficult airstrips - an amazing feat.

It is hard to encapsulate this experience in a few words, but I will attempt this and note that I came away from the trip with an impression of the following: compassion, multi-talented, flexible, patience, superior skill, care and hope. The verse that came to mind is Isaiah 40:29-31: 'He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.'

Thank you MAF for allowing me to join this flight and for giving me a taste of the essential and valuable ministry MAF provides to people in Papua New Guinea.

Derene Els
Auckland, New Zealand





ELECTRONIC FLIGHT BAGS FOR PILOTS

iPads to play around with in the cockpit. Really?!

You may think that now, as all of our pilots have replaced the old paper folders of aircraft manuals and company documentation (including airstrip approach plates and the exposition) with an Electronic Flight Bag (EFB) in the dimensions of a small book, the pilots should be able to board or disembark their respective aircrafts with very little weight. However, the picture proves something else! ;)

After several years of waiting, the EFB has finally become a reality in the hands of MAF PNG pilots. In July I was excited to listen to our Crew and Training Manager giving me and three others an introduction to the use of this high-technology device. The EFB is a helpful tool for viewing our company documentation, including airstrip approach plates and the exposition, but the main advantage is the message function via satellite. However, the most important lesson was that this device belongs to MAF PNG and we are caretakers. Hence no breaking, gaming or watching of movies. Got it!

By the end of August, all our operational flying pilots had undergone the EFB training. I had the privilege in facilitating another EFB training to three more pilots who had just returned from their leave overseas, even providing a private lecture for a forth pilot, who missed the class as Air Niugini messed up his last connecting flight into Mt Hagen. Therefore, he got a private lesson during dinner the next evening.

MORE MEDEVAC BAGS

A Ministry on Mandy's heart

In the middle of August, our house was once again the packing station for about 70 medevac bags full of blessings, most of them for women and babies. In the weeks leading up to that ladies' gathering, I was checking different second-hand shops for small soft-toys, babies' and women's clothing. One shop had a huge amount of large blue flannel blankets for sale (which I identified as aircraft blankets...). So I got a pile and also found a nice bed spread with smiling butterflies, snails and caterpillars. I cut the blue blankets in half and brightened them up by sewing one of those colorful applications on and so turned them into pretty baby blankets. Also in the bags went soap, toothbrush and toothpaste, toilet paper and sanitary pads, washcloth and towel, diapers, underwear. Things you need in the hospital, but most people do not have available when coming from the bush. Some of the medevac bags remain in Mt Hagen. The majority get sent to Telefomin, Tabubil and Rumginae, places to which MAF planes fly medevac patients regularly. The pilots or station staff then pass the bags on to the patients and report how grateful the people are for this sign of love and compassion.



PRAISE GOD WITH US

- ▶ for safety in the election time despite all the tension and protests happening right at our doorsteps with the Mt Hagen airstrip being closed by protestors
- ▶ for the protection while flying in bad weather
- ▶ for 2 new couples, 2 new families and a single who will join our MAF PNG team in the next few weeks as managers, pilots and in ground ops

PRAY WITH US

- ▶ that those newbies will quickly settle into life in Mt Hagen and into their respective roles
- ▶ for safety during the flight intensive period towards the end of the year
- ▶ that we can successfully complete our projects here in PNG and/or hand them over to others
- ▶ for an encouraging and restful time in Germany despite our full schedule

GERMANY, HERE WE COME!

Be invited to our presentations! We hope you can make it and we'll see you!

We are looking forward to walks in colourful autumn forests, candied almonds, sparkling lights and Christmas magic - and many joyful encounters with you! Here are our dates, where we will share, in more or less detail, about our work and life with MAF in Papua New Guinea:



28. Sept	13:20 Uhr	Arrival at Frankfurt
1. Okt	10:30 Uhr	Sunday Service, Christliche Gemeinde Karlsruhe ✈
5. Okt	19:15 Uhr	Youth Fellowship, Freie Evangelische Gemeinde Birkenfeld-Keltern ✈
8. Okt	9:30 Uhr	Sunday Service, Freie Evangelische Gemeinde Birkenfeld-Keltern ✈
8. Okt	17:00 Uhr	Sunday Service, Treffpunkt Leben Stuttgart-Lauchhau-Lauchäcker ✈
10. Okt	19:30 Uhr	Youth Fellowship, CG Karlsruhe ✈
11. Okt	19:30 Uhr	Mission Night, CG Karlsruhe ✈
12. Okt	14:30 Uhr	Seniors' Fellowship CG Karlsruhe ✈
13. Okt	17:30 Uhr	Kidspoint CG Karlsruhe ✈
13. Okt	19:30 Uhr	Teens, CG Karlsruhe ✈
14. Okt	19:00 Uhr	Aeroclub Presentation, Luftsportverein Schwarzwald Aichhalden, Fliegerklausur am Flugplatzweg ✈
15. Okt	10:00 Uhr	Sunday Service, FeG Horb am Neckar ✈
16. Okt	19:30 Uhr	Mission Night, FeG Horb am Neckar ✈
20. Okt	19:00 Uhr	Youth Fellowship, FeG Horb am Neckar, together with Stadtmission Horb ✈
24. Okt	20:00 Uhr	Mission Night, Christliche Versammlung Sinsheim-Eschelbach ✈
28. Okt	14:00 Uhr	Aeroclub Presentation, Fliegerstammtisch in der Gaststätte am Flugplatz in Neuhausen-Cämmerswalde ✈
29. Okt	10:00 Uhr	Sunday Service, FeG Freital ✈
10. Nov	14:00 Uhr	MAF Germany, An afternoon for candidates, Siegen (Anmeldung HIER)
11. Nov	16:00 Uhr	Aeroclub Presentation, Wetzlarer Verein für Luftfahrt, Garbenheim ✈
12. Nov	9:30 Uhr	Sunday Service, EfG Wetzlar ✈
14. Nov	9:00 Uhr	Women's Fellowship, EfG Wetzlar
15. Nov	19:30 Uhr	Homegroup Asslar
16. Nov	19:30 Uhr	Mission Night, Evang. Limesgemeinde, Schwalbach am Taunus ✈
18. Nov	18:00 Uhr	Mission Night, Evang. Freikirche MBG Oerlinghausen-Kachtenhausen ✈
19. Nov	10:00 Uhr	Sunday Service, Christuskirche Gütersloh ✈
20. Nov	9:00 Uhr	Mission Focus at Bibelschule Brake (not public)
26. Nov	10:30 Uhr	Sunday Service, Hoffnungskirche Bremen-Walle ✈
8. Dez	18:00 Uhr	Teens, Landeskirchliche Gemeinschaft Lengfeld im Erzgebirge ✈
9. Dez	19:30 Uhr	EC Youth Fellowship, Kirchberg-Hartmannsdorf ✈
12. Dez	19:30 Uhr	Mission Night, Landeskirchliche Gemeinschaft Lengfeld ✈
6. Jan	pm*	Church Bung with Blessing, CG Karlsruhe ✈
7. Jan	ab 9:00 Uhr	JuMiKo Stuttgart ✈
10. Jan	16:00 Uhr	Frankfurt, Departure for PNG

By the above schedule you'll know roughly in which corner of Germany we are. Just drop us a note if you want to see us and we'll see to what extent we can make it happen beside the already announced dates.

✈ Click on the small plane and you will be taken to the website of the venue.

* Details were not yet confirmed at the time of publishing this Flight Recorder. Please contact us for further information or visit our website for further details.

STAY CONNECTED

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