

Dukes Digest

News from Paul & Barb Dukes

February 2010

January 12, 2010 an earthquake of 7.0 magnitude hit Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

MAF was there...

MAF pilots, mechanics and their families have been serving the nation of Haiti since 1986. So our staff were already in place and fluent in the local language before the earthquake occurred. We have 2 Cessna 207's and one 206 based in Port-au-Prince.

Our staff put the planes to work right away transporting patients, doctors, medical supplies and food to the people of Haiti. We began working with Missionary Flights International, Operation Blessing and other Christian organizations to meet the needs.

As the staff in Haiti and our Disaster Response Manager were able to assess the situation, they sent out a request for the Kodiak to fly down to help out. We were just about done getting this aircraft ready to fly to Papua, Indonesia. We finished up the aircraft and sent it to Haiti.

I was asked to go down to help out with the maintenance on the aircraft already in Haiti and be there for maintenance support of the Kodiak.

We were able to do a 1000-hour inspection on the 207, a 50-hour progressive inspection on the 206, and 100-hour inspection on the Kodiak.



The Kodiak is called into service to help transport patients to the hospital in Pignon.



Here I am working on one of the 207's doing a 1000-hour inspection.

Let me tell you about going to church on Sunday. When the pastor got up to preach he said he wanted to share what happened after the earthquake. He was outside with some boys playing basketball when the quake hit. They all laid down on the ground until it was over. The pastor told the boys to stay there while he went to see if there was any damage. He checked the sanctuary and then the office building. He looked in three out of the four rooms in the office and found there was no damage.

The next day he came into the office with someone else from the church to check for damage again and this time to check the fourth room which was the library. When they entered the room they were surprised to see that all the books were still on the shelves. The other man left to check other areas and the pastor decided to look further. It was then that he saw they were wrong—there was one book that had fallen from the shelves. He went over to the book and found that it was the Holy Bible and that it had fallen face-down in an open position. He felt that this was very significant and that he needed to be very careful when he turned it over so that he would not lose the page that it was on.

When he did turn it over it was open to Jeremiah 19 and the verses 3 and 4 stood out to him. Jeremiah 19:3-4 "Listen to what the Lord says, ... ***‘I will bring a disaster on this place that will make the ears of everyone who hears about it ring! I will do so because these people***



have rejected me and have defiled this place.”

The pastor said this message is for the people of Haiti. This was why the earthquake had happened. He said that the Christian people who survived the earthquake are saying that they are the chosen ones. They are alive for a reason and that is to spread the message of Jesus Christ. The service was ended with a couple of ladies singing the song, "God of This City" by Chris Tomlin. It was a very moving ending to the service

Barb and I want to thank you for your support of our ministry over these last 22 years. You have helped make it possible for MAF to respond to the needs of people, both spiritual and physical, all over the world. Because of you, we are able to meet some of the needs of the people of Haiti. Our monthly ministry support is now critically low. Would you prayerfully consider what part God would have you play on our team? We have a shortfall of over \$1,000/month. Your gifts can make a difference.

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