

HERALD OCT



August, 1976, MC(P) 590/76

FAR EASTERN REGION

WORLDWIDE

MISSION AVIATION in the Far East

By Jane Allen

Getting a half-hour interview free of interruptions with a busy division treasurer can be next to impossible, unless you want to talk about his favorite hobby. My division treasurer happens to be a pilot, and I wanted to talk about the church's aviation program in the Far East. G. O. Bruce, who has been flying since 1942, is chairman of the Far Eastern Division's Aviation Committee. He is one of four civilians taught flying at Martin Field when some 3,000 U. S. Navy fliers were trained there during World War II. Elder Bruce gave me 38 minutes of his time on a day when he was leaving on a trip, and we had only two interruptions. Here's what he told me:

How far back does our aviation program go? And how did it get started?

In 1960, while he was studying at the seminary in Washington, D.C., Dick Hall raised money to buy an airplane for his work in Thailand and Laos. At that time the General Conference policy on aircraft was simply, no airplanes. But Dick went ahead with his plan. When he got the plane to Thailand, the Southeast Asia Union also took a negative attitude toward the machine, and told Hall that he was completely responsible for it. When Hall transferred to the Sarawak Mission in 1962, he took his Cessna 180 with him, and it was then authorized by the union. For several years he operated the plane on his travel budget and by donations.

Do we still have that first plane in the Far East?

It's still in the Far East, but inoperable. First, it was badly damaged while trying to land on a soft field, so

an RAF helicopter was called in to carry it out for repairs. But the holding strap broke in flight, and the fuselage dropped into the jungle. In fact, it can still be seen when you fly over the spot.

But that wasn't the end of the aviation program in the Far East?

Oh no, Hall raised the money for a second Cessna 180 while he was on vacation in the United States in 1964. A third 180 was purchased in 1966 for

West Irian where pilot Bill Smith opened up new work in Cannibal Valley.

Cannibal Valley sounds like a risky place to send a healthy missionary pilot. Where is it?

It's on the Indonesian side of New Guinea, and was discovered by a United States Airforce pilot during World War II. The terrain is quite unusual, so the military used to fly DC3's over on occasional sight-seeing ventures. They called it Shangrila. It was some missionaries who named it Cannibal Valley, and indeed the people there practiced cannibalism until fairly recently.

How many mission planes operate in the Far East at the present time?



Bill Tol, one of the seven mission pilots in the Far East, fills 'er up before takeoff. Each of the division's planes averages 600 hours of flight time per year.

We have seven—three Cessna 185 Skywagons, one Skylane, a U206, 180, and one Piper Super Cruiser. These are in Indonesia, the Philippines, and Southeast Asia.

What kind of missions do the planes make?

Probably they are used most for transporting mission personnel into areas where it is impossible or too time-consuming to go by land. Much of this involves jungle flying. Pastors go into the villages to hold meetings, conduct baptisms, or handle any other needs they can. Of course, medical assistance is one of the important services offered by the aircraft. Sometimes planes are used as ambulances and medicine drops often are made from the air. On the average, each of our planes is in the air 600 hours per year.

What is the role of the aviation committee of which you are chairman?

It is our responsibility to make recommendations to the Division Committee concerning the mission flying program in the Far East. Incidentally, this committee was not formed until 13 years after the aviation program was initiated in the Far East. In 1973 we adopted an aviation policy for the whole division. Before this, we had sort of a hit-and-miss program.

And what are some of the major items in this policy?

To begin with, all aircraft operated for mission flying within the territory of the division is owned by the division, and assets are shown on the division books. We've set up a budget too, so that the operation of our planes is included in the division's Class 1 Operating Budget. Previously we had to depend heavily on donations.

How much does it cost to run the aircraft?

We figure about \$75,000 per year for all seven planes.

You were talking about the avia-



Medical evacuation is an important part of the aviation program in the Far East, particularly in the jungle areas where medical facilities are not available. Often medicine drops are made from the air.

tion committee and policy.

In addition to ownership of the aircraft and money to operate them, the aviation committee set up requirements for mission pilots, and listed guidelines for the use of aircraft, requirements for insurance, landing fields, and equipment.

Let's list the current pilots in the Far East and where they are stationed.

Bill Tol, 28, flies one of the Skywagons in Balikpapan on the Indonesian side of Borneo; Bill Smith, 41, and Bill Amundson, 25, also fly a Skywagon in West Irian, New Guinea; Don Christensen, 32, is the pilot as well as business manager of Mountain View College in the Philippines, currently flying a Cessna Skylane donated by The Quiet Hour radio broadcast, but soon the school will have a U206; Bruce Johnston, 50, and Paull Dixon, 31, fly the Piper Super Cruiser in Sarawak; and Cline Johnson, 41, Ministerial Association secretary of the Southeast Asia Union Mission is flying the 180, which is in Singapore waiting for assignment to a specific field. All except one of our pilots have both

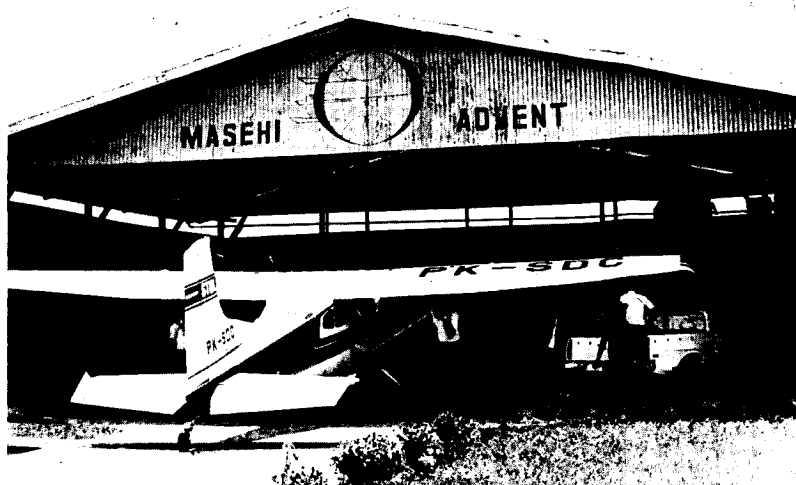
commercial and instrument ratings, and Paull Dixon has his ATR. Four of these men have logged more than 3,000 flight hours, and one more than 4,000.

What do you look for in qualifications for a mission pilot?

We used to look for pilot-pastors, but there is a trend now to look for professional pilots. Amundson in West Irian is the first professional pilot in our program. New pilots must have a minimum of 1,000 flying hours.

What are some of the problems of the aviation program in the Far East?

As a treasurer, I'd first have to mention high insurance costs. Also, we often have problems importing aircraft into some of these countries, and the pilots have to go through a lot of bureaucratic red-tape to operate. Bill Tol, for instance, has to have every flight signed off by an Indonesian aircraft mechanic. We lack facilities in the United States to handle the purchase and export of aircraft, and I'd like to see something done along this line.



There's no doubt about who uses this aircraft hangar in Balikpapan, Kalimantan. Masehi Advent means Adventist Mission, and the three angels insignia in the center was adapted from the nameplate of the denomination's general church paper, the Review and Herald.

Is upkeep and service a problem in some of these out-of-the-way places?

Yes, it is. We have utilized the services of Warren Hann, aircraft mechanic, in Southeast Asia, and Amundson is also a mechanic. Because of the difficulty involved in getting spare parts, we keep an inventory of aircraft equipment at division headquarters here in Singapore. These include a spare engine, propeller, and a long list of smaller parts which are difficult to obtain in such places as New Guinea, the South Philippines, or Borneo; Also we have telex communication for ordering parts from Norm Bender in Tennessee.

Is there a need for planes in other parts of the division, or do we have all we need?

Not at all. Right now we could use one in the Nusa Tenggara Mission of Indonesia and another in West Irian. We are studying the possibility of an amphibious aircraft for the Philippines such as we had at one time in Korea. And I might add that we are giving long-range study to the use of helicopters in our mission program . . . uh, emphasize that "long range" please.

**Remember
the
FAR
EAST**

Sept. 26

Health-wise

Save Your Teeth

Researchers are steadily accumulating evidence that poor nutrition is the major cause not only of tooth decay but of gum disease and even of bruxism — tooth-grinding.

It has long been known that eating foods high in sugar provides the medium in which bacteria grow, and that these bacteria produce acid which attacks the protective coat of enamel on the teeth.

More recently it has been demonstrated that sugar acts systemically to block the circulation within the teeth, which are living tissue, thus depriving the teeth of adequate nourishment and contributing to decay.

For persons over 40, however, disease of the gums is a greater problem than tooth decay. It is responsible for 75 percent of tooth loss.

When Dr. M. J. Walsh 20 years ago analyzed the diets of 254 adults with periodontal disease, he found the three nutrients most lacking to be thiamine, Vitamin b1, Vitamin C, and calcium. Other studies since that time have added to the list other vitamins of the B complex.

If the gums and other tissues of the mouth are unusually sensitive to heat, cold or acid foods, it may be due to a thiamine deficiency, according to Lowell Peterson, D.D.S., in an article in "Journal of Applied Nutrition." Dr. Peterson's report of the effect of diet deficiencies on the teeth of laboratory animals included the encouraging note that when the diet was improved "there was a complete reversal and repair." So it is still not too late to save endangered teeth even when the dentist has diagnosed diseased gums.

More surprising, the habit of grinding the teeth during sleep [bruxism] has been found by researchers E. Cheraskin, M.D., D.M.D., and W.M.

[See page 8.]

north philippines

Singing Group Swings into Civic Action

The Crusading Voices of the Philippines have returned to Manila after four months of volunteer civic-action work in the province of Misamis Oriental. Through the invitation of Governor Concordio Diel, who provided the group with transportation, food, and lodging, the Crusading Voices were doing civic work during the day and giving free concerts in the evening.

In the province, all mayors and Barangay captains cooperated with the governor in endorsing the civic projects of the Crusading Voices. They participated in town sanitation, free medical clinics, tree planting,

and road and mini-dam construction for the use of the community. They also helped in renovating and painting churches and conducted revival meetings.

In preparation for this venture, the Crusading Voices passed a rigid training program at the Manila Sanitarium and Hospital, with various government agencies giving instruction in different aspects of nation-building. These included such topics as nutrition, food production, family planning, and health and sanitation. Special seminaries were also held for them in the operation of cooperatives and in public health.

Members of the Crusading Voices come from all over the Philippines. Organized in March, 1975, by Bayani Arit, Jr. and Memxo Fabriga with only nine singers, the group has expanded to 17. A total of 60,000 pesos worth of sound equipment was donated to the group by Dr.

and Mrs. David Domondon, who serve as manager and producer for the singing group. With the public address system they can perform before large crowds and still be easily heard.

After touring the Visayas and Mindanao, the Crusading Voices are now back in Manila to do some recording and concert engagements in Luzon. Despite the many inconveniences in travel, food and accommodation, they are a happy group, so happy in fact, that some are contemplating spending their lifetime with the group and serving the Lord in this way-until the end of time. — *Nelson S. Pallasa.*

Seminar Focuses On Church Music

Song services and congregational singing in the churches of Manila may be meaningful since a recent seminar on philosophy and ministry of church music was held by the Parent and Home Association of Greater Manila.

More than 100 church choristers, musicians, choir directors and music-minded people of Manila learned the correct way of beating and the art of leading congregational singing at the seminar held on the campus of Philippine Union College.

With the instruction of PUC music department personnel, the following topics were covered: Understanding God's Philosophy of Music, Music and Worship, Leading Congregational Singing, Music in the Home, Vocal Production and



The Crusading voices of the Philippines.



Minerva Arit-Penaranda, chairman of the music department of Philippine Union College discusses the philosophy of music, and music and worship at the recent seminar sponsored by the Parent and Home Association of Greater Manila.

Breathing, Music and Evangelism for Witnessing Groups, and Learning New Songs. — *Nelson S. Pallas*.

Appreciation Shown to Temperance Man



F.A. Soper, editor of "Listen" magazine received a plaque of appreciation for a lecture he gave at a Lions Club meeting during his visit to Manila in March. The Manila-Divisoria Lions Club District 301-A honored Soper at a banquet at the Crown Restaurant. In addition to the temperance lecture presented to the Lions Club, Soper had several opportunities in Manila to speak out against the evils of smoking, alcohol, and drug dependency. He made television appearances, spoke to the Philippine Council Against Smoking, Alcoholism, and Drug Dependency, and talked with government officials about problems of intemperance. [For more information on Soper's visit to the Far East, see the June issue of OUTLOOK.]

MAP Health Team Interviewed

Members of the Medical Aviation Program (MAP) health team in the Philippines recently appeared on "Health Talk," a 30-minute interview program of the Department of Public Information TV-4 in the Greater Manila area.

This public exposure gave the team members an opportunity to share their concern for those less fortunate people from the far-flung barrios in the isolated islands of Philippines.

MAP was launched by Dr. Wilbur Nelson, former public health consultant of the World Health Organization, as a bridge "through the sky" to unreachable communities on isolated islands. Always "on call" with a volunteer team of surgical and paramedical personnel, MAP flights have brought new hope to more than one thousand needy patients, including more than one hundred surgical patients since the program started.

Dr. and Mrs. Nelson have co-piloted their own airplane, the "Wings of Hope," over 50,000 air miles since the program was founded, bringing free medicines, food, and medical teams with them to isolated islands.

Included among the areas where they have launched extensive medical care are Catanduanes islands, small islands in Albay in Bicolandia, and the distant island of Cagayan de Sulu in Mindanao. At present MAP is operating a clinic on the island of Cagayan de Sulu with volunteer paramedical personnel on a rotation basis.

Mercy flights are offered from these and other isolated islands and mountain villages to the nearest hospital where free medication and treatment can be obtained for those needing immediate attention. MAP

takes heed to the Great Physician's counsel, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these of my brethren, ye have done it unto Me." — *Nelson S. Pallas*

Husband Administrator; Wife Elected to Board



Fred Mina is the new administrator of the Manila Sanitarium and Hospital. His wife, Epifania Danas-Mina was recently elected to the Philippine Publishing House Board of Directors, the first woman named to this post. Mrs. Mina has been the cashier at the publishing House since 1957.

Gensolin Receives Presidential Award

"The President wishes to extend his warmest felicitations on the occasion of your 57th Anniversary Alumni Homecoming. He wishes also to extend his sincerest personal congratulations to Dr. Leonore E. Gensolin as outstanding educator of the year in arts and culture, 1975."

This is an excerpt of a letter to Elder F.M. Arrogante, chairman of the Philippine Union College board, from the Presidential Award Committee headed by Cesar A. Dumlaog, finance adviser to President Ferdinand E. Marcos.

Dr. Gensolin was graduated from Philippine Union College in 1952 with a Bachelor of Science degree



in education, majoring in home economics. In 1961 she received her Masters in linguistics from Centro Escolar University and in 1970 her Doctor of Philosophy in educational curriculum methods.—S.G. *Miraflores*

VBS Graduation



A total of 90 children graduated recently from the Vacation Bible School conducted at the Southern Luzon Mission headquarters church of Legaspi City. This is the biggest group to ever attend a Vacation Bible School in this church, reports Mrs. R.F. Orbe, mission child evangelism and parent-home director.

southeast asia

Haad Yai Youth Go Camping

Pathfinders in Haad Yai, Thailand recently returned from a rather unique camping trip. A.L. Elumir,

administrator of Haad Yai Mission Hospital, directed the week's activities.

The campground was located at the boundary of the Prince of Songkla University and the Rubber Research Center in Haad Yai. To make this possible, the fence separating the two compounds were removed. The campers' tents and the assembly hall were pitched under the trees on the Rubber Research Center compound. The tents for the kitchen and dining hall, the water and the sanitary facilities were situated on the university grounds, where the campers also held their campfire and program every night.

Since the camp was held during the school break, the president of the university opened the basketball and tennis courts, the playfields, and the university swimming pool for the use of the pathfinders. In addition, he and his staff members installed the water and light facilities, the showers and sanitary facilities. They also provided ample wood for the evening campfires and other needs. All the tents were provided and set up by the local army and marine camps stationed in the area.

The pathfinders praised God for the rich blessings which were provided by the people in Haad Yai. Their generosity was largely the result of the good name the Haad Yai Pathfinders have made through their active participation in civic and welfare services to the community and musical-cultural programs they have presented through the Haad Yai Television Network.—B. *Donato*

"Maturity is what you have experienced, what you have gone through, and how you handle situations that are thrown at you — good, bad, indifferent."—Cheryl Johnson, *Listen*, April 1975.

MOVING?

Don't forget to notify OUTLOOK when you move. Send old mailing wrapper with new address. Allow three to six months for a change of address.

South philippines

Lay Field School Meets at Mangagoy

More than 1,000 people braved torrential rain to attend the opening night of the Lay Field School of Evangelism in Mangagoy under the direction of A.A. Villarín, lay activities director of the South Philippine Union Mission, April 1 to May 15.

In conjunction with the field school, a five-week evangelistic crusade was held in the Andres Soriano College Auditorium. Pastors, International Educational Recording workers, and lay preachers participated in the field school crusade. The first three weeks were weeks of work, fasting and prayer. Each day at twelve o'clock midnight and four o'clock in the morning the evangelistic team united in prayer for God's blessings on the crusade.

Pastor Villarín's sermons were simple, yet convincing. Hundreds who came to hear him found joy and satisfaction for their hungry souls. The Word of God was truly the source of his strength and the secret of his power was fasting and prayer. Each evening opened with a health lecture, illustrated by slides

taken during his travels in the Far East and the United States.

The power of united prayers proved to be beneficial to the members of the team. By the end of the second baptism, 180 candidates had been presented for baptism and lay preachers are continuing to follow up scores of interested people.

Funds for the field school and evangelistic crusade were provided by a \$2,000 budget from International Educational Recordings. In addition, local radio stations provided free advertising.

God had a special purpose for the work in Mangagoy and He opened the way marvelously for the field school to meet the challenge of this community where so few have had the opportunity to hear God's great message of love and final warning to mankind.—*E. Galinato*

guam- micronesia

Guam Holds VOP Crusade

Sixteen precious souls were baptized recently during a six-week Voice of Prophecy evangelistic crusade conducted in Dededo, Guam. In addition, more than thirty others are receiving further Bible studies and will be ready for baptism at a future date.

C.A. Galang, VOP director-speaker from Manila, Philippines,



Crusade team. Seated front row, left to right are: Elder & Mrs. Sid Nelson, ministerial secretary; Elder & Mrs. C.A. Galang, guest evangelist; and, Elder R. Stahnecker, pastor.

was guest evangelist for the crusade. Special features of the meetings included Bible marking, lively song services, special musical numbers and health lectures by the medical and dental personnel from the SDA medical clinic in Tamuning.

During the closing night activities, VOP Explorer's Bible Course certificates were presented to 62. This is the largest number to receive the certificate since the Adventist message penetrated the island of Guam some three decades ago.

One major obstacle in holding a crusade on Guam is the lack of public meeting halls. Through inquiries by the mission treasurer, Gilbert Gurusamy, the manager of the new American Savings & Loan building was contacted. The manager granted the Seventh-day Adventist church free use of the community hall section of the new bank for the crusade.—*E.A. Jimeno*

SAVE YOUR TEETH, Cont'd.

Ringsdorf, D.M.D., to have a nutritional basis.

Specifically, deficiencies of calcium and pantothenic acid, one of the B. vitamins, were found to be related to bruxism. The problem is most common among children [three in 20 compared with one in 20 adults]. There may be a connection between this and the fact that pantothenic acid is destroyed by heat and is therefore absent from canned milk, prepared formulas and canned baby foods, and to a great degree from pasteurized milk. The lack can be supplied with nutritional yeast or wheat germ.

These and many other studies offer overwhelming evidence that dental health, like every other aspect of physical well-being, must be built on a foundation of a balanced diet of natural, unrefined foods.—Helen Andrews, M.S.

COVER PHOTO: An old woman and baby, taken in the village of Ongko Asa, the site of a new airstrip in the Kalimantan Mission where Bill Tol pilots Cessna 185 Skywagon.

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OUTLOOK is published monthly by the Far Eastern Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, 800 Thomson Road, Singapore 11, Republic of Singapore, printed by Southeast Asia Publishing House, 251 Upper Serangoon Road, Singapore 13, Republic of Singapore. MC(P) 590/76. KDN 8724. Jane Allen, editor.