

The Jezowski Journal

3rd Entry of 2016

Serving Bible Translation through Aviation Support

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; And let them say among the nations, "The LORD reigns." I Cor 16:31

Contact Information

Field address
P.O Box 1 (36)
Ukarumpa, EHP 444
Papua New Guinea
Daniel_Jezowski@sil.org

Skype: [daniel.jezowski](#) or
find me on [Facebook](#)

Home address
6631 18 1/2 Mile Road
Marshall, MI 49068

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Wycliffe Bible Translators
P.O. Box 628200
Orlando, FL 32862-8200



Partners in Bible Translation

Thank you for your prayers. We have come through a period with the fewest pilots we have had available in recent history. We had to reduce the flights to only two aircraft a day for the last few months. Yet through that time, we were still able to carry our missionaries to their destinations and also fly enough commercial work to meet our budget. Now pilots are returning from their home assignments and looking to increase the flights per day.



Unloading our new spare engine

During the past year, we have observed that funding for programs that supplement Bible translation like training, Scripture use, church engagement, and literacy, is becoming more difficult to find. Without these core programs, the translated Scripture may not be valued or widely used.

God has placed a desire in many of the hearts of us in Aviation to meet this need and so we have talked about increasing our flying to generate enough revenue to double the travel subsidy we can offer to those involved in Bible translation. A large chunk of this extra subsidy will be offered to Papua New Guinea (PNG) nationals for travel expenses for training courses.

Please pray for us as we consider this big step of faith. One big obstacle in the near future is a critical shortage of licensed maintenance staff. More flight hours means more routine inspections and also more unscheduled maintenance. Without more engineers, we may have to continue to reduce the flying to prevent burnout of the maintenance staff. We have recently hired two PNG engineers to join our team and some of the pilots have helped where they can, but there is still a great need for more licensed engineers.

Last month I was able to ride along to see one of the airstrips where the pilots bring coffee back from. Selling coffee is one way that people pay for their school tuition. Flying coffee is a win-win situation as it benefits the community and the income helps Bible translation.

I needed to check a system in flight to return the aircraft to service. Once that test was finished we continued to the airstrip. It was quite an experience landing on the short uphill runway and then hurtling down it on take-off. I have a newer appreciation for how the pilots negotiate the terrain and hit their marks on these marginal coffee airstrips.



Wonenara Airstrip (runway on left)

Last May I was able to celebrate with the Brownies and their language helpers as they finished the consultant checks for the last books of the New Testament. Consultant checking is the last set of checking that is done before the Scripture portion is approved to be published. They still have a couple more years of work ahead as they make minor adjustments to make it more natural and improve consistency in terminology and spelling. They will also need to finalize the book introductions and add a glossary. Please pray for them to have a relaxing home assignment and then to finish well on their return to PNG.



Celebration with the Brownies

I was able to celebrate with other Americans for the 4th of July. The weather was perfect for our celebration. We had a nice potluck with patriotic music playing in the background. We didn't have fireworks, but some people brought Chinese lanterns that we lit and let go into the sky. Others brought sparklers, glo-sticks, and steel wool to light. It was such a fun evening.



What's more patriotic than the Cubs?

Celebration seems to be the theme this newsletter. Last month I was also able to celebrate with Agion as he opened the classrooms for his new aviation training school. Agion has worked in aviation a long time and has served with CASA (the FAA equivalent) and then joined us until he retired. He still has a heart for aviation and training others and so built a school on his property to train more PNG people to become aircraft engineers. It was exciting watching his dream come to fruition. Please pray for him as he builds a workshop where the students can work on lab projects to supplement the classroom instruction.



Our Aviation Director with Agion

Prayer Requests:

- for the maintenance team as we are short staffed and have a heavy workload
- that my co-worker Lloyd will have a refreshing home assignment
- that the two language groups that had Scripture portions dedicated last month will use them
- for those going through Pacific Orientation now (They will start their 4 week village living next month)
- that God will continue to direct our leaders

Praise Items:

- that God gives wisdom for my job
- that God has blessed our Jesus Film showings
- for new PNG engineers
- that I have had a good time with a few temp housemates
- for your partnership which has made my Wycliffe ministry possible
- for a friend who meets with me on Fridays to pray together