

Nystrom Field Notes

Ukarumpa, Papua New Guinea

November, 2001

Praise points

- The first translation workshop went very well!
- 12 teams finished their first draft of Jonah
- 12 teams finished a book to help people learn to read in their own languages
- A great spirit of unity among the teams
- Good working relationships in the three regional groups, each of which includes four languages or dialects
- John's health continues to be good
- General good health for the family

Prayer points

- For the translators as they test their translations in Bible Studies
- That the translators would get good feedback from their people on their translations
- Preparation for the next workshop (on Ruth), Jan. 20-Feb. 8.
- For colleagues who are preparing the materials for the next workshop.
- My trip rip to the US, Oct 31-Nov 30.
- Construction work on our house at Ukarumpa—Please Lord, let it be done well before we go back to Arop Jan. 8!

First scripture for 11 groups

On Friday October 12, twelve teams of translators took home their first draft of the book of Jonah in their own languages and dialects. For eleven of these groups, it is the first scripture in their language.

Thank you for praying for us and for the translators. More details and photos are coming in the next *Arop Lagoon Tribune*.



Just one of the twelve. Linus Wairapu and I listened as Ignas and Tony read part of their translation of Jonah. Jonah is the first scripture in the Serra language.

War, Tragedy, Translation, and Innovation

You might think that the war is happening at home and in the Middle East and wouldn't affect us here in PNG. But it already has.

I had planned to go to Indonesia with Arop translators Emil and Peter to visit a translation project that is much like the one we are starting now. But the war changed that.

It has changed a lot of things for a lot of our fellow Bible translators. Many have had to evacuate from the countries they work in. Some remain in the same coun-

try but cannot go to the place where the language they are translating in is spoken.

Nobody knows when they will be able to go back. Their translation projects may never be the same. But that may not be all bad. Sometimes the best things come out of tragedy.

Before the tsunami wiped out Arop village three years ago, we had never have thought of helping several languages with translation. Our Lord can use this current situation for His glory. Let's pray that He does.



Another kind of support. NE Pres. Church in St. Pete, FL sent Mark Fox to come fix and finish all the "little things" around the village house and office that I never have time to do, and a few big things as well. We are constantly reminded what a great support team we have. **Thank you** for being part of that team. By the way, want to come help with our Ukarumpa house renovation in December?

This space intentionally left blank because I have to leave for the U.S. on Wednesday and right now I'm frazzled. You can take that as an excuse, an apology, or a prayer request. You're going to get all the rest of the details in the Arop Lagoon Tribune in a couple of weeks, I hope.

Contacting us . . .

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Actually finding us:

5-20 October
21-29 October
30 October-1 Dec.

Arop Village
Ukarumpa
John in US, Bonnie, Brianna, and Eric in
Ukarumpa.
