

Feunekes Flight Path

Mission Aviation Fellowship

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Adventures in Papua....

Well, we've been here for a few months now and have had a very interesting time. We would like to take a moment to once again thank all those who support us both prayerfully and financially. This time here is an amazing opportunity for which we are very thankful.

We have become quite accustomed to the unique way of life here in Papua. It is a place where you can purchase a new cell-phone easier than you can get good ground beef. You can buy the latest movie on VCD but to receive adequate medical care is another story.

We had the opportunity to do a little bit of travelling recently. We first flew to a place called Timika where we stayed at the Sheraton Hotel there. Timika is part of a huge mining company called Freeport. This mine provides work for thousands of people and produces an incredible amount of revenue. Much money from the mine also goes to Jakarta in the form of taxes. It is this money that will never allow Papua to be free from Indonesia for Indonesia would most likely be bankrupt without it. Our primary purpose for going to Timika was to check out the

hospital and a birthing clinic there. MAF has permission to make use of the hospitals there and if there is an emergency of a serious nature then we may use the American hospital at the mine base. Erica went to check out the clinic and hospital while Hugo and the kids enjoyed the beautiful pool at the Sheraton. The hospital was fairly



Our family in front of the Reformed Church in Waena.

well equipped and the OB department was clean. The clinic was small, not airconditioned and offered very little privacy. We have since decided to stay in Sentani and have the baby at a nice hospital in a nearby town called Waena.

The next day we flew with MAF in a 206 to Nabire where we spent a week in Johanna Wielenga's house. It was a very nice time of fellowship with all the other Can Refers in Papua - Johanna, the

Koens, and the Togeretz's. We were also able to make a few trips to the beach and see a bit of the town. The kids had a good time playing with Doren Togeretz and Joshua Koens. Hugo also managed to do a little bit of work there. On our way home we flew by MAF caravan to a few villages and were able to see first hand how

important the plane is to the work of the gospel. The terrain is so mountainous and the jungle is so dense. Without the plane the people in these towns would not have the resources that they need to properly teach their children and the task of the missionairies would be that much more

difficult. The plane also brings much needed food and medical supplies. It is amazing to see some of the places that people live as you are way up high in the sky! One of our stops on the way home was in Wamena which is the second largest MAF base in Papua. 10 Minutes after arriving there, Aidan fell and cut his forehead badly. One of the MAF pilots had just come in from Sentani with his parents from Holland and took us to his home on the base. There we waited for the Doctor from Doctors Without Borders to come. He stitched up Aidan's head on the

Life in the Hangar.... ✈️

Life in the hanger goes from very busy to very slow. So after a couple of busy weeks we had some slow time where we could organize the shop and the equipment a little better. In between things we received parts for other test equipment which we now have to fabricate. Another project is to research what the shop legally can do. Hugo was also able to go along on a flight to Boma where our Dutch churches have worked for many years. During our week in Nabire Hugo did some installations of base antennas and the repair of some electronic home equipment. When Hugo came back to the hanger in Sentani the next week there was a radio installation waiting for him and he had to prepare for a storm scope installation. The storm scope is another piece of equipment which enables a safer flight for pilot and passengers.

The Family...

The kids are doing great. We don't think that they really understand exactly what an adventure we are having. They are too busy just having a good time.

Mikah loves school and wants to live here forever. She has made some friends there and also some new friends on the base.

Christiaan is doing well. His hearing aids are taking a beating though. The humidity level is usually 80-90 percent. Despite that he is still improving in his language. He also loves to boss his "little" brother around. One day soon Aidan will discover that actually he is quite a bit bigger than his older brother...

Aidan is recovered from his fall at the airport in Wamena on our way home from Nabire. Now he has lost his first toe nail. We have also begun potty training and it is going great.

Hugo is enjoying his work in the hangar. There is much diversity of work there. He has also begun receiving broken home appliances to fix from people around the island. When he comes home from work he tries to teach the kids the finer points of the game of soccer.

Erica is doing as well as can be expected in the third trimester of a fourth pregnancy. Having a pembantu (househelper) is sure a great help as the humidity drains ones energy. She is attending a weekly women's bible study on Tuesday mornings. The rest of the time is spent baking bread or cleaning vegetables or making yogurt and chasing after two rambunctious boys who love to get into trouble.

Thanks for:

Finding a hospital and a doctor to deliver the baby
Continued good health
Our stuff finally arriving

Prayer for:

Continued good health
Finding audiological help for Christiaan for a possible future here

Some things we've gotten used to:

Always being stared at
The kids being touched
Brushing ants off of everything including yourself
Checking our kids bodies every night for pussy sores, rashes or fungus...
Monitoring bowel movements for signs of worms
Always sweating
Sharing our home with lizards and cockroaches and ants
Power outages
Explaining to Indonesians that you don't understand what they are saying, in Indonesian, and having them smile and keep talking as though they don't believe you



Some boys Hugo met while in Boma



Contact Info:

We would love to hear from you! If you want to be on our weekly update list let us know.

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Check out our photos on the net at: www.hwfeunekes.com